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Racing For Kids to the Hill committee announces pause to summer event

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — After 18 years of bringing the Grosse Pointe community together each summer to honor the lives of area hospitalized children, the Racing For Kids to the Hill committee announced a pause in the event for this year.

“We have had great difficulty in making this decision,” the committee said in a press release. “In fact, we delayed this decision several times in the last two months hoping to find a way to continue this popular event this year.

“The community interest in attending is there, but the simple fact is that we have not been able to register enough volunteers to run a first-class event as we always have

in the past.”

Beginning in 2007, Racing For Kids to the Hill has raised more than \$1 million on behalf of four area pediatric hospital systems, with the funds earmarked for specifically identified needs such as autism therapy, rehabilitation programs, pediatric cardiac monitors or playroom development. The impact of these donations on the recovery therapy of thousands of locally hospitalized children has been impressive.

Dan LaLonde, president of the Hill Association, which has partnered with Racing For Kids on the Hill event since the beginning said,

See RACING, page 2A



PHOTO BY LAUREL KRAUS

Park resident Adam Steiner pioneered The Campus Shop in The Village the last six years.

The Campus Shop to close next week

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — “It was never about purchases,” said Adam Steiner, owner of The Campus Shop in The Village. “It was always about energy for me.”

For the past six years, he strived for his small business to be the neighborhood haunt, where kids riding bikes through The Village could meander and make messes of the merchandise. Come next week, they’ll have to find somewhere else.

The Campus Shop is

permanently closing after Tuesday, July 1.

“The hardest (part) when I was making the decision if we were going to stay open or closed, was more so about taking it away from the community,” Steiner said, “as opposed to what it (meant) for me.”

He opened the store as a “fun side project,” in 2019, branching out from his merchandising company — the current iteration of which is Steiner Merchandise.

“So many people didn’t even know we

were making the stuff (we sell) here,” Steiner said of the shop’s Grosse Pointe sweatshirts, Detroit-inspired apparel and hyper-local clothing.

It had a humble beginning in the 300-square-foot back room of its current space at 17114 Kercheval, before expanding in February 2020, just prior to the pandemic.

As in-person sales ceased, Steiner turned to online marketing, which brought about the genesis of his social media persona and alter ego, Camper Dan.

Camper Dan became a bit of an internet sensation and where the pandemic stagnated most businesses, The Campus Shop thrived.

“It’s the weirdest thing, but during COVID and because of the community, the store really saved all of our businesses,” he said, referring to his dad and brother, who initially were co-owners of the store. “We were delivering 30 to 50 packages a day, which the store never does 30 to 50

See CAMPUS, page 3A

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Parcells principal named

By Ted O’Neil
Associate Editor

THE GROSSE POINTE — Amanda Schmittiel, a Michigan native who has been in Florida the past 14 years, was named the new principal of Parcells Middle School during the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education meeting Wednesday, June 11.

“I am truly honored and excited to join the

See NAMED, page 9A

Marina work nears

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — It’s all hands on deck for a renovated municipal marina.

City representatives, design consultants and regulators are on course to raise the marina at Windmill Pointe Park a few levels to more orderly standards.

“We have applied for and signed off on (state and federal) permitting,” said Tom Fraser, harbor master.

“EGLE (the Michigan

Department of Energy, Great Lakes and Environment) takes time to review permits,” City Manager Nick Sizeland said. “We thought it would be a good idea to get that process going while we’re finishing details on the cost of the project.”

Contractors will bid on the job through the city’s advisors, Abonmarche Consultants, a civil engineering and marina specialist headquartered in Benton Harbor.

“We are still in the engineering phase and

trying to get cost estimates as close to reality as possible,” Fraser said.

“At first, the cost was unexpectedly high,” Sizeland said. “We asked Abonmarche to do some value engineering and have been working with them to reduce that cost.”

“Then, when we feel comfortable with that, we’ll go out for a request for proposals and start getting bids,” said Chad Craig, director of parks and recreation.

The goal for the marina is to do what is needed, not load it up with amenities.

“We just need a proper place that is safe for boat-

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See THIS WEEK'S WINNERS in Section C

Public Safety	5A
Opinion	6A
Schools	9A
Features	1B
Obituaries	2B
Sports	1D
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Pointer of INTEREST

See story, page 4A

Heather Wiegand
Home: Grosse Pointe Park
Supports girls’ education, well-being as operations manager for Friends of Kenyan Orphans

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Woods combines voting precincts

By Ted O'Neil
Associate Editor

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — City council unanimously approved combining six voting precincts into three at its meeting Monday, June 16.

The move comes after voters statewide approved a ballot measure in 2022 that not only created early in-person voting, but also allowed for bigger precincts. Each one can now have up to 4,999 registered voters, an increase from the previous 2,999.

“The effects of not only early voting but also the permanent absentee voter list gave us the option to realign,” Woods Clerk Paul Antolin said.

Proposal 2022-2 also allowed voters to request being placed on an absentee voter list, meaning they will receive a ballot up to 40 days prior to each election without having to request one.

Voters in 2018 approved a ballot measure ushering in “no-reason” absentee voting. Before that absentee voting was limited to people age 60 and older, disabled, poll workers assigned to a different polling location than their own or those signing an affidavit saying they would be out of town on Election Day.

Woods voters in the new Precinct 1 will vote at St. Michael’s Episcopal

Church, 20475 Sunningdale Park. Those in Precinct’s 2 and 3 will vote at city hall.

Antolin said the breakdown of the new precincts is as follows:

- ◆ Precinct 1, 4,608 registered voters,
- ◆ Precinct 2, 4,241 voters and
- ◆ Precinct 3, 4,432 voters.

The north end of the city was put in precinct 1 because it also falls within State House District 12, while the rest of the Woods and the other Pointes are in State House District 10.

“I basically went from the top of the city to the bottom using GIS mapping to make it nice and even,” Antolin said. “We wanted it to be as practical as possible.”

Previously, precincts 1 and 2 voted at Ferry Elementary School, Precincts 3 and 4 at city hall and precincts 5 and 6 at Monteith Elementary School.

The Grosse Pointe Public School System had asked cities to find polling locations other than in schools due to security concerns.

Antolin said voters will receive new ID cards and instructions on where to vote. Information will be posted at Ferry and Monteith come Election Day about the new precinct locations.

The nine days of early

See PRECINCT, page 3A

Farms consolidates into two voting precincts

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — Though Farms council voted last Monday to consolidate the city’s five precincts down to two, voters shouldn’t notice much of a difference — it’s all still happening at The War Memorial.

“The most beautiful precinct in the country,” City Manager Shane Reeside noted.

The consolidation is a result of Proposal 2022-2, which passed in November 2022. The same proposal that legalized early voting also permits up to 4,999 voters per precinct, compared to the prior 2,999 maximum.

“Jurisdictions across the state of Michigan are taking advantage of this



This map of the Farms shows the precinct boundary lines redrawn at Chalfonte and Moran.

to consolidate precincts,” Assistant City Manager/City Clerk Derrick Kozicki said.

“You save money, (because) each precinct needs additional workers, additional machines, additional testing, so this is a really great opportunity to streamline election operations.”

By amending the city’s election precinct ordinance, boundary lines of precincts also have been redrawn.

Precinct 1, made up of 4,224 active voters, encompasses the portion of the city between the borders of Chalfonte and Moran. Precinct 2, made up of 4,502 active voters, takes the edges of the city outside of Chalfonte and Moran.

See MAP, page 3A

Expanded KA6 this Saturday

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Fun under the setting sun resumes Saturday on Kercheval.

The first of three summertime Kercheval After 6 street fairs is 6 to 10 p.m. June 28. Attendance is free and open to everyone.

“We have activities for kids and families alike,” said Chad Craig, director of municipal parks and recreation.

Kercheval After 6 is produced by the Park.

The normally three-block fair is expanded to four blocks this year between Nottingham and Wayburn in the Kercheval business district.

Attractions

Extra space means additional attractions, including doubling the number of sound stages. One is at the upper end of the venue near Red Crown Cantina at Nottingham. The other is close to the lower end near The Zealous Root at Wayburn.

“Having two sound

stages at both ends going throughout the night is a nice way to get people to walk from end-to-end and see what is going on in between,” Craig said.

Performing on the Red Crown stage is the country band American Ages. The group is scheduled at fairs throughout metro Detroit this summer.

“Great sound, good songs, and a must see,”

See KA6, page 8A

RACING:

Continued from page 1A

“We are very proud of the event we have helped present for the past 18 years. We brought the wider community to our Hill commercial district and helped showcase the needs of sick children throughout metro Detroit. We hope we can find a way to continue an event going forward.”

“The pause on the Racing For Kids to the Hill event does not affect

the operation of Racing For Kids,” said J. Patrick Wright, CEO of the Grosse Pointe-based international charity.

Now in its 36th year of bringing IndyCar drivers to the bedsides of sick children, Racing For Kids has had a full season of hospital visits and Kids at the Track events this year. They just finished an event at the Road America Raceway in Elkhart Lake, Wis. Next up is a hospital visit in Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

MARINA:

Continued from page 1A

step onto and off vessels by eliminating big gaps between fixed docks and boat decks during extreme water fluctuations.

Slated for replacement are the marina’s finger piers, dockside electrical and water service infrastructure.

“Basically, we’re taking out everything that is there, but not all pilings the docks sit on,” Fraser said. “Four or five (pilings) will be replaced. As for the rest, underwater surveys said they’re in good shape.”

There are no plans to go all out by adding a gasoline dock, launch ramp or hire an on-site mechanic as at top-end

private facilities and clubs.

“This is a municipal marina,” Caulfield said. “My goal is to make it as safe, up to code and as pretty as it can be.”

Most work to be done will be paid by boaters through annual well rentals. Receipts are kept in the marina fund separate from general tax receipts. General taxpayers will pay some associated costs through the general fund.

Apportionment is based on how much work is done on parts of the marina reserved for boaters, such as some piers and finger docks, as opposed to public-access areas, including the inner cement breakwall and combined sightseeing-fishing outer pier.

The outer breakwall

near the marina entrance is in bad shape. Portions of steel sheeting have fallen to the lakebed. Gaps to Lake St. Clair let waves break into the marina, jarring and risking damage to boats that are supposed to be secured in wells.

Repairs to the break-wall are planned whether the marina is renovated or not.

“It’s a safety issue,” Fraser said. “I have three contractors looking at it and seeing what type of permit we need. One guy said one thing. Another said another.”

When planning upgrades to a 70-year-old marina, one thing often leads to another costly thing.

“Because it’s been so long since it’s been maintained for years, when you upgrade electrical, you have to bring it up to code,” Caulfield said. “To do that, you’re looking potentially at major electrical changes, not only for the marina, but for the park. Because power that goes to the park isn’t just for the marina. There are tennis court lights, pumps, heaters and transformers that are beyond their life,

although they still work.”

Also, as many owners of old houses in Grosse Pointe can attest, working on an aging facility requires being prepared for surprises.

“It’s like walking into a beautiful home that has a 1950s kitchen,” Caulfield said. “With these old houses, as soon as you rip out a wall ...”

Despite renovation plans, some maintenance to the marina could no longer be deferred.

“Last fiscal year, we spent \$100,000 on major repairs,” Craig said.

Work consisted of replacing worn-out rub rails (essentially guard rails for moored boats), repainting the main pier, replacing the temporary dockside non-potable water system and removing dock risers installed a few years ago during times of high lake levels.

“All safety items are up to date,” Fraser said. “Safety ladders are in. Fire extinguishers are all there. Throw rings are all there. Safety-wise, the marina’s in very, very good shape. We have several rub rails this past week that were repaired that have been hit by boaters already.”

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Farms officers promoted

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — As the department enters a period of personnel transition with a number of positions changing hands, Lt. Tim Harris and Sgt. Derek Lazarski were recog-

nized before city council last Monday for their respective promotions. Harris is best known to the community as the officer who pioneered the Farms' K-9 program with the late Duke in 2014. In tandem with his new role leading a shift, he will remain the depart-

ment's K-9 handler with its current dog, Rocco. "It'll go on as it has been," Harris said. "We're pretty attached now, so he's not going anywhere." The lieutenant is a United States Navy veteran, who began his career as a medic with

MedStar Ambulance in the Grosse Pointes and joined the Farms department in June 2006. He also is a trainer with the National Association of Professional Canine Handlers, leader of the Eastern Wayne County Special Response Team, drone unit supervisor and veteran of the Grosse
See PROMOTED, page 5A

Chilean national sentenced for Provencal home invasion

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — The South American Theft Group made local headlines in 2023, after pulling off two sophisticated home invasions on Provencal in early February and late November — the latter in which the crew made off with \$500,000 to \$700,000 in jewelry.

After being arrested in connection with the group in December 2023, 29-year-old Chilean national Ignacio Ruiz-Saldias last week was sentenced to 10 to 20 years of incarceration for committing a string of home invasions targeting affluent homes throughout Oakland, Wayne and Kent counties. He was convicted by an Oakland County jury in April of one count of conducting a criminal enterprise, a 20-year felony, and three counts of conspiracy to commit second-degree home invasion, a 15-year felony, for his role in the February 2023 home invasions in Ada Township, Grosse Pointe Farms, Rochester and

Rochester Hills. "These home invasions were not random — they were deliberate, highly organized and had a significant impact on the families and communities involved," Attorney General Dana Nessel said upon his conviction in a press release. Provencal was speculated to be a repeat target because the group's M.O. focuses on homes surrounded by woods or a significant amount of land to make a discrete approach. The invasions for which Ruiz-Saldias was sentenced typically took place when the homes were vacant, using techniques to thwart alarm systems and extensive precautions to avoid identification on home cameras and by forensic analyses of crime scenes. At the time of his arrest, alongside two other Chilean nationals, Nessel reported the three came into the county legally, but may have overstayed their VISAs.
— Laurel Kraus



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Above, from left, Lt. Tim Harris, Public Safety Director John Hutchins and Sgt. Derek Lazarski. Right, Lt. Tim Harris' wife, Officer Paige Thomas, pins his badge during the promotional ceremony Monday, June 16.



MAP:

Continued from page 2A

Active voters are those who have voted in the last six years. Consolidating to two precincts at one voting location is expected to be very manageable, Kozicki said. Calculated by using numbers from the 78 percent voter turnout in the November 2024 Presidential Election, the city on Election Day could expect 798 in-person voters in precinct 1 and 851 in-person voters

in precinct 2. "We'll have a few elections before the next presidential election," Kozicki said, "so if there feels like there's too long of lines — think of it like adding another cash register — we'd add another computer and then we can speed that up." The city already has experienced what it's like to have all precincts out of one location in the last election. "I voted in person at 9 o'clock or 8 o'clock and it was very smooth sailing," Mayor Louis Theros said.

CAMPUS:

Continued from page 1A

transactions a day." In the years since, however, Steiner Merchandise began to gain momentum and demand has exploded the last three years. Though Steiner remains grateful to The Campus Shop and Grosse Pointe community, the decision to close at this point is a matter of shifting priorities and restructuring where his energy and focus are most needed. "I'm moving on because I'm older," said the dad of two. "My life is different. Not because I can't pay my bills and the store is falling apart." And, like the age-old adage, he

wants to go out while he's on top. "I love the idea of not being the last to leave a party," he said. "... I like to leave things when they're still relevant, because then I feel like the store will be remembered as what it was as opposed to if I continue to pull my energy away for another year or a year after that." His focus now is on Steiner Merchandise, which produces bulk retail merchandise, developing options for brands, companies and large events. However, individual interested patrons still are encouraged to reach out to Steinermerch.com for custom merchandise. "We may pop up here and there (in The Village) for fun," the Park resident said, but he's not making

any promises. For now, fans of the store should take advantage of 50 percent off closing sales, as well as Grosse Pointe sweatshirts for \$30 each. Thursday, June 26, the shop will be giving away 200 Grosse Pointe shirts as a farewell to the community. "I love The Village," Steiner said. "I really believe that there's few places (like this) left in the country that aren't a specific tourist destination." If all goes well, the storefront on Kercheval may not be vacant long, according to Main Street Grosse Pointe Executive Director Cindy Willcock. "We have some interest in that space already," she said last week.

PRECINCT:

Continued from page 2A

in-person voting only applies to statewide and federal elections, meaning even-numbered years, so that option will not be available this November for city council elections.

"The turnout for local elections is usually pretty low, so this will give us a chance to see how the dynamics of the consolidation work," Antolin said. "It will also save us money because we'll need less equipment and fewer poll workers."

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From Grosse Pointe to Kenya

Wiegand’s work changes lives through education

By Meg Kelly
Editorial Intern

When Heather Wiegand relocated to Grosse Pointe nearly two decades ago, she didn’t anticipate her life would become intertwined with the lives of girls in rural Kenya; however, she is ever grateful it is.

Since 2015, Wiegand has served as the operations manager for Friends of Kenyan Orphans, or FoKO, a nonprofit that supports girls’ education and overall well-being in one of the world’s most underserved regions.

Wiegand grew up just outside of Columbus, Ohio, and graduated from Miami University with a degree in elementary education and a minor in special education. While there she met her husband, Andy, who serves as board president of FoKO. After they married, they moved to Chicago, where Wiegand taught in schools with a large English as a second language population.

After several years of teaching, the Wiegands settled in Grosse Pointe and Heather Wiegand decided to transition to full-time parenting as she was expecting her firstborn. The couple eventually had four children, three of whom currently attend Grosse Pointe Public Schools,

while the oldest is a student at Miami University.

In 2015, Wiegand was presented the opportunity to work with FoKO when a friend, whose in-laws founded the organization, recommended her for the position.

“It was a part-time, very flexible role, so I could still take care of my kids and be involved in their activities while also being able to give back to other children in a very different way,” she said.

As operations manager, Wiegand oversees FoKO’s daily operations, including donor communications, compliance coordination, audits and organizational strategy.

“My role is to both manage daily operations and ensure compliance as a nonprofit,” she said. “This includes tasks like communicating with board members, donors, contacts in Kenya and third-party partners such as auditors and accountants. I also continually look for ways to improve our organization’s efficiency and impact.”

FoKO’s mission is to support orphaned and abandoned girls in Kenya, particularly through its partnership with St. Clare School for Girls, as well as supporting other local schools in that area. The school serves around 500 girls, providing education,

nutrition, healthcare and safety to girls who otherwise would not have access to basic resources in their respective villages.

Wiegand has been sent to Kenya twice as FoKO’s yearly representative to ensure donors’ money is being distributed adequately through the schools and see the operations in action. During her most recent trip in 2024, she had the opportunity to take along her husband and three of her children.

“It’s not a vacation,” she said. “You fly in, then drive six hours in a van over bumpy dirt roads to reach the property that we stay in by the school. We stay on school grounds in what used to be a convent. The days there are packed with touring facilities and spending time with the children, as well as getting a deeper understanding of what the back roads of Kenya are truly like and how much work they do to survive.”

Her children shadowed Kenyan students in their respective grades: one in the eighth-grade equivalent, one in form one (freshman level) and one in form four (senior level). This mutually benefited her children as well as the Kenyan students, who are not typically exposed or able to communicate



Top, Heather Wiegand with some of the older girls during her first trip in 2019. Right, Wiegand and her family helped cooks make more than 40 large pizzas for a special pizza and yogurt party FoKO sponsored when they visited.

COURTESY PHOTOS

with American children. Wiegand’s oldest still keeps in touch via email with one of the students he met.

“It was so powerful for them,” Wiegand said. “They saw how hard the Kenyan students work, how eager they are to learn. It gave them a true perspective on their own opportunities and education.”

Although her work is rewarding, she explained how after each visit it gets more emotionally challenging to leave. The girls at St. Clare refer to Wiegand as “Mama Heather.” She said the children look up to them because her family shows how much they care for the students when they are there.

“They’re incredibly affectionate and get very emotional when we have to leave because they truly believe they’ll never see us again,” she said. “They’ll touch our hair, our skin and our watches out of curiosity. But more than anything, they’re so grateful for everything and they are so well spoken.”

FoKO’s higher education program funds university tuition or vocational training for St. Clare graduates. The average annual cost is around \$1,200.



“That’s not a small amount, but it is life-changing for these children,” Wiegand said. “The American dollar goes so much farther there than you would think.”

Many stories have stuck with her from her experience with FoKO.

The priest at St. Clare believes the girls should go back to their villages, if able, to visit and learn from their own cultures. One 14-year-old girl was continually coming back from her visits with significant health issues. She eventually opened up to a FoKO administrator to reveal she had been sold into marriage for monetary support. She later was rescued with the help of FoKO and donors, who negotiated with her husband and paid back her dowry. This woman is studying to become a nurse, to help girls in positions similar to her own.

Another student, with a beautiful singing voice, used to perform at parties for food money, which often left her vulnerable. Thanks to FoKO, she was able to leave that situation and now attends school. She hopes to continue singing but is studying to receive a business degree.

Wiegand also recalled a student who was found as a baby in a dumpster. The child was rescued and eventually placed at St. Clare and is excelling in a higher education program.

“These stories show so much resilience,” Wiegand said. “They’ve faced so much hardship, yet they are always grateful and genuine.”

The emotional toll of the work is real, she added, specifically after trips to Kenya.

“When I came home from my first visit, it was hard to adjust,” she said. “I looked at my life and my children differently. My kids have so much — like clean water, reliable schools and a safe home — but they don’t know how rare that is. It’s not

their fault and they’re not ungrateful; they simply have no idea.”

St. Clare is known for its holistic and passionate approach to education. Teachers are devoted and stay late to tutor, sometimes until 8 or 9 p.m. Older students mentor younger ones and administrators often serve as counselors or social workers for these children.

“No education is guaranteed in Kenya like it is here,” Wiegand said. “There is no public school system like in the U.S. and there are simply no safety nets.”

FoKO provides around 80 percent of the school’s operating budget. Maintaining that support requires constant outreach, specifically as the organization’s original donor base ages. Future goals include expanding the donor base and looking into people sponsoring individual children through school.

“Our original contacts are getting older, which comes with many benefits but also some downsides,” she said. “We need to reach younger donors to expand our network, as well as working with our current donors.”

In Grosse Pointe, FoKO has found local support through speaking with churches and service organizations, but Wiegand acknowledges it is a niche cause.

“People sometimes ask, ‘Why get involved in Kenya?’” she said. “The truth is, the American dollar goes farther there and without our help, many of these girls have no other options.”

Wiegand believes anyone can make a difference, even if it may not feel like much.

“You don’t need to donate thousands,” she said. “A small gift, some of your time, it all adds up. What matters most is how much you care.”

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“I had so many girls tell me that when they arrived at this school, they felt like they were arriving at a castle because it was big, clean, safe and full of people that cared about them and their success,” Wiegand said. “They all came from such deplorable living situations prior to arriving here and they are all so grateful at the opportunity to live at a school like this.”

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Grosse Pointe News

USPS 230-400

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City of Grosse Pointe

Wallet stolen

A former patient at a local hospital reported his wallet stolen during his stay in mid-May.

Roadblock

A 51-year-old Park man was arrested for driving intoxicated after his vehicle was reported for blocking the Kercheval and Notre Dame intersection at 7:25 p.m. Friday, June 13.

Not welcome

After stealing from the business and attempting to leave the area at 1 p.m. Saturday, June 14, a 30-year-old Detroit woman and her passenger were pulled over and formally banned from Kroger.

Nice try

Two male juveniles have been arrested after running out of Lululemon with \$900 worth of stolen clothing at 5:35 p.m. Tuesday, June 17. One was detained as he fled on foot and the other was identified through the follow-up investigation.

Stopped in their tracks

A 33-year-old Fraser man was arrested as he fled on foot along Kercheval at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, June 18, after stealing \$250 in items from Kroger. Four days later, a 67-year-old Detroit man was arrested as he fled on a bike from the same business with \$60 in stolen goods.

Stolen bike

A \$500 Trek Procaliber bike was left unlocked and stolen from outside a business in the 17000 block of Mack while its owner was inside at 6:10 p.m. Wednesday, June 18. Security footage shows the suspect is a black man wearing an orange jacket, gray sweatpants and black baseball hat.

PROMOTED:

Continued from page 3A

Pointe Farms Dive Team. Harris previously was promoted to sergeant in July 2022. “I look forward to continuing traditions within the department and providing guidance and leadership to the new younger generation of officers coming to my shift and seeing them elevate their own careers

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

Family fight

Officers were called to break up a fight at a local hospital at 2 p.m. Friday, June 20, when four family members assaulted each other during an argument about who could visit an elderly family member while she was in the hospital.

Trying their luck

Three to four young men were seen in the 600 block of Washington checking car door handles at 12:30 a.m. Sunday, June 22. Though multiple cars were rummaged through, nothing was reported stolen. — Laurel Kraus Report information about these and other crimes to the City of Grosse Pointe Public Safety, (313) 886-3200.

Grosse Pointe Farms

The people closest

Credit card information was stolen from no less than three employees of a community establishment in early June. The suspect is a new co-worker who briefly worked at the business and is believed to have taken photos of the cards when purses were left in the employee locker room.

Job liability

A 23-year-old Harper Woods woman was found to have never obtained a driver’s license when she was pulled over on Mack while delivering a DoorDash order at 8:57 p.m. Friday, June 13. An open bottle of wine was in the back seat. The woman was cited for the lack of license, no vehicle insurance and an improper license plate.

Devil on his shoulder

An older man in a black suit attempted to cash an \$8,350 check in an Ohio man’s name at a local bank at 4:15 p.m. Friday, June 13. The victim confirmed it was a case of identity

theft, but the man left before officers arrived. The bank teller reported he was wearing a Bluetooth headset and appeared to be receiving instructions.

Amateur hour

After a 300-pound go-kart was stolen from behind a garage in the 200 block of Kerby overnight into Saturday, June 14, the homeowner began to mow the lawn and discovered the ID of an 18-year-old Detroit man in the grass. Officers went to the man’s residence and found the go-kart in the driveway. He was arrested for larceny from a yard.

Partying

Found parked on Lakeshore at 1:11 a.m. Sunday, June 15, in a vehicle with shredded driver’s side tires, a 33-year-old Sterling Heights woman said she was coming from a friend’s birthday party and had consumed two draught beers. She failed field sobriety tests and was found to have a blood-alcohol content of 0.246 percent, for which she was arrested.

Found bike

A gray boy’s bike was found abandoned in the 200 block of Moran Monday, June 16. It is being held at the station.

Late for work

For weaving through lanes on Mack, speeding 10 mph over the limit and running a red light at 4:18 p.m. Tuesday, June 17, a 39-year-old Detroit woman was pulled over and cited for careless driving and no vehicle insurance. The woman said she was driving in such a manner because she was late for work.

Sleeping under the stars

When officers woke a 33-year-old Detroit man sleeping in his vehicle on Beaupre at 7:07 a.m. Thursday, June 19, he said he was drinking and

pulled over to sleep. A preliminary breath test found his blood-alcohol content to be 0.217, for which he was arrested.

Ping-ponging vehicle

A 32-year-old Detroit woman, at 5:12 p.m. Friday, June 20, side-swiped her vehicle on a street light pole at Moran and Ridge, crossed Ridge and took out a DTE pole and part of a wooden fence and proceeded through another wooden fence on Moran, hitting the front porch and foundation of a home.

Officers noted the odor of marijuana and a glass pipe was found in the center console. The woman, who suffered only a minor cut on her lip, told officers she was run off the road by another vehicle.

“From the extent of damage and the area covered, it was apparent the vehicle was operating over the speed limit, which is posted at 25 mph,” the police report notes. “To have contact with as many items and cause such destructive damage to a brick home shows the driver was negligent/careless and did not have control over her vehicle.”

The woman was arrested for operating while under the influence.

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

Grosse Pointe Woods

Not cool

A resident in the 1900 block of Littlestone reported their air conditioner was stolen sometime overnight into Monday, June 9.

Larceny

A resident in the 2200 block of Allard said the infotainment system was stolen from his vehicle sometime overnight into Tuesday, June 10, while it was parked in his driveway.

The report did not indicate if the vehicle was locked or not.

Stolen vehicle

A 2019 Jeep was stolen from a driveway in the 1700 block of Allard sometime overnight into Thursday, June 12. The owner said the vehicle was locked and she had both key fobs.

More larceny

The radio/navigation system and a laptop were stolen from a 2020 Dodge Ram sometime overnight into Thursday, June 12, while it was parked in a driveway in the 1700 block of Stanhope. The owner found the passenger window broken as he was about to leave for work.

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

Grosse Pointe Park

Stove fire

Public safety officers put out a small stove fire before it could become a big one last week at a house on Beaconsfield. Officers deployed to the house in the 1000 block at 10:05 p.m. Monday, June 16, to find part of their objective already accomplished. “Units arrived (and) located a small stove fire partially extinguished,” according to an officer. “Dry chemical was used to put the rest of the fire out. Dry chemical (also) was used by the owner.”

Investigators used a thermal imaging camera to determine hidden flames weren’t burning in unseen areas, such as within walls.

Witnesses theft

Workers reported the theft of a \$600 Stihl con-

crete saw in the 800 block of Lakepointe at 3:30 p.m. Monday, June 16. “Workers observed a black male take the tool and enter a black Chevy sedan,” according to a public safety investigator.

Trailer taken

On Tuesday, June 17, the theft of a triple-axle black dump trailer was reported five days after it happened Friday, June 13, in the 15200 block of Mack Avenue.

Removed from road

Speed enforcement on Mack last week resulted in the arrests of three motorists who shouldn’t have been on the road to begin with. At 11:12 p.m. Tuesday, June 17, near the intersection of Balfour, a 30-year-old man from Roseville was found to be violating a suspended operator’s license. The same with a 42-year-old woman from Detroit at 12:30 a.m. Saturday, June 21, near the intersection of Harvard.

Back at Balfour 23 hours later, at 11:25 p.m., officers investigating a 38-year-old Detroit man for speeding arrested him for drunken driving. “(An officer) observed an open bottle of liquor next to the driver seat,” an investigator said.

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

Grosse Pointe Shores

Nothing to report per dispatch.

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



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Grosse Pointe News

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OUR VIEW

What is their end-game?

There must be some type of ulterior motive for the way certain members of the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education treat Superintendent Andrea Tuttle.

The badgering, the disrespect, the attempts at intimidation. There must be a motive, because reasonable, responsible adults with a modicum of decency do not act this way in a professional, public setting. Or in private, for that matter.

The exchange between Trustee Clint Derringer and Dr. Tuttle that caused her to walk away from the board table at the BoE’s June 11 meeting is not the first such incident.

Here are some others.

During the board meeting June 18, 2024, then-Trustee Colleen Worden — now board president — said she would not support the 2024-25 fiscal year budget due to what she claimed was a lack of details.

The budget included some \$5.5 million in cuts, primarily related to the end of about \$4.5 million in COVID-related federal funding. That coincided with a decline to the district’s finances and fund equity until fiscal responsibility came into place after the 2022 elections.

A majority of the cuts came from not filling 18 vacant teaching positions. Dr. Tuttle at the time said she believed the budget could be balanced in future years by not filling vacant teaching positions since the district is below the state average for student-to-teacher ratio.

The budget did not cut any student programming and included step increases and a 1 percent pay raise for teachers and staff. GPPSS and the Grosse Pointe Education Association, along with its affiliate unions, eventually agreed to two-year contracts with a 2 percent raise and step increases for teachers after an audit showed the 2023-24 budget ended with a \$1 million surplus. A step increase is equivalent to a 4.2 percent salary increase.

Ms. Worden was upset because the budget did not indicate which teaching positions were not being filled and at what schools. That was just shy of three months before the 2024-25 school year. It is doubtful that exact staffing assignments could have been known at the time.

“I’d also argue in this situation that we’ve been paying for three superintendents,” Ms. Worden said at the time. “As much as I appreciate Dr. Tuttle, she is paid one of the top superintendent salaries in the state. That’s a slap in the face when we’re only giving teachers a 1 percent raise.”

Ms. Worden was referring to the fact former Superintendent Jon Dean was paid \$195,000 as part of his separation agreement when he retired in 2023 and the district paid Christian Fenton to act as interim superintendent for five months.

Dr. Tuttle said she was “flabbergasted” by Ms. Worden’s comments.

“I’ve shared with you numerous times how we got to these numbers,” she said at the meeting. “The COVID funds also should not have been used for recurring expenses and because it was used in that fashion there now has to be cuts.

“I take some offense to the fact that you continue to say we have not been transparent,” she added. “Regarding my contract, I applied for this job because I love Grosse Pointe and because of the posting that was put out there. I was offered the position and for you to continue to attack that is offensive to me.”

The board agreed in late 2023 to post the job with a starting base salary of between \$275,000 and \$350,000. Dr. Tuttle’s contract started at \$310,000

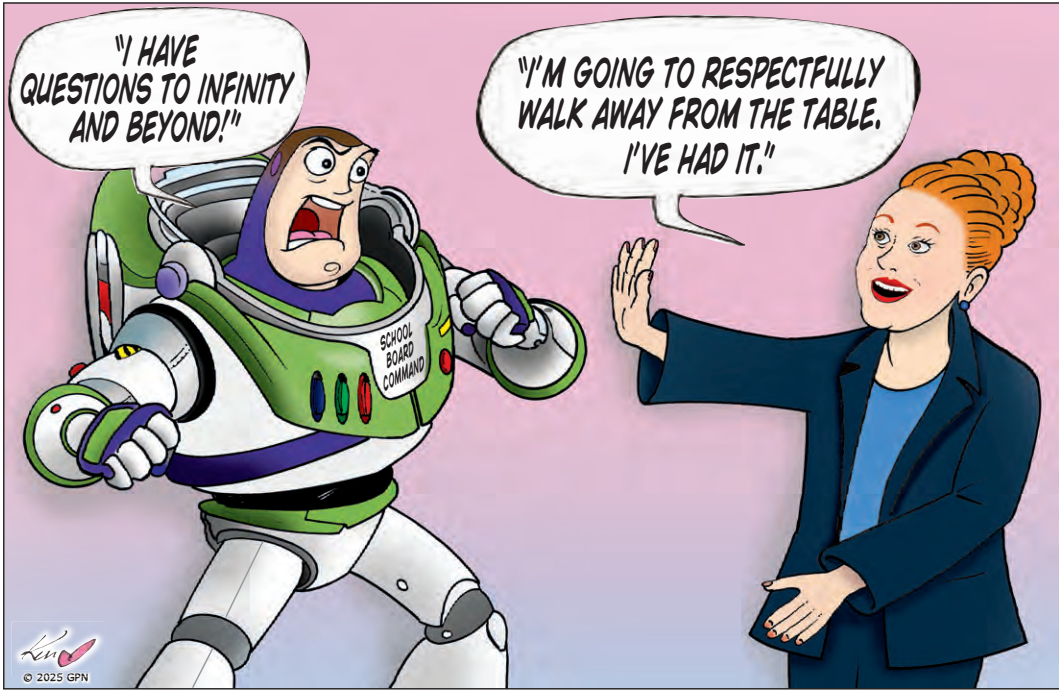


ILLUSTRATION BY KEN SCHOP

for three years. Oh, and do not forget she was a unanimous hire.

Ms. Worden and Trustee Valarie St. John voted against the budget, which is projected to end with a \$5.4 million surplus.

At the board meeting Oct. 8, 2024, Ms. St. John commented on what she claimed were violations of the Open Meetings Act on the part of other trustees communicating via email and seemed to imply Dr. Tuttle was complicit.

“It concerns me that a trustee has no idea what the responsibility of a superintendent is,” Dr. Tuttle said to Ms. St. John, reading from a prepared statement. “You frequently ask me to take actions that fall outside my purview as superintendent. You continue to divide and send divisive emails to all of us. Your repeated attempts to create conflict among board members and expect me to resolve them is counter-productive.”

During a meeting Nov. 18, 2024, the board voted 6-0, with Ms. St. John excused, to give Dr. Tuttle an evaluation rating of “effective,” the highest possible under state law. The board then went into closed session to discuss Dr. Tuttle’s contract.

Once back in open session, with Ms. St. John present, she and Ms. Worden were the only no votes in a 5-2 decision to extend Dr. Tuttle’s contract by two years. It included 2 percent annual raises and an appeal process for future evaluations.

Ms. Worden called the vote a “late-night, back-room deal” that did not offer the public an opportunity to comment. At 1 a.m. that night, however, she sent Dr. Tuttle an email advising her not to sign the new contract and instead wait for the new board to be seated. Late-night indeed.

Funny how calls to wait for a new board to be seated did not apply in late 2022, when five members of that board voted to rush through a \$1 million clinic at Grosse Pointe North High School.

Which brings us to the meeting of June 11.

As reported in last week’s Grosse Pointe News, tension mounted at the meeting during a discussion about the salary range as the district seeks a new chief financial officer.

The position, officially titled “assistant superintendent for finance and business operations,” is listed on the district’s website with a salary range of \$133,777 to \$164,440. Dr. Tuttle wants to raise that to between \$180,000 and \$200,000.

“We asked for data of similar sized and surrounding districts and I did not receive that,” Mr. Derringer said. “I’d like to see evidence we’re unable to attract candidates at the current range.”

“What more evidence do you need?” Dr. Tuttle asked. “We’ve been sitting without a CFO for six months. I don’t know what else to tell you.”

The role currently is being filled by a consultant. The district did hire a CFO in March who left within two months.

“Was it the salary range that attracted her to apply?” Derringer asked.

“I’m not going to answer that,” Dr. Tuttle replied. “She stayed a very short time. There are other reasons people leave. I’m not going to say it at this table because I think it might be disparaging to the district.

“I’m not going to say anything further,” she continued. “You either want to raise it or you don’t.” Mr. Derringer then said while the district aims to be in the top 1 or 5 percent in the state, it uses state averages when it comes to teacher-to-student ratios.

“I don’t want to be preached at,” Dr. Tuttle said. “I don’t want you to continue preaching at me and trying to belittle me in front of everyone at this table.

“If you want to vote no, vote no, end of conversation,” she added. “I’m going to walk away if you continue to preach at me.”

Mr. Derringer responded, saying, “To finish my questions.”

At which point, about 14 minutes after the discussion started, Dr. Tuttle said, “I’m going to respectfully walk away from the table. I’ve had it.”

It is unfortunate Ms. Worden did not attempt to intervene. Unfortunate, but perhaps unsurprising since she ended the meeting saying it is “not inappropriate” for trustees to ask tough questions.

So we ask again, what is their end-game? Are they trying to force Dr. Tuttle out? Obviously, she is not easily intimidated. But eventually enough might be enough. To treat this way the person most responsible for rescuing our school district from financial ruin is unconscionable. To force her out would be unforgivable.

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.

Neglect not leadership

To the Editor:

As a longtime Grosse Pointe resident and community volunteer, I’ve participated and watched school board meetings for years, but what transpired last week was truly disappointing. There was a collapse in leadership, beginning with Board President Colleen Worden, rather than just one individual acting out. The tone was wrong from the start of the meeting. President Colleen Worden and Trustee Valarie St. John publicly questioned the urgency of hiring a chief financial officer for the district. That alone was alarming. That night was the last day of the CFO’s employment as a contractor. After years of financial challenges, how can anyone think not hiring a permanent CFO is acceptable?

It got worse. Superintendent Dr. Andrea Tuttle was badgered and brow-beaten by freshman Trustee Clint Derringer until Dr. Tuttle eventually professionally and politely excused herself and left the meeting. The CFO and two trustees left with Dr. Tuttle. That doesn’t occur unless there is a significant problem. Colleen Worden, however, did not intervene. Mrs. Worden was not a

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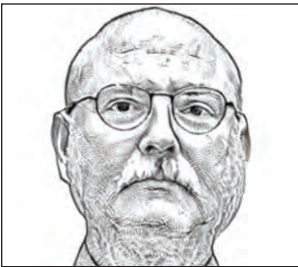
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70%	70%	0%	0%	60%	0%	0%
SUNRISE 5:57 am SUNSET 9:13 pm	SUNRISE 5:57 am SUNSET 9:13 pm	SUNRISE 5:58 am SUNSET 9:12 pm	SUNRISE 5:58 am SUNSET 9:12 pm	SUNRISE 5:58 am SUNSET 9:12 pm	SUNRISE 5:59 am SUNSET 9:12 pm	SUNRISE 6:00 am SUNSET 9:12 pm

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

See LETTER, page 7A

I SAY By Ted O’Neil

I got a lot of problems with you people



W e’re half way to Festivus, but if stores can have Christmas in July, we can have an airing of grievances now. I’ve always been a bit curmudgeonly, but now I suppose I’m old enough to fully embrace it. I even got an AARP application in the mail recently. So, here’s what’s been driving me crazy lately. We’ll start with some words.

- ◆ Curated. It’s a bunch of stuff that goes together.
- ◆ Charcuterie. Just snacks, usually meat and cheese and crackers.
- ◆ Afterglow. Time to sober up before driving home after a fancy party.
- ◆ Hostess gift. An excuse to throw a party so people will bring you nice things.
- ◆ Then we have the whole problem of phrases.
- ◆ I can’t even. OK, don’t.
- ◆ IKR. No. A million times no. It’s bad enough that lazy abbreviations exist in texting. They shouldn’t be parts of speech.
- ◆ It is what it is. So what is it?
- ◆ I’m so over it. Apparently not.
- ◆ Cray cray. No adult

should ever say this.

- ◆ Totes. They’re for storage.
- ◆ Cringy. It makes me cringe.

Then there are commercials. I really don’t remember this from before COVID, although I pay little attention to commercials, but during and since the pandemic it seems like almost every one has a similar, lilting, giggly female voice. Maybe the ad executives figured out during COVID that as long as the gubmint was holding us hostage in our homes, maybe we’d order their stuff if the voice seemed friendly.

Speaking of commercials, I really get a laugh out of any medicine aimed at intestinal issues. Nine years ago, while living in Georgia, I

was diagnosed with ulcerative colitis. The gastroenterologist put me on one of those — I won’t say which one but it starts with an H — and the rest was downhill. After dropping from 240 pounds to 160 in three months, the genius figured out maybe it was time for something different. Hence a three-surgery regimen for something called a J-pouch.

Since we have 127 hospitals in town, I’m sure many of you are familiar with the term.

I should have learned my lesson, but I fell for the vax hoax and have had a perpetual runny nose. Oh well, live and learn. Hopefully live.

For the most part, I’ve always been one to follow the rules, but some

just irk me.

- ◆ Garage sale permits. I need permission from the city to sell my private stuff on my private property? And I have to pay them to do it?
- ◆ Paying for sidewalk repairs. The city installed the sidewalks and planted the trees that grew roots damaging the cement, but we pay for it? Got it.
- ◆ My bank. They are vigilant at sending me an alert anytime I spend above my pre-set credit card limit, usually getting the alert before I even leave the store or by the time I get to my car. I log in on the day my bill is due and make the transfer, then get the message that it could take one to two days to process.
- Bright and early the

next morning I get a message about my payment being late and if I need to talk to someone about a payment plan, yada, yada, yada. Hey, they set up the system, not me. They could easily process payments as fast as they send spending alerts.

Then there are things I miss.

- ◆ Original Gatorade, in the glass bottle.
- ◆ Players staying with the same team their entire career, like Lou and Tram, Stevie Y, Isaiah and Barry.
- ◆ Movie theaters inside malls.
- ◆ Neighbors visiting on front porches. I blame automatic garage door openers.
- ◆ Tiger Stadium.

Now for feats of strength.

YESTERDAY’S HEADLINES

1950

75 years ago this week

CONVERSION TO CITY STATUS APPROVED BY VOTERS IN WOODS: Considering the importance of the issues involved in the special election in the Woods, a very light vote was polled. Only 1,224 ballots were cast out of a total registration of approximately 4,500. The vote for incorporation as a city carried 863 for to 361 against.

CENSUS DATA PUTS POINTE OVER 40,000: The 1950 census figures for the Grosse Pointe municipalities show an amazing increase in the Pointe area. The Woods showed by far the greatest growth. The Park and City were fairly static over the 10-year period since the last census was taken. The Farms showed a definite increase

although considerably less than the meteoric growth of the Woods. The Shores added over 200 to its small population.

ROUGH USE GIVEN KIDS’ NEW TOY: The Farms old fire engine, which was replaced last year with a new pumper, has been moved to the municipal beach park as a plaything for the children. It had become so obsolete that no bids were received when it was advertised for sale.

1975

50 years ago this week

DR. LORANGER RETIRES TODAY: Dr. Clifford B. Loranger’s 41-year career as Shores Village clerk comes to an end today, June 26, and the day has been proclaimed “Dr. Loranger Day” by Shores Village President Gerald

Schroeder.

GEORGE MEASEL RETIRES: George E. Measel — known to Pointers for more than a quarter century as “Mr. Auto Club” — retires July 1 after 45 years of service with the Automobile Club of Michigan.

ALLOCATE FEDERAL FUNDS: More than a quarter of a million dollars is being divided among Grosse Pointe communities as part of the federal government’s general revenue sharing program. Born of the 1971 General Revenue Sharing Act, which went into effect Jan. 1, 1972, the monies are automatically made available to local and state governments each year.

2000

25 years ago this week

MIDDLE SCHOOLS GET TV PRODUCTION

CLASS: After a year of students at Pierce Middle School coming in on their own time before school to write, direct and produce morning video announcements, they now can take credit for their work. Students at Pierce, as well as at Brownell and Parcels middle schools, will be able to take a video production and broadcasting pilot course as an elective for either a semester or a year. The class will be open to 30 seventh and eighth grade students at each school each semester.

JEFFERSON IN THE PARK TO BE FIXED THIS SPRING: Engineering designs are being drawn for the repair of East Jefferson in Grosse Pointe Park. Work should begin in the spring of next year. The Park will pay \$90,200 toward the project’s anticipated \$1,037,000 cost. The bulk of construction will be paid by the federal government.

2015

10 years ago this week

FINCHAM STAYING LONGER: Try as he might, City Administrator Skip Fincham can’t quite retire. Earlier this year, Fincham informed city officials he hoped to retire around July 1, but that date moved to Dec. 31 as the city continues a search for his replacement. So far, according to those familiar with the process, that search has not produced any viable candidates.

SMART METERS ON THE WAY: Upgrades to the region’s gas utility infrastructure start this summer in the Grosse Pointes. Work consists of replacing natural gas

meters with automated meters — so-called smart meters — plus replacing underground distribution pipes.

POINTERS ENJOY GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY: This summer three of Grosse Pointe’s best youth hockey players have been selected to play in the prestigious Brick Invitational Hockey Tournament June 29 to July 5 in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. Chase Maze of Grosse Pointe Shores, Jackson Wade of Grosse Pointe Farms and Stevie Wheatley of Grosse Pointe Shores were chosen for the Detroit Jr. Wings roster, along with other 10 and under age group select hockey players from around Michigan, Canada and even one player from Florida.

FAN, PAARI renew partnership

Face Addiction Now, or FAN, and the Police Assisted Addiction & Recovery Initiative, or PAARI, recently announced their renewed partnership and continued dedication to providing non-arrest pathways to treatment and recovery for individuals with substance use disorder.

By collaborating to implement and enhance deflection and diversion programs, FAN, PAARI, law enforcement and many community partners decrease the addiction-related incarceration rate while helping more people find recovery. In addition, they help break the stigma associated with substance use disorder by treating it as a disease instead of crime.

Since launching as a grassroots organization in 2007, FAN has grown into

a statewide nonprofit that provides free support and services to individuals and families in Michigan who have been affected by SUD.

PAARI provides essential training, strategic guidance, support and resources to help law enforcement agencies nationwide develop and implement deflection and diversion programs.

“FAN has enjoyed a long relationship with PAARI,” FAN Executive Director Linda Davis said. “By working together, we have shared ideas and strengthened each other’s programs. PAARI is a true partner in doing this important work and we have learned that we can do so much more if we work together.

“Giving participants an opportunity to grow in lasting recovery services

not only creates a healthier community, but also creates a safer community,” she added. “We look forward to working with PAARI for many years to come.”

Over the years, FAN’s compassionate programming has continued to evolve and expand, thanks in large part to PAARI’s assistance. FAN now offers harm-reduction services, naloxone training and distribution, quick-response teams, jail diversion, easier access to treatment, peer and family recovery coaching, outpatient services, sober living scholarships and more.

“As a national nonprofit, we are always eager to collaborate with grassroots organizations making a local impact in the field of deflection,” said Zoe Grover, executive director of PAARI. “Our partner-

ship with FAN is a natural fit and has only strengthened over the years. We are excited to renew this collaboration to further amplify deflection-focused initiatives to support individuals with substance use disorder.”

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LETTER:

Continued from page 6A

leader. She didn’t request respect at the board table or stop the behavior. She allowed it to occur. That

is neglect, not leadership. Dr. Tuttle stabilized this district and restored financial health. Instead of trustees playing politics, I want a board that supports its superintendent and prioritizes

pupils, not power plays. We need calm, composed, steady leadership on our school board. We don’t have it at the moment.

CHERYL DENMAN
Grosse Pointe Park

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Sponsor trajectory in zoom mode

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Private sponsors of this summer’s premier series of public street festivals more than doubled from a year ago.

It gets more dramatic with time: Sponsors this year nearly tripled from two years ago.

“We have a ton of sponsors this year,” said Chad Craig, head of the parks and recreation department.

The department organizes and hosts three Kercheval After 6 street parties each summer. Events are in the lower Kercheval business district between Nottingham and Wayburn, during which motor traffic is diverted. Dates this year are 6 to 10 p.m. Saturday, June 28, July 26, and Aug. 23. Attendance is free and open to everyone.

Reasons for increased sponsorships are the parties’ growing popularity, plus the backers’ desire to support the community and share in its exposure, according to a sampling of sponsors of this year’s series.

“They’re very good for business,” said Bob Conlan, owner of Rustics Cabin Bar, a repeat sponsor.

“I’d love to see them in May, June, July, August and September,” said his wife and Rustics co-owner, Michelle Conlan. “All the restaurants and bars on Kercheval end at 10 p.m. People aren’t ready to go home yet. Where do you think they’re staying? Rustics.”

“We think it’s a great event and we’re happy to be part of it,” said Andre Ahee of edmund t. AHEE Jewelers.

Unlike Rustics, which is located at the center of the After 6 action, AHEE

Jewelers is 4.5 miles away on Mack Avenue in Grosse Pointe Woods.

“We love this community, whether it’s Grosse Pointe Park, City, Farms, Shores or Woods,” Ahee said. “We have clients all over the Grosse Pointes and all over metro Detroit. We want to give back.”

Title sponsor for all three events this summer is Pointe Hardware Group.

“I’d been to Kercheval After 6 before Pointe Hardware became part of my life,” said Waref Hawasli, owner of the store since the summer of 2023.

He said promoting KA6s increases the value of both his store and the commercial neighborhood.

“This business district has such an incredibly vibrant personality,” Hawasli said. “It’s youthful and becoming a fixture in all the Pointes. You can see it by the developments and acquisitions that are happening in the community and, ultimately, the foot traffic. We have a lot more we want to bring to market. When it comes to After 6, our value was felt, but it’s a significant amount of responsibility on us. We have to deliver.”

Attendance testifies to Kercheval After 6 street fairs being fun family outings, but they aren’t cheap dates for the city. General estimates of what each fair costs the city are around \$20,000.

Actual municipal allocations for each of three Kercheval After 6s this summer are \$13,333.

There’s the direct cost of hiring performers for two stages, carnival rides and attractions. Indirect costs to the city are for

See SPONSOR, page 10A

Can drive funds donation to City’s kayak dock

Fourteen-year-old Preston Vanderpool presents a \$370 check to senior council member Chris Walsh Monday, May 16, to go toward a project to rebuild and restock the kayak dock at Neff Park.

As a National Junior Honor Society fundraising project, Vanderpool collected returnable cans over several weeks to raise the funds.

“My grandpa has a boat and I really love being out on the water, so I decided that’s what I wanted to donate to,” he said.



PHOTO BY LAUREL KRAUS



PHOTOS COURTESY OF BOB GRAMBO

Left, from left, Sunrise Rotary President Sandra Cobb, Alexander Grabowski, Olivia McMillian, Steven Hicks, Maliyah Andrews-Jones, Viktoriya Palamarchuk and Claire Juip. Right, from left, Marissa Ford, Evonne Karam, Sunrise Rotary President Sandra Cobb, Lilly Kline, Terry Smith, Ashton Zimmerman, Beatrice Guibord, Alexander Jones, Christopher Azzi and John Kay.

Sunrise Rotary awards scholarships

Sunrise Rotary has provided local high school seniors with educational assistance for more than 30 years. Over the last five years,

the club has funded more than \$130,000 for college scholarships, spread over 85 students.

The Grosse Pointe Run, sponsored by the club, is the main fundraising event for these scholarships. The walk/5k/10k event is scheduled for Sept. 20.

KA6:

Continued from page 2A

according to an audience member on Facebook.

The KufflinKs performs at The Zealous Root stage. Members of The KufflinKs, which have performed at the Cabbage Patch Saloon on Mack, bill themselves as “not your average cover band.” Their repertoire of songs ranges from the 1880s to now with a “ragtime spin,” according to the website, thekufflinks.com.

By expanding the venue, there’s more room for rides, specialty food vendors and the fundraiser dunk tank.

This time the dunk tank benefits Grosse Pointe Park Little League.

“Kercheval After 6 is a perfect way of fundraising for an organization utilized by a good majority of our residents,” Craig said.

Another fundraiser is a bake sale headed by the 9-year-old daughter of KA6’s presenting sponsor for the season, Pointe Hardware Group.

She, her two sisters and classmates are benefitting their school, University Liggett, which also sponsors the parties this year.

“It’s completely spearheaded by them,” said father and store owner, Waref Hawasli. “They’re super excited. My daughter is talking about it constantly. As a father, I can’t help but lean into her young ambition. It’s important for me to also listen and be receptive to her needs and say, if you want to do this, it has a lot of responsibility, but we’ll be here to help and support you. They’ll have their own little stand.”

The main carnival ride this Saturday is a superslide. Craig anticipates a Sharpshooter Showdown Gaming Trailer to be popular with families and friends.

“You can have teams of three and shoot at targets,” he said. “The best scores win. Families can do it together; parents and children on one team going against another.”

Vendors

People’s Pierogi Collective returns as a food vendor along with Aruba Freeze, Sno Biz Detroit, The Cheese Pull and the Little Donut Factory. Making a first appearance is Max Italian Beef, a Chicago-style sandwich shop on Mack Avenue in the City of Grosse Pointe.

“A resident reached out to me about how the owner was looking to be more active in the community,” Craig said. “We connected. They have a nice menu of food you could easily eat on the go at an event.”

Craig said he books

food vendors to augment, not compete with, brick-and-mortar restaurants on Kercheval.

“There are attendees with families that wouldn’t do well for 45 minutes inside a restaurant,” he said. “They just want to grab a little something to keep going. I don’t want to overload or overwhelm the restaurants because there’s only a certain volume they can handle.”

Scheduled vendors deal in jewelry, clothing, food and beauty items.

Parking is wherever there’s room. The event is becoming so popular, motorists routinely must park a few blocks away. The K-Line Trolley is not operating this year.

Sponsors

Sponsors for Kercheval After 6 are:

◆ Diamond: Pointe Hardware Group.

◆ Gold: Brosnan Builders, Red Crown, Aquatic Source, The Bricks Pizzeria, edmund t. AHEE Jewelers, Brine Oyster House, Pointe Alarm, Pet Supplies Plus, Village Dental Associates, Coreander’s Children’s Bookshoppe, Grosse Pointe News, Harvey Animal Hospital, LeRouge Boulangerie, Atwater in the Park, Thermal Mechanical LLC, and Carly Copus - Licensed Insurance Agent.

◆ Silver: The Zealous Root, University Liggett School, Pointe Cabinets & Design, Marshall Landscape Inc., and DTE Energy.

◆ Bronze: Hoof ‘N Woof, Rustic Cabins, H2O Cleaners, Grosse Pointe Spine Center, Gold & Braid, Duffey & Co. and Aesthetic Theory Detroit.

Two more Kercheval After 6s are scheduled this year July 26 and Aug. 23.

Pre-KA6 starts 5 p.m.

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Kercheval After 6 gets off to an early start June 28.

Not only is the free street fair expanding by one block this year, activities kick off before the official hours 6 to 10 p.m. Saturday on Kercheval between Nottingham and Wayburn.

Pointe Hardware Group, which is presenting sponsor of Kercheval After 6, sets an early pace for what is expected to be a well-attended evening by organizing and hosting:

◆ Pointe Hardware’s Little Builders Workshop, 5 to 7 p.m., and

◆ free hot dogs, 5 to 6 p.m. or while supplies last.

“Little Builder’s Workshop is a fun learning experience for kids, a hands-on craft experience,” said Waref Hawasli, owner of Pointe Hardware Group, located near the corner of Wayburn. “It’s free.”

Little Builders is described on the store’s website as “a fun, hands-on event where kids get to build, create and learn.

From hammering to painting, we provide the tools and guidance — kids bring creativity.” Register at workshop@pointehardwaregroup.com.

Free hot dogs are an extension of the store’s mid-week customer appreciation giveaway, Hump Day Hotdogs on Wednesdays sponsored by Fairway Packing Co. For Kercheval After 6, there is lemonade, face painting and children’s activities.

The pre-party includes free hot dogs from Carly Copus, a longtime KA6 gold sponsor.

“I give free hot dogs to everybody,” said Copus, an independent insurance agent normally stationed at a booth near Rustic Cabins Bar.

She ends service at 6 p.m. to avoid eating into the business of Kercheval restaurants and specialty food vendors.

Kercheval After 6 is organized by the Park Department of Parks and Recreation. KA6s also are scheduled this year July 26 and Aug. 23.

— Brad Lindberg

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Tree gets protection

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — Just like students in Julie Van Tol’s kindergarten class at Kerby Elementary School, a tree they helped plant a few years ago on campus needs TLC to grow straight and tall.

“I’ve heard students say during recess, ‘That’s our tree,’” said Van Tol, a teacher for 18 years, all at the elementary level and more than 10 at Kerby.

Her students helped plant the tree, a black maple, four years ago. It’s still so young the caliper hasn’t reached two inches.

Yet the tree started showing its age in the four years since Van Tol’s then-kindergartners teamed with her father-in-law, Paul Van Tol, to plant it within irresistible reach of the rear playground blacktop.

“Kids love to hang on things,” said Paul Van Tol, donor of more than 300 trees to his city of residence, the Park.

“They play baseball on this blacktop,” Julie Van Tol said.



COURTESY PHOTO

Then: Students in Julie Van Tol’s kindergarten class at Kerby Elementary School are masked against COVID in 2021, and lined up to water a black maple they helped plant near the rear blacktop playground in 2021.

One nearby mature tree is first base. Another is second.

“They literally hang on them,” she said. “Thank goodness they haven’t



PHOTO BY BRAD LINDBERG

Now: Julie VanTol and her father-in-law, Paul VanTol, with the tree last week.

touched ours, but they will.”

“I made a tree-protector that I’m going to put in,” Paul Van Tol said.

He installed the wrought iron guard, which surrounds and shields the lower trunk, Wednesday morning, June 18.

Julie Van Tol said the idea of planting the tree came from her students. “We always talk during Earth Week about ways we can help the planet,” she said. “They said we could plant a tree. I said, ‘I know a guy who can help us with that.’”

“I germinated it from a

seed,” her father-in-law said. He has land in Macomb County on which he grows trees.

During planting, he gave students a lesson in trees.

“I asked the kids if they knew what a tree gets

See *TREE*, page 10A

NAMED:

Continued from page 1A

Parcells Middle School community as your new principal,” she said in an email to Parcells families the next morning. “I am committed to fostering a school culture where every member of our community feels valued and empowered. Together we will create a learning environment where students thrive through meaningful, rigorous and collaborative learning experiences.”

She starts Aug. 1. Schmittdiel, originally from Marquette in the Upper Peninsula, earned a bachelor’s degree in social studies, history and middle level education from Central Michigan University. She began as a teacher of English as a second language in Florida’s Pinellas County school system and became an assistant middle school principal after earning a master’s degree in educational leadership from National Louis University.

“Coming home played a huge part in applying to Grosse Pointe,” said Schmittdiel, whose husband, Dan, also is a native Michigander. “We love the metro-Detroit area and are so excited about the opportunity to raise our boys closer to family.”

Her husband, most recently a high school principal in Florida, has accepted a job as assistant principal at Northville High School. The couple plans to live in Royal Oak as a midway point, although Schmittdiel said when their two young sons start school they will attend GPPSS.

Superintendent Andrea Tuttle had high praise for Schmittdiel.

“Her extensive background in both instructional and administrative roles has prepared her well for leadership and she was identified as the top candidate for the position based on strong



Joe Spryszak

interview committee feedback,” she said. “Her proactive approach to student growth, skill in navigating complex student needs and ability to connect with diverse stakeholders underscore her readiness to lead.”

Schmittdiel said she’s always known she wanted to go into education. “I’m especially drawn to middle school because it’s a pivotal stage in a child’s development,” she said. “As middle school educators, we guide young adolescents as they begin discovering who they are and have the unique opportunity to help shape them into kind, curious scholars.”

Two other appointments were made at the meeting, meaning all of the administrative roles for each building in the district are filled.

Joe Spryszak will be the assistant principal at Parcells. He has been interim principal there since March after Jason



Samantha Lamberti-McGrath

Wesley’s resignation. Spryszak retired last year after serving as assistant principal at Grosse Pointe South High School.

“With his recent experience as interim principal, he will provide calm, steady and insightful leadership during this transition,” Tuttle said.

Samantha Lamberti-McGrath, meanwhile, moves from assistant principal at Parcells into the same role at Grosse Pointe North High School. She fills the role previously held by Kevin Shubnell, who was promoted to principal. Shubnell replaces Sara Delgado, now the assistant superintendent for teaching and learning.

“A lifelong resident of Grosse Pointe, Sam is proud to support students, staff and families in her home community,” Tuttle said. “We are excited for her to also provide a familiar face for our eighth grade students joining the North family this fall.”

City of **Grosse Pointe Woods**, Michigan **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Grosse Pointe Woods City Council, under the provisions of Public Act 110 of 2006, MCL 125.3101 as amended, and Grosse Pointe Woods City Code of 2022 Chapter 50, Article 7, Section 50-7.15, will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, July 14, 2025 at 7:00 p.m., at City Hall in the Council Chamber/Courtroom (located at 20025 Mack Plaza Drive, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236) to consider the application for a Lot Split of 19655 and 19653 Mack Avenue [Parcel ID: 40-011-05-0796-303].

All interested persons are invited to attend and will be given opportunity for public comment. The public may appear in person or be represented by counsel. Written comments will be received in the City Clerk’s Office, up to close of business preceding the hearing. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services at the meeting should contact the Grosse Pointe Woods Clerk’s Office at 313-343-2440 seven days prior to the meeting. The agenda and pertinent documents will be available at www.gpwmil.us.

For additional project information, contact the Building and Planning Department at 313-343-2426 or e-mail building@gpwmil.us.

Paul P. Antolin
City Clerk

G.P.N.: 6/26/25

Grosse Pointe News

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Woods marks Arbor Day

Members of the Grosse Pointe Woods Tree Commission present city council with a Tree City USA banner from the Arbor Day Foundation. This is the 47th consecutive year the city has received the award, which was created 49 years ago.



COURTESY PHOTOS



The Grosse Pointe Woods City Council stands with winners of its annual Arbor Day poster contest, including winners from Ferry, Mason and Monteith elementary schools, Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic School and University Liggett School.

SPONSOR:

Continued from page 8A

providing in-kind services, such as police protection and public works employees assisting with preparing the site and cleanup. Municipal funding comes out of the Tax Increment Finance Authority budget. TIFA is self-funded by capturing a portion of property taxes generated in its boundaries encompassing the most northwest section of the Cabbage Patch. “I budgeted \$40,000 for this upcoming fiscal year and the following fiscal year for three After 6s each year,” said Nick Sizeland, city manager and TIFA director. “That covers vendors, playscapes, inflatables, entertainment and restrooms. The city provides a public safety officer and public works staff.”

What’s the cost?

With growing popularity and awareness comes increased demands by city overseers for the events’ expense and revenue statements. Profit and lost analysis would facilitate evaluating

street fairs among other budget items in order of importance and viability. “It would be good to know what its really costing the city,” said Larry Haggart, a 29-year member of the recreation commission. “I’m hopeful these can start to turn a profit,” Commissioner Howard Bouton added. “I want profit and loss (analysis) because two years ago a resident wanted to shut down the street for a St. Patrick’s Day party,” said Councilman Tom Caulfield, head of the finance committee and liaison to the recreation committee. “It would be good for us to know the raw costs to the city so if anyone wants a parade or something, we can tell them it costs X amount of dollars to shut down Kercheval.” Yet, the value of hosting the events is considered by representatives of city hall to be worth it. The payoff is community conviviality and, frankly, showing off what the Kercheval commercial district has to offer. “I love the After 6 because it exposes our community,” Caulfield said. “It shows what we’re doing and how great this community is. I am interested in

the expense of in-kind donations and the cost to the Tax Increment Finance Authority which, at the end of the day, are tax dollars.”

Sponsorships

In 2023, there were 10 sponsors of Kercheval After 6. Sponsors grew in 2024 to 13. This year there are 29. “It’s kind of grown on its own as people look forward to it,” Craig said. “People want to be part of it one way or another.” “We have received more donations in the last several years,” Sizeland said. Donations this year nearly total \$30,000, he said. Donations total 75 percent of the \$40,000 he budgeted annually from the TIFA. “I credit members of the staff reaching out beyond Grosse Pointe Park as well as members of our business community,” Sizeland said. “We’re seeing interest from vendors outside of Grosse Pointe Park. They realize that folks from other communities are coming to these events. I think we’re seeing more donations because people don’t want these to end.”

Velvet PB partners with Forgotten Harvest

Velvet Peanut Butter, a beloved 90-year-old Detroit brand known for its “Fresh. Pure. Delicious.” promise, is partnering with Forgotten Harvest to help combat food insecurity across metro Detroit. “When I acquired Velvet Peanut Butter, it was driven by my passion for authentic, high-quality local brands,” said Mark Rieth, a resident of Grosse Pointe Farms and the entrepreneur who purchased Velvet in late 2024. “But being local means more than geography. It means doing what you can to be part of the community. We’re proud to support Forgotten Harvest and its critical mission to provide nutritious food to those who need it most.” Velvet recently delivered nearly 3,000 cases — approximately 35,000 jars — of its protein-rich peanut butter to Forgotten Harvest’s mobile pantry distribution center in Oak Park. Velvet Peanut Butter has deep roots in Detroit. During World War II, the brand saw a major sales boom when it was selected to supply peanut butter to U.S. troops overseas due to its portability, nutritional value and taste. That wartime service earned it a place in American kitchens, where families proudly served the same product trusted by U.S. soldiers.

“Protein is one of the most important but often least available components in the diets of those facing food insecurity,” said Christopher Ivey, chief marketing and communications officer at Forgotten Harvest. “With seven grams of protein per serving, Velvet Peanut Butter can play an important role in supporting the health and well-being of our neighbors, while also providing classic peanut butter taste.” With its colorful label and clear brand identity, Velvet once was a staple on store shelves. Under Rieth’s leadership, it’s poised for a comeback. “Partnering with Forgotten Harvest was a no-brainer,” Rieth said. “They’re doing incredible work every day. We hope that as people enjoy Velvet’s great taste, they’ll also feel a sense of Detroit pride seeing this iconic brand back on their table.” Rieth’s acquisition of Velvet Peanut Butter is his latest venture into Michigan-made products. He previously founded Atwater Brewery, which he sold to Molson Coors in 2022. He also operates Detroit Liquid Ventures, producer of FÜL Beverage, as well as Old Head, a Detroit-brewed Irish-style ale. A longtime Michigan State Spartan, Rieth acquired Lansing Brewing Co., and its craft beer and spirits portfolio in early 2024.

TREE:

Continued from page 9A

every year on its birthday — a ring,” he said. They didn’t believe him. “I described the growth of tree rings every year,”

he said. “We buried a time capsule in front of it,” Julie Van Tol said. “It contains a (COVID) mask and a picture of us all.” Black maple is a subspecies of sugar maple differentiated by drooping lateral leaf lobes, according to the widely assigned textbook, “Manual of Woody Landscape Plants,” by Michael Dirr. “Black maples have smoother bark,” Paul Van Tol said. The students that proposed the tree enter fifth grade this fall. “I like the little ones,” Julie Van Tol said. “They respect you and want hugs and say the darndest things; very entertaining. I love Kerby because it’s a small school, a tight-knit community. The staff is strong and close. Very supportive parents.”

KA6 sponsors say why

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Sponsors of the Kercheval After 6 street parties have their reasons. Anna Pitera, a manager of Coreander’s Children’s Bookshoppe, works almost dead center in what will be three street parties on Kercheval between Nottingham and Wayburn 6 to 10 p.m. Saturday, June 28, July 26, and Aug. 23. “It’s a beautiful community event that we love supporting,” Pitera said. Unlike many sponsors in the Kercheval business district, Coreander’s isn’t open during the parties. “We close at 6 p.m.,” Pitera said. “We have stayed open in the past for ice cream sales, but we found it wasn’t beneficial because there were vendors on the street selling ice cream. One way we can support it is by sponsoring it.” The owner of Coreander’s is related to the owner of the Grosse Pointe News. Fellow sponsor Carley Copus, an independent insurance agent, lives in the Park but her office is in the City of Grosse Pointe. “I go to Kercheval After 6 and show my support for the community,” Copus said. “I think I’ve done it every single year. At the beginning, my business was a sponsor, but now I do it personally. It’s a great way to meet tons of people in the community and put faces to names.” Her booth is usually near the Beaumont medical building. “I give out lots of bracelets, stickers and Jibbitz — little things kids put in their crocs,” Copus said. Jibbitz is a hot item. “Kids love those,” Copus said. “They have Disney characters they put in the holes of their crocs to decorate them. I’ll get thousands of stickers. Kids stand and look for stickers for 10 minutes to pick their favorite one. It gives me a chance to meet Mom and Dad while the kids spend time picking things out. My three children (ages 3, 10 and 15) are always there helping. They love it.” Harvey Animal Hospital, also a repeat sponsor, is located outside the district on Mack Avenue in Detroit across from Cloverly in the Farms. “We love the event,” said Sasha Oza, practice manager. “It’s so much fun. We love being in the community meeting people and sharing information about our animal hospital.” KA6 is organized and presented by the Park recreation department headed by Chad Craig. “Chad is wonderful to work with,” Oza said. “Anything we need, he’s there with it. We have done a couple other street fairs, but Chad has been the best one to work with so far. He makes it easy to sponsor. We think it’s a great community event and we love it.” — Brad Lindberg

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OO FASHIONED | 8

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PROSECCO SLUSHIE | 8

Grey Goose vodka, peach purée, prosecco

CANNOLI MARTINI | 8

Grey Goose vodka, hazelnut syrup, touch of cream

TOMMY GUN | 7

Patrón Silver, fresh jalapeños, lime juice, grapefruit juice, simple syrup, black lava salt

NONNA'S ESPRESSO MARTINI | 9

Grey Goose vodka, Kahlua, espresso, touch of Aperol

PATRON ANEJO OLD FASHIONED | 8

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

VINNY THE GIN | 7

Bombay Sapphire gin, Elderflower liqueur, lavender syrup, lime, club soda, black lava salt

MORE TO DRINK

WELL | 6

ROCKS +2 | MARTINI +3

HOUSE WINE | 7

DOMESTIC BEER | 4

APEROL SPRITZ | 8

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City of **Grosse Pointe Woods**, Michigan

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council adopted the following ordinance amendment at its meeting held on Monday, June 16, 2025. The ordinance amendment was adopted in accordance with the City Charter and will become effective June 26, 2025, and is hereby published by title:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE CITY OF GROSSE POINTE WOODS, CHAPTER 2, ADMINISTRATION; ARTICLE VI. - ELECTIONS; SECTION 2-515, TO CONSOLIDATE SIX (6) VOTING PRECINCTS INTO THREE (3) VOTING PRECINCTS

The ordinances are available for public inspection or purchase from the Office of the City Clerk, at the Robert E. Novitke Municipal Center, 20025 Mack Plaza Drive, between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, or www.gpwni.us.

Paul P. Antolin
City Clerk

G.P.N.: 6/26/25

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2B OBITUARIES | 3-5B BEAUTIFUL BEGINNINGS | 6B CHURCHES

Retirement won't keep Moffat away from The Arc

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Deborah Moffat has dedicated much of her life to working with children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. She has led them, advocated for them, supported them and cared for them in her role as director of The Arc of Grosse Pointe/Harper Woods.

After decades of leadership, Moffat has stepped down from her post, though she plans to stay on part time until a full retirement mid-summer.

“This is home,” Moffat said of The Arc, which is housed at St. Michael’s Episcopal Church in Grosse Pointe Woods. “... Seeing the kids smile, develop and learn new things is such a rewarding experience that it has filled my heart.”

Moffat’s introduction to her line of work began long before she joined The Arc.

“I babysat for a family in the ’70s who had a daughter with Down syndrome,” she said. “The doctors told them to leave her, to put her in an institution and forget they even had her. It was hard for them to figure out what to do; there wasn’t any support. I thought, that’s what needs to happen.”

Moffat began volunteering at the Foundation for Exceptional Children, which was housed at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church. After earning a degree in special education, she worked at Children’s Home of Detroit.

“In the meantime, the foundation director retired and they asked me to come back,” Moffat said.

Moffat served as program director for the Foundation for Exceptional Children more than 16 years. With “feet in both places,” she said, eventually the programs joined forces.

“Then 2008 hit and the



Deborah Moffat stands near a bubble tube in the sensory room at The Arc. The item, which also changes color, produces a calming effect on students.

PHOTO BY JODY MCVEIGH

True leader

“Under her leadership, The Arc grew into an important organization that offered advocacy and information seminars for parents and a wide array of social and recreational activities for teens and adults with social needs 16 and up,” said Anne White O’Hara, an Arc board member.

“On a personal note, my son, Tom O’Hara, 29, born with Down syndrome, has been with Deborah Moffat all his life. When we lived in downtown Detroit, I would drive him to the Foundation for Exceptional Children. As a toddler, he flourished under her care and she is one of the reasons we moved to Grosse Pointe Park. We consider her one of the saints and heroes in Tom’s life.”

O’Hara said her son followed Moffat to The Arc as a young adult.

“Through her remarkable Friends Group programming, Tom and others have experienced grand adventures, parties and developed a quality of life I could not have imagined for him,” she said. “He has attended Tigers games, peddled through Detroit on a peddle bar, enjoyed Detroit River cruises, spent a weekend in a treehouse in Ohio, did a zipline at Camp Fowler, spent the weekend at MSU and other colleges. He marched in the Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Parade, the St. Patrick’s parade, does duck pin and feather bowling and every year he looks forward to The Arc’s epic Halloween, Christmas and St. Patrick’s Day dance parties.”

Children’s Home of Detroit redid their strategic plan and we parted ways,” she said. “Then Holy Cross Child Services took us over for a year. Then Judson Center came in. I went

to Judson Center when Holy Cross wanted to shut us down.”

After a few years with Judson Center, she was recruited to lead the local chapter of The Arc. Over many years and

Moffat’s leadership.

“When I came to The Arc, I was president of the board for a while,” she said. “We just did a couple informational dinners and we owned two group homes. I said there still needs to be summer programming. The parents are looking for that. There needs to be adult services. ... To be able to continue summer programming was instrumental.”

Through its summer camp, The Arc provides “all the typical camp experiences for students with additional support — swimming, entertainment, music classes, activities to improve their social and communication skills,” she said. “We sneak in a little academics, but we make sure they have a fun summer, like all kids should have.”

She also developed Friends Group, offering social and recreational activities for ages 16 and older — dances, parties, outings, sporting events. On Fridays the Good Grub Social Club meets.

“As the needs arise, we hear what the needs are and start doing more,” Moffat said. “I’m very proud of what we’ve accomplished.”

Moffat’s personal life played a large part in her decision to retire, but she said she’s excited for the future of The Arc.

“My husband, Leonard Williams, was a huge support here,” she said. “He worked with the kids and the adults, volunteered with activities and driving. He was diagnosed with ALS in September of ’23 and passed away in January ’24. Last summer, it was too much. I was exhausted.

“... It’s been a blessing to me personally, with the loss I had, to be able to come to work and get that reward,” she added. “It really kept me going.”

Moffat found love again when her high school boyfriend reentered her life. The pair recently wed and Moffat soon will move to Spring Lake, where he lives.

Despite the impending move, The Arc will stay close to Moffat’s heart.

“I’m never going to step away,” she said. “My daughter (Lesley Moffat) is taking over. She grew up with these kids; now she’s a board-certified behavioral analyst. I’ll come back and volunteer for different activities and keep in touch.

“I’m excited for the future,” she said. “I’ve left it in good hands and

A blessing

“Deb has been a blessing in our lives,” said Gary Hoenicke, an Arc board member whose son, Caleb, attends The Arc’s after-school and summer programs. “A couple of years ago, we were trying to find after-school care for our son when he was in elementary school. We had some challenging experiences with his school’s after-school care and needed to find better quality care for him.

“... Our son is a very social and happy boy, so we wanted a place that would care for him as we would,” he continued. “Luckily, we found The Arc and after meeting with Deb, we knew it was the place. Deb was welcoming, loving and had a wealth of experience that we knew would help Caleb to thrive and learn. Finding her and The Arc has given us peace of mind knowing Caleb is well cared for and always having a good time while growing. The impact is truly immeasurable.

“... One of my favorite moments was walking into The Arc to pick up Caleb one of the very first times and seeing Deb with her arm around Caleb and Caleb with his head resting on Deb, just strolling down the hallway of The Arc,” Hoenicke added. “I knew from that moment that we had finally found care for Caleb in every sense of the word.”

I think it will continue to grow.”

Moffat said she’s grateful to have worked with a supportive board and community.

“I want to thank everyone for their trust and support,” she added, “the families that trust me with their vulnerable children, all the staff who have come along over the years. ... There are folks in the volunteer program that were here when I volunteered as a teenager. A significant number have stuck with us all this time.”

Moffat said she’ll always carry with her the breakthroughs and growth she witnessed over the years.

“I’ve dealt with students with super difficult behaviors, working through it with them, getting them to recognize us, to listen to us and follow through and change those behaviors,” Moffat said. “One man started with us when he was 4; he’s 18 now. We could never get him to sit in front of a computer, so we went to

See ARC, page 3B

All in one

“Deb could do it all: manage the budget, fundraise, provide innovative programming, all while nurturing children, some of whom had the most severe disabilities imaginable,” said Laura Kellett, who served on the board of the Foundation for Exceptional Children when Moffat ran the program. “She also served adults with disabilities through the foundation’s adult program. While at that program she lost her husband. ... She never wavered in her efforts on behalf of our kids.”

As a former board president, Kellett, whose oldest daughter has Down syndrome, knows “the director must wear many hats. Deb has always been my first call when someone needs an advocate to help navigate our complex systems for disability services. She has provided a broad range of services for our folks including lots of fun dances, trips, day-care, educational programming and parties. My daughter

looks forward to every party; her life is so much broader and more fun because of Deb.

“Deb even added her wonderful second husband as a DJ, driver and all-around cheerleader for our kids and adults with disabilities,” she added. “She and Leonard could be seen at every event, genuinely and lovingly engaging with everyone, from the cutest baby with Down syndrome to the person with severe autism who had no speech. I am sure Deb had her heart broken many times when members of our community died young from seizure disorders, etc. She lost her husband, Leonard, two years ago after a battle with ALS. Once again, she never wavered in her efforts to improve the lives of our folks. Her life and that of her family were devoted to the people with disabilities in this community.”



Noah Hauswirth
Financial Advisor

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2B | 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 Lauhoff

Charles “Charlie” Lauhoff, 83, passed away Friday, June 13, 2025. Charles was born March 23, 1942, in Detroit, to George and Norma Lauhoff. He is survived by his loving wife of 54 years, Linda (nee Kallmann); children, Krista and Andrew; sister, Christine Barry; grandchildren, Katelyn, Aaron, Kyle and Sofia; and nephews, Tim and Mike. He also was especially close to his Brecht cousins.

Charlie attended Catholic elementary and middle schools and graduated from Austin Catholic Preparatory School in 1960. He then attended the University of Detroit and earned a bachelor’s degree, followed by an MBA. At age 15, he began to work at the family business, Lauhoff Corp., a manufacturing shop started in Detroit by his grandfather, Frank, in 1882. Charlie worked his way up to CEO and led the business through its closure.

A devout Catholic, Charlie was a dedicated member of St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church in St. Clair Shores since 1971. His strong faith led him to teach catechism to children. He later helped adults become Catholic through the OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) program. He also was an active volunteer at St. Bonaventure Capuchin Monastery.

Charlie and Linda moved to Grosse Pointe Woods in 1971, where he lived until his passing. Following retirement, Charlie spent a lot of time collecting and tinkering with railroad pocket watches. He was an active leader in the National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors, Great Lakes Chapter. He also enjoyed pheasant and deer hunting throughout his life and was happy to participate most recently in November 2024.

Charlie cherished his many friendships formed throughout his life and had a great sense of humor. Despite his health issues, he maintained a smile until the end.

A funeral Mass took place Saturday, June

21, at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 22412 Overlake, St. Clair Shores. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Capuchin Soup Kitchen, 1820 Mt. Elliott, Detroit, MI 48207, cskdetroit.org/more-than-about-food.

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

Ann Marantette

Ann Marantette, 80, passed away peacefully Thursday, June 12, 2025, at home in Phoenix, Ariz. She was a cherished sister, aunt, cousin and loyal friend. Ann was born May 3, 1945, in Detroit, to David and Mary Lou, both now deceased. She grew up in Grosse Pointe, where she attended the Academy of the Sacred Heart (now The Grosse Pointe Academy). About 50 years ago, Ann moved to Arizona to be close to her retired parents.

From an early age, Ann loved all animals, especially horses, which she rode competitively in her youth. As an avid knitter, Ann created gifts for the entire family, as well as many friends and charities.

She is survived by her loving brothers, Tom (Bonnie), Larry (Carol) and Carter (Kathy); and many cousins, nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her parents; and her brother, David.

Ann and her family have been blessed for close to 50 years by the care provided by Susana Chavez and her family. For the past two years, Team A-1 of Hospice of the Valley has provided exceptional care to Ann. The Marantette family is deeply appreciative of their love and care.

Ann will lie in state Friday, June 27, from 11:30 a.m. until the funeral Mass at noon at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Memorial donations may be made to Hospice of the Valley, 1510 E. Flower, Phoenix, AZ 85014, hov.org/donate, with acknowledgement to HOV Team A-1.

Arrangements entrusted to Chas. Verheyden, Inc. in Grosse Pointe Park.

Catherine Clare “Katy” Boyle

Catherine Clare “Katy” Boyle, 93, passed away peacefully Wednesday, June 11, 2025, at Henry Ford St. John Hospital with her children at her side.

Born in Sparta, Wis., and raised in LaCrosse, Wis., Katy was the eldest of five children of Margaret and Joseph Munster. She graduated from the College of Saint Teresa in Winona, Minn., and remained deeply committed to education throughout her life.

Katy was married to Dr. Eugene Boyle, the chief of anesthesiology at Henry Ford St. John Hospital for 35 years, until his passing in 2003. Together they raised five children, Eugene Boyle Jr., Terrence Boyle (Elizabeth), Joseph Boyle (Linda), Catherine Boyle and Maureen Herrmann, M.D. (Jay).

She was a devoted grandmother to Dr. Andrew Herrmann (Elise), Erin Rea (Jack), Michael Herrmann, Claire Hartman (Cooper), Joey Boyle, Genevieve Boyle, Nicholas Boyle, Matthew Boyle and Catherine “Katy” Boyle. She also was blessed with five great-grandchildren, Jack James “JJ,” Ambrose and Benet Rea, Lily Herrmann and the late Ava Catherine Rea.

In addition to raising her family, Katy first spent time working with underserved Hispanic communities in southern California prior to her marriage. She continued this mission throughout her life by tutoring both children and adults, as she strongly believed in the power of education to improve lives. Katy also volunteered at St. John Hospital (now Henry Ford St. John Hospital).

She was a gifted pianist and shared her love of music by playing for local parishes and the high school girls’ choral group at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church. Grounded in the Catholic faith from childhood, she maintained a strong connection to the church throughout her life.

Katy led her life in humble dedication to God and family. She will be remembered for her quiet strength, deep faith in God, dedication to her family and helping others. Her legacy lives on in the lives she shaped and the values she passed down.

Memorial donations may be made to Autism Speaks, bit.ly/3Gcvh0H.



Charles Lauhoff



James L. Spillan

James L. Spillan

James “Jim” Lewis Spillan, 86, of Gaylord and formerly of Grosse Pointe Woods, passed away Sunday, June 15, 2025, after a protracted struggle with Alzheimer’s disease. It was not in his nature to surrender, even given impossible odds, and he carried that attitude into his final struggle.

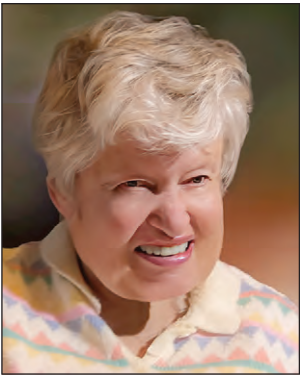
Jim was born Jan. 28, 1939, to Harry “Red” Spillan and Margaret (nee Mayo) Spillan in St. Louis, Mo. He grew up in Virginia, Texas and Oklahoma before moving to Dearborn during high school. At that time, as he liked to tell it, his slower Southern speech cadences were mistaken for being intellectually challenged. He overcame that perception by graduating from Fordson High School and enrolling at his beloved University of Michigan.

He alternated receiving degrees from U of M and having sons with his former wife, Dr. M. Ann Spillan. His degrees included a Bachelor of Arts degree in history in 1962, a Master of Arts degree in social sciences in 1965, and a Ph.D., in 1970. His sons, John J. Spillan and Steven L. Spillan, were born in 1964 and 1966.

After successfully defending his dissertation, “The Attitudes of Selected Middle School Students Concerning the Discussion of Social Issues,” he was known as “Doc” Spillan to generations of Parcels Middle School students.

Doc Spillan was a teacher and guidance counselor in the Grosse Pointe Public School System for 34 years. He approached the challenges of the job with a generous spirit and quick wit.

James retired to northern Michigan to spend more time with his friends, walking in the woods, writing his poetry and tending to his pet cats. He is survived by his sons, John and Steven



Ann Marantette



Gary Gerard Huvaere

Gary Gerard Huvaere

Gary Gerard Huvaere, 64, a resident of Lexington and formerly of Grosse Pointe, passed away peacefully at home Friday, June 13, 2025, surrounded by his cherished family and friends.

Gary was born Dec. 16, 1960, in Detroit. He was the son of Hilaire “Buff” and Mary C. Huvaere, both now deceased. Gary dedicated 36 years to the City of Grosse Pointe, where he began his career as a part-time employee and eventually rose to become the director of public service. He recently was voted into the role of trustee for Worth Township and previously served as the president of Huronia Heights, where he lived.

Described as an unbelievable person, Gary was a devoted husband, true friend, beloved uncle and wonderful brother — qualities that many admired and aspired to emulate. Throughout his life, he exemplified the importance of advocating fiercely for loved ones and standing up for what truly mattered. In his younger days, Gary was passionate about motorcycling and frequently could be spotted riding his beloved Harley. He treasured moments spent with family and friends, spreading love and joy wherever he went. His absence will be deeply felt by all who knew him.

He is survived by his wife of 32 years, Susan Huvaere; brothers, Gerard Huvaere (Christine) and Gregory Huvaere (Isabella); numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews; step-daughter, Erica Foondle



Catherine Clare Boyle



Barbara A. Mitchell

(Nathan); stepson, Thomas Scott (Sara); and several grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held Thursday, June 26, at St. Ambrose Parish, 15020 Hampton, Grosse Pointe Park. Visitation begins at 9 a.m., followed by Mass at 10 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Leukemia Research Foundation, 191 Waukegan, Ste. 105, Northfield, IL 60093, leukemiarf.org/donate.

Share a memory at cremationsource.com/obituaries.

Barbara A. Mitchell

Barbara A. (nee Lonskey) Mitchell, 91, died peacefully Monday, June 16, 2025.

Barbara was a former resident of Grosse Pointe Shores. She was the beloved wife for 63 cherished years of the late William, who passed away Jan. 7, 2020. She also was the loving mother of Judy Endres (David), Kevin Mitchell (Janice) and Timothy Mitchell (Jan); proud grandmother of Daniel Mitchell (Rachel), Kaitlin Endres (Evan), Christa Miracle (Ryan), Lauren Atkinson (Jarod), Megan Mandarino (Vince), Samuel Mitchell (Samantha), Nathanael Mitchell, Ezekiel Mitchell and Michael Mitchell; and great-grandmother of Nathan Mitchell, Kathleen Mitchell, Oliver Atkinson, Charlotte Atkinson and Peyton Atkinson. She was predeceased by her parents, Otto and Irene Lonskey; and her dear sister, Mary.

Funeral services have occurred. Memorial donations may be made to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, 2000 Town Center, Ste. 1730, Southfield, MI 48075, bit.ly/47PrHTz; or Capuchin Soup Kitchen Detroit, 1820 Mt. Elliot, Detroit, MI 48207, cskdetroit.org/more-than-about-food/.

Share memories with the family at wujekcalca terra.com.



Note: Location and time of the funeral service has changed.

A memorial gathering for Marilyn Stanitzke will take place 10 a.m. Monday, July 7, at St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church, 1401 Whittier,

Marilyn Stanitzke

Aug. 5, 1931

March 1, 2025

Grosse Pointe Park, followed by a funeral Mass at 10:30 a.m. A celebration of Marilyn’s life for friends and family will follow immediately at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Her full obituary appeared in the March 13, 2025, Grosse Pointe News.

Arrangements were entrusted to Chas. Verheyden, Inc.

New exercises classes at The Helm

The Helm welcomes three new exercise classes in July.

First up Thursday, July 3, is the five-week, one-hour class Drums Alive for Seniors. Participants get a physical workout while using drumsticks to tap rhythmically on large exercise balls. The continuous movement and rhythmic flow help

keep the mind involved, too. Classes are 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. four Thursdays in July — July 3, 10, 24 and 31. The cost per class is \$7 for members and \$10 for guests.

Zumba Gold and Zumba Gold Chair take place weekly at The Helm this summer. Zumba Gold is a low-intensity, dance-based

fitness class designed for active older adults and those looking for a modified Zumba experience focusing on balance, range of motion and coordination. Zumba Gold Chair uses the same easy-to-follow Zumba choreography, but adapts it to exercises using a chair for those with mobility or balance issues. Zumba Gold

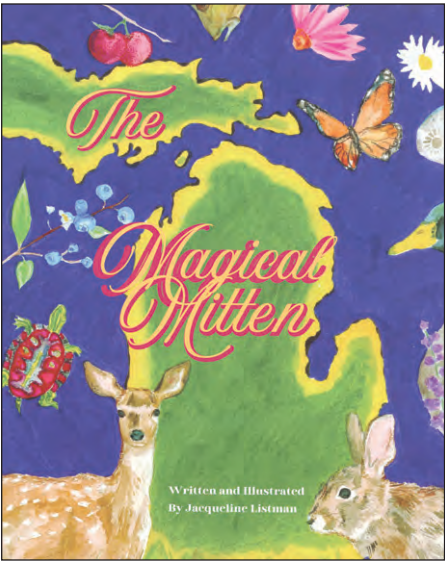
Chair is 1 to 2 p.m. Tuesdays, July 8, through Sept. 23, and Zumba Gold is 1 to 2 p.m. Thursdays, July 10, through Sept. 25. Cost for each class is \$7 for members and \$10 for guests.

Registration is required for these classes. Register at helmlife.org or call (313) 882-9600.

Aspiring teacher pens, illustrates children’s book

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

During her student teaching assignment, Jacqueline Listman noticed the most popular books she read to students included hand-drawn illustrations in watercolor or colored pencil. The self-taught artist recognized her own affinity for the art form, as opposed to books that leaned more toward graphic design. “With graphic design and AI, now what inspires me is having real art,” the Grosse Pointe Woods resident said. “It’s definitely a more whimsical book



draw, there’s love that goes into it.” Listman poured a lot of love into her debut children’s book, “The Magical Mitten,” which was published late last month. She got the idea to create it a year ago and, after finishing her student teaching, made it her passion project. “As a kid, I didn’t realize how much there is to Michigan,” she said. “I just realized what I saw when I looked outside, what I saw in my backyard.” When she started fishing and hiking, she learned there’s more than meets the eye in the great outdoors of the Great Lakes State. “The Magical Mitten” follows Rosie as she spends the summer at her grandparents’ cottage, with “no tablets, no TV, not even a game console!” She soon learns Michigan has much to discover, from wildlife to forests to lakes. “I’m trying to show as much as I can of what you can see in Michigan if you go outside and explore,” Listman said. “You can just look outside and see interesting things, even under a rock or in the dirt.” Listman, who paints pet portraits and home designs on platters and sells them on her Etsy page, illustrated the book herself. “I wanted there to be a

little multimedia to it,” she said. “I didn’t want just colored pencil or watercolor.” She incorporated marker and hand-carved stamps onto its pages, too. The Grosse Pointe North High School grad and Grand Valley State University student dedi-

cated the self-published book to “kids who like to play in the mud and catch frogs.” It’s available for purchase on amazon.com and at craft fairs where Listman sells her paintings. “It’s a good book to read to your kids, ages 3 to 8,” she said.

Listman is available for “Meet the Author” visits to schools, libraries and retail shops, where she can engage with young readers and share her inspiration behind the book. Those interested in learning more may email her at jackielistman@gmail.com.



PHOTO BY JODY MCVEIGH

Jacqueline Listman recently published her first book, “The Magical Mitten.”

WEDDING



Bradley and Marie Gula

Gula — Provence

Bradley Gula and Marie Provence were married Wednesday, May 28, 2025, at The Wauwinet in Nantucket, Mass. The intimate ceremony, officiated by Dr. Richard Pulice, was attended by their parents and their parents’ partners. A reception followed at Casa Duende in New York, N.Y. The bride is the daughter of Jerome Provence of Columbia, S.C., and Susan Bacon of Lawrenceville, Ga. The groom is the son of Kenneth and Christine Gula of Memphis, Mich. The bride wore a Jesus Peiro gown combining a minimalist full satin skirt with a delicate cotton lace bodice and open-back triangular neckline. She carried a bouquet showcasing peonies, pin-cushions, anemones and ranunculus arranged by Flowers on Chestnut. The bride earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in illustration from Memphis College

of Art and a Master of Arts degree in interior design from Glasgow School of Art. She is a design manager at Lucid Software. The groom earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from Michigan

State University. He is a marketing manager at Figma. The couple live in Grosse Pointe Woods. They “honeymooned” at the Harper Woods Home Depot, “to work on our new house,” they said.

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Ruby slippers and dancing queens

Family fun coming to Ford House

This July, fans of “The Wizard of Oz” and ABBA alike can kick off their summer with two of the season’s most joyful gatherings at Ford House, where timeless stories and classic pop hits come alive along the shores of Lake St. Clair. Ford House’s summer calendar kicks off with

two experiences for fans young and old. “Whether you’re clicking your ruby slippers or rocking silver spandex, we love seeing friends and families come together for moments of pure fun at Ford House,” said Tommy Karr, director of communications and engagement. “These

experiences bring a little magic, a little music and a lot of joy to the lake-front — and that’s what summer here is all about.” On Saturday, July 12, guests of all ages are invited to follow the yellow brick road at Once Upon a Tea: The Emerald City Tea Party, an after-

See FAMILY, page 6B

ARC:

Continued from page 1B

Devoted friend

“Debbie has spent her life devoted to the members of our special-needs community,” said Jennie Silva, former treasurer of The Arc. “Debbie single-handedly saved our special-needs programming when Judson Center pulled out of Grosse Pointe. She took over The Arc of Grosse Pointe/Harper Woods and all of the programming for our younger special-needs kids went uninterrupted. Debbie has had a tremendous impact on our children and adults with special needs. She has provided programming, advocacy services and has generally just been an amazing friend.” Silva’s daughter, Ella, attended the Foundation for Exceptional Children when Moffat worked there. “In (her) younger years, she suffered severe anxiety,” Silva said of her daughter. “Attending the after-school program and the summer camp most of her life exposed her to many opportunities, helped her gain independence and has greatly reduced her anxiety.”

parks and did outdoor things. Now he’s calm, responsible and every once in a while he gets in trouble, but he immediately says, ‘I’m sorry, Miss Deb. I love you, Miss Deb.’ “... Some kids you just have a really hard time reaching,” she added. “But once that relationship is established, once they come around, you see miracles. Someone

you thought would never talk or participate in group or say friendly things ... one student had no language at all. Now he’s, ‘Hi, Miss Deb. How are you today?’ Moffat said those triumphs — along with the hugs and smiles — are what she will miss the most. “No two days are ever the same,” she said. “It’s always an adventure.”

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A "High Tea" shower at The Whitney had floral centerpieces designed in teapots featuring matching garden flowers, above and left.

Viviano Flower Shop creates spectacular flowers for the most unique celebrations

By Donna Zetterlund
Special Writer

There are few days more important than a wedding, bridal or baby shower, milestones that become lasting memories captured in photos and in hearts. And there are few names more synonymous with milestone celebrations than Viviano. With 88 years of experience, Viviano Flower Shop has created unique floral designs that make every type of event personal and special. From centerpieces and candles to linens, charger plates and room decor such as items for place card tables, gift tables, dessert displays, fresh cake flowers and so much more — Viviano Flower Shop can be trusted to make sure every special occasion is the epitome of quality and style.

Working closely with each customer, the consultants at Viviano Flower Shop aim to bring dreams to life through carefully-crafted and artistically designed florals. Their knowledgeable team of experienced designers and artisans is dedicated to the intricate details that make the magic.

While weddings are usually planned around a color scheme or style — showers are often focused around a theme. This is where the consultants and designers at Viviano Flower Shop really shine! They offer creative guidance in selecting the flowers, vases and decorative accents that bring a creative vision to reality. Designing unique arrangements for one-of-a-kind showers gives them a chance to make a truly personalized celebration for you.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF VIVIANO'S FLOWER SHOP

Guests had a chance to win the teapot centerpiece arrangements from each table as prizes at this "High Tea" bridal shower.



“Love in Bloom” was the theme for the bridal shower, at left and above, for a flower-loving bride. For party favors, each guest could make their very own floral bouquet to bring home — from a blooming flower bar! Flower bars are now trending as a favorite of guests.



"Amalfi Coast" was the shower theme, left, of a bride from a large Italian family. This theme captured the feeling of dining on the patio of an Italian villa, surrounded by lush gardens. The theme perfectly captured the fresh colors, fruits and flowers of the Amalfi Coast.

A stone statue resonant of the architecture of old Italian villages was on display amid florals and photos, right.



"Amalfi Coast" centerpieces, above, featured greenery and yellow flowers, with gold accents surrounded by lemons and lemon leaves. Delicate bud vases were placed on the gift table and other side tables.



A "Family Farm" theme baby shower , above and right, was inspired by the mother's beloved family farm home. Vibrant colors match a traditional farm, garden and wildflower color palette. Sunflowers were the mom-to-be's favorite, so were included in the arrangements. Red barns adorned the place cards and farm-related decor added a special touch.



“A New Chapter Awaits” was the idea behind this book-themed bridal shower. The bride-to-be loves reading and is a middle school teacher specializing in English and literature. Special touches include stacked book floral centerpieces, upper left, a fresh flower cake, far left, and a garden in an adorable ceramic book container, left. It was the ideal vibe for this one-of-a-kind bride!

Ride for the Living raises funds, awareness

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

This week, the annual Ride for the Living will draw hundreds to Krakow, Poland, for an educational, social and spiritual fitness experience like no other. The four-day event, June 25 to 29, includes guided tours of Auschwitz-Birkenau, participation in Poland’s largest Shabbat dinner and other activities, topped off with a 60-mile bike ride from Auschwitz to the Jewish Community Center of Krakow.

The ride itself was inspired by 10-year-old



PHOTOS COURTESY OF TYLER SHAW

Above, participants in the local Ride for the Living event are all smiles at Fusion Integrated Training. Right, participants performed cardio and strength training rather than riding bikes.

Holocaust survivor Marcel Zielinski, who, on Liberation Day in 1945, made the 60-mile journey

from Auschwitz to Krakow, “to find his family members and restart his life,” City of Grosse Pointe resident Tyler Shaw said. “Years later a documentary was made about his struggles after the war and how he reintegrated into Jewish society.”

The 2022 documentary, “For the Living,” is shown during the annual event, of which Zielinski himself became a regular participant in 2015, at age 80.

“The Ride for the Living retraces his walk with a bicycle ride,” Shaw said. “They host people from around the world. ... It’s a cool, immersive experience.”

The nonprofit works as a fundraiser for the Jewish Community Center of Krakow, which Shaw compared to the Neighborhood Club, “but based around religious services.

“They want to make it where Jews feel they can come back to Poland and live a full Jewish life,” she added. “So many of them left after the war or their families were killed and were never rebuilt. This organization is trying to rebuild the Jewish population.”

The event — which commemorates the Holocaust and celebrates the rebirth of Jewish life in Poland — has personal meaning to Shaw.

“I am the great-granddaughter of Jewish-Polish immigrants,” she said. “They came over in



the ’20s, before the war, but it’s a clear, great possibility if they hadn’t been on that timeline, my family wouldn’t exist.”

As she was not able to go to Poland for this year’s 10th annual event, she decided to organize a satellite program locally. Her own Ride for the Living event took place June 8, at Fusion Integrated Training in Grosse Pointe Woods. Twenty participants, Jewish and non-Jewish, from the Grosse Pointes and surrounding areas, raised more than \$700 for the nonprofit. Because Fusion has a limited number of bicycles, a cardio and strength workout class was held instead of a bike ride.

“It had a lot of momentum,” Shaw said. “It would be great to make it an annual event. The Jewish Federation of Detroit does a satellite event in Oakland County, but it felt really nice to have something in our own community. It feels nice to have something in our neighborhood that represents who we are.

“... Grosse Pointe is deeply rooted in religion, though it’s mostly Christian and Catholic,” she added. “I feel that this community values the importance of religion. It felt like a safe space to host this cele-

bration of my heritage and my culture, not in a controversial way, but in a way to feel seen.”

Representing the Jewish community in Grosse Pointe is paramount to Shaw, who said she’s grateful for the outpouring of love she’s felt since moving to the City.

“I’ve been here four years,” she said. “I get asked a lot by people in the Jewish community outside of Grosse Pointe, wouldn’t it be easier to live where other Jewish families are?”

“There’s a Jewish community that exists in Grosse Pointe. I don’t know that a lot of people know that. The atmosphere, of Jews in Grosse Pointe, is of feeling welcomed and supported. I’m hopeful that community continues to grow. It’s a positive experience to be a Jew living in Grosse Pointe and I don’t think outsiders realize that. It’s a stereotype I’d like to work to dispel.”

While she hopes to continue hosting the local Ride for the Living, Shaw said she would love to experience the Krakow event firsthand.

“My father turns 75 next year,” she said. “I hope we can go over there together.”

To learn more or donate directly to Ride for the Living, visit ridefortheLiving.org.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Above, guests enjoy dancing during a previous outdoor concert. Below, a tea party place setting.

FAMILY:

Continued from page 3B

noon where storybook fun comes to life with themed décor, a child-friendly tea service, photo moments and magical surprises. Beloved characters Dorothy and Glinda will be portrayed by actors from Grosse Pointe Theatre, mingling with guests and creating memories throughout the tea. Guests can sip tea surrounded by Emerald City touches, like themed table settings and whimsical treats inspired by the beloved film. Guests are invited — but not required — to dress as their favorite Oz characters or don their finest storybook outfits for photo moments with Dorothy and Glinda.

While the Once Upon a Tea series is designed for children and their grown-ups, adult fans of “The Wizard of Oz” and “Wicked” are welcome to join in the fun and relive the magic of this timeless tale. The tea offers two seatings, at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., in the Visitor Center’s Lake Shore Room. Tables are assigned and advance purchase is required.

Ticket pricing for The Emerald City Tea Party varies by table size and membership:

◆ Table of two: \$110 (Friends of Ford House) | \$150 (Public)



◆ Table of three: \$175 (Friends) | \$210 (Public)
◆ Table of four: \$220 (Friends) | \$275 (Public)

Tickets for the tea are open and available to everyone now, but go off sale at 5 p.m. Friday, June 27.

At 7 p.m. Friday, July 18, Ford House’s lakefront lawn transforms into a lively dance floor for Dancing Queen: An ABBA Salute, the first of three outdoor summer concerts. The acclaimed tribute band will deliver ABBA’s timeless hits with infectious energy, dazzling harmonies and plenty of retro glam. Guests can expect sing-along favorites like “Dancing Queen,” “Mamma Mia,” “Take a Chance on Me” and more timeless hits. Sequins, bell bottoms and dance moves are always welcome.

Guests are encouraged to bring blankets and

chairs, pack a picnic, or enjoy on-site concessions and bars.

Ticket options for Dancing Queen: An ABBA Salute let guests choose their perfect spot:

◆ Friend of Ford House — Seated: \$40
◆ Friend of Ford House — Lawn: \$20
◆ Public — Seated: \$50
◆ Public — Lawn: \$25

A seated ticket includes a folding chair in a premium location. A lawn ticket allows guests to choose any grass space designated for concert seating on a first come, first served basis.

Tickets for Friends of Ford House and the public ticket sales are available now.

Tickets for Once Upon a Tea and Dancing Queen are available online at fordhouse.org or by calling (313) 884-4222. Advance purchase is recommended for both events.

Prudence Cole-Klimisch named Notable Leader in Philanthropy by Crain’s Detroit

Grosse Pointe Shores resident Prudence Cole-Klimisch has been named a 2025 Notable Leader in Philanthropy by Crain’s Detroit.

Cole-Klimisch was recognized for her significant contributions to The Helm, particularly her leadership in pursuing a senior services millage that will generate more than \$1 million annually for seniors in Harper Woods and the Grosse Pointes for the next six years.

“From the time Prudence joined The Helm Board of Directors in 2018, she was focused on identifying a sustainable stream of income,” said Krista Siddall, executive director of The Helm. “This led her to explore a senior services millage. She worked tirelessly — surveying the community, building support among residents and city councils, and advo-



Prudence Cole-Klimisch

ating for the cause every step of the way. Thanks to her dedication, The Helm now has a sustainable stream of income to fund our forecasted growth.

“Prudence has been a true servant leader for The Helm,” she added, “and we have been incredibly fortunate to have her.”

Cole-Klimisch joined The Helm Board of Directors in 2018, serving as vice president in 2020 and 2021, president in 2022 and 2023, and currently as president emeritus through 2025. In addition to The Helm, Cole-Klimisch has served on the boards of the Grosse Pointe Public Library, Grosse Pointe Library Foundation and Detroit Area Agency on Aging, and also has been an ambassador for the Detroit Regional Chamber.

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Summer exchange program ushers in Swiss musicians

Free concert planned July 9

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

For a few days next month, 65 members of RhineTalents, a Switzerland-based concert band, will descend on Grosse Pointe, visit local sites and entertain the community with a free concert at 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 9, at Brownell Middle School.

The group, on a one-month tour of the Midwest, is visiting as part of an exchange program with the Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp.

“There is a long association between the Grosse Pointe Public School System and the Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp, where hundreds — if not over a thousand — GPPSS students have spent a summer as a music, art or drama camper,” said James Gross, the orchestra instructor at Grosse Pointe South High School. “Once a student

attends BLFAC, they can audition for their annual international program to spend a month in Europe participating in one of their bands, choir or orchestra. Many GPPSS students have taken part in their international program, most recently South senior Kolya Resnick.”

“Students who attend Blue Lake are eligible for the international program,” said Libby Robinson, who is helping coordinate the visit. “Blue Lake then invites groups from Europe who have hosted their students to do a tour of Michigan.”

RhineTalents musicians, who range in age from 14 to 24, will arrive in Grosse Pointe — their first stop in the state — Monday, July 7.

Robinson, whose daughter, Penelope, is a freshman in South’s orchestra, has arranged host families for each RhineTalents member



COURTESY PHOTO

Students with RhineTalents, a concert band based in Switzerland, soon will visit Grosse Pointe and perform a free concert July 9, at Brownell Middle School.

and organized a picnic for the group at Pier Park.

“They really wanted a down-home American potluck picnic,” she said. “The whole idea is to give them a taste of American life. A lot of

them have never been to the U.S. It’s a cultural exchange of ideas and experiences.”

While an optional tour of Michigan Central Station has been arranged and guests will be offered boat tours of Lake St. Clair, the host families are invited to introduce visitors to the Grosse Pointe-Detroit area however they see fit.

The band will depart Grosse Pointe July 10, and visit other areas of the state.

“They’ll go on a tour of communities in Michigan

that have sent students to Blue Lake,” Robinson said. “At the end, they’ll perform a big concert at Blue Lake.”

Blue Lake’s International Exchange Program began in 1969, when a 90-student choir toured England, Belgium and Germany. Since then, more than 15,000 high school musicians have visited 900 communities across Europe. In return, nearly 10,000 members of 550 European bands, orchestras, choirs, dance and theater camps have come

to Michigan to perform.

Nearly 200 American and European musicians are expected to participate in the exchange program this year.

“Learning about another way of life, expanding one’s perspective, enhanced appreciation of history and a broader world view are all benefits received from participants, families and students,” Gross said.

For more information about Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp, visit bluelake.org.

ASK JEFF AND DEBRA

Significant risk mixing pills, alcohol

Q: My mother is 73 and her doctor just prescribed her Xanax. I don’t know why she would need it, but I do know she usually has a couple glasses of wine most evenings. While I’ve been concerned about her drinking, I wouldn’t say she’s alcoholic. But now that she’s adding Xanax to the mix, I’m terrified she could become addicted. She told me her doctor knows what he’s doing and it’s none of my business. I asked my pharmacist about it and she said combining Xanax and alcohol is very risky — even more so for an older woman. How do I handle this?

A: Your concern is not only understandable, it’s backed by strong medical evidence. Xanax (a benzodiazepine) and alcohol are both central nervous system depressants. Taken together, especially in older adults, they significantly increase the risk of sedation, confusion, falls, impaired coordination, memory loss and even overdose. For a woman in her 70s, these risks are amplified due to age-related changes in metabolism, brain sensitivity and medication processing.

Let’s break down the concerns:

- ◆ **Increased sensitivity:** Older adults — especially women — are more sensitive to both alcohol and benzodiazepines. These substances stay in the body longer and have stronger effects.
- ◆ **Risk of falls:** The combination can cause drowsiness and unsteady gait, which dramatically raises the risk of falling — a leading cause of

injury and hospitalization in older adults.

- ◆ **Cognitive decline:** Long-term use of benzodiazepines like Xanax has been linked to increased risk of dementia, forgetfulness and confusion — especially in women over 65.
- ◆ **Dependence and withdrawal:** Xanax is habit-forming. The brain becomes quickly dependent and withdrawal can be serious, even dangerous. The fact it was designed for short-term use (two weeks or less) often gets overlooked.
- ◆ **Cancer risk:** Alcohol, even in modest amounts, is linked to increased cancer risk, including breast and gastrointestinal cancers.
- ◆ **Driving safety:** Reaction time and decision-making ability may be compromised, even if your mother doesn’t feel impaired.

Now, how do you respond when your mother insists her doctor knows best? First, know that many doctors still prescribe Xanax to older adults, despite guidelines recommending against it unless absolutely necessary. It may be worth encouraging a second opinion by a geriatrician or asking her to review updated medical guidance from reputable sources (such as the American Geriatrics Society, which lists benzodiazepines as drugs to avoid in seniors).

You might also consider partnering with someone close to your mother whom she respects — a sibling, trusted friend or spiritual advisor. Together, you can bring her medical literature that clarifies: No amount of alcohol is con-

sidered safe, especially for older adults, and Xanax is typically not recommended for people over 65.

If she is open, suggest she talk with a counselor who specializes in older adult mental health and substance use. If she’s spending much of her time alone — “nesting in her chair,” drinking wine while watching TV — it may reflect more than routine. It could indicate loneliness or underlying anxiety or depression.

The hopeful part? If she’s not already addicted, she may be open to alternative ways to manage her anxiety, sleep issues or loneliness. Suggest activities that provide structure and connection — gentle yoga classes, book clubs, community centers or volunteer opportunities.

But if she becomes defensive and doubles down on her right to drink and use Xanax, it may be time to consult a professional who works with families dealing with older adult addiction. This is not about control; it’s about protecting her health, mind and independence.

Your instincts are right. Don’t give up. There’s still time for her to choose a safer path forward. For more information, stop by the Grosse Pointe Public Library and check out the book, “Aging and Addiction.”

Jeff and Debra Jay are the authors of several books written for families who want to help an addicted loved one. Their website, lovefirst.net, offers a wide range of no-cost resources for families. Jeff and Debra work nationally, but reside in Grosse Pointe Farms.

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Gabby

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Incorporating daily learning into your child’s summer fun

Dear Gabby: How do I keep my kids learning over the summer without feeling like the fun police? — Low-key worried in the Woods

Dear Worried: This is a daily struggle in our house! While the summer slide is somewhat inevitable, there are ways to keep your kids learning all the time. Try weaving learning into your every-

day activities so it feels natural.

Keep books around the house and make weekly trips to the library part of your summer routine.

Let your kids help with cooking or grocery shopping to practice math and reading skills.

Journaling, scavenger hunts and backyard science experiments also can keep their minds active. Look into free

apps or websites that turn learning into games.

Most importantly, keep it fun and low-pressure so they stay engaged. You can enjoy summer and incorporate daily learning into your routine.

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



When the nest goes quiet

DEAR ANNIE: Lately, I’ve been finding myself feeling unexpectedly down. My three kids are all growing up so fast — one just graduated college, one is starting a new job out of state and my youngest just got their driver’s license. I’m proud of them, of course. They’re kind, capable and finding their own way in the world. But I feel like I blinked and suddenly I’m no longer needed in the same way.

Our house, once noisy and full of chaos, now feels quiet. I miss the everyday routines, the messy backpacks, even the late-night rides home from practice. I know this is part of life, but it’s hitting me harder than I expected. I feel a lit-

tle lost now that the role of “full-time mom” is fading. My husband doesn’t seem to understand; he says I should enjoy the peace and freedom, but it doesn’t feel peaceful. It feels lonely. Is this normal? How do I move forward and find joy in this new chapter? — Missing the Mess

DEAR MISSING THE MESS: What you’re feeling is perfectly normal. When children grow up and begin to lead their own lives, it can leave a hollow space in the hearts of even the most capable and confident parents. You’ve spent years being needed, being busy and being at the center of their world.

Now the spotlight has shifted, and it’s natural to feel a little lost.

But this is not the end of your story. It is the beginning of a new chapter that can be just as rich and meaningful. Start by reconnecting with the parts of yourself that may have taken a backseat while raising your kids. Take a class, volunteer, travel or dust off an old hobby. Build new routines. And talk to your husband about how you’re feeling. Not just the facts, but the emotions. He may not understand at first, but if he loves you, he will listen.

And here is the best part. Though your role as full-time mom has changed, your kids still

need you. Just in different ways. Keep the door open, keep your heart open and do not underestimate the joy that can come from watching them thrive.

DEAR ANNIE: My wife and I were recently invited to a friend’s son’s college graduation celebration at a bar two-and-a-half hours from our home. When we arrived and ordered our first drink, we were told all food and drinks were on individual tabs.

Shouldn’t the host have mentioned that in the invitation? Is it appropriate to ask about costs like this before RSVPing? My friend could easily have afforded to pick up the



Dear Annie

by Annie Lane

check for the gathering. I’m certainly glad I had the money to cover what we ordered. — Perplexed About the Etiquette

DEAR PERPLEXED: Yes, the host should’ve made that clear in the invitation. If the party had been at their home instead, no one would expect to pay for food or drinks, so it’s reasonable to think the same would be true of a different venue, especially one you traveled hours to get to. If the hosts weren’t prepared to foot the bill, they

should’ve been upfront about it.

In the future, there’s nothing wrong with asking for more details when an invite is vague and especially at public venues again. “Will food and drinks be provided?” is a completely fair question to ask ahead of time, and it lets you make a fully informed decision before committing to anything.

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

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Foundation hosts spring benefit

Photo story by Renee Landuyt

The Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education hosted its annual spring benefit at The War Memorial May 15. More than \$100,000 was raised and will support opportunities for Grosse Pointe Public Schools System students. Since 2007, GPFPE has donated close to \$4.5 million in grants to GPPSS. For more information on how to support this organization, visit gpfpe.org.



Chris Vernier and Kerby Elementary School Principal Katy Vernier.



Grosse Pointe Public School System Deputy Superintendent Roy Bishop stands with Sen. Kevin Hertel.

Amanda York, district director for Sen. Kevin Hertel; Nafeesah Symonette, executive director of Detroit Excellence in Youth Arts; Nick Symonette, academic behavioral coordinator at Parcels Middle School and Maria Quint, committee chairwoman.



Full Circle founder Mary Fodell stands with GPPSS Superintendent Andrea Tuttle.



From left, Tony Selvaggio, Theresa Selvaggio and Tim Reinman prepare to bid on auction items.



Marie Boyle Reinman looks at a sterling silver David Yurman pave diamond cable bracelet, courtesy of edmund t. AHEE Jewelers.



The wine bottles for the wine pull were decorated like flowers in celebration of spring.



Spring benefit committee members included Katie Stanley, Pamela Flom, Sarah Gough, Kiama Rose, Cynthia Sohn, Chairwoman Maria Quint, volunteer Joe Herd, Beth Moran, volunteer Randie Kohler and volunteer Kris Vande Vussee.

We Tried It!

by Anna Lizer



Sick and tired of paying for overpriced workout tank tops from high-end brands? Me too. As someone who goes to the gym every day or is simply always caught wearing ath-leisure, it simply isn't realistic to have 20 Alo sets in my drawers.

I've found that these tanks from Garage truly are the perfect addition to your closet for summer.

I am constantly on the lookout for adequately priced workout clothes, but also ones that give me a nice, sculpted, tight and clean look, as well as ensuring they do not wear after



being put through the wash cycle a few too many times. As I was scrolling

through TikTok, I came across a girl wearing one of these tank tops perfectly paired with white denim jeans and a cardigan thrown over her shoulders. Simple yet elegant. The comments flooded in, asking where her tank was from because it fit like it was made for her. Naturally, I was influenced and bought them in black and red. These two colors seemed perfect for layering for me.

The first thing I noticed was the quality. The material is super thick and but-tery, which makes them 10 times more comfortable.

Not to mention the length is perfect — just long enough to reach the top of your mid- to low-rise jeans, as well as fold over leggings if you're looking for a new gym or hot girl walk wear.

It's safe to say I have gone back and bought these tank tops in an array of colors; my closet is full. I wear one almost every day, whether it's to put under a cardigan, sweatshirt or just to wear. They're a staple for me.

The Garage store that just opened at Somerset Mall also influenced a few more purchases of these tops. They also offer ath-

letic sets, as well as tube tops in this same material that comes in beautiful colors such as butter yellow and light blues.

One downside of these is the sizing. If I were to wear these as day-to-day wear, I would order toward your regular size. However, if you plan on using these as a gym top, I would size down to ensure it is tight enough. The material has not worn on me yet; however, I do worry about the straps stretching a tad after wearing one every day of the week for six months. For that reason, I will be giving this product a solid

4.5 out of 5 alligators. Tank tops run about \$25 each. To check out or purchase, visit <https://www.garageclothing.com/us/>

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



Pasta salad

Courtesy of Mombeau's Table

Summer barbecues aren't complete without a good pasta salad. We love them because they are a blank slate that can be customized to anything we want. The add- ins have endless possibilities and the dressing can be com- pletely tailored to suit whatever flavor profile that you're craving.

It can be fancy and it can be humble. It can sit in the fridge for three days and be even better than they were when it was first made. It's a win-win for all.

This is a recipe inspired by the Italian hoagie sandwich. It has all of the flavors of my favorite sub but in pasta form. I made it hearty with cubes of salami and provolone cheese. Then I lightened it up with crunchy cucumber, fresh tomatoes, thinly sliced red onion and basil.

No sub is complete without a spicy zing from pepperoncini so I made sure to include those as well.

It's tossed in a tangy, mayonnaise based dress-

ing with lots of red wine vinegar and lemon juice. Use your favorite Italian seasoning blend to give that perfect hoagie taste. I added chopped green olives as well because I just can't seem to get enough of them.

If you want to go crazy, thinly chop up lettuce and add it to the salad just before serv- ing. I chose to leave it out but would definitely be up for adding it in the future.

This salad gets better the longer it sits. The pasta and vegetables can marinate in the dressing and the flavors all get to meld together. No, you can't replace a good hand held hoagie, but this sure comes close.

Cheers, Mombeau

Italian Hoagie Pasta Salad

1 lb rotini pasta

8 oz hard salami, cubed

1 cup provolone cheese, cubed

- 1 pint cherry toma- toes, quartered
 - ½ cucumber, sliced into half moons
 - ½ red onion, thinly sliced
 - ½ cup chopped green olives
 - ½ cup sliced pepper- oncini
 - ½ cup chopped fresh basil
- Dressing:**
- ½ cup red wine vine- gar
 - ½ cup mayo
 - 1 tbsp dijon mustard
 - 1 tsp sugar
 - 1 tbsp Italian season- ing
 - ¼ cup olive oil
- Cook the pasta according to package directions in boiling, salted water. Drain



PHOTO BY KAREN FERGUSON

and rinse thoroughly with cold water. Add to a large bowl along with the rest of the salad ingredients. In another bowl, mix together the dressing

ingredients. Pour over the pasta and thor- oughly combine together.

Let sit for at least 30 minutes in the fridge before serving. The

longer it sits, the bet- ter. If it does sit in the fridge for a bit, make sure to give the salad a good toss before serv- ing to redistribute the dressing.



Alsace

With warm weather arriving, some of the most interesting, cool- ing wines are aromatic white wines that can be chilled without harming their perfumed excite- ment.

Most aromatic white wines can do this with ease. One of the best places to find these wines is one of France's

finest wine-growing regions — and one of its least understood. It is Alsace, a region border- ing on Germany with a populace as comfort- able speaking German as French.

And its white wines are probably the most compatible with warm- weather days of any area in the world

The primary grape varieties of Alsace (almost all of them

white) are Germanic in tone, with riesling, gewurztraminer and sylvaner at the top of the list, and pinot blanc and pinot gris adding depth.

The wine-making styles of Germany and Alsace, with approxi- mately the same grapes, are poles apart. Germany prefers to bal- ance some of the natu- rally high acids with residual sugar. Alsace traditionally looks upon these wines as foils for one of France's greatest regional cuisines and thus has kept most of its wines dry.

Author Hugh Johnson wrote in his book, "The World Atlas of Wine," "Instead of grape sugar lingering delicately in the wine, the (Alsace) grower likes a dry, firm, clean flavor..."

This produces wines with the heft of white Burgundy, rich on the palate with 12.5 percent or even 13.5 percent alcohol. They are gener- ally tart enough to cut through all the richness of pressed duck, foie gras, and the like.

Alsace wine always was seen as a bit of a learned experience because of its high acid- ity, but with food the

wines were brilliant.

However, Alsace was one of the areas of France where the regu- lations pertaining to wine quality and style were not addressed until 50 years ago, long after other regions gained their official rec- ognition. And this left Alsace in a sort of limbo state, style-wise, for years. The wines were variable in style.

Today, the pendulum has begun to swing back toward a classic style and many of Alsace's top wines are again crisp and tart.

(A few of Alsace's best wines were always

dessert-styled and called vendange tar- tive, made from late- harvested grapes).

One of the most important properties in all of Alsace is a house called Trimbach, which has seldom sacrificed its style and retained the classically made crisp whites with charm.

The archetypal Alsace white is gewurztra- miner. Trimbach's ver- sion (roughly \$28) is totally dry and is a definitive example of the regional paradigm. Rose petals with hints of carnations and gar- denias mark the aroma.

Trimbach also makes

other classically styled dry Alsace white wines that represent good value. But the compa- ny's greatest achieve- ment remains its dry rieslings, two of which are typically expensive because of high demand.

I have always adored Alsace wines with food and recommend them when hearty food is on the table.

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

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Alsace, in the far north-eastern corner of France, stands out from other French wine regions thanks to its strong Franco-Germanic influences.

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ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE ENTRANTS

Anglers keep momentum as contest reaches its final week

By Donna Zetterlund
Special Writer

As the Grosse Pointe News Fishing Classic comes to a close, contestants are making use of the last few moments to vie for bragging rights and big prizes. Lake St. Clair and the Detroit River have produced some jaw-dropping catches, from pike to muskie and more.

The overall top fish for the 13 and older group this week was Finn Ryan’s 27” muskie. The top fish was reeled in at the Milk River off Lake St. Clair. Ryan, of Grosse Pointe Woods is a repeat entrant in the competition and entered the winning fish via Division B. Other B Division winners this week were Daniel Shanle, taking the pike category with a sizable 25.2” specimen, and John Leverenz winning the bass category with a 23” largemouth.

In Division D (boating adults) Allan Morton aced the top bass spot with his 20” smallmouth. Bass seemed to be biting for Morton this week, as he also caught a 19” largemouth on shore at Farms Pier.

For the 12 and under group, Alexander Stahl, 8, of Grosse Pointe Shores, caught the overall biggest fish at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club. Alexander is competing in onshore Division A. Also in A Division, Teddy Whittingham took the bass category with a 16” largemouth.

In kids’ boating Divison C, Christian Phillips scored a 23.3” walleye to take the category. Kenny Blanchard was Division C’s bass winner, catching a 17.5” smallmouth.

To add to the fun of winning, several lucky contestants had their names picked in the random weekly drawing for great sponsor prize such as gift cards and gear from Lakeside Fishing and 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 also provided a wonderful selection of electronics prizes to be included in the drawing.

This week’s random drawing winners are:

- John Lancaster - Fishbones gift card
- Sam Blanchard - Lakeside Fishing gear
- Alex Blythe - Wilson Marine gift card
- Andrew Phillips - electronics gift
- Bobby Milne - Whistle Stop gift card

Congratulations to all the winners and contestants. Thanks to our sponsors for the great prizes.

Now it’s time to take advantage of the few remaining days of the contest, which ends June 28. Check out the full rules of the Fishing Classic online at grossepointenews.com/fishing — then throw your line in the ring!

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.



Allan Morton, of Grosse Pointe Farms entered in two Divisions last week. For the B Division, he caught a 19” smallmouth bass off of Farms Pier, top. He also racked up a 20” smallmouth, above, for boating Division D. Not a bad week of fishing at all for this skilled fisherman!



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 | ALEXANDER STAHL | 25" WALLEYE | | |
| 2 | TEDDY WHITTINGHAM | 16" LM BASS | | |
| 3 | BOBBY MILNE | 5" SM BASS | | |

DIVISION C

BY BOAT - AGE 12 AND UNDER

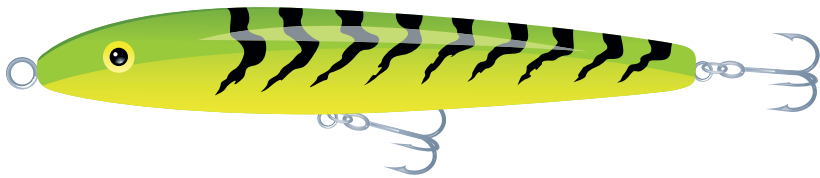
- | | | | |
|---|--------------------|---------------|--|
| 1 | CHRISTIAN PHILLIPS | 23.3" WALLEYE | |
| 2 | KENNY BLANCHARD | 17.5" SM | |

DIVISION D

BY BOAT - AGE 13 AND UP

- | | | | |
|---|---------------|---------------|--|
| 1 | ALLAN MORTON | 20" SM BASS | |
| 2 | ALEX BLYTH | 19" SM BASS | |
| 3 | SAM BLANCHARD | 18.75 SM BASS | |

Congratulations winners and participants!



MANY THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS



Lakeside Fishing



Grosse Pointe News

Top fins

Say hey to the longest fish of the week



Finn Ryan's winning 27" muskie was the overall longest fish from both of the 13+ divisions this week. Ryan, 14, of Grosse Pointe Woods, nabbed his winning fish from the shores of the Milk River. An extraordinary catch, for sure.



Grosse Pointe Shores' Daniel Shanle got the winning pike this week for Division B. His hefty 25.2" pike, above, came from the waters of Grosse Pointe Shores Park, and it's a beauty!



Alexander Stahl, 8, of Grosse Pointe Shores, caught a winning 25" walleye, above. Alexander reeled his fish in at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club. He entered the shoreside Division A category of the competition.



Grosse Pointe Park's John Leverenz got his Division B bass winner — a 23" largemouth, above, at the Cresecent Sail Yacht Club.



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THIS WEEK'S TIP:

Good bass fishing on the Mile Roads in 6-8' depths. Pulling walleye with harnesses in the river and the middle of the channel. Catching perch out from 7 Mile Rd. at 14-17' depths.

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This week’s catch the pride of Lake St. Clair



Daniel Shanle is on a roll — entering multiple big fish in the competition this week. In addition to the 25.3” fish that took the division pike title, he caught a 17.1” largemouth bass, at left, and a 14.4” walleye, bottom. That’s a really impressive week of fishing!

Alex Blyth’s 19” smallmouth bass, top right, was caught on Lake St. Clair in Division D.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Above: Andrew Phillips’ 17” largemouth bass was caught at Woods Park. Phillips, of Grosse Pointe Woods, entered the fish in the Division B contest.



Teddy Whittingham, 7, of Grosse Pointe Farms caught this 16” largemouth bass at Pier Park. This great fish won him the bass category for Division A this week.



Bobby Milne, 5, of Grosse Pointe Farms got into the game by catching this 5” smallmouth bass at Pier Park. Bobby turned a beautiful day for fishing into a “reel” success.



Grosse Pointe Park’s John Leverenz has a knack for catching largemouth bass. In addition to his winning 23” largemouth, he also caught a second 21.5” largemouth, above, for another notch on his fishing belt.



Kenny Blanchard, 12, of Grosse Pointe Park, got the 17.5” smallmouth bass, above, by boat from Lake St. Clair in kids’ Division C.

Gabby Szafarczyk’s 16”smallmouth bass, above, was caught at Windmill Pointe Park and entered in the Division B contest.

LAST 3 DAYS!



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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 6/26 and 7/17 issues of the Grosse Pointe News.



Grosse Pointe News

Lakeside Fishing



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3" —

4" —

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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 TRIBECA FILM INSTITUTE

Ji-young Yoo as Hayoung in the 2023 movie “Smoking Tigers,” directed and written by So Young Shelly Yo.

MOVIE REVIEW
“Smoking Tigers”
2023 - Not Rated
1 hr 25 min
★★★★★

Let me say right from the start that I thought this film was pure cinematic perfection. Just about everything about it shined. It was well written, the actors all turned in masterful performances, the score enhanced the story without overwhelming the action, and the camerawork was some of the finest I’ve ever experienced.

I had the sense that one could watch the film with the sound off and still enjoy every moment of it. It was that good!

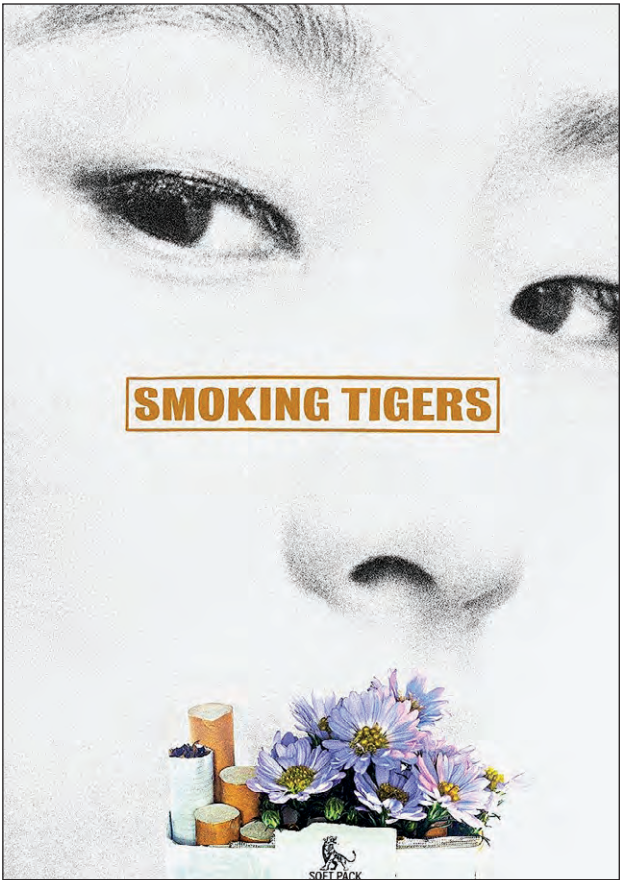
There’s an interesting backstory behind the making of “Smoking Tigers.” The concept of the movie was initially presented to Tribeca’s Untold Stories program in 2022. Director So Young Shelly Yo and producer Guo Guo were subsequently awarded a \$1 million prize, thanks to the generosity of AT&T, and a guaranteed screening of their film. The movie debuted at the Tribeca Film Festival in 2023 where it won several notable awards including Best Screenplay and Best Performance. I think after you see this remarkable film, you’ll agree it was well deserved.

The story is about a 16-year old Korean American girl Hayoung (Ji-young Yoo) growing up in Los Angeles in the early 2000s. It’s a coming of age movie unlike any I’ve seen before. Most of the ones I’ve watched seem to focus on rebellious kids full of angst. They get in trouble in various ways, spiral out of control, get caught and

then the film has a “... and they all lived happily ever after” conclusion. That’s where this film is unique. While Hayoung does some quiet rebelling, it’s quite a bit more subtle than the usual tropes. It’s a tender, gentle movie that unfolds at a leisurely pace.

We first encounter Hayoung as she accompanies her father, Appa (Jung Jun Ho) in the home of a rich Korean family. He’s a carpet salesman and a master at schmoozing his clients into buying some of his offerings. We then learn that her parents are separating and we witness that she’s definitely a daddy’s girl. The separation isn’t the only thing the young girl is experiencing. Like most teens, she’s grappling with acceptance among her peers, young love, helping raise her younger sister Ara (Erin Choi), as well as discovering who she really is.

Hayoung lives with her mother Umma (Abin Andrews), who teaches piano and is just scraping by. Umma is a helicopter parent and wants the best for her girls. She wants Hayoung to get into the best college, and UCLA simply isn’t good enough



Movie poster.

for her daughter. So she pays an exorbitant amount of money for her to attend a class to improve her SAT scores. It’s there that Hayoung befriends Rose (Erin Yoo) and becomes a part of a pack of rich kids. She’s clearly out of her league and she does a great job of not only fitting in with the in crowd, she’s a master



of hiding the fact that her family is relatively poor. As expected, her new friends love to party. However she never gets too carried away and when she comes home late, her mother doesn’t go overboard punishing her. There isn’t the usual screaming and fighting.

mother. Appa is a well meaning dad and cares deeply for both his children. He seems to be a bit down on his luck and is actually living in a corner of the carpet warehouse. One of the ways Hayoung deals with her situation is by dreaming of a better lifestyle. She sneaks into a home that’s on the market and unoccupied. There she closes her eyes and imagines a fantasy world where her happy family lives together in an upscale home. They’re all smiles as they sit down and enjoy a wonderful dinner. It’s a stark contrast to her real life.

The entire movie has a nostalgic and tender feel to it. It’s aided by the brilliant camerawork of Heyjin Jun. She uses close-ups to great advantage and this allows us to feel what the main characters are going through. She has a keen sense of knowing just how linger on a face and when to pull back. Every shot is perfectly composed and there are countless scenes that would make a photograph or painting worthy of framing and being displayed on a wall.

Masayoshi Fujita’s subtle score is also worth mentioning. It’s never obtrusive and subtly adds a wistful and nostalgic feel to the film. One of the hallmarks of a great soundtrack is that it goes relatively unnoticed, and this perfectly describes Fujita’s work here. It’s so beautiful I definitely will have to see if it’s available on CD or to download.

I’d be remiss if I didn’t mention the outstanding performances of all the

actors in “Smoking Tigers.” Everyone in this beautiful and heartfelt film was perfectly cast. I especially enjoyed Ji-young Yoo, who I think is someone destined to do great things in the films. Keep an eye out for her. If you’re looking for something different, don’t miss this magical film.

Note to parents: The film is not rated but I’d probably give it a PG-13 for underage drinking and smoking.

Currently streaming on Kanopy (free with your library card) and Prime. And to rent on Fandango, Apple TV, and Amazon.

★★ 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: moviejunkie.mark.blogspot.com.



Family dinner.



Hayoung (Ji-young Yoo) hiding from Rose (Erin Yoo).



Examples of Heyjin Jun’s brilliant camerawork.

Hanging out in Rose’s bedroom and by the pool.



Sisters Ara (Erin Choi) & Hayoung (Ji-young Yoo.)





THURSDAY COMICS



Peanuts

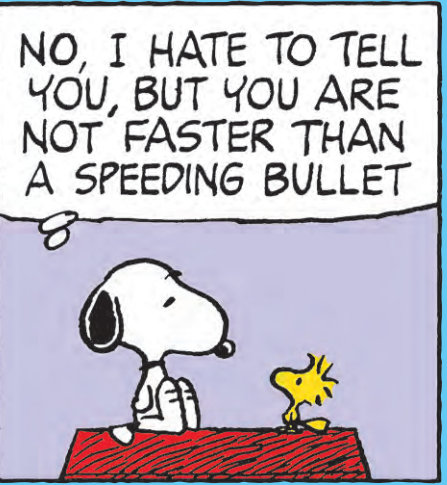
Charles M. Schulz



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1111?



NO, I HATE TO TELL YOU, BUT YOU ARE NOT FASTER THAN A SPEEDING BULLET

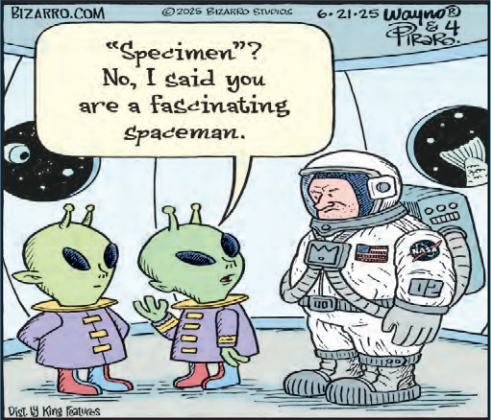


HOW ABOUT A BB?

SCHULZ

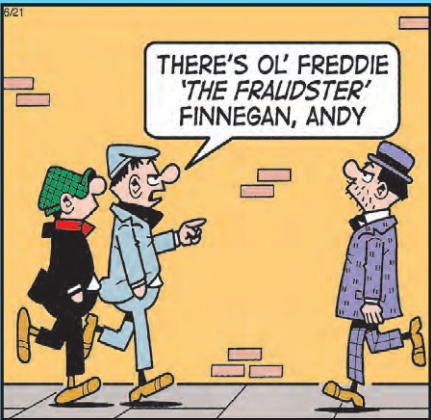
Bizarro

Dan Piraro and Wayno



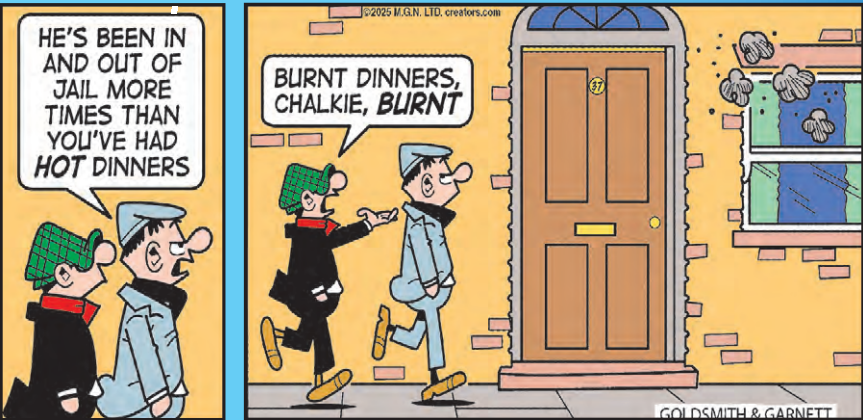
© 2025 BIZARRO DIVISION 6-21-25 Wayno Piraro

Andy Capp



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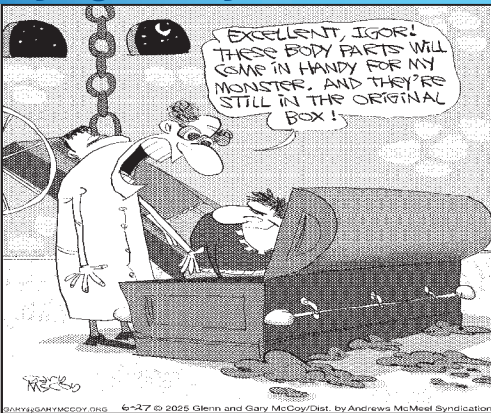
Reg Smythe



GOLDSMITH & GARNETT

Flying McCoys

Glenn McCoy



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B.C.



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Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni



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Reality Check

Dave Whamond



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Beetle Bailey



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Greg, Brian, Neal and Mort Walker



GREG AND MORT WALKER

The Lockhorns

Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner



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Mother Goose and Grim

Mike Peters



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Crankshaft

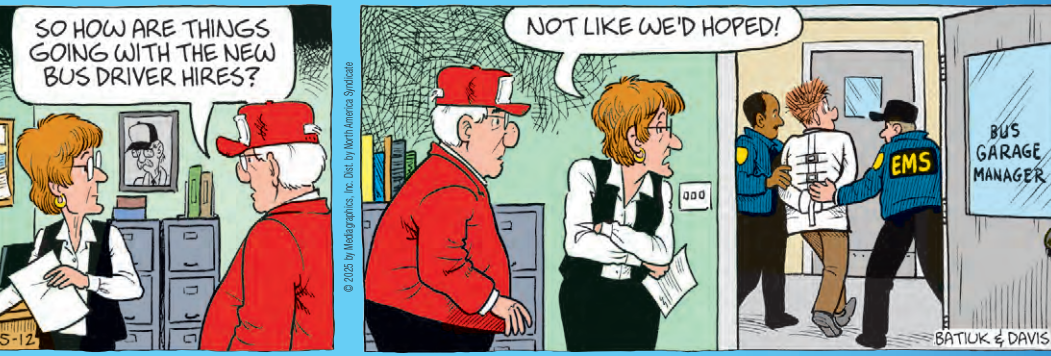
Tom Batiuk and Dan Davis



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Dennis the Menace

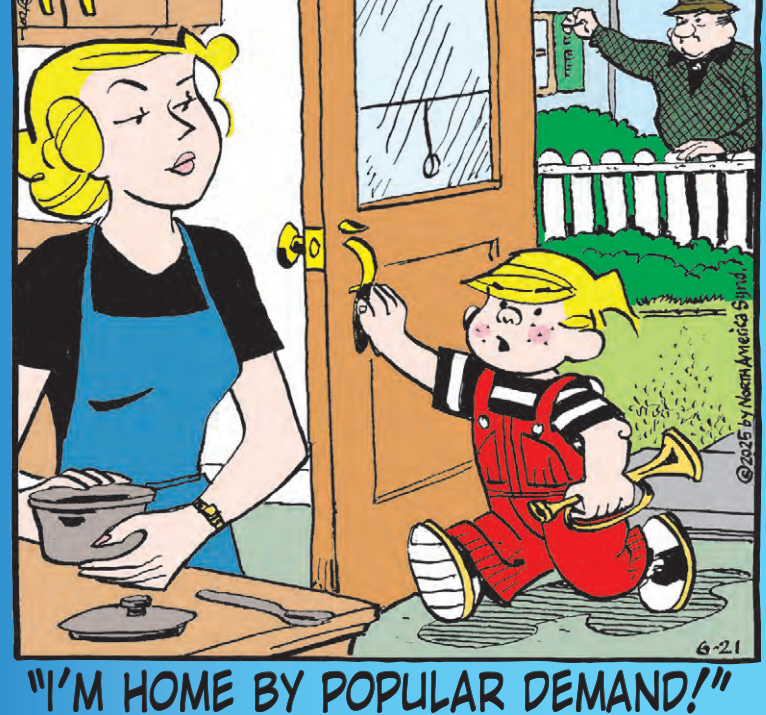
Hank Ketchum, Scott Ketchum, Ron Ferdinand and Marcus Hamilton



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Carpe Diem

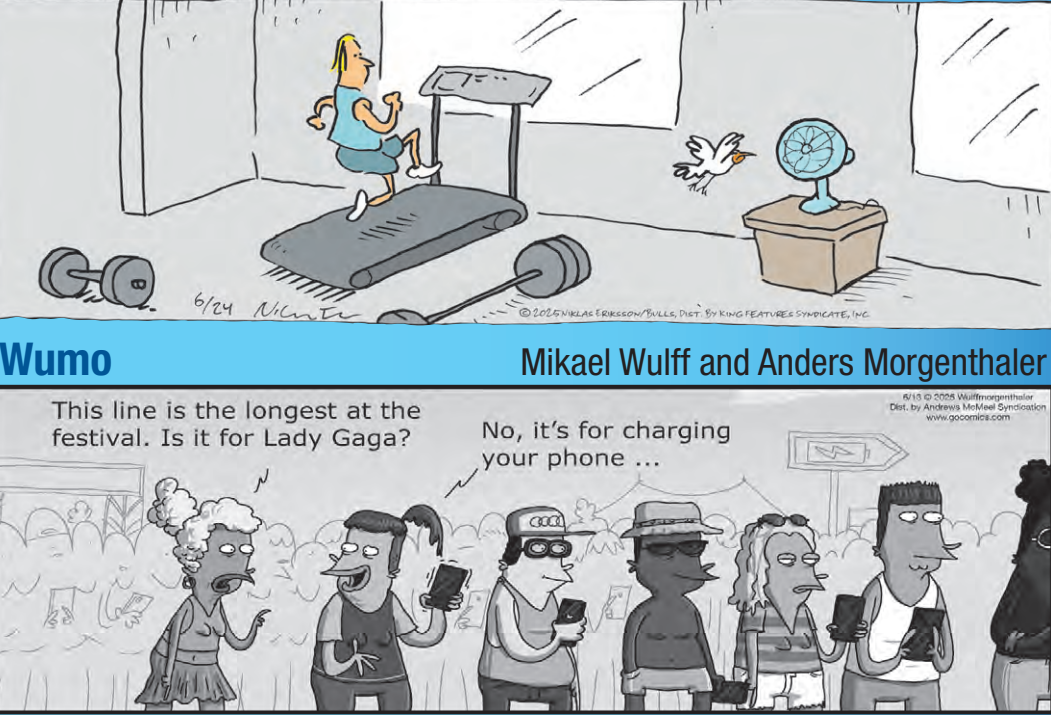
Niklas Eriksson



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Wumo

Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler



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THURSDAY COMICS

Garfield

Jim Davis

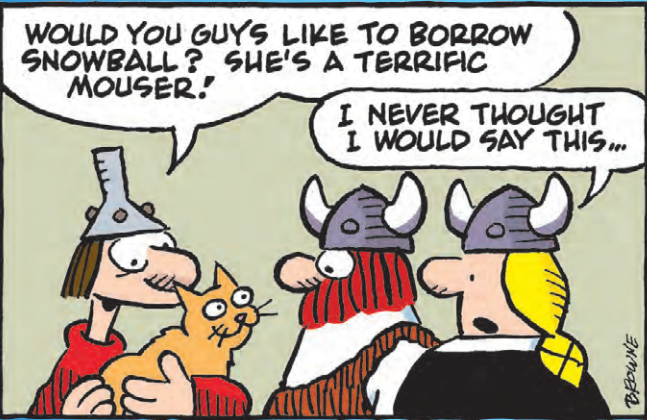


Hagar The Horrible

Dik Browne and Chris Browne

Close To Home

John McPherson



Wizard of Id

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



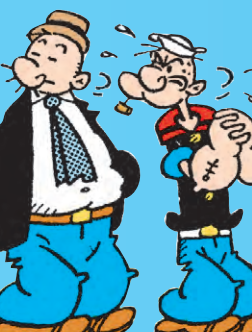
Ziggy

Tom Wilson



Blondie

Chris and Dean Young

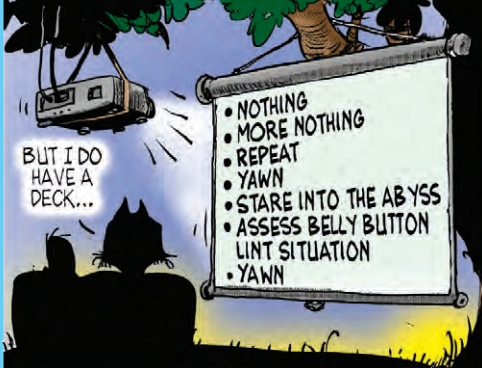


Over The Hedge

Michael Fry and T. Lewis

Marmaduke

Paul & Brad Anderson



Crock

Created by Bill Rechin and Brant Parker

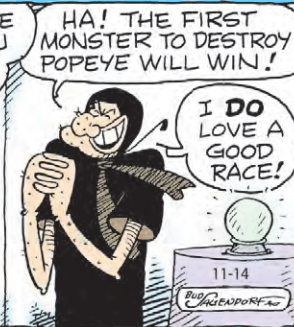


Popeye

Bud Sagendorf

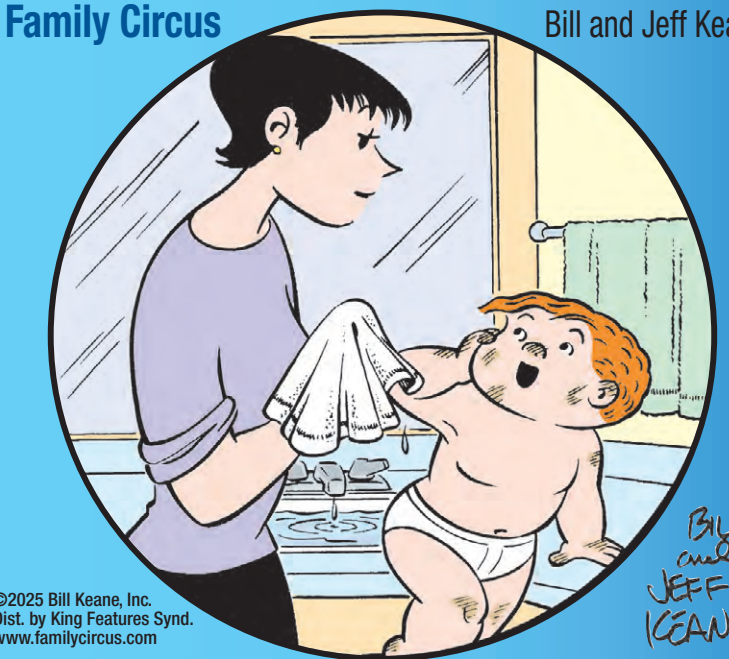
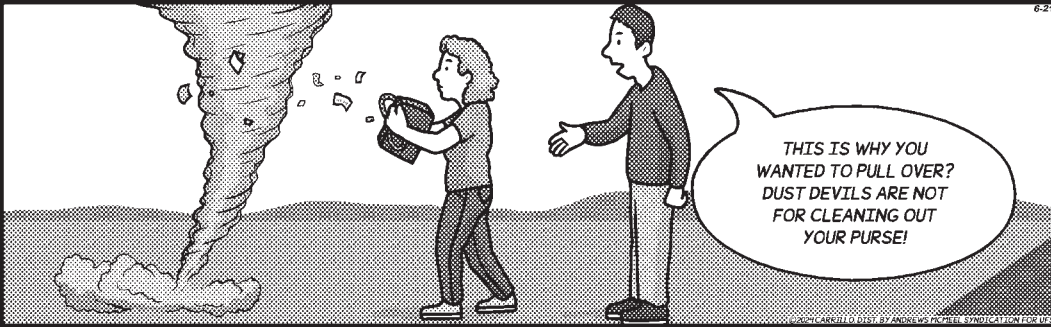
Family Circus

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Tony Carrilo



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2D-3D ATHLETE OF THE YEAR NOMINEES | 4D-5D CLASSIFIEDS | 6D LITTLE LEAGUE CHAMPS

All-State honors pour in for spring athletes

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

With the spring sports season and the 2024-25 school year now at an end, spring athletes from around the Pointes have received All-State recognition for their efforts the past few months. After successful seasons on the field, diamond, court, course and track, more than 30 athletes have helped make Grosse Pointe South, Grosse Pointe North and University Liggett School proud by collecting All-State honors from their sports' respective coaches associations.

Liggett varsity girls soccer had an impressive season, finishing as the

Division 4 state runner-up while winning district and regional titles. Three Knights were recognized on the All-State list by the Michigan High School Soccer Coaches Association. Kerith Short was named second team All-State, while teammates Addie Ancona and Jazmin Diaz-Don were both honorable mentions. The Division 1 district champion Grosse Pointe South girls soccer also had three players recognized. Savannah Spangler, Lila Brundage and Ava Pappas were all honorable mentions.

Spring brought more successful seasons on the diamond for baseball teams in the Pointes. Grosse Pointe South

baseball reached the Division 1 final four in East Lansing for the first time since 2018, and had four players receive All-State honors from the Michigan High School Baseball Coaches Association. Catcher Andrew DiLodovico was named first team All-State. Jack Lupo, Henry Domzalski and Dane Lezotte all received second team All-State recognition. Domzalski, Lupo and Lezotte, along with teammates James Michelotti and Steven Zrimec, also achieved Academic All-State status this season for finishing with GPAs of 4.0 or higher.

Liggett baseball made it back to the familiar stage of the Division 3 final four in East Lansing this spring. While the Knights came up short of a state championship, catcher Andrew Johnson received second team All-State honors to wrap up the year.

South softball also experienced one of its strongest seasons in recent history. The Blue Devils were regional champions and advanced as far as the state quarterfinals in Division 1. To cap off the spring, Mackenzie Simon, Viviana Ostrowski and Sophia Husek were All-State honorable mentions by the Michigan High School Softball Coaches Association.

Ten boys lacrosse players from the Pointes were recognized for their



After helping the Blue Devils make an appearance in the Division 1 baseball state final four, South catcher Andrew DiLodovico received first team All-State recognition.

efforts this season by the Michigan High School Lacrosse Coaches Association in Division 2. Six Liggett Knights made the list, with Luke Slanec, Nick Gould and Mac Costanzo being named All-State honorable mentions at attack. Bobby Harthorn was an honorable mention for defense, while Ryan Cordaro made the list as an honorable mention at goalie. Rounding out the group for the Knights was faceoff man Doc Reilly, who also received an honorable mention.

South lacrosse was well-represented on the Division 2 All-State list.

Goalie Lucas Valice was named first team All-State and defenseman Aiden Clark was an honorable mention. Receiving honorable mentions at attack were Jack Smith and Eugene Agnone.

In girls lacrosse, Blue Devils, Norsemen and Knights were all recognized by the Michigan Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association. Lyla Hampton from South was named second team All-State in Division 1 at attack, with teammate and goalie Jordan LeBlanc joining her on the list. North's Josie Cueter earned an honor-

able mention for Division 1 All-State as well. In Division 2, Liggett's Olivia Marcero received first team All-State honors as a midfielder.

After capturing the Division 2 No. 1 singles state championship as a freshman, South's Dalina Kokoshi was named All-State by the Michigan High School Tennis Coaches Association. Two fellow Blue Devils joined her on the list, with Katelyn Strong and Olivia Kowal both getting honorable mentions at singles. For Grosse Pointe North, Laila Aslam also was a singles honorable mention.

Two Knights were recognized for their skills on the links this spring by the Michigan Interscholastic Golf Coaches Association. Liggett's Charlie Cooksey and Steve McMahon were both honorable mentions on the Division 3 All-State list.

Finally, a pair of track and field athletes from South and Liggett achieved All-State status with their performances at the MHSAA state finals this spring. South's Conrad Squitieri reached All-State in discus after finishing third overall in the state in Division 1. Liggett's Santino Cicarella was All-State in two events in Division 3, reaching the mark after winning the state title in the 100-meter dash and finishing second in the 200 meter.



PHOTOS BY MIKE ADZIMA

Liggett's Olivia Marcero was named first team All-State in Division 2 for girls lacrosse.

Voting for 4th annual Athlete of the Year Contest begins June 26

By GPN Staff

The conclusion of another school year and more great sports seasons means one thing: It is once again time for sports fans around the Pointes to support their favorite athletes and make their voices heard.

Voting for the 2024-25 Grosse Pointe News Athlete of the Year Contest begins Thursday, June 26, and concludes at 11:59 p.m. Wednesday, July 9.

Readers can cast their votes online at grossepointhenews.com. Additionally, paper ballots may be submitted to the Grosse Pointe News office at 16980 Kercheval in The Village.

Since September, the Grosse Pointe News has recognized 39 outstand-

ing athletes for their achievements on the field, court, ice and beyond as part of the Athlete of the Week feature series. Our valued subscribers, as well as coaches, parents and members of the community, have nominated these athletes from Grosse Pointe North, Grosse Pointe South and University Liggett School for their excellence in both athletics and academics. Several of these athletes also will continue their athletic careers at the collegiate level.

In the July 17 edition of the Grosse Pointe News, four of these athletes will be announced as Athletes of the Year for 2024-25. All four winners will receive \$500 scholarships to

their respective colleges or universities.

athlete will be named winners by the Grosse

female athlete will be winners for receiving the most votes in the Readers' Choice poll. Voters will be allowed to submit one ballot per 24 hours.

The Athlete of the Year contest represents the culmination of another great year of sports in the Pointes. It is an opportunity to remember the incredible moments these athletes and their teams provided to fans throughout the fall, winter and spring seasons. It also reminds us how much sports mean to the community by creating memories and friendships that these athletes, their friends and families will remember forever.

The success of the

Athlete of the Year contest and our Athlete of the Week feature series would not be possible without the support of our sponsors, including OASIS Heating & Cooling, Expert Heating & Cooling, Pointe Capital Management LLC and Shana Sine Cameron of Sine & Monaghan Realtors.

The Grosse Pointe News thanks readers for your commitment to the local sports community and these amazing athletes. If you are interested in becoming an Athlete of the Week sponsor next season, contact media@grossepointhenews.com.

For a full list of this year's Athlete of the Year contest nominees and a copy of the voting ballot, see pages 2-3D.

Grosse Pointe News



ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

The Athletes of the Year will be selected in two categories. One male and one female

Pointe News staff. Also, our subscribers and the community will decide which male and which

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2D | ATHLETE OF THE YEAR NOMINEES

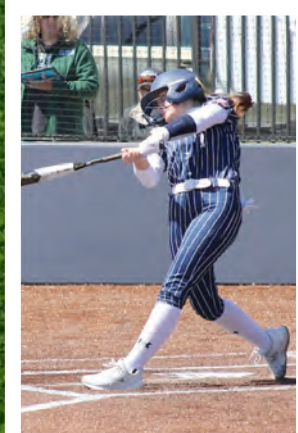


Scan to vote

Vote for the Readers' Choice Athlete of the Year!

One male & female athlete will receive a \$500 scholarship!

Please vote by checking one box for your favorite male athlete of the year and one box for your favorite female athlete of the year. Or visit grossepointenews.com/athlete. Voting begins Thursday, June 26 and ends on Wednesday, July 9.



Luna Agosta
Grosse Pointe South
Softball



Brendan Beland
University Liggett
Swim & Dive



Maddy Benard
Grosse Pointe South
Basketball



Evan Bernard
Grosse Pointe South
Hockey



Santino Cicarella
University Liggett
Football



Josie Cueter
Grosse Pointe North
Hockey



Adam Czarnik
Grosse Pointe South
Baseball



Andrew DiLodovico
Grosse Pointe South
Baseball



Gabby DiVita
Grosse Pointe
South Volleyball



Daylon Doe
Grosse Pointe North
Football



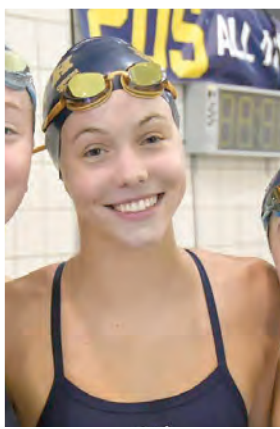
Henry Domzalski
Grosse Pointe South
Baseball



Morgan Duff
Grosse Pointe South
Track & Field



Abby Evans
Grosse Pointe South
Hockey



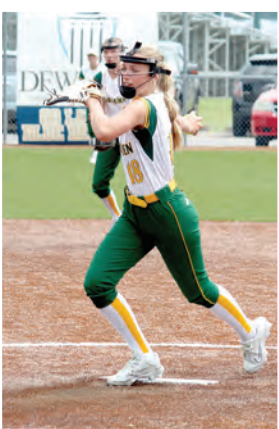
Whitney Handwork
Grosse Pointe South
Swim & Dive



Bobby Harthorn
University Liggett
Soccer



Wyatt Hepner
Grosse Pointe South
Wrestling



Elliott Jarvi
Grosse Pointe North
Softball



Andrew Johnson
University Liggett
Baseball



Dalina Kokoshi
Grosse Pointe South
Tennis



Sarah Koval
Grosse Pointe South
Cross Country

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ATHLETE OF THE YEAR NOMINEES | 3D



Josh Lemanski
Grosse Pointe South
Football/Wrestling



Jack Lupo
Grosse Pointe South
Football



Olivia Marcero
University Liggett
Lacrosse



James Michelotti
Grosse Pointe South
Basketball/Football



Leo Perettie
Grosse Pointe North
Football



Molly Reynolds
Grosse Pointe South
Hockey



Ben Rickerman
Grosse Pointe North
Basketball



Kerith Short
University Liggett
Basketball



Rosie Smith
Grosse Pointe South
Hockey



Conrad Squitieri
Grosse Pointe South
Track & Field



Gary Stacy
University Liggett
Football/Hockey



Lucy Tull
Grosse Pointe South
Gymnastics



Vince Vachon
Grosse Pointe South
Football



Lucas Valice
Grosse Pointe South
Lacrosse



Addie Wakefield
Grosse Pointe North
Softball



Scout Webber
Grosse Pointe South
Field Hockey



Avery Welsh
University Liggett
Hockey



RJ Williams
Grosse Pointe North
Basketball



Lex Willson
Grosse Pointe South
Football/Wrestling



Grosse Pointe News
ATHLETE OF THE YEAR 2025 VOTING FORM

Please fill in the circle next to one male and one female athlete.

MALE

- ☐ Brendan Beland
- ☐ Evan Bernard
- ☐ Santino Cicarella
- ☐ Adam Czarnik
- ☐ Andrew DiLodovico
- ☐ Daylon Doe
- ☐ Henry Domzalski
- ☐ Bobby Harthorn
- ☐ Wyatt Hepner
- ☐ Andrew Johnson
- ☐ Josh Lemanski
- ☐ Jack Lupo
- ☐ James Michelotti
- ☐ Leo Perettie
- ☐ Ben Rickerman
- ☐ Conrad Squitieri
- ☐ Gary Stacy
- ☐ Vince Vachon
- ☐ Lucas Valice
- ☐ RJ Williams
- ☐ Lex Willson

FEMALE

- ☐ Luna Agosta
- ☐ Maddy Benard
- ☐ Josie Cueter
- ☐ Gabby DiVita
- ☐ Morgan Duff
- ☐ Abby Evans
- ☐ Whitney Handwork
- ☐ Elliott Jarvi
- ☐ Dalina Kokoshi
- ☐ Sarah Koval
- ☐ Olivia Marcero
- ☐ Molly Reynolds
- ☐ Kerith Short
- ☐ Rosie Smith
- ☐ Lucy Tull
- ☐ Addie Wakefield
- ☐ Scout Webber
- ☐ Avery Welsh

First Name _____

Last Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Email _____

CAST YOUR VOTE ONLINE
Visit grossepointenews.com/athlete
or scan the QR code



Send your completed form to:
Grosse Pointe News
16980 Kercheval Pl.
Grosse Pointe, MI 48230-1554
or send a photo of the completed form to:
media@grossepointenews.com

Entry must be postmarked Wednesday, July 9, 2025.

Vote online at grossepointenews.com/athlete



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to vote

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917 Carpet & Tile Removal
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Removal
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- 957 Plumbing & Installation
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959 Power Washing
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961 Security Enforcement
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968 Shrink Wrapping
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Grosse Pointe News Yard & Estate Sale Map

THIS WEEK

1. 800-900 Block of Washington, GPC

2. 23 Provencal, GPF

3. 366 Belanger, GPF

4. 1019 Bishop, GPP

5. 22603 Sunnysdale, SCS

6. 1520 South Channel, Harsens Island

= YARD SALE = ESTATE SALE
See Classifieds for more details



All Farms-City Little League photos courtesy of Bill Crandall

The Patriots triumphed over the Bulls 8-7 to win the Farms-City Little League AAA championship.



The Farms-City Little League AA champion Hooks took home the title with a victory over the Rockhounds in the championship.



The Red Sox reigned supreme to win this year's Majors Division championship in the Woods-Shores Little League.



All Woods-Shores Little League Photos courtesy of Nathan Treska

Hook 'Em! The Longhorns took home the title in the Woods-Shores Collegiate Division.

Grosse Pointe has always been known for success on the baseball diamond, and these Little Leaguers are continuing the tradition! Congratulations to this year's champions in the Grosse Pointe Farms-City and Woods-Shores Little Leagues.



The Brewers were crowned champions of the Farms-City Little League Majors Division after defeating the Padres 15-5 in the title game.



The Cannon Ballers celebrate their victory in the Farms-City Little League A Division championship.



The Bulls proudly hoist their Woods-Shores Little League Minors division championship trophies.



ORDINANCE NO. 403

THE CITY OF GROSSE POINTE FARMS HAS ENACTED AN ORDINANCE TO REARRANGE ELECTION PRECINCTS IN THE CITY OF GROSSE POINTE FARMS, TO PROVIDE FOR THE BOUNDARIES AND DESIGNATION OF THE POLLING PLACE IN EACH OF SUCH PRECINCTS, AND TO REPEAL ORDINANCE NO. 338.

A true copy of this ordinance, which is effective twenty days after enactment, may be purchased or inspected at the Office of the City Clerk at Grosse Pointe Farms City Hall, 90 Kerby Road, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236, during regular business hours, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily, except weekends and holidays.

Made and passed by the City Council of the City of Grosse Pointe Farms, State of Michigan, this 16th day of June 2025.

Louis Theros, Mayor
Derrick Kozicki, City Clerk

Published: GPN: 6/26/2025



CITY OF GROSSE POINTE FARMS
2025 SUMMER TAX
COLLECTION AND PENALTIES

The 2025 Summer Taxes are due July 1, 2025, and payable without interest if paid on or before September 15, 2025. On September 16, 2025, a 1% penalty will be added and an additional 1% on the first day of each succeeding month. Summer taxes may be paid as follows:
1) By mail, in person, or City drop box (rear parking lot) at Grosse Pointe Farms City Hall -Treasury Department, 90 Kerby Rd. Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236; or 2) Credit card or E-Check payments at www.grossepointefarms.org (No fees for E-Check payments).

Tim Rowland
Finance Director/Treasurer/Controller
GPN: 06/26/25