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Grosse Pointe News

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Sliding into summer

There was something for everyone to enjoy at the first Kercheval After 6 event of the summer, which took place Saturday, June 28. Matt Westerfield slid down the giant slide with his daughter, Spencer, on his lap. Spencer was relaxed the whole way down, even toward the end, when her hair and legs went flying. For more photos from the event, see page 3A.

PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT



Village Market presents updated plan for Mack/McKinley intersection

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — Wayne County has approved updated engineering drawings to reconfigure the intersection at Mack and McKinley and restructure the Village Market parking lot, according to Village Market owner Jacob Garmo.

However, the project will not move forward until it receives site plan approval from Farms city council, which is anticipated to happen in the next couple months.

“Please understand that part of this is to help the McKinley traffic by moving it and potentially having exit-only onto Mack, etc.,” Mayor Louis Theros said, addressing a crowd of displeased McKinley residents prior to a presentation on the updated plans held during the council meeting last Monday.

The new drawings, designed by Auburn Hills-based PEA Group, show several distinct updates from the previous proposal presented before council in June 2024.

What remains the same is the redirection of McKinley between the public alley and Mack to run parallel with the businesses and on a

See PLAN, page 2A

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Two found dead in Woods home

By Ted O’Neil
Associate Editor

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — A man and woman were found dead inside their residence in the 2000 block of Brys Drive, between Mack and Helen, around 12:30 p.m. Sunday, June 29.

A press release from the Grosse Pointe Woods Public Safety Department said officers went to the house to do a welfare check.

The investigation includes the Michigan State Police Forensic Unit and the Wayne County Medical Examiner’s Office.

A next door neighbor, who did not wish to be identified, told the Grosse Pointe News Monday,

June 30, she called 911. “It was the smell and the flies,” she said. “I was gone for three days and came back Saturday and it smelled a little, but I just thought it was their dogs because it’s been so hot out. Then yesterday (Sunday) I knew something was wrong.”

The woman said an officer on the scene told her it was a murder-suicide and two Brittany spaniels also were found deceased.

“At this point, that’s speculation,” Woods Public Safety Director John Kosanke said. “We still have to do autopsies and the investigation is ongoing.”

The neighbor said she believed the couple was in their 70s and lived in

the house about two years.

“They didn’t have a car, never left the house,” she said. “They never even let their dogs out in the yard. They had their groceries delivered and sometimes they’d sit on the porch for a week.”

Brys Drive also is where Dennis Doheny, then 19, was shot and killed in October 2023. His brother, Edmond Doheny, is serving a mandatory two-year prison sentence for felony firearm, meaning the possession of a firearm during an attempt or commission of a felony. He also was sentenced to three years probation after pleading no contest

See HOME, page 3A

Hospitality for whom?

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — A councilman’s background in the hospitality business tells him the Grosse Pointe Park Recreation Department gets it wrong by closing amenities during holiday weekends.

“Memorial Day has always been a celebration of the parks, but our facilities are closed outside of the pool,” Councilman Tom Caulfield said.

He disagrees with closing some of the park system’s most showy attractions, such as within the Lavins Activity Center at Windmill Pointe Park, during holidays when park attendance peaks.

“The Fourth of July used to be a huge celebration around here in our park,” Caulfield said.

Chad Craig, director of parks and recreation, said holiday closures are based on matching the supply of employees with demands of the public.

“Part of it is staffing challenges,” he said. “Part of it is a previous review of attendance. For what it was costing us to put staff in there and locate staff, the numbers weren’t really that great.”

Caulfield suggested dressing up the center with a special activity, such as a matinee movie in one of its two theaters.

“It’s something we can explore,” Craig said. “The focus is on picnics, boats, pool and items like that.”

Another issue is a shortage of overflow parking space during periods of high attendance at Windmill.

“I was having conversations with quite a few of the gate staff,” Craig said. “They had concerns if we were to do more activities, with as many cars we get in there, having even more (could) overwhelm them.”

Parking crunches at Windmill are due to more

See HOLIDAYS, page 3A

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Pointer of INTEREST

See story, page 4A



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Recreation commission airs grievances

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — It was less than the slang term for a session defining a female dog and more than the ritual airing of grievances popularized by a 1997 Christmas episode of “Seinfeld.”

But while members of the Grosse Pointe Park Recreation Commission vented during their latest meeting about not being kept in the loop on Parks and Recreation Department plans and activities, their frustrations came rapid-fire as “a Festivus for the rest of us.”

“Why have a rec commission if we’re the last to know?” Commissioner Howard Bouton asked.

He and most of eight commissioners attending the June 11 meeting were upset about being blindsided by the department’s decision to discontinue using chilling equipment to artificially freeze the ice-skating rink at Patterson Park.

Learning of the shutdown after the fact reminded Commissioner Mike Bannon, chairing the meeting during the excused absence of Chairman Mike Hindelang, of one of the most controversial and quickly reversed recreation department decisions in years — the proposed dismantling of a wooden playscape at Patterson that hundreds of volunteers built 30 years ago.

“It felt like the playscape all over again — to not know until everyone

else in the world knew,” Bannon said.

“Why have a commission if we’re not going to be discussing these items?” Bouton said.

He criticized commissioners being tasked to convene regarding trivialities, such as reassigning park personnel to water flower pots and beds, while matters of greater community impact aren’t revealed.

“It’s not a good use of

He suspects children during the COVID shutdown learned to occupy themselves with computer games and lost interest in social activities, such as skating.

“Do we have data for that?” Bouton asked.

“I can get it for the next meeting,” Craig said.

“It’s not that I think the ice rink is a required amenity or something that shouldn’t have been cut from the budget,” Bouton

Craig said. “There might be ways we can get creative to get funding for repairs and get (the rink) back up and running.”

Bouton asked if anyone considered using the rink to generate revenue, such as by broadening usage to include hockey rentals.

“That (rink) was built on the understanding hockey would not be played on that,” Craig said. “The way it was designed and built, you were not supposed to play hockey.”

“The rules are restrictive and they’re old,” Commissioner James Ceuninck said.

“If you play hockey on a wide-open rink and people are walking through and a puck hits them in the face, you might have a bigger problem,” Craig said. “You’d have to have a significant amount of ice-skating lessons just to cover the electric bill. I’m not sure we can bring in enough.”

Councilman Tom Caulfield, liaison to the commission, challenged members and recreation administrators to develop an ordered list of critically needed items that need repair or replacement.

“The pool at Windmill Pointe is going to be next,” Caulfield said. “It’s 60 years old.”

“Look for the August (commission) meeting,” Craig told him.

“But here’s my point,” Caulfield said. “It can’t be a surprise anymore. We have to forward think.”

“I’ll do my best moving forward to keep you guys informed,” Craig told commissioners.



COURTESY PHOTO

In the wild?

Grosse Pointe Farms resident Richard Platt spotted this deer Friday morning, June 26, at Ridge and Moran roads.

“Barking dogs and joggers were of little interest,” he said.

Active Adult Commission hosts its first meeting

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE CITY, FARMS, PARK, WOODS & HARPER WOODS — Before the senior millage is implemented with summer taxes, the Active Adult Commission — which oversees how funds will be allocated — held its first meeting at City of Grosse Pointe City Hall early Thursday morning, June 26.

Intended as an organizational meeting, commissioners unanimously selected Woods Councilwoman Vicki Granger as chairperson, Farms Mayor Pro Tem Beth Konrad Wilberding as vice chairperson and City Councilwoman Maureen Juip as secretary.

Also appointed to the commission are Park Mayor Michele Hodges and Harper Woods interim City Manager John Szymanski.

“I’ve worked on this almost two years now, between committees at The Helm and the League of Women Voters for the senior policy and informational meetings for voters to learn what this whole issue was about,” Granger said just prior to officer nominations. “I’m willing to serve in some way.”

Meeting dates for the Active Adult Commission were set for four times a year, on the second Thursday of the last month in each quarter, at Grosse Pointe Woods

See FIRST, page 5A

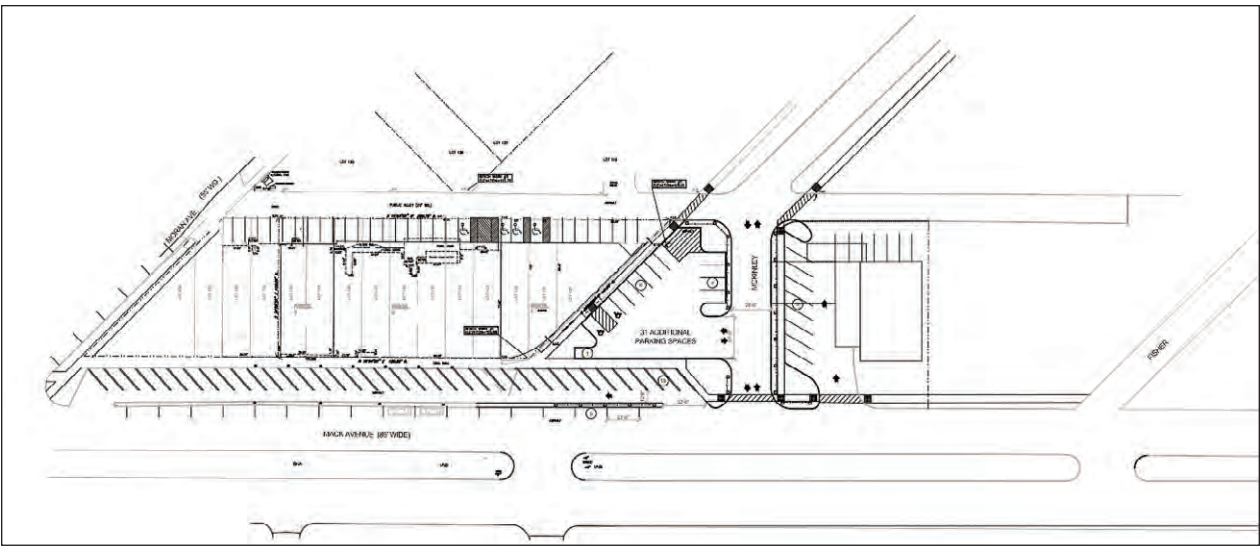
PLAN:

Continued from page 1A

90-degree angle to Mack. To do so, the road essentially would swap places with Village Market’s current parking lot.

“The proposed project will realign the existing section of McKinley Avenue from Mack Avenue to the public alley,” described James Butler, project executive of PEA Group, in a letter. “The realignment will eliminate the existing angled intersection and replace it with an intersection that is perpendicular. This realignment will allow installation of additional public parking within Mack Avenue and adjacent to the existing businesses located adjacent to McKinley Avenue as well.”

Notable changes from



RENDERING COURTESY OF PEA GROUP

The updated engineering proposal would reconfigure the Mack/McKinley intersection to slow McKinley traffic by creating a Michigan left on Mack, as well as place the Village Market parking lot alongside the business.

the original design rendering include the entrance to the Village Market parking lot placed solely off McKinley, as opposed to the initial drawings,

which featured entrances off Mack and McKinley.

The original rendering also would have moved the current Mack island pass-through to align with the new opening to McKinley. At city council’s suggestion — intended as a traffic calming measure — the new plans call for the pass-through to remain in its current location, so when the intersection is shifted to the right, it will require a Michigan left to cross Mack.

“I lived on Hollywood in the Woods before the Woods changed the

medians (on Mack),” said Tamara Baubie, co-owner of Tower Therapeutic Fitness and Wellness next door to Village Market. “You used to be able to cut through and it would be a raceway. Once they did put in those staggered medians, it did reduce the traffic on the streets on the other side of Mack, so in my personal experience, I do think that those staggered medians can make a big difference.”

A proposed no-left-turn sign when exiting the Village Market park-

ing lot also would be intended to cut down on traffic, which was the biggest concern of a large group of McKinley residents who attended the presentation last week.

“I’ve worked in law enforcement 13 years,” said one man who lives in the 400 block of McKinley. “I know what signage does. If there’s a no-left-turn on McKinley, as long as you don’t have a cop there 24/7, I guarantee nobody follows that sign.”

He added that two young families he knew personally moved from

McKinley in June “just because of the traffic.”

Residents of the street united during public comment to push for the road to become a cul-de-sac, essentially cutting it off entirely from Mack Avenue.

One woman, who has resided in her home in the 400 block of McKinley since 1985, recalled how a make-shift cul-de-sac used to block off the street in the ’80s and ’90s.

“After a couple of months, residents on McKinley started to complain because now they had to go all the way around the side streets down Chalfonte,” former public safety director Dan Jensen said as to why the cul-de-sac was removed. “And then the residents on Moran and Lincoln started to complain, because the traffic doesn’t go away. It just finds another avenue. So all that traffic was pushed onto the neighboring side streets and the cry went out and the residents on McKinley were the biggest push to remove it.”

City council did not take any action during the informational meeting and a proposed second-floor restaurant at Village Market — previously presented as a package deal with the intersection reconfiguration plans — was not addressed.

Correction

The June 26 report, “Pre-KA6 starts 5 p.m.,” should have stated that Carly Copus, a sponsor of Kercheval After 6 street fairs, gives away hot dogs the entire event, 6 to 10 p.m.

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After 6, Pt. 1

The first Kercheval After 6 event of the summer took place Saturday, June 28, on Kercheval in Grosse Pointe Park. Friends, families and couples crowded the street, checking out the booths and enjoying food from food trucks, along with Slushies and ice cream. There are two more After 6 events left, July 26 and Aug. 23.

PHOTOS BY
RENEE LANDUYT



The KuffLinks were one of two bands entertaining the crowd.



Odin Greenroyd missed his mark three times while trying his hand at the Grosse Pointe Park Little League dunk tank, so in the end, like most of his peers, he ran up to the button and pushed, dunking Pat Rorai.



The Gearheads, a combination of Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South students, brought their robot to the event. Aggie Dunn did a great job getting into position and catching the red ball the robot fired.

Owner in dog attack facing trial

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — The owner of a dog that fatally attacked a neighbor's dog is heading to trial following a hearing Wednesday, June 25, in municipal court. A date has not been set as Judge Theodore Metry said he would work with both attorneys in the case regarding their schedules and the Wayne County Clerk's office in order to

seat a jury. The incident occurred in late April on Blairmoor Court when the defendant's female Belgian Malinois charged a neighbor and her dog while they were walking. Another neighbor heard the victim screaming and was able to drive it away. According to the police report, the woman suffered injuries to her foot and hand, while her

female bea-tzu suffered deep flesh wounds. It passed away despite undergoing surgery. The victim was wearing a walking boot at the defendant's arraignment in early June and was walking with a visible limp with no boot at the pre-trial hearing. The defendant told officers he let his dog out to relieve itself and it escaped through an open

backyard gate. He provided paperwork showing his dog was up to date on vaccinations. He was ordered to obtain a dog license from the city and ticketed for harboring a vicious animal. Metry earlier ordered the dog be quarantined and that when allowed in the backyard, an adult be present at all times. —Ted O'Neil

HOME:

Continued from page 1A

to that and a charge of involuntary manslaughter in April 2024. "The judge completely honored the plea bargain agreement in this terrible tragedy," said Robert Ihrie, Doheny's defense attorney, at the time. "Everyone recognized this was essentially an accident with zero intentionality. We would have preferred no jail time, but the judge didn't have a choice."



A man and woman found dead in this house in the 2000 block of Brys Drive in Grosse Pointe Woods Sunday, June 29, after a neighbor called 911 requesting a welfare check.

PHOTO BY
TED O'NEIL

New hours start Monday

GROSSE POINTE PARK — New days and hours of operation at city hall start next week. On Monday, July 7, city offices switch to four 10-hour days, 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday. The building is closed Fridays. The public safety department, which shares the same main entrance as municipal offices, continues operating 24 hours per day, seven days per week. New days and hours are being tested through Aug. 28. A majority of the city council approved the schedule June 9, at the recommendation of City Manager Nick Sizeland.

He said staffing civic headquarters from early morning to late afternoon gives residents more time to conduct municipal business before or after their full-time jobs. He also said activity on Fridays at city hall typically is less than during the rest of the year. "So far, we've noticed less summer traffic coming in already on Fridays," Sizeland said this week. "We feel comfortable going into this. We've been letting residents know that we start our new schedule next week." Hours following the test period will be determined based on results. —Brad Lindberg

HOLIDAYS: Park maintenance

Continued from page 1A

than the facility's popularity. The overflow lot also is used as a storage area for public works vehicles and raw materials, such as dirt, gravel, road salt and tree clippings. "Maybe we can move some equipment out of there," said James Ceuninck, a member of the recreation commission, during its June 11 meeting. "There'd be plenty of parking. It's turned into a lot for construction (equipment)." "We've been having discussions about that as well," Craig said. "I think there's still more equipment to come out."

Portions of Windmill are due for a beauty treatment. "The facilities, grounds and maintenance department is going to be power washing the exterior of the park restroom facility," Craig said. "I want to make sure those restrooms and the concession area are up to our standards throughout the season." Work includes washing windows and screens, plus installing new wind-screens at the tennis court. "They have also done extensive work on the front entrance garden bed of the park, outside gatehouse and Tompkins Community Center patio," Craig said.

The Week Ahead

MONDAY, JULY 7

◆ City of Grosse Pointe City Council meeting, 7 p.m.

TUESDAY, JULY 8

◆ Grosse Pointe Shores Finance Committee meeting, 9 a.m.
◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Citizens' Recreation Commission meeting, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 9

◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Beautification Advisory Commission meeting, 7 p.m.



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Honored

On May 21, the Grosse Pointe Rotary Club honored the recipients of its 2025 Max Gardner and Frank J. Sladen scholarships. Pictured, from left, are scholarship recipients Henry Doyle, Connie Bedsworth, Jhilmil Chhaya, Lily Kester, Sara Thomas, Grace Campbell and Landon Trombley.



COURTESY PHOTO

REGATTA:

Continued from page 4A

art in the park
◆ 7 p.m. Farms cup sail race
◆ 6 to 10 p.m. regatta island party with live music by Power Plays, plus food and cash bar

Friday, July 4

◆ 10 a.m. bicycle parade, with decorating

contest led by a superhero character

◆ 11 a.m. yoga in the park — bring your own mat
◆ 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. picnic table decoration contest
◆ 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Wares The Smoke and Tru Pizza Co. food trucks
◆ noon to 10 p.m. GPF Boat Club beer and wine tent cash bar
◆ noon pie-eating con-

test

◆ noon to 3 p.m. face painting; bounce house; princesses performing on stage; superhero characters strolling the park
◆ 1 to 4 p.m. mechanical bull
◆ 2:30 p.m. yellow ducky races
◆ 3 p.m. inflatable boat races
◆ 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. cornhole toss tournament

◆ 4 to 5 p.m. sandcastle contest

◆ 4 to 5 p.m. closest to the pin contest
◆ 6 to 10 p.m. live music by Main Street Drive
◆ 10 p.m. or dusk Grosse Pointe Yacht Club and Grosse Pointe Shores fireworks visible from outer gazebo

Saturday, July 5

◆ 1 p.m. pet parade

FIRST:

Continued from page 2A

City Hall.

Dates currently are set for 8:30 a.m. Sept. 11, Dec. 11, March 12 and June 11, though scheduling conflicts may bring changes to some of the latter dates.

“You can always set a special meeting as needed,” City of Grosse Pointe City Manager Joe Valentine reminded commissioners. “I think this first year, you’re going to have to add some added flexibility, just because you’re getting set up.”

At its next meeting, Sept. 11, commissioners are expected to review a service agreement drafted by The Helm, contract personal liability insurance and consider setting a fiduciary administration fee.

Prior, the group will

have site visits to meet with Helm leadership, as well as with members of the Older Persons’ Commission in Rochester to get an idea of best practices.

The OPC Social and Activity Center operates an adult day program, which is a service The Helm has stated intention to implement using millage funds.

“It’s like the Taj Mahal of senior centers,” said Derrick Kozicki, Farms assistant city manager/city clerk, who previously worked five years in Rochester.

The only other action item on Thursday’s agenda was confirming Grosse Pointe Farms City Hall as the location of the commission’s registered office.

“Each legal entity has to have a registered office for purposes of legal notices, tax notices, etc.,” Valentine explained.

City of Grosse Pointe

Embezzlement

A former employee of a business in the 17000 block of Kercheval is alleged to have embezzled approximately \$7,000 through various fraudulent transactions throughout the past year. An investigation is ongoing.

Banned

A 37-year-old Detroit man was arrested at 7:45 p.m. Monday, June 23, for refusing to leave a business in the 17000 block of Kercheval, from which he had been banned multiple times.

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

Grosse Pointe Farms

Bitcoin scam

After receiving a pop-up on her iPad advising her to contact Microsoft with a provided number Tuesday, June 17, a 72-year-old Farms woman spoke with a scammer posing as a Federal Trade Commission agent, who told her to withdraw \$15,000 from her credit union because someone was attempting to purchase illegal internet content with her account information.

The woman’s credit union only allowed her to withdraw \$5,000 and she ultimately deposited \$4,800 into various Bitcoin ATMs throughout metro Detroit.

Making his own way

After walking in the middle of a lane on Lakeshore and not following officer warnings at 12:26 p.m. Wednesday, June 26, a 28-year-old Park man was stopped and arrested for a disorderly conduct warrant out of the Park for walking in the road there.

He said several times that if he had a gun, he would kill the officers.

Dangerous drugs

When officers tracked down a 24-year-old Harper Woods man who hit a light pole in the 400 block of Moross and fled the scene at 8:04 p.m.

Friday, June 27, he was foaming from his mouth, could not recall simple daily events and said he was heading to a weed dispensary.

White powder pills were found in his pocket and he was arrested for possessing dangerous drugs and operating a vehicle under the influence of drugs.

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

Grosse Pointe Park

Nothing to report, per dispatch.

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

Grosse Pointe Woods

Larceny

A resident in the 2100 block of Country Club reported the infotainment system was stolen from his Dodge Ram sometime overnight into Tuesday, June 24. The rear window on the truck was broken.

Fraud

A resident in the 1000 block of Anita filed a report Tuesday, June 24, after making a wire transfer for \$55,314 after she talked on the phone with a man she thought was an investigator with the Federal Trade Commission.

She was given the man’s contact information after receiving a message she believed was from Microsoft that her computer was locked. She realized it was a scam when she noticed her computer was still locked after making the transfer.

Stolen vehicle

A Ford F-150 was stolen from a driveway sometime overnight into Sunday, June 29, from the 1900 block of Lennon.

The owner told officers he was unaware the truck was stolen or that it had been used in another

crime in Dearborn.

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

Grosse Pointe Shores

Day drinking

A 32-year-old St. Clair Shores woman was arrested for drunken driving around 8 a.m. Friday, June 27, on Lochmoor after officers received a call about a disabled vehicle.

They found the woman in the driver’s seat, vehicle engine running. She failed several field sobriety tests and a Breathalyzer showed her blood alcohol content to

be 0.105.

Mail fraud

A 40-year-old resident reported that bank checks, which UPS said it delivered to her home the day before she filed a report Thursday, June 25, were stolen and one was cashed for \$600.

LPR works

A newly installed license plate reader helped officers arrest a 22-year-old Sterling Heights man who fled southbound on Lakeshore on a 2006 Honda motorcycle shortly before noon Tuesday, June 24.

Shores officers stopped pursuit for safety reasons and the man was last seen westbound on Moross at

speeds up to 80 mph.

They were alerted by Grosse Pointe Farms Public Safety that an LRP and city cameras were able to track the man to his place of employment on Mack.

The business’s manager told police the man had just returned from lunch, hurriedly attempted to conceal the motorcycle and told him he had just

run from the police. When questioned, the man told officers he had not taken a lunch break that day.

He was charged with fleeing and eluding and lodged in the Grosse Pointe Woods jail.

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



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POINTES OF VIEW

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Grosse Pointe News

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

SEAN COTTON: Owner

ANNE GRYZENIA: Publisher

JODY MCVEIGH: Editor in Chief

OUR VIEW

Celebrating Independence Day

When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature’s God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.

That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security. Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world.

He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other Laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of Representation in the Legislature, a right inestimable to them and formidable to tyrants only.

He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their public Records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures. He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people.

He has refused for a long time, after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the Legislative powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the mean time exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within.

He has endeavoured to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE GROSSE POINTE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Pure Grosse Pointe

The family of George Russel celebrates the Fourth of July at a cottage on Lakeshore circa 1891.

According to an article in the Grosse Pointe News dated Jan. 8, 1959, Russel came to Detroit in 1836 from medical school in Pennsylvania. He later founded the Detroit Car Works and built the first steamer to carry ore on the Great Lakes.

His son, Henry Russel, became the first attorney for the Michigan Central Railway and built the cottage, named Weeanne, near the former Convent of the Sacred Heart, now The Grosse Pointe Academy.



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.

E Pluribus Unum

To the Editor:

My family counts down the days to the Fourth of July, my children giddy for fireworks, parades and barbecues, but for me it is significantly more. I was not born an American citizen; my parents emigrated to Canada from Austria and, pursuing opportunity, eventually moved to Michigan.

I was afforded a unique experience, education and exposure to numerous countries and cultures. I even saw behind the Iron Curtain in my youth. Studying engineering in Canada, internships took me to Europe to live and work, and back to Canada to run a business. The perspective I was afforded is why I knew when I raised a family, it had to be in the United States.

It wasn’t a short journey, work visa to green card, but after more than 10 years I finally got to say my oath in a naturalization ceremony in Detroit. I felt joy.

America is the land of opportunity. Nowhere is hard work rewarded more; nowhere is there greater pride in community and ideals. Because of this I continue my journey, relishing the opportunity to pursue my civic engagement by serving in local office, contributing as so many have before me.

I proudly display the flag and I relish singing “The Star-Spangled Banner” with my children. For me, taking part in those gestures exemplify the phrase on the U.S. seal since 1795, “E Pluribus Unum” — “out of many, one.” One great nation I thank God every day I could become a part of.

MAX ANDREW WIENER
Grosse Pointe Park

On solid ground

To the Editor:

Barring the impact of the Wayne County Enhancement Millage, the Grosse Pointe Public School System is now in its healthiest financial position in the last 20 years. The district has reached 15 percent general fund equity — a critical milestone in financial stability that should not go unnoticed.

We should embrace this moment as more than a fiscal achievement. It offers something we’ve long needed: common ground.

Now is not the time to look backward to

See LETTERS, page 8 A

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EDITORIAL

(313) 882-6900

Jody McVeigh:
Editor in Chief

Ted O’Neil:
Associate Editor

Mike Adzima:
Sports Reporter

Kyla Bazy:
Obituary Writer

Laurel Kraus:
Staff Writer

Renee Landuyt:
Staff Photographer

Brad Lindberg:
Special Writer

PRODUCTION

(313) 343-5573

Ken Schop:
Production Manager

John Pigott:
IT Manager

David Hughes:
Graphic Artist

Mary Schlager:
Graphic Artist

Donna Zetterlund:
Graphic Artist

ADVERTISING

(313) 882-3500

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Advertising Manager

Ken Ong:
Account Executive

Julie R. Sutton:
Account Executive

Melanie Mahoney:
Marketing Assistant

MARKETING
Olivia Monette:
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Manager

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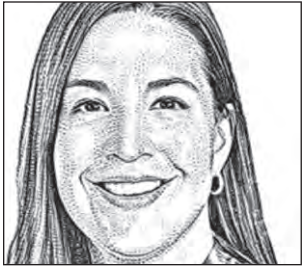
Ellie Carter

GROSSE POINTE 7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST						
July 3 – 9						
THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
87° 64°	88° 69°	93° 72°	91° 69°	86° 67°	84° 54°	82° 59°
Mostly Clear	Mostly Clear	Partly Cloudy	Chance T-Storms	Chance T-Storms	Cloudy	Mostly Clear
0%	0%	20%	50%	30%	10%	10%
SUNRISE 6:00 am SUNSET 9:12 pm	SUNRISE 6:01 am SUNSET 9:11 pm	SUNRISE 6:01 am SUNSET 9:11 pm	SUNRISE 6:02 am SUNSET 9:11 pm	SUNRISE 6:03 am SUNSET 9:11 pm	SUNRISE 6:03 am SUNSET 9:10 pm	SUNRISE 6:04 am SUNSET 9:10 pm

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

I SAY By Jody McVeigh

One man’s loss is another man’s gain



My husband and I bought our house in October 2005.

It was a fairly new build; the man we bought it from hadn’t so much as put a dab of color on the “painter’s white” walls.

We fell in love with the marble kitchen and dining room floors, the vaulted living room ceiling, the master suite notably on a different floor than the boys’ bedrooms.

We especially loved the backyard — an in-ground swimming pool encircled by brick pavers; the perimeter of the yard surrounded by young arborvitae, spaced between rose bushes and rose of Sharon; the open field next to the house with a stream running through it.

Shortly after moving in, the neighbor behind us sidled up to the fence line to say hello and we had an easy conversation between arborvitae, the weeping willow tree in his backyard a mere six feet tall.

Fast forward nearly 20 years. The walls have been painted numerous times and the boys long ago moved out. During the pandemic, we upgraded from a cement slab porch to a covered

Trex deck overlooking the pool.

The roses and rose of Sharon were choked out years ago by the arborvitae, which get trimmed every few years to keep them under 10 feet. We no longer can have conversations at the fence with our neighbors, because there is no getting between the monstrous trees.

As they have grown, so has the neighbor’s weeping willow, much of it looming over our property. While beautiful to look at, its waving tendrils have become a harbinger of doom. Though it hovers in the corner of the yard, the shadow it casts puts more than half of the pool in shade.

Neither of us had a pool before we moved into this house. Neither of us had ever dealt with a weeping willow before we moved into this house either. Apparently, weeping willows grow around three feet up and three feet out each year. It has seeds. And leaves. And twiggy branches. It drops them all, throughout spring, summer and fall.

Don’t even get me started on what the birds that live in that tree drop into the yard.

For years, I have listened to my husband grumble about that tree. I brace myself for it each spring, even before the pool cover comes off, when he fills bag after bag of dead leaves. I sympathize with him when he spends literal hours skimming whatever debris the season brings. I bite my tongue when he shows me

receipts for all the chemicals he dumps in the pool to cure it from the havoc wreaked by the tree and its inhabitants.

After 20 years, I’ve gotten used to the griping and groaning, whether he’s tallying the number of lawn bags it took to secure the latest yield or regaling his friends of the terrible torture that tree inflicts on him, week after week. I’m sure they’re just as sick of hearing about it as I am.

He even approached the neighbor last year and offered to split the cost to cut down the monstrosity. The neighbor said no.

A few weeks ago, I arrived home from work to find my husband in the backyard with an enormous grin on his face. He stepped out of the pool and asked if I noticed how incredibly sunny it was in the backyard. He gestured over his shoulder and I knew immediately why his smile was so wide.

The tree was gone. We’d noticed a few broken branches up high; maybe it was reaching the end of good health. Maybe the city ordered it cut down. Maybe the neighbor finally got sick of his own heap of yard work.

It really doesn’t matter. That day was one of the happiest of my husband’s life. Now that I don’t have to listen to the complaining or the rants, or watch him skimming the surface day after day, often more than once a day, it was one of the happiest days of my life, too.

OUR VIEW:

Continued from page 6A

offences.

For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an Arbitrary government, and enlarging its Boundaries so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these Colonies.

For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments.

For suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.

He has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us.

He has plundered our seas, ravaged our coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.

He is at this time transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to compleat the works of death, desolation and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of Cruelty & perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized nation.

He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the executioners of their friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands.

He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages, whose known rule of warfare, is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions.

In every stage of these Oppressions We have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only

by repeated injury. A Prince whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people. Nor have We been wanting in attentions to our British brethren.

We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which, would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace Friends.

We, therefore, the Representatives of the United States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States; that they are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do. And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.

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Plans to promote performance center

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — DDA board members want to help the Schaap Center for Performing Arts get on with the show.

They support allocating \$10,000 in next fiscal year’s budget to promote attendance at the 424-seat center, scheduled to open in October

Downtown Development Authority Director Nick Sizeland proposed the expenditure within the authority’s mission to “enhance existing appropriate commercial activities which are essential in servicing the community, fostering a stable tax base and encouraging new private investment,” according to DDA founding documents.

“We are going to have residents of Grosse Pointe Park as well as outside of Grosse Pointe Park coming to the area,” Sizeland said. “You’re visiting the Schaap Center, but you’re also visiting Grosse Pointe Park. The DDA can use this opportunity to promote our city and district, whether to purchase coupons through local businesses or gift cards. We could purchase tickets at a reduced rate so the public could buy.”

“It’s wonderful that the DDA wants to support local businesses,” said Jaime Rae Turnbull, executive director of the center. “The economy that will benefit from patrons visiting the Schaap Center was exactly the intended use in addition to providing (our) program partners homes. We want to have businesses thrive off the thousands of people who will be visiting the Schaap Center. We’re 100 percent on board with collaborating.”

Sizeland also suggested allocating \$20,000 to provide parking spaces for

the center.

“We have an opportunity to use funds within the DDA that we could partner with a local business for the lease of a parking lot,” he said. “That could not only be for residents and the public, but it could be used for the Schaap Center.”

The budget for next fiscal year, starting July 1, requires city council approval. The overarching goal of the DDA is to “revitalize the Jefferson Avenue commercial center,” according to the organization’s plan.

Achieving the goal depends “on the ability of (the) Downtown Development Authority to initiate and participate in the development of improved public uses and new private uses.”

“There are several opportunities the DDA could do when it comes to promoting economic development and attractions to the authority,” Sizeland said during the group’s May 6 meeting. “This is an opportunity to help the Schaap Center.”

“It’s going to be open really soon,” board member Sharron Corbin said. “We’re going to blink and it’s going to be open.”

“This is an opportunity to drive economic opportunity into the district,” Sizeland said. “We have other local businesses and opportunities to promote.”

“Local restaurants in both Grosse Pointe and Detroit have asked us as soon as we have our first season roll-out that they know so they can staff for dinner before and drinks, dessert and food after,” Turnbull said. “I’m getting good feedback from restaurants that are going to keep their kitchens open later on show nights and want to do promotions for matinées so they can have a special brunch.”

LETTERS:

Continued from page 6A

assign blame or credit. Our community has lived through years of division and tension surrounding school finances and governance. While those disagreements have been real, we now have an opportunity to move forward together.

Let this be a “Day One” moment.

By affirming 15 percent fund equity as a financially prudent, balanced target, we create space for unity. It’s a standard that reflects both responsibility and responsiveness. It doesn’t favor one side over another — it reinforces stability, sustainability and shared success.

Let’s encourage the Board of Education, administration and broader community to move forward from this point with clarity and cohesion. If we can maintain fund equity at or near 15 percent, we can reasonably say — whatever else may divide us — that the district is on solid financial ground.

BRENDAN P. WALSH
Grosse Pointe Shores

Act now

To the Editor:

When you grow up as a minister’s son, you’re taught that people have the best of intentions for others and that you should always give them the benefit of the doubt when they make an error or in some way hurt others. In watching the school board meetings since the start of my hiatus from the board in January, I have been hoping meeting after meeting

that the board president, Colleen Worden, would grow into her position and work as a partner with our school superintendent, Andrea Tuttle. After attending the June 23 meeting and watching her lack of leadership skills in person, there are only two explanations for what is happening at the board table — Mrs. Worden is swimming in a sea of confusion as to the role of a school board president and refuses to get help or she is intentionally trying to harm our school system’s reputation and its future. ...

I keep wanting to give President Worden the benefit of the doubt and hope she’ll start acting as the leader we need, but her fumble after fumble since her January inauguration doesn’t leave me much hope. The saddest part of all this is that she has seasoned leaders like Dr. Tuttle and Trustee Sean Cotton, both with years of experience running multi-million dollar organizations, available to help her become a better leader. Meeting after meeting, rather than embracing their obvious willingness to help her, she instead insults them publicly and unilaterally makes decisions she doesn’t have the experience or reasoning skills to be making that affect all of us living in our school system.

All one has to do is look at just a few of her decisions since January to realize how out of her element she is and how her feeble attempt at being a leader is harming our school system.

AHMED ISMAIL
Grosse Pointe Woods

Editor’s Note: Mr. Ismail’s full Letter to the Editor may be found online at [grossepointenews.com](#).

TIFA budget increased \$30K

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Members of the TIFA board missed a good meeting last month.

The June 5 meeting was canceled because there wasn’t a quorum. More than half of the 11-member board couldn’t convene and satisfy minimum attendance required of the Tax Increment Finance Authority bylaws.

City Manager Nick Sizeland, acting as TIFA director until a new assistant city manager is hired and assigned to the post, said absences are more common this time of year due to high school and college graduation ceremonies and celebrations.

On the TIFA agenda were mainly informational items.

State law requires two informational meetings annually during which authority activities are summarized and goals discussed for the coming year.

Summaries scheduled for the canceled meeting consisted of the TIFA budget, status of the Charlevoix streetscape project and preparations for the residential and commercial property improvement grant programs due to start July 1.

The single piece of new business concerned retaining a low-bid landscape contractor for \$29,787.

Budget

The TIFA budget for fiscal year 2026, starting July 1, is ready to have its t’s crossed and, especially, the i’s dotted — with interest income.

In the three months since a draft of the budget was discussed last

March, revenue has risen \$30,000 to \$1,382,000.

The reason for the increase is noteworthy.

“Interest,” Sizeland said. “We’re investing our extra money and putting reserve money for the Charlevoix streetscape into an account so we can earn interest and help the TIFA’s budget and streetscape project.”

TIFA members endorsed the budget March 6. Adoption is dependent upon approval of the city council, which also must approve the Downtown Development Authority budget prior to the new fiscal year. TIFA representatives will follow up at a meeting to be rescheduled.

Improvement grants

The grant program — self-funded by capturing a portion of tax increases within TIFA boundaries for purposes of enhancing the district — supports owners of commercial property within the Park’s Tax Increment Finance Authority.

District parameters are Mack Avenue almost to East Jefferson and from Wayburn to the alley behind Nottingham. Portions of three business zones are eligible: lower Mack, Charlevoix and Kercheval.

Residential

Some \$120,000 is in the budget for residential property improvement grants. The figure is the same as discussed in March.

Although the annual program doesn’t resume until the next fiscal year, Sizeland said applications already are being submitted.

“We have received several,” he said.

Individual grants are a maximum of \$5,000, a \$1,000 increase from last year. Grants still require a 50/50 match.

Eligible work consist of such things as:

- ◆ front and rear construction or revitalization of such things as porches, overhangs, railings and stairs;
- ◆ side façades that are visible to the public eye;
- ◆ enhanced front entryways,
- ◆ aesthetics, such as awnings;
- ◆ fencing along alleyways or street-side yards and
- ◆ painting, new doors and windows if part of comprehensive façade improvements.

Grant applications must be approved prior to work commencing.

Commercial

Grants for commercial property improvements are reinstated this year for a maximum \$10,000 each. TIFA board members in March approved allocating a total \$60,000 for the loans, which also require a 50/50 match.

“I have talked with several businesses that are interested in the commercial property improvement grants,” Sizeland said.

Eligible projects include façade upgrades and landscape improvements. None have been approved or formally considered.

“The technical window starts July 1, the new fiscal year,” Sizeland said.

There might be additional funding available.

“We have some money left over in our current budget we might carry over depending on funding and applications,” Sizeland said.

Rain garden on tap for December

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — The rain garden outside the main entrance to Grosse Pointe Park City Hall, for which the city received a grant 1½ years ago, should be installed by Christmas.

“We’re hiring an engineering firm and putting a bid out,” said Lisa Kyle, Park Beautification Commission chairwoman.

The paperwork had been handled by the city forester, Brian Colter, who died in March.

“Brian was working on that the week before he died,” Kyle said. “He had a proposal and bid written up.”

She and others are searching for the documents among his computer files. Colter rarely deleted anything.

He applied for and received a \$53,000 grant from the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments mid-2023 to build a rain garden in what is now a cement-covered area between the doors to city hall and the public safety garage.

A rendering prepared by the Center for Watershed Protection, in Maryland, for SEMCOG shows a roughly 10-foot-wide strip of native plantings atop nearly five feet of buried gravel and an under drain. Construction is esti-

mated to cost \$53,885.

Upon installation, the garden will absorb downspout runoff that, depending on the weather, otherwise floods the area or freezes. So-called environmentally friendly anti-flood runoff infrastructure, such as permeable surfaces and bioswales, are designed to capture water that otherwise would flow into the storm sewer system and possibly contribute to backups during downpours.

“I was in a meeting Tuesday with SEMCOG,” Kyle said last week. “We are pretty determined to have that infrastructure in place and have the plants in place by December 2025.”

Such ambitions for environmental stewardship helped earn the city in 2023 silver status in environmentalism from Michigan Green Communities, a benchmarking program supported by the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, numerous state agencies and the Michigan Municipal League.

An additional \$15,000 for the garden is being provided by the Downtown Development Authority, according to Director and City Manager Nick Sizeland’s proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year starting July 1. The bud-

get requires city council approval.

“When you enter city hall now, there are a couple trees,” Sizeland said. “We would look to help fund the gap with the beautification commission that received money through SEMCOG. The DDA brings its \$15,000 to complete a rain garden and remove several trees that are (outside the main entrance) to city hall.”

The expenditure is categorized in the proposal budget as being for green infrastructure and is \$5,000 more than budgeted the last two fiscal years.

“We, the beautification commission and the city, have to go out for an engineer (and) go out for bid,” Sizeland said. “Our late forester was working on designs and plans from several companies.”

“We were slated to finish the project in December 2024, but they lengthened the grant cycle through December 2025,” Kyle said.

Commissioners switched focus during the extended cycle to establish an adopt-a-garden program and tend the grounds of Patterson Park.

“We deferred our grant cycle until the 2025 cycle,” Kyle said. “We still have the money.”



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Fan Faces retiring

By Ted O’Neil
Associate Editor

THE GROSSE POINTES — The face of Fan Faces has retired.

After 32 years in education, including the last 25 in the Grosse Pointe Public School System, Susan Howey has marked her final school year. She created Fan Faces in 2017 at Trombly Elementary School — where she taught 20 years — then brought it with her to Monteith Elementary School after Trombly closed.

Fan Faces started off selling enlarged pictures on sticks that became popular for sporting events, birthdays, recitals, graduations and anything else customers wanted them for. They eventually expanded to cupcake toppers, wrapping paper, bookmarks, buttons and more.

Its website now indicates, “After 8 successful years, we have closed our doors. This year alone, we earned over \$6,300 and donated over \$3,000 to charities! We want to thank all of our customers for placing orders. We also want to thank our local business community for teaching us and inspiring us!”

Howey said she’s not so much retiring as “rewiring.”

“Fan Faces really stretched me,” she said. “I, along with the co-owners (which she refers to students as) had to learn marketing, accounting, social media. I’m ready for my next act, but it has to be something creative.”

The Sterling Heights native and Michigan State University graduate spent seven years teaching in Chicago before returning to Michigan.

Howey said Fan Faces got its start when she attended a conference and met with representatives of Real World Scholars, an organization



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Above, Hazel Novak writes on the memory wall during Howey’s retirement luncheon. Novak wrote, “I love when local businesses came to our classroom.” Right, Dylan Scott, Susan Howey and George Locke pose for one last photo before Howey and Fan Faces retire.

that promotes entrepreneurial lessons in the classroom. Since 2014, it has helped start 625 student-run businesses impacting more than 55,000 students.

“They offered help with some seed money and setting up our bank account,” Howey said. “They also offered a lot of mentorship.”

Howey added that mentorship also has come from local business owners, particularly Ellen Durand, owner of El’s Boutique in The Village.

Students each year would write letters to local business owners, inviting them to visit the class and share their knowledge, including Pink Elephant Cupcakes and The Cheese Shoppe.

“Over time, those people became friends,” Howey said.

They, along with other local businesses that had been involved with the class over the years, catered a recent surprise retirement party Howey’s friends and family threw for her at Mum’s Arcade.

“I really tried every year to stress how important it is to shop local,” she noted. “We have such a wonderful community and those businesses depend on us.”

Those same businesses and others also provided

food for the “Fan Faces Finale,” a luncheon Howey and her co-owners hosted to thank all the merchants that assisted them over the years that also included a photo booth, claw machine and 3-D printer.

While profits were reinvested into the business for supplies, there also was an element of what Howey called profit sharing. That included books and recess supplies, but also a field trip to the arcade.

“The kids don’t get paid, but it helps explain that good things come from hard work,” Howey told the Grosse Pointe News for a story last year about 150 former co-owners and parents showing up for a reunion.

Business tasks were woven into lesson plans.

“It was part of the fourth-grade experience,” Howey said. “We’d use it to work on writing skills, math skills, economics.”

It also garnered Howey a 2020 Leavey Award for Excellence in Private Enterprise Education, hosted by the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge.

“The award has my name on it, but it really shouldn’t,” she said at the time. “It should just say Fan Faces. The kids are



the ones doing all the work.”

Fan Faces ended up making more than \$30,000 over the years — serving customers in 15 different states — with more than \$15,000 donated to charities, which have included American Red Cross, Motor City Mitten Mission, World Wildlife Federation, St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital and The

Rainbow Connection, a Michigan version of Make a Wish.

“The co-owners got to pick the charities,” Howey said. “I think one reason they enjoyed it was because the whole process made them feel heard and empowered. They were sad to think it was done when I told them about retiring.”

Fan Faces could, however, still have a future.

“It won’t be continuing

in its current state, but I’m open to conversations about keeping it alive in a different way,” Howey said. “I’d love for it to have that legacy.”

As for retirement, Howey said she plans to continue the tradition of having breakfast the first day of school with Michele Bachert, a good friend who teaches Young 5s at Monteith.

“After that I’m heading Up North.”



A five-foot Asian water monitor lizard from Lou’s Pet Shop was a part of the festivities.

Bond language approved

By Ted O’Neil
Associate Editor

THE GROSSE POINTES — The Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education voted 6-0 at its meeting Monday, June 23, on the ballot language it will present voters in November asking for approval of a 20-year bond renewal for \$120 million.

Trustee Valarie St. John was absent.

The language will read as follows:

“Shall the Grosse Pointe Public School System, County of Wayne, Michigan, borrow the principal sum of not to exceed One Hundred Twenty Million Dollars (\$120,000,000) and issue its general obligation unlimited tax bonds for the purpose of defraying the cost of:

- ◆ remodeling all existing School District buildings, including security, roof, energy conservation and mechanical systems improvements;
- ◆ equipping, furnishing, reequipping and refurbishing all School District buildings;
- ◆ acquiring and installing technology infrastructure and instructional technology

equipment and

- ◆ erecting, furnishing, equipping, developing and improving athletic fields, athletic facilities and other facilities, parking areas, fencing, drains and sites, in the School District?”

It goes on to say the maximum millage to be levied annually for the bond will remain at or below the current 3.14 mills levied for the 2018 bond, although it also says the estimated levy in the first year will be 0.70 and the annual estimate thereafter will be 1.63.

A mill is \$1 in taxes for every \$1,000 in taxable value of a property.

The board chose the language over another option that included a more specific outline of certain projects.

“A significant percentage of voters will read the proposal for the first time when they vote,” Treasurer Tim Klepp said as a reason not to include a handful of specific projects. “It’s not feasible to list every project.”

The district previously decided how to spend \$60 million of the proceeds on critical needs should the measure pass,

then appointed a Bond Advisory Committee to decide on the other \$60 million.

Meeting four times over three months, the committee favored:

- ◆ \$8.2 million for new furniture,
- ◆ \$4 million to refurbish the Christian A. Fenton Performing Arts Center at Grosse Pointe North High School,
- ◆ \$9.7 million for boiler replacements,
- ◆ \$750,000 to relocate the main office at Grosse Pointe South High School,
- ◆ \$125,000 to resurface the track at South,
- ◆ \$50,000 to each building principal to use at their discretion on critical needs,
- ◆ \$1 million for air conditioning upgrades at the administration’s discretion,
- ◆ \$475,000 for early childhood initiatives and
- ◆ \$3 million for locker room renovations at the high schools.

Superintendent Andrea Tuttle said that leaves \$3.7 million to reconfigure the closed pool at Parcels Middle School, possibly into a technology and innovation hub, a STEM lab or an e-sports arena.

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BoE passes balanced budget

By Ted O'Neil
Associate Editor

THE GROSSE POINTES — The 2025-26 fiscal year budget for the Grosse Pointe Public School System is starting off around \$29,000 in the black.

The GPPSS Board of Education passed the budget 6-0 at its meeting Monday, June 23. Trustee Valarie St. John was absent.

“I appreciate the level of attention the administration gave to our budget parameters,” board Treasurer Tim Klepp said. “A balanced bud-

get leaves significant upside potential and is a great place to start the year.”

The fiscal year began July 1.

Superintendent Andrea Tuttle said the budget contains no layoffs due to attrition through retirements and resignations. There will be a reduction of 8.14 full-time equivalent teachers at the high school level. Tuttle said the reductions were done based on enrollment. Grosse Pointe South and Grosse Pointe North high schools are expected to start the fall

with 1,108 and 805 students, respectively.

“We also didn’t reduce any opportunities because we are known as a district of opportunity,” she added.

Total revenue for the year is expected to be \$105,197,829.

Expenditures are slated at \$105,168,930.

The district has a total amount to appropriate of \$120,946,591. That leaves its fund equity at \$15.7 million, or around 15 percent. The increase, from 8.8 percent, is due to the 2024-25 fiscal year budget — which started with \$1 million

in deficit spending — finishing with a \$5.4 million surplus.

“I support this budget because it builds upon a strong foundation and reflects our commitment to the full experience of a Grosse Pointe public education,” said Trustee Sean Cotton, owner of the Grosse Pointe News.

“It preserves every academic and extracurricular offering, maintains student-teacher ratios below the state average and continues to fund the multi-year agreements that support our teachers and staff.”

Shelbi Frayer, who

has been consulting on the district’s finances, said the new budget is based on certain assumptions. That includes an increase in per-pupil state aid of \$329, which is included in both Gov. Gretchen Whitmer’s proposed budget and that of the Michigan Senate. It also is based on a projected enrollment decrease of 100 students.

Schools must use a variety of projections as their fiscal year starts July 1, but the state fiscal year doesn’t begin until Oct. 1.

“We budgeted very

conservatively,” Tuttle said. “You don’t want to put things into the budget until the money comes in. There have been years where the state increased the foundation allowance and took it away in January.”

Aside from the general fund, about \$11.6 million will be spent on capital projects from the sinking fund millage approved by voters last fall. Another \$1.8 million will be spent from the school improvement bond approved in 2018.

The board also approved ballot language for this November asking voters to renew that bond for \$120 million over 20 years (see related story 9A).

Youth Nautical Education Foundation awards scholarships

The Youth Nautical Education Foundation, or YNEF, recently awarded 12 students with \$2,000 college scholarships.

Since the program began in 2012, YNEF has granted a total of 162 scholarships. Of these, 12 have been permanently endowed to ensure ongoing support for future students.

Scholarships are granted based on applicants’ sailing involvement in the Detroit Regional Yacht-Racing Association Club Junior Programs, participation in high school or college freshman sailing teams and academic performance.

This year’s scholarship recipients were honored during a celebratory brunch Sunday,

May 18, at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club.

The application for the 2026 YNEF scholarship is available at ynef.org/scholarships. All completed applications must be submitted to the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club by April 5, 2026.

The 2025 honorees are:

- ◆ Lynn Dennis, Grosse Pointe North High School graduate attending Michigan State University — Zach Rockwell Scholarship
- ◆ Gabi Dordal, homeschooled; attending Wayne State University — Benno Steinborn Scholarship
- ◆ Sean Ellison, Seaholm High School graduate attending Jacksonville University — Commodore Gary and Christine Gonzalez



Lynn Dennis

Scholarship

- ◆ Aarush Kapur, Detroit Country Day graduate attending DePaul University — Commodore Sean and Dr. Kristen Schott Hoefler Scholarship
- ◆ Maverick Killips, University of Detroit Jesuit High School graduate attending the University of Michigan — Commodore James



Gabi Dordal

and Patricia Anderson Scholarship

- ◆ Mia Pyenta, University Liggett School graduate attending the University of Michigan — Commodore Tymon C. and Sheri Totte Scholarship
- ◆ Graham Rebain, University of Detroit Jesuit High School graduate attending the University of Michigan — Commodore James and Sandy Morrow Scholarship
- ◆ Jack Riley, Grosse Pointe South High School graduate attending the University of Tennessee — W.W. Williams Co. Scholarship
- ◆ Lucia Sharp, Troy High School graduate attending Michigan State University — Manuel J. and Nora Moroun Scholarship
- ◆ Katheryn Turner, University Liggett School graduate attending Grand Valley State University — Commodore John and Marlene Boll Scholarship
- ◆ Charles Walton, University of Detroit Jesuit High School graduate attending the University of Vermont — Commodore Ilja and Kelley Vreeken Scholarship
- ◆ Alexander Wszolek, West Bloomfield High School graduate attending Princeton University — Edwin and Felicia Shaw Scholarship



Sean Ellison



Aarush Kapur



Maverick Killips



Mia Pyenta



Graham Rebain



Jack Riley



Lucia Sharp



Katheryn Turner



Charles Walton



Alexander Wszolek

Sniffles, Sneezes, & Solutions: Your Guide to Surviving Allergy Season



By Rachel A. Young, DO, FACOFP

It’s that time of year again in Michigan. When we trade the sniffles from cold and flu season for the runny noses of allergy season. In the US about 15-20% of people suffer from seasonal allergic rhinitis (hay fever) which may cause sneezing, nasal congestion and irritation of your nose, throat, mouth and eyes. With so many options available over the counter to treat it, one wonders--is there any research to guide us on what to use?

In 2017, experts from the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology and the American College of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology created guidelines to guide patients and providers about managing seasonal allergic rhinitis. For people 12 and up, an intranasal corticosteroid spray such as fluticasone propionate (Flonase) or triamcinolone acetonide (Nasacort) should be the first line treatment. There was no evidence to show that adding an oral antihistamine (loratadine, cetirizine) adds significant benefit for most. The nasal sprays worked more reliably and caused fewer side effects. People also had better results using steroid nasal sprays than they did taking pills like montelukast (brand name Singulair).

So, what does this mean for you? If your seasonal sniffles are kicking up, start with a nasal corticosteroid. Use 1-2 sprays in each nostril daily and take consistently until symptoms are controlled. It takes up to 2-4 weeks to see the full impact of the medication! So don’t give up after a few days, and don’t let symptoms get out of control before you start.

If this isn’t working talk to your provider about next steps — including whether allergy shots (immunotherapy) might be right for you if your symptoms remain severe or persistent.

Dr. Rachel Young is the Program Director of the Grosse Pointe Family Medicine Residency and sees patients at the Corewell Health Family Medicine Clinic, 16815 East Jefferson Avenue, Suite 120, Grosse Pointe, MI 48230. The clinic is accepting new patients, often with same-day availability, and offers evening appointments on Mondays and Wednesdays. To schedule an appointment, call 586-498-4400.



PRIDE OF THE POINTES

Miami University students **Lielyn Mercer** of the City of Grosse Pointe and **Katie VandeWyngearde** of Grosse Pointe Park were named to the President’s List for the spring 2025 semester.

◆◆◆

Abby Blyth of the City of Grosse Pointe, **Thomas Buhl** of Grosse Pointe Park and **Sean Clarke**, **Addison O’Keefe** and **Lainey Rahm** of Grosse Pointe Farms were

named to the Dean’s List at Miami University for the 2025 spring semester.

◆◆◆

Kaitlyn Barr of Grosse Pointe Woods was named to the Dean’s List for spring 2025 semester at Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

◆◆◆

Lily Konkey of Grosse Pointe Park was named to Baylor University’s Dean’s List for six consecutive semesters. Konkey graduated in



Lily Konkey

May with a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology and minors in criminal justice, sociology and business administration.

FEATURES



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Debut novel getting rave reviews

Author event is July 10, at Next Chapter Books

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Grosse Pointe native Erica Peplin has graduated from writer to author.

The longtime wordsmith, whose freelance short stories and essays have been printed in literary magazines such as Joyland, n+1, The Millions and The Village Voice, recently had her debut novel, “Work Nights,” published by Simon & Schuster.

Seeing her work on bookshelves was a long-time dream.

“I was working at the New York Times in sales, but all I wanted to do was be a writer,” said Peplin, who grew up in the Pointes and attended Defer Elementary, Pierce Middle and Grosse Pointe South High schools. “I’d get up early to write before work. I’d leave work and come home to write. I had a 9-to-5 job, so I was taking notes for ideas while I was at work.”

In a case of art imitating life, “Work Nights” is set at a fictional New York City newspaper where the 26-year-old narrator is trying to figure out her life.

“She’s having a quarter-life crisis, as so many of us do,” Peplin said. “She has a lot of people in her ear. Her mom and dad are proud of her and want her to have that office job. She also has her roommate, this zany friend and artist, telling her to go ahead and take that trip, fly to Tokyo.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LARRY PEPLIN

Author Erica Peplin holds a copy of her newly released debut novel, “Work Nights,” which was in part inspired by her time working for The New York Times advertising department.

She has all these people in her ear and doesn’t know what to do.”

Peplin, who quit her sales job in 2016, spent 2017-18 writing the

novel, which is described by critics as a combination of “Big Little Lies” and “The Devil Wears Prada.” The protagonist is a young queer woman

who finds herself in a love triangle with an unattainable intern and a quick-tempered musician.

“The characters are

composites,” she said. “The book is narrated by Jane Grabowski. I tell people she’s the worst version of me. She’s mean, she lies, she has coffee stains all over her shirt. People who know me know that’s not me. I’m type A. I’m not a big drinker, but Jane will be at the bar with a whiskey on the rocks because she thinks it makes her look cool. She is the boldest version of me.

“And she’s lonely,” Peplin continued, “which was very true to life. I felt like an orphan in New York City. I grew up in Michigan. I was 22 when I moved to New York. I knew one person, a friend from Grosse Pointe South who was there, but she worked in tech; she was so busy I could never see her. I’d call home all the time. My mom and dad were so supportive. They really helped me find my way. All of that is in the book—the move to New York, feeling like an orphan because there’s no family there.

“... The first line in the book, I love the opening line: ‘I was a lonely piece of garbage. All I wanted was to be touched,’” she added. “She’s at work and there’s no one around to hug her. She’s been single a long time. And she’s queer; she dates women. She has a crush on an unattainable woman. She’s very unlucky in love.”

Peplin pointed out Jane’s sexuality is not a focal point of the book.

“Yes, she dates women, but that’s not the issue,” she said. “She has other issues. She’s not ashamed

What they’re saying

“Reading Erica Peplin’s sharp debut, I developed an ill-advised crush on Jane Grabowski, who has aversions both to monogamy and washing her hair but is so charming I willingly accompanied her to Midtown, Manhattan for hundreds of pages. I inhaled this book.”

—Anna Dorn, author of “Perfume & Pain”

“In smooth tangy sentences, Peplin asks the exact questions my friends stay up late discussing. How should we measure our days? What do we do when something—a job, a relationship, an apartment—is just bad enough to want to leave and just good enough to want to stay? A story to gobble up quickly and think about for ages.”

—Fiona Warnick, author of “The Skunks”

of who she is. It’s set in New York City in 2016. Obama is President. She’s not discriminated against. It’s a fresh perspective and it’s great to see it in literature nowadays.”

Peplin’s close relationship with her parents is mirrored in the love Jane has for her family.

“My parents are a big part of my life,” she said. “I used to call them even more in my 20s. Jane is constantly calling home; it’s comic relief. Like my parents, her parents are divorced, but they’re both zany and loving toward their daughter.

“Jane is proudly from Michigan,” she added. “She does make a trip home for the holidays. She rolls her eyes at the suburb where she’s from ... because she’s 26 and she knows everything;

See DEBUT, page 2B

Second annual Grosse Pointe Gathering is July 24

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Bill and Darrene Baer are busy preparing for the second annual Grosse Pointe Gathering, which will take place 6 to 9 p.m. Thursday, July 24, in the backyard of their home, 920 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Shores.

“We had a great response last year,” Darrene Baer said. “We want to grow it to be a yearly event that catches on for different causes at the hospital.”

Corewell Health Beaumont Grosse Pointe Hospital is the benefactor of the fundraiser, which will include cocktails, a tequila-tasting bar, a strolling dinner and live music from The Crasherz Band.

Since last year, \$1.1 million has been raised to

benefit the hospital’s Spiritual Care Endowed Fund in Honor of Fr. Richard Bartoszek.

“We’re doing it again to raise money for spiritual care in honor of Father Rich,” Baer said. “A lot of people came last year who were not connected to Corewell. They came to support Father Rich, who is so beloved. There’s a great following of people who’ve had great spiritual care provided by him.”

Bartoszek said he was grateful for last year’s large turnout and hopes to see the same support July 24.

“I’m grateful to the Baer family for opening their home to us,” he added. “And I’m most grateful to the philanthropic foundation for the establishment of the endowment for spiritual

care. We’re the only hospital in the area that has that. We continue to be a place not just where patients come, but the community as well.”

The endowment supports programs for patients, families, staff and the community.

“It’s crisis intervention, communication with caregivers, conflict resolution among patients and family, grief support and guidance, emotional and spiritual support for health care team members and more,” Baer said. “It goes beyond, ‘We’re praying for you.’”

“All patients, when they come in, are asked if they want to see a chaplain,” Bartoszek noted. “Volunteers go through every day. We minister to their sacramental needs, their emotional needs. Sometimes they don’t

want to see a chaplain. That’s OK; we’re not offended. It’s the same for spiritual care; the staff gets burned out. It takes a lot to care for the staff as well.

“... The fund pays for indigent people in the hospital,” he added. “We bury the dead. Or if there’s staff with no family, we support them as well. We also have five hospice rooms. When a patient is at end of life, the family can stay in the room. And we have a No One Dies Alone program as well. If someone is dying and has no one, volunteers come and sit with them.”

Education for chaplains also is covered through the fund.

“They have to be certified,” Bartoszek said. “... ”

See GATHER, page 2B



COURTESY PHOTO

Hosts Darrene and Bill Baer, with their dog, Panda.

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2B | FEATURES

41st annual Metro Detroit Youth Day takes place July 9

The 41st annual Metro Detroit Youth Day, sponsored by the Michigan Youth Appreciation Foundation, takes place 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 9, on Belle Isle. Thousands of youth, ages 8 to 15, are expected to participate in the many activities available during the state’s largest youth event.

From its roots as a movement for peace and unity in 1981, Metro Detroit Youth Day has evolved into a Detroit institution, drawing more than 20,000 young people each year, welcoming surprise celebrity guests and lighting up the city with a full day of sports, live performances, games and giveaways.

This year’s event features sports clinics with star athletes; the return of the Youth Idol Competition; live music and performances; hands-on activities in fitness, art and science; prizes and giveaways; College Row, where students can talk with college reps, students and mascots; a free lunch and more.

“Our mission has never changed,” said Ed Deeb, founder of Metro Detroit Youth Day and chairman of the Michigan Youth Appreciation Foundation. “It’s about giving our young people a day to shine, feel seen and dream bigger than ever. After 41 years, the energy is still electric and the need for connection, hope and opportunity has never been greater.”

Since its inception, Metro Detroit Youth Day has served more than 2.5 million youth and awarded more than 2,400 scholarships.

For more information or to register, volunteer or become a sponsor, visit metrodetroityouthday.org, email info@metrodetroityouthday.org or call (586) 774-4000.



Haunted Garage Productions once again is in the running for a Vote 4 The Best award.

PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Let’s hear it for Haunted Garage

Haunted Garage Productions in Grosse Pointe Farms once again is in the running for a Vote 4 The Best award.

The annual haunt, which attracts hundreds of guests throughout the month of October, is a

finalist in the Things to Do: Haunted House category.

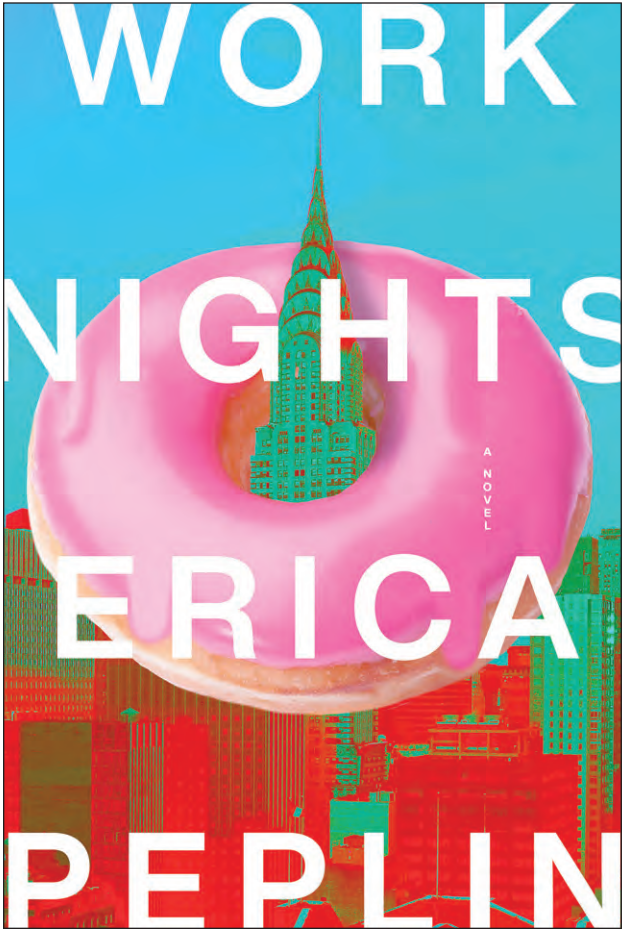
Other contest categories include food, drink and services/businesses, each of which is further broken into specific specialties.

Several Grosse Pointe businesses were named finalists for their food specialties, including Josef’s European Bakery — Bakery; SideStreet Diner — Breakfast; The Jagged Fork — Breakfast; Zestia — Gyro; Bucharest

Grill — Shawarma and The Charlevoix — Wings.

One vote per day may be cast at vote4thebest.clickondetroit.com. To participate, WDIV Insider registration is required.

Voting is open until Monday, July 21.



COURTESY PHOTO

Peplin will read from and sign copies of her novel, “Work Nights,” during an author event July 10, at Next Chapter Books.

DEBUT:

Continued from page 1B

she goes home and thinks it’s so boring — everybody’s lawn is perfect because that’s all they care about.”

Peplin authentically loves visiting her hometown. She fondly recalls selling books at Central Library and working at Cold Stone Creamery and Fresh Farms Market.

Despite her affinity for Grosse Pointe, Peplin has called Brooklyn home for 13 years. The 35-year-old said she no longer feels like an orphan in the Big Apple.

“It takes a long time to build up a community of friends, to stop getting lost on the train, to learn how to work the machines at the Laundromat,” she said.

“Work Nights” was published June 17, and Peplin said she was blown away by the great reviews it’s received.

“I hope all the people who read this take away different things from it,” she said. “I hope people see themselves in Jane in one way or another. I hope they see a love of human beings and of all the characters, even the ones that are shallow or mean. The characters change by the end of the novel. It shows that peo-

ple aren’t what you think they are, it’s important not to judge and it’s OK to not know how to live life sometimes.

“If I had read this book in high school or just coming out of high school, it would have meant a lot to read about a gay character,” she added. “I hope that’s something this book accomplishes.”

Peplin’s charm and wit are evident throughout the pages of “Work Nights,” which she described as “conversational, funny and accessible, which is important to me. I think it’s a book for people of all ages. My mom loves it, my dad loves it, their friends are reading it and they love it. ... It’s good for young people, too. Jane is a normal person talking about life and how she lives it.”

Peplin will read from “Work Nights” during an author event at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, July 10, at Next Chapter Books, 16555 E. Warren, Detroit. She also will be in conversation with Next Chapter owner, Sarah Williams, and sign copies of the book following the program.

The event is free and the public is welcome. Attendees will be eligible to win a copy of “Work Nights,” which also will be available for purchase.

The War Memorial presents a new summer series that brings Shakespeare’s timeless works to life in the great outdoors, paired with curated cocktails.

Shakespeare on the Rocks is presented in partnership with Shakespeare in Detroit, whose dynamic ensemble will deliver two evenings of drama, delight and drinks.

“The Tempest” will be per-

formed Thursday, July 10, and features cocktails inspired by the play’s characters, including Prospero, Ariel and Caliban.

“A Midsummer Night’s Dream” will be performed Thursday, Aug. 14, and also features character-inspired cocktails.

Each reading takes place on the Alger House terrace, with seating on the lakeside lawn.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and per-

formances begin at 7 p.m.

VIP tickets cost \$45 and include reserved seating in the first three rows, a themed cocktail or mocktail and a commemorative War Memorial cup. General Admission is \$15 and is first-come, first-served. Light refreshments will be available for purchase.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit warmemorial.org.

Pregnancy Aid presents to Lakeshore Optimist Club

Nancy Anter, executive director of Pregnancy Aid Detroit, returned as a guest speaker to the Lakeshore Optimist Club to provide an update on her organization. Pregnancy Aid is a 501(c)3 nonprofit Christian organization that aids expectant mothers. Services include pregnancy testing, counseling, material support and educational programs to promote health and well-being for the moms and their newborns.

Through donations from supporters, Pregnancy Aid provides maternity clothing, baby clothing and diapers to augment its testing and education services. Anter said Pregnancy Aid has a couple of goals: to increase traffic to its location and to open a second location. She also indicated the organization is in need of zero to three-month clothing especially for boy babies. For more information, visit pregnancyaiddetroit.org/index.

The Lakeshore Optimist Club meets the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 7:30 a.m. All are welcome to attend and learn what the club is about. For locations, dates and times each month, visit gpointimists.com/



COURTESY PHOTO

Lakeshore Optimist Club President Steve Licari and Pregnancy Aid Executive Director Nancy Anter.

GATHER:

Continued from page 1B

We want people who are sensitive to the needs of all people, without judgment, and walk with people on their journey.”

Bartoszek said he’s glad the community sees the importance of spiritual care in the hospital.

“Patients and staff walk a different path,” he said. “Our goal is to tend to everyone’s spiritual needs in that moment. It’s great that we’re seen in the system as an important part of the healing process.”

“Spirituality and faith are an important part of health and recovery,” Baer added. “... None of

us know when we’ll be in a situation when we’ll need spiritual care and support. We have it available when you come in, so it makes it really personal.”

The Baers are among the Corewell patients who’ve benefitted from the spiritual care they’ve received.

“My husband was in the hospital recently,” Baer said. “They prayed with him, talked with him. They made him feel special when he felt lousy. It’s amazing to feel that love in a sterile environment like a hospital.”

Bartoszek stressed the significance of offering such a program.

“People lead busy lives,” he said. “They

don’t think about their relationship with God until their health is challenged. All of a sudden, they realize they’re not here forever. They take a lot for granted in this life and health is one of those things. We take health for granted until we don’t have it. That turns people to prayer, to realize their priorities.

“... Funds will assist us for many years down the road, so our spiritual care will continue,” he added. “This fund is only for the Grosse Pointe hospital, not the system. It’s for what we do for the community and is only earmarked for Grosse Pointe.”

As for the July 24 event, the fundraising

committee includes Bartoszek, Anne and Christopher Blake, Kirk and Michelle Haggarty, Julie and Matt Kornmeier, Mary Naz and Theresa and Tony Selvaggio.

The host sponsors include the Baers, as well as Mary Kay and Keith Crain, Susan and George Haggarty, Marcia and Ed Russell and Molly and Mark Valade.

Event tickets start at \$300 and sponsorship opportunities are available. For more information or tickets, visit corewellhealth.org/grossepointegathering.

“It’s a fun event and it hits the hearts of many in the community,” Baer said.

BALLROOM!

This romantic dance style is once again sweeping the nation

By Donna Zetterlund
Special Writer

Blame it on “Dancing With the Stars” or a yearning for more elegance and romance in our lives, but ballroom dancing is piquing the interest of senior couples and singles in the Grosse Pointes and beyond. The mere idea of gliding on the dance floor, swaying to beautiful music, locked in an embrace just for fun — well that sounds really nice. With the tempting perk of wearing luxurious, glittering gowns and stately tuxes — all with shoes to match — and there’s something appealing about that in a world that has taken casual wear to its limits.

Lastly — the fact that it also counts as healthful exercise and this hobby checks all the boxes — what’s not to love?

Whether you need to brush up on your fancy footwork for an upcoming wedding or gala — or you would love to compete professionally — and everything in between — there are some fantastic options for trying (or mastering) this graceful skill.

Grosse Pointe happens to have its own ballroom dance club in The Villagers, a group whose members meet several times a year to enjoy a social connection, good music and the love of dance. Created in 1947 by four Grosse Pointe High School friends, the club has been together through many seasons, from when dancing was *the* weekend pastime to now, in these changing times where life offers many new distractions. It was headquartered first at the Lochmoor Club and they still hold a few occasional events at those original stomping grounds.

These days the club’s formal dances are held at various locations beginning with a cocktail hour, a plated meal and wrapping up with three hours of favorite tunes and dance moves. An Oct. 3 event with music by the Tommy James Band will be held at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club. They welcome dancers and non-dancers alike to take part in their elegant community gatherings that harken to a more genteel time.

Should an upscale white-glove experience sound like something to tickle your fancy, you just might want to cha cha over to see what fun The Villagers are enjoying together.

If beginner classes are more your thing, The Helm has you covered. Among The Helm’s wide variety of courses and activities, they offer ballroom dance classes on Tuesdays at 4:00 p.m. through August 5. The program is designed to teach basic ballroom dance steps and help attendees get comfortable with the rhythms. Participants will also learn hand and foot coordination, dance posture, basic turns and spins.

It’s a great course to take with your main squeeze to wow your circle at the next event — but don’t let flying solo be your reason not to foxtrot. Anyone who shares your interest as a dance partner, including pals and relatives, would be a fun pairing for this learning experience. There may be other singles in the class that you can practice with as well, so don’t be shy.

Another option: Arthur Murray Dance Studios are the standard for ballroom dance — and this year the Pointes will get their very own location on Mack Ave. in Grosse Pointe Woods. The owners are putting the finishing touches on the building interiors in eager anticipation of those first few footsteps. Their sign is up and photos on their Facebook page show an enormous light wood dance floor, just waiting for twirling, swirling and two-stepping. Stay tuned.

For those who decide they *really* love it, there are many opportunities to dance competitively. There are over a hundred dance competitions and championship events across the country each year. Michigan offers the the Michigan Dance Challenge every March. But you certainly don’t have to be championship-level to enjoy this form of dance.

There are many dance styles under the label of ballroom, such as the Rumba, Mambo, Waltz, Tango and Quickstep, just to name a few. One might inspire you to give it a try.

And if nothing else, it’s a great excuse to strap on a pair of fabulous shoes. Enjoy!



Where to dance...

DANCE CLASSES

THE HELM

Boll Life Center

158 Ridge Rd, Grosse Pointe Farms

(313) 882-9600

helmlife.org/programs

BALLROOM DANCE CLUB

THE VILLAGERS

Grosse Pointe

(313) 331-1629

thevillagersgp@gmail.com

COMING SOON !

ARTHUR MURRAY DANCE STUDIO

20507 Mack Ave.

Grosse Pointe Woods

(313) 569-7775

arthurmurraygrossepointe.com



Second Time Around

By Margie Reins Smith

T-shirts, turtlenecks and olo

I counted my T-shirts recently. OMG — I own 26 T-shirts. Eight of them are white! I own at least a dozen shades of my favorite color — Bermuda blue, sapphire blue, twilight blue, navy blue, periwinkle, turquoise, aqua, blue-green. I also have every other color imaginable — red, black, yellow, green, pink, etc. T-shirts are a wardrobe staple. Everybody has T-shirts. They’re relatively cheap and can be worn dozens of different ways for dozens of different occasions. Sharon

Stone wore a black T-shirt to the Oscars in 1996 and it made red carpet history. But I’m not going to the Oscars and now that I’m a senior citizen, 26 T-shirts is too many. Among the eight whites, one has a ripped sleeve seam; another has a stain that refuses to be erased no matter how many times I launder it; another has floppy, floppy sleeves; another is too short; another too tight; another too saggy and baggy. I keep all these sub-standard shirts thinking I’ll wear them when I have to spend the day

cleaning the basement or weeding the garden or bathing the dog or scrubbing the garage floor. I’ve lived in a senior community the last three years. I no longer have a basement or a garden or a dog. And I never, ever in my life scrubbed a garage floor. So I threw the most disreputable shirts away and vowed never to buy another T-shirt until somebody invents a new color. Eureka! Within a few weeks, I read an article about the invention (discovery?) of a new color. Scientists have introduced a brand-new color

which they named “olo.” A recent article in the journal, Science Advances, quoted Ren Ng, an electrical engineer at the University of California, Berkeley, who was one of the few who actually saw olo. He described the new color as “a blue-green of unprecedented saturation. It was jaw-dropping,” he said. “It’s incredibly saturated.” I have every other shade of blue. I need an olo T-shirt. I vowed years ago never to buy another T-shirt or sweatshirt with writing on it. I threw away all the

shirts from places I visited. Frankly, I now see they were actually a subtle form of bragging. They proved I’d been to Key West, Cape Cod, Mackinac Island, Martha’s Vineyard and so on and so on. I gave most of them away or tossed them. I have other saved clothing items even though I know I’ll never wear them again. The golden rule for clothing, as I remember, is: If you haven’t worn it in three years, give it away or throw it out. I have six pairs of high heels I haven’t worn for the last six or seven years. I’ll not wear them again because I’m afraid I’ll fall and break something important, like a bone or a nose or a tooth. The dress I wore in one of my daughters’ weddings no longer fits, but it swings gently in the back of my closet on its padded satin hanger, protected by a clear plastic bag. I have several bathing suits that only

point out my many figure faults. I own jeans in sizes too small and too big — just in case I gain or lose weight. I have clothing in unflattering colors that make me look sallow and sick and sad, like I’ve been living underground, mining coal or cultivating mushrooms. I have a drawer full of pantyhose I’ve kept since several years before the pandemic. Apparently, pantyhose deteriorate as they age. I wore a pair recently and discovered, firsthand, that the elastic in the waistband fails first. Trust me. As the day wore on, the panty part of the pantyhose crept down and required frequent visits to secluded places so I could hike them up to the proper level. Out with the pantyhose and the grubby T-shirts. I’m going to tackle turtleneck shirts next. I’ve counted 16 so far, but several are in the laundry hamper. When olo is available — either in a T or a turtle — I want one.

Cooking for One at The Helm

When a household downsizes, one of the most difficult things to do is adjust meal planning and cooking. Going from cooking for four or five or six to cooking for one can seem overwhelming (recipes aren’t always easily cut in half or quarters), wasteful (made too much again) and not worth the effort (why invest the time for one or two people?). If these thoughts have ever crossed your mind, come to The Helm for a six-week course on

Cooking for One. Each week, Community Nutrition Instructor Lindsey Wondra will provide tips to cook for one on a budget, teach how to



cook simple and enjoyable meals for one, food safety basics and tips and tricks to making healthy choices on a budget. She’ll help home cooks solve cooking-for-one problems and concerns to make cooking enjoyable again. Cooking for One classes take place 11 a.m. to noon Wednesdays, July 9 to Aug. 13, at The Helm. The classes are free, but registration is required. Register at helmlife.org or by calling (313) 882-9600.

AREA ACTIVITIES

Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:
◆ 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, July 3, Pointe Fitness, 19556 Harper, Harper Woods.
◆ Noon to 6 p.m. Tuesday, July 8, St. Paul Lutheran Church, 375 Lothrop, Grosse Pointe Farms.
◆ 1 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 16, Jefferson Masonic Lodge No. 553, 22000 E. 11 Mile, St. Clair Shores.
◆ 7:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Friday, July 18, Henry Ford St. John Hospital, 22101 Moross, Detroit.
◆ 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Friday, July 18, Grosse Pointe Woods Community Center, 20025 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.
Register at redcross blood.org.

Library

The Grosse Pointe Public Library hosts a variety of programs. To register for the following, visit grossepointelibrary.org.
◆ All branches closed Friday, July 4, and Saturday, July 5.
◆ Tiny Art Supply Pick Up, all day Monday, July 7, at all three branches.
◆ Monday Art with Mari, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Monday, July 7, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.
◆ Meet Up & Make, 2 to 3 p.m. Monday, July 7, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.
◆ Read, Rhyme & Play, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, July 8, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.
◆ Read, Rhyme & Play, 11 to 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, July 8, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.
◆ Summer STEM: Color Science-Session 1, 2 to 3 p.m. Tuesday, July 8, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.
◆ Summer STEM: Color Science-Session 2, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 8, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.
◆ STEM Art, 10 to 11 a.m. Wednesday, July 9, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.
◆ Storytime, 10:30 to

11 a.m. Wednesday, July 9, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.
◆ Im-Prompt-Tu Reads, 11 a.m. to noon Wednesday, July 9, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.
◆ Storytime, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Thursday, July 10, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.
◆ Tiny Art Workshop, 2 to 3 p.m. Thursday, July 10, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

The Helm

The Helm at the Boll Life Center, 158 Ridge, Grosse Pointe Farms, offers a variety of classes and programs. Registration is required at (313) 882-9600 for the following:
◆ Drums Alive for Seniors, 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Thursdays in July. Cost is \$7 for members, \$10 for guests.
◆ Zumba Gold Chair, 1 to 2 p.m. Tuesdays, July 8 to Sept. 23, with instructor Sheila Gerard. Cost is \$7 per class for members, \$10 per class for guests.
◆ Cooking for One, 11 a.m. to noon Wednesdays, July 9 to Aug. 13, with instructor Lindsey Wondra.
◆ Zumba Gold, 1 to 2 p.m. Thursdays, July 10 to Sept. 25, with instructor Sheila Gerard. Cost is \$7 per class for members, \$10 per class for guests.
◆ AARP Smart Driver Tek, 10 to 11:30 a.m. Friday, July 11, with instructor Roger Doster.
◆ The film, “Your Friend, Nate Bargatze,” is shown at noon Friday, July 11. Cost is \$3 for members, \$5 for guests, and includes snacks.
◆ Jelly Jar Basket Making, noon to 4 p.m. Tuesday, July 15, with instructor Deb. VanderLinde. Cost is \$60 for members, \$65 for guests.
◆ Spanish for Beginners, 6 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays, July 15 to Aug. 19, with instructor Dr. Randi Lou Franklin. Cost is \$35 for members, \$40 for guests.
The War Memorial
The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, offers programs and activities for the com-

munity. For information on the following, visit warmemorial.org
◆ Silent Book Club, 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, July 8.
◆ Shakespeare on the Rocks: “The Tempest,” 7 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, July 10. General admission is \$15. VIP tickets are \$45.
◆ Summer Beer & Wine Soiree on the Bay, 2 to 6 p.m. Sunday, July 13. Cost is \$60 general admission, \$75 VIP, \$150 all-inclusive.
◆ DIA Inside-Out community lecture, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, July 15.

Rotary

The Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe hosts a picnic at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 9, at Pier Park, 350 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Email grossepointe rotary@gmail.com.

Ford House

The Edsel & Eleanor Ford House, 1100 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Shores, offers the following programs:
◆ Storytime: “Maybe Something Beautiful,” 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays in July.
◆ Gardens & Recreation Guided Tour, 11 a.m. Tuesdays through Sundays in July.
◆ Cocktails with Collections, 6 p.m. Thursday, July 10. Tickets for Friend of Ford House are \$35.
◆ Explorers: Wetland Animals, 10 to 11 a.m. Saturday, July 12. Cost is \$7.
◆ Once Upon a Tea: Emerald City Tea Party, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Saturday, July 12. Ticket prices vary.
◆ Art Camp, for ages 12 to 15, 1 to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, July 14 to 18. Cost is \$200 for members, \$250 for the public.
For tickets and information, visit fordhouse.org.

Community Chorus

The Grosse Pointe Community Chorus presents its second annual Notes & Nibbles event 5 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, July 29, at St. Michael’s Episcopal Church, 20475 Sunningdale Park, Grosse Pointe Woods. Registration is open for singers old and new. All will be treated to food and drink while singing new music. Register before July 15 online at grossepointecommunitychorus.org.

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

OBITUARIES

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

Nancy Beel Boos

Nancy Beel Boos passed away peacefully Friday, May 2, 2025. The owner of the Frank H. Boos Gallery in Bloomfield Hills, Nancy is survived by her children, Jonathan (Sheri), Alexandra (John) and Kristina; stepson, Christopher (Geraldine); grandchildren, Jonathan Jr., Lauren and Christian; and step-grandchildren, Shelby, Marcus, Max and Eric.

Family will receive friends Saturday, July 12, from 1 p.m. until the Celebration of Life at 2 p.m., at A.J. Desmond & Sons (Vasu, Rodgers and Connell Chapel), 32515 Woodward, Royal Oak.

View the full obituary at ajdesmond.com.

Gwendolyn Mary Judson

Gwendolyn “Gwen” Mary Judson, 84, a longtime resident of Grosse Pointe Farms, passed away Tuesday, Feb. 4, 2025.

Gwendolyn was born June 19, 1940. She lived a life devoted to family, faith and community. Her gentle warmth and loving spirit touched all who knew her, leaving behind cherished memories of comfort and joy. Gwendolyn met her beloved husband, Arthur “Art” Edward Judson, at a gala event at the United States Military Academy at West Point. Their enduring love led to

decades of marriage until Art’s passing. Their family finds comfort in knowing they are now reunited.

As a devoted mother and homemaker, Gwen poured her heart into raising her three sons, Jason, Jeffrey and John, and creating a household filled with love and laughter. She was renowned for her homemade cinnamon rolls, a beloved family tradition that brought her children and grandchildren together with anticipation and delight. Gwen also had a passion for needlepoint, crafting beautiful pieces that became treasured family heirlooms, and teaching her loved ones the values of patience and generosity.

Beyond her home, Gwen was dedicated to community service and volunteered for years with the Christ Child Society. Her compassion and commitment touched many lives through charity drives, mentoring and fundraising, reflecting her belief in giving back and helping those in need. Gwendolyn’s greatest pride was her family, including her six adored grandchildren, Jamie, Justine, Jeffrey, Loren (affectionately nicknamed “Andie”), Mary (fondly known as “Maizy”) and Paige, whom she showered with love and attended every milestone with pride.

In honoring Gwendolyn’s memory,

her family encourages others to celebrate her life in personal, meaningful ways. While her physical presence will be deeply missed, her legacy of love and kindness will forever guide and inspire those who knew her.

Elaine Marie Leslie

Elaine Marie Leslie, 88, of St. Clair Shores, passed away Sunday, June 22, 2025, at Sunrise on Vernier in Grosse Pointe Woods.

Elaine was born Dec. 6, 1936, in Detroit, to Leonard Kachnowski and Jane Burski Kachnowski, both now deceased. She attended Wayne State University, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1972. She worked for the city of Detroit as a principal urban development specialist.

Elaine was active in several clubs and organizations, including the Detroit Institute of Arts Gallery Services, Dominican Literacy Center, the Ushers Club and Altar Society at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, Phi Beta Kappa and Mensa. She also taught English as a second language, was an usher for the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and served as treasurer of the Grosse Pointe Woman’s Connection.

An avid reader, Elaine was a member of several book clubs and enjoyed studying scripture, sewing, in-line rollerblading and playing tennis.

Elaine is survived by her husband, Gregory Leslie; sons, John Komlos and Michael Komlos; and brother, Robert Wolf.

A memorial gathering takes place 4 to 8 p.m. Thursday, July 10, at Verheyden Funeral Home, 16300 Mack, Grosse Pointe Park.

Visitation begins at 9:30 a.m. until the funeral Mass at 10 a.m. Friday, July 11, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, followed by her inurnment at the St. Paul columbarium.

Memorials in Elaine’s honor may be made to the Capuchins, csk.detroit.org.



Nancy Beel Boos



Gwendolyn Mary Judson



Elaine Marie Leslie



Michael Peter Reardon



David Johnson



Leon John Trumbauer

Michael Peter Reardon

Michael Peter Reardon, 89, of Grosse Pointe Woods, passed away peacefully Friday, May 9, 2025.

Michael was born Feb. 28, 1936, in Newton, Mass., to James Gerard Reardon and Anita Thorndike Carleton. He served in the U.S. Air Force.

A funeral for Michael takes place Tuesday, July 15, at the U.S. Air Force Academy Cemetery in Colorado Springs, Colo.

David Johnson

Longtime Grosse Pointe Woods resident David Johnson, 90, passed away Wednesday, June 25, 2025.

David is survived by his wife, Mary; children, Steve (Laura), Martha Gardner and Stu (Carrie); and grandchildren, Neal, Kyle (Bryn) and Megan (Drew) Paz, and Drew (Allie) and Nikki Johnson.

David graduated from Beloit College, where he was a member of the Buccaneers varsity basketball team, while majoring in art and art history. He was an honest, hard-working and family-oriented man who passed those traits on to his children.

As a 6-foot-8-inch elementary school principal, he towered above the young students. Each year the kids were eager to see the unveiling of his home-crafted Halloween costumes. He was loved by the community and the family rarely could enjoy a meal out without a parent or former student politely interrupting to express thanks for some positive impact he had made.

David was an enthusiastic planner who found ways to bring plans to life. While on a single income, he took his young family on road trips to both coasts, visiting campgrounds, national parks and ocean beaches. The travel bug carried on later in life as he enjoyed ElderHostels on a wide variety of subjects, including birding trips to both coasts and from Canada to Costa Rica.

David was a 60-year member of Grosse Pointe Congregational Church, where his father had been a minister, and a 30-year member of The Players Club of Detroit on East Jefferson. When not reading The New

Yorker, he enjoyed woodworking and gardening.

Visitation will be held 4 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, July 8, at A. H. Peters Funeral Home, 20705 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods. A funeral service takes place 11 a.m. Wednesday, July 9, at Grosse Pointe Congregational Church, 240 Chalfonte in Grosse Pointe Farms.

Leon John Trumbauer

Leon John Trumbauer, 76, of Grosse Pointe Park, passed away Tuesday, June 24, 2025, due to a heart attack on his way to watch a Detroit Tigers baseball game, one of his favorite pastimes. He loved baseball and never missed watching a game on TV.

Leon was born Dec. 6, 1948, in Detroit, to Valentine and Milton J. “Jack” Trumbauer of St. Clair Shores.

He loved and lived life to its fullest and seized any adventure presented to him, starting with his love of the water. He learned to swim in Lake St. Clair the same time he learned to walk. At age 5, he already was competing locally at the Detroit chapter of the American Turners Club and in AAU (Amateur Athletic Union) races.

His love for the water remained strong when he and his family were on vacation, frequently taking his beloved dogs to the lake, swimming, relaxing by the water and kayaking. He loved to share stories about crossing the ocean in a sailboat he owned with friends. He also obtained his pilot license and owned a plane with his friends in college.

An early reader, Leon studied at both public and parochial schools like St. Isaac Jogues. His cousins, Bobbie Ann and Billy Krueger, often ferried him to school in their old car, fondly known as “The Bomb.” He hitchhiked rides to Austin Preparatory School, from which he graduated before attending the University of Michigan, where he obtained a degree in psychology.

Leon loved tennis and played almost daily. He was president of the Grosse Pointe Senior Men’s Tennis Club and responsible for securing tennis courts and planning events, such as tennis tournaments, large informal parties and the ever-anticipated Christmas party. He also was a member of the

Indian Village Tennis Club and served on the bar committee, working closely with vendors to pursue and share his passion for wine and craft beer. One club member said Leon ensured that everything from tennis balls to tennis schedules were done in an organized and timely manner.

Leon was outgoing, personable and able to make friends and connections wherever he went. He often ran into people he had met and made an impression on years ago who were thrilled to see him.

Leon was a successful salesman at Art Van Furniture and frequently was honored by membership in The President’s Club, reserved for the company’s top salesman. In retirement, he volunteered weekly to deliver Meals on Wheels and planted daffodils at Belle Isle every year. He also cared deeply about state politics and became involved in a successful referendum leading to a process that created a redistricting commission. He frequented the Detroit Institute of Arts, exercising his passion for the arts, including paintings, architecture, jazz, opera and classical music.

Leon leaves behind his beloved wife of 43 years, Gail Ann Driver; daughter, Jessica Lee Kemerer (Bill); son, Ross Trumbauer (Karianne); and beloved grandson, Liam Kemerer.

He loved his sister, Diane Masucci (Nick); brothers, Mark (Kathy), Jeffrey and Raymond; nieces, Sophia Lennox (daughter, Lara) and Marielle Trumbauer; goddaughter, Deborah Masucci; and nephews, Zack Trumbauer (Samantha) and Ben Masucci (Nicole). He cherished his best friend, Tony Pellerito, and his dog, Sadie, who was his constant companion.

Leon had many close friends, including members of the Grosse Pointe Senior Men’s Tennis Club and Indian Village Tennis Club, most notably Jim and Ruth Harvey and Marty Peters and Kathy Walsh. He will be missed terribly by those who knew him.

In lieu of flowers or gifts, donations in Leon’s name are requested to the Michigan Humane Society, michiganhumane.org.

A memorial service is planned and details will be announced at a later date.

See OBITs, page 7B

In loving memory of

Roy Edward Figurski

MAY 29, 1947 - JULY 3, 2024



Gone, but never to be forgotten.

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OBITS:

Continued from page 6B

David Paul Letscher

David Paul Letscher, 77, passed away peacefully Saturday, June 21, 2025, at his home in Grosse Pointe Farms.

Born Sept. 16, 1947, in Sharon, Pa., Dave grew up and spent most of his life in Grosse Pointe, including attending grade school and high school at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic School, where he was an outstanding student-athlete and class leader. He then attended John Carroll University and served as president of the University Club, as well as defensive end on the football team, further cementing a belief that competition brings out the best in people.

After five years as a school teacher, Dave earned his builder’s license and began a four-decade career as a well-respected general contractor, leaving his mark in both the residential and commercial space in Southeast Michigan.

Devoted to his family, Dave loved holidays, special occasions and Michigan football games filled with immediate and extended family. He never missed any of his children’s games and often provided a well-timed piece of advice that helped them level-up on the field or in life.

He relished his many friendships. A day spent golfing with friends, a cigar, a cold beer and laughter in the clubhouse was perfect. In his later years, he frequently gave his time to advance the work of The Helm, a Grosse Pointe-based service organization that helps care for senior citizens. He insisted that any birthday or holiday gift for him be in the form of a donation to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

The true love of Dave’s life was his wife, Kathy. After an inauspicious start to their relationship — Dave “accidentally” ripped her jacket in kindergarten — they eventually began dating their senior year at St Paul. After four years apart while attending different universities, they married and spent the next 56 years by each other’s side. Dave’s devotion to Kathy never flagged, nor did hers for him, and they provided a loving and enduring example of marriage to all their children and grandchildren.

Dave was predeceased by his parents, Edward and Helen Letscher, as well as his older brother, Richard Letscher. He is survived by his beloved wife, Katherine Letscher (nee Moxley); sons, Matthew, Brian and Aaron; daughters-in-law, Jennifer Price-Letscher, Amy Bishop and Heather Zarnett-Letscher; cherished grandchildren, Luke, Nick, Lucy, Shea, Devyn and Aidan; siblings, Dr. Joslen Letscher and Michael Letscher; and sisters-in-law, Mary Letscher and Veronica Letscher.

Dave will be missed dearly by family and friends, and forever in their hearts.

A memorial service followed by a reception will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, July 11, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the



David Paul Letscher

causes close to Dave’s heart, including The Helm at the Boll Life Center, helmlife.org; St. Jude’s Pediatric Hospital, stjude.org; Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson’s Research, michaeljfox.org; Solanus Casey Center, thecapuchins.org; and Wounded Warrior Project, woundedwarriorproject.org.

Richard M. Ortwein

Richard M. “Dick” Ortwein, 84, passed away peacefully Monday, June 2, 2025, in Newport Beach, Calif., after a courageous battle with Parkinson’s disease. He was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, naval officer and business and community leader.

Dick was born April 14, 1941, in Detroit, to Marvin and Marie Ortwein. He was raised alongside his sister, Joanne, and carried with him the strong values of faith, family and service.

Dick proudly graduated from the United States Naval Academy in June 1963, and served with distinction in the U.S. Navy. He completed three tours of duty during the Vietnam War aboard the destroyer USS Ingersoll. While stationed in San Diego, he met his future wife, Sheila, and the two were married in 1969. Their 56-year marriage was built on love, respect and a commitment to family and community.

Following his military service, Dick transitioned to the commercial real estate industry where he became a respected and influential leader in southern California. He served as president of Koll Development Co., and cofounder of Focus Real Estate. Dick played a key role in shaping the region’s real estate development landscape with vision and excellence, earning a reputation as a thoughtful and ethical leader.

Beyond his professional achievements, Dick was deeply committed to giving back. He was an active force in health care philanthropy, serving as president of the Orange County chapter of the American Red Cross and as a member of the board of directors and chairman of the board for Hoag Memorial Hospital in Newport Beach. During his tenure, Dick oversaw major expansions of the hospital’s facilities, leaving a lasting impact on the community.

Dick shared his knowledge and experience with future generations as an adjunct professor in the Master of Real Estate Development program at the University of Southern California. He was a mentor to many and was admired for his unwavering integrity, thoughtful guidance and esteemed reputation.

In his personal life, Dick was known for his warmth, loyalty and sense of humor. He cher-



Richard M. Ortwein

ished spending time with his family, especially traveling together. Dick often said life is a collection of experiences and he lived by that belief, always encouraging others to try new things and embrace the unfamiliar. He shared that spirit with his family through countless adventures across the U.S. and abroad, creating lasting memories and a legacy of curiosity and joy.

He is lovingly remembered by his devoted wife, Sheila; sister, Joanne Grierson; and children, Stephanie (Paul), Michael (Ashley), David (Cynthia) and Brian (Kathryn). His legacy lives on in his treasured grandchildren, Lawson, Kathryn, Caden, Charley, Liam, Wesley and Evan. His integrity, kindness and commitment to others will continue to live on in the lives he touched.

Dick was buried at Miramar National Cemetery in San Diego. A public celebration of life will take place at 11 a.m. Thursday, July 31, at St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church in Newport Beach.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorial donations be made to the Hoag Hospital Foundation, 330 Placentia, Ste. 100, Newport Beach, CA 92663, give.hoag.org/s/give.

Lawrence Roy Marantette

Lawrence “Larry” Roy Marantette, 75, passed away suddenly Friday, June 27, 2025, at home and surrounded by his family.

Larry was born Nov. 19, 1949, in Detroit. He was raised in Grosse Pointe. Larry is survived by his beloved wife of 50 years, Carol (nee Couzens); children, Maryann Listman (Robert), Larry Jr., Paul (Christina) and Peter (Carmen); and cherished grandchildren, Alexandria, Colin, Theodore and Pia. He also is survived by his brothers, Thomas (Bonnie) and Carter (Kathy), along with a large extended family of cousins, nieces and nephews. Larry was predeceased by his parents, Mary Lou and David; sister, Ann, and brother, David.

Larry was a proud graduate of University of Detroit Jesuit High School. He attended Georgetown University, where he earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees in economics. As a student, he was a dedicated member of the Georgetown Crew Team, serving as coxswain for the varsity squad as well as being asked to join the U.S. National Team. He later earned an MBA in finance from the University of Michigan.

Larry was a lifelong advocate and visionary for the people and communities of the city of Detroit, serving through a variety of organizations, including ANR Pipeline,



Lawrence R. Marantette

as the founding president and CEO of the Greater Downtown Partnership and co-owner of Taktix Solutions. Larry also served on the board of directors at the Detroit Athletic Club and was active with United Way, Detroit Regional Chamber and The 100 Club.

Larry treasured spending time with Carol, talking about his kids’ accomplishments and sharing the latest updates about his grandchildren. He especially enjoyed spending time with the family in Harbor Springs, as well as hosting Sunday dinners.

Visitation will take place from 2 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, July 9, at Chas. Verheyden Inc., 16300 Mack, Grosse Pointe Park, with a rosary at 7 p.m. He will lie in state at 11:30 a.m. Thursday, July 10, until the funeral Mass at noon at Sts. Peter and Paul Jesuit Church, 438 St. Antoine, Detroit.

Share a memory at verheyden.org.

Carole Jatkoe Peabody

Carole Jatkoe Peabody, 92, passed away peacefully Friday, June 20, 2025, after celebrating her 92nd birthday with her family out on the town June 7.

Carole was born June 7, 1933, in Detroit, to Walter and Victoria Jatkoe. She was raised in Grosse Pointe. After losing her mother at age 15, she formed an especially close bond with her father.

Carole attended Convent of the Sacred Heart in Grosse Pointe Farms from early childhood through high school graduation. The Sacred Heart nuns, known as “mother,” became loving surrogate mothers to her, shaping her values and spiritual foundation for life.

Carole then attended Barat College of the Sacred Heart in Lake Forest, Ill., for one year. She later returned home to attend the University of Detroit, where she met the love of her life, Robert “Bob” Peabody. They were married September 1957, in Grosse Pointe Farms, and raised three children together.

Carole and Bob adored their children and loved family gatherings, as well as entertaining their friends. They were known for their warmth



Carole Jatkoe Peabody

and hospitality and frequently hosted elegant and fun cocktail and dinner parties. They especially loved spending time in Florida at the family-owned Bellevue-Biltmore Hotel and at their condominium in Clearwater.

Carole’s beloved husband passed away at age 52. Following his passing, Carole worked at Persnickety Pedlar boutique, which was owned by a close friend. She also sold Carlisle clothing in her home, sharing her sense of fashion and style, and helped plan the weddings of many happy couples.

When Convent of the Sacred Heart was ordered to close in 1969, Carole, along with her dear friend and classmate, Toni Robinson, rallied friends, benefactors, teachers and staff to establish The Grosse Pointe Academy in the former buildings and grounds of the convent. The school remains today, Catholic in its history and Christian in its foundation. Carole also helped found the school’s annual fundraiser, the Action Auction, to support school programs and scholarships. It remains a beloved event to this day.

Carole was a talented cook and gardener and devoted her time and leadership to many organizations, including as founding and lifetime trustee of The Grosse Pointe Academy and president of the Tau Beta Association. She also was on the Women’s Committee at the Detroit Institute of Arts and involved with the DIA’s Friends of Art & Flowers, as well as the Grosse Pointe Garden Club, Grosse Pointe Farm and Garden Club, Junior League of Detroit, Junior League of Detroit Gardeners, the gift shop at Bon Secours Hospital (now Henry Ford Cottage Hospital) and The Children of Mary.

Carole was known for her signature dishes, including Peabody deviled eggs, Peabody “cheese things,” caviar pie and duck a l’orange, the recipes for which she would never share.

Carole is survived by her children, Robert Jr., Elizabeth (Peter R. Rentschler Jr.) and Brian (Paige Dotson); grandchildren, Peter III and Grace Rentschler, Caroline, Robert III, Collette and Collin Peabody, and Charlotte, Brian Jr. and Christian



Judith Lee Buchanan

Peabody; and great-grandchildren, Graham and Hugh Rentschler. She was predeceased by her husband; daughter, Tracey Anne Peabody, who passed away in 1964; and daughter-in-law, Annie Kraker, who passed away in 1999.

A funeral Mass will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, July 16, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Memorial donations may be made to The Grosse Pointe Academy, 117 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236, gpacademy.org/giving; Tau Beta Association, 15810 Lakeview, Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230, bit.ly/4l44q6f; or Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward, Detroit, MI 48202, dia.org/support/donate.

Judith Lee Buchanan

Judith Lee Buchanan (nee Weiss) passed away peacefully Thursday, June 19, 2025.

Judy was born in Detroit to Stanley and Doraine Weiss. She attended St. Clare Catholic School, Dominican High School and the University of Detroit, where she met her husband, John A. “Al” Buchanan. They married and moved to Grosse Pointe Park.

For many years, Judy was an elementary school teacher in the East Detroit School District. She and Al traveled extensively and later co-owned Leigh Willmore Travel in Grosse Pointe.

After retiring, they moved to Bonita Springs, Fla., where they enjoyed golf and friendships at Palmira Golf Club. After Al died, Judy moved to Lakeshore Senior Living in St. Clair Shores, where she was close to family and many longtime friends — some since grade school.

A funeral Mass will take place Friday, July 11, at St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church, 1401 Whittier, Grosse Pointe Park. Friends and family are welcome at 10 a.m. with Mass at 11 a.m.

In her memory, the family suggests donations to the Pope Francis Center, 2915 W. Hancock, Detroit, MI 48208, popefrancis-center.org.

Arrangements were entrusted to Chas. Verheyden Inc.

See OBITS, page 8B

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9:30 a.m. - Worship Service
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OBITS:

Continued from page 7B

Robert H. “Bob” Lees Jr.

Robert H. “Bob” Lees Jr., 92, passed away Thursday, June 19, 2025. He was a longtime Chrysler engineer, passionate car enthusiast and beloved husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather.

Born in Washington, D.C., Bob served in the U.S. Army Artillery from 1953 to 1955, before earning a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from George Washington University.

While living in D.C., Bob met his loving and devoted wife, Judy. On their first date, Bob took Judy to look at classic Corvettes. That first date was a preview of their 65 years of traveling to purchase cars, attend car shows and participate in shows and parades.

Bob married Judy in September 1959. Three girls — Pam, Tricia and Robyn — quickly followed. Bob then followed his passion for cars to the Motor City to work for Chrysler for 37 years. They settled in Grosse Pointe, where they made lifelong friends through the Grosse Pointe Newcomers Club, their church, car clubs and close neighbors. Bob earned an MBA from Wayne State University after attending night school while working, raising his girls and pursuing anything related to cars and speed.

At Chrysler, Bob held a wide range of engineering and management roles. He started in the parts division and moved into industrial and competitive analysis before becoming operations manager in vehicle development. There, he oversaw nationally recognized projects for police and taxi fleets, collaborated with Carroll Shelby on performance vehicles and led engineering efforts that supported Chrysler’s reputation for innovation and muscle. After retiring in 1988, Bob returned for 13 more years as a contractor, helping prepare Chrysler vehicles for export to international markets.

Bob often blended his love for cars with his love for family. He brought Judy or his daughters along on Sears trips to buy tools, retrieve one of his cars from garages all over Detroit or travel



Robert H. Lees Jr.

cross-country to purchase another classic car. He later shared his love for cars with his grandsons, Ryan, Graham and Jackson, including taking them to see his car in the Woodward Cruise and giving them rides in his ’Cuda convertible. He became a grandfather again to Anabel and Audrey and traveled to California to be a part of their lives. Bob and Judy thought nothing of driving 12 hours to attend a family reunion, holiday celebration or their grandchildren’s birthdays and graduations.

Every summer, the family gathered at the house in Cape May, N.J., where Bob taught all his children and grandchildren how to body surf or catch the best wave. He also became a great-grandfather to Duke and Grayson and, more recently, to Minnie.

In retirement, Bob remained deeply involved with the Society of Automotive Engineers, serving on its Mobility History Committee and chairing the Detroit section. In 2002, he helped lead the volunteer effort to build a replica of the Ramchargers’ High & Mighty II, a drag-racing 1949 Plymouth that set records in the 1950s. The project was a fitting tribute to Bob’s collaborative spirit and lifelong commitment to automotive innovation. As he traveled to car shows to display the Ramcharger, Judy was right by his side selling T-shirts as a good sport and devoted wife to the very end. Bob will be remembered by all who knew him for his warmth, wit, unwavering devotion to family and the joy he found in roaring engines, meticulous craftsmanship and the open road.

Bob will be buried with military honors in Arlington National Cemetery in 2026. Memorial donations may be made to the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson’s Research, P.O. Box 4777, New York, NY 10163, bit.ly/4nwSyLW.

Two calls for artwork

Posterity Gallery is putting out a call for artists for It Takes a Village and the Art Takeover Project 2025.

For the second year, Main Street Grosse Pointe is hosting the public art display, It Takes a Village, which will be installed around Kressbach Fountain in downtown Grosse Pointe. Artists are invited to interpret the meaning of “community” and what it takes to create a welcoming, inclusive and cultural downtown district.

The deadline is Thursday, July 17. Entry is free and selected artists will receive a stipend of \$100. They will have four weeks to complete a 14-by-14-inch framed panel. The panel and frame will be supplied by Posterity Gallery.

Works will be displayed for one year.

The Art Takeover Project is a walkable, month-long art exhibition that spans six blocks of The Village. The annual event takes place the month of September, during which visitors may vote for their favorite displays and participate in a scavenger hunt for prizes. Last year’s event hosted 84 local artists in 35 businesses across The Village.

Entry is \$35 and the submission deadline is Thursday, July 31. Artists and businesses will be paired at the end of July and have the month of August to brainstorm and create a display.

For more information, visit posterityartgallery.com or call (313) 884-8105.

Rotary passes gavel to new president

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

The Grosse Pointe Rotary Club recently hosted its Passing of the Gavel ceremony and dinner at the Grosse Pointe Club, celebrating the accomplishments of its outgoing president, Neil Sroka, and welcoming incoming president, Jackie Dale.

Rotary International District 6400 Assistant Gov. Ted Everingham served as emcee for the event, which kicked off with the presentation of a check to members of the Full Circle Foundation, whose mission is to support activities that foster a sense of self-worth and independence in people with disabilities. Director of Operations Stephanie DiVirgil, Board of Directors President Sue Banner and Full Circle founder and Vice President Mary Fodell were on hand to accept the donation.

The event included a report from Lisa Gandelot, president of the Grosse Pointe Rotary Foundation, which provides grants to various nonprofit organizations throughout the year that support local programs and projects or are sponsored by Rotary District 6400 or Rotary International.

“The foundation has an endowment fund which was initially funded by a bequest from the estate of Frank Sladen, a much-loved and active Grosse Pointe Rotarian,” Gandelot said. “The fund is supported by the financial generosity of Rotarians and others. The fund has been wisely invested and continues to grow.”

Among the club’s grant recipients this past year are the Bryant Seary Scholarship Foundation; Grosse Pointe Sunrise Rotary annual Fun Run; sponsorship with other community groups of the screening of the documentary “JOIN or DIE”; the dining room/nutrition nook at the Full Circle — A.A. VanElslander Innovation Center; two District 6400 scholarships; and Sewing Seeds of Hope, an international program that provides sewing machines and instructors to teach young women a skill so they can support themselves and their children.

Ten individuals were recognized as new members of the Grosse Pointe Rotary Club and 17 members were recognized for their perfect attendance.

Six members were honored with awards during the program.

Brandon Elliott received the Directors

Award, presented to the Rotarian who most emulates “Service Above Self.”

Elliott also received the Rookie of the Year Award, presented to a new Rotarian who has gotten involved in any Rotary avenue of service, above and beyond what is expected of a new member.

Amanda Deveau was presented with the Rising Star Award, given to a newer Rotarian who has been involved in an ongoing manner of service, demonstrating leadership at a level not normally demonstrated by a newer member.

Steve Cornillie was presented with the Service Above Self Award, given to someone who has spent their years in Rotary helping others and supporting club activities.

Jackie Davis received the Frank Sladen Visionary Award for demonstrating the ability to visualize and act upon the future of Rotary.

Philip MacKethan was honored with the Rotarian of the Year Award for demonstrating the desire to say “yes” to any request and always being ready and willing to help a fellow Rotarian.

Sroka, who also is a Grosse Pointe Farms City Councilman and works at the Kellogg Foundation, gave his parting remarks, thanking club members for their support during his presidency. He also recounted some of the club’s accomplishments during the year, including reviving the progressive dinner, which had been on pause since the pandemic; hosting creative fundraising efforts, including a garage sale and a Facebook Marketplace initiative; and approving a \$25,000 grant to the Full Circle Foundation.

“It’s a powerful state-



PHOTOS COURTESY OF PHILIP MACKETHAN

Incoming president Jackie Dale is sworn in by District 6400 Assistant Gov. Ted Everingham.

ment of our values and a testament to our belief in the work Full Circle does with students and adults with autism and intellectual disabilities,” Sroka said. “That level of giving was made possible by the strong partnership between our club and foundation boards — something we haven’t always gotten right in the past. But this year, we worked together more closely than we have in years.”

He also related the club’s growth the past year of seven new active members and two honorary members, bringing total membership to 83.

“As I prepare to step back, I couldn’t be more excited to pass the gavel to someone I admire deeply,” Sroka said of his successor. “Jackie Dale is someone who leads with her heart. She cares about people — whether she’s known them for years or just met them. She dreams big, she acts fast and she brings an energy that’s impossible to ignore. Rotary calls us ‘people of action.’ That’s

Jackie. She doesn’t wait. She shows up, she gets to work and she brings others along with her. In her, we have a leader who can take this club to places we haven’t yet imagined.”

Dale, a Grosse Pointe Park resident, joined the Grosse Pointe Rotary Club in 2019, and has served as co-chair of programs. She was nominated for the presidency in 2022.

“In the year ahead, the task for all of us is to discover how we can do more with the many strengths we already have as a club,” she said. “Here is where we shine: associating with others, serving in our community, fundraising to maintain what we have been doing for the past many years, presenting excellent speakers, getting to know interesting members — old and new. ... I am grateful to be given the opportunity to lead our group. I am excited to enable synergy with other clubs. ... I look forward to doing this with you in the year ahead.”



Grosse Pointe Rotary Foundation President Lisa Gandelot, left, and Grosse Pointe Rotary Club President Neil Sroka, right, present a check for \$25,000 to Full Circle Director of Operations Stephanie DiVirgil and Full Circle Vice President and founder Mary Fodell.



District 6400 Assistant Gov. Ted Everingham swears in of the 2025-26 Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe Board of Directors. Pictured from left are John Mozena, Paul Rentenbach, Neil Sroka, Jon Gandelot, Steve Cornillie, David Colton, Jackie Dale, Jessica Keyser, Everingham and Judy Masserang.

LIFE & LEISURE



2C GP GABBY | 3C MOMBEAU’S TABLE | 8C MOVIE JUNKIE MARK | 10C & 11C COMICS

Native Pointer returning home for concert

By Ted O’Neil
Associate Editor

It’s been several years since Eli Wulfmeier performed locally, but that’s about to change.

The 1997 University Liggett School graduate and his band, Leroy from the North, will perform at 7 p.m. Thursday, July 10, at Cadiuex Cafe.

According to its website, the band “could best be described as a velour track suit with a cowboy hat. Influenced by the sounds of 70s country gold mixed with a little Detroit Steel.”

“I’m excited to come back,” Wulfmeier said from his home in Los Angeles. “This is my first time back with the band.”

Wulfmeier, who grew up in the Farms, remembers getting his first taste of playing guitar at the home of his cousin, Brink Cawley.

“I was probably 5 or 6 and he had an electric guitar,” he recalled. “I got a guitar for Christmas when I was 7 with the caveat that I take lessons.”

He also noted that he didn’t grow up in a particularly musical household that included four older sisters.

“My mom (Bobbie



PHOTO COURTESY OF SKYLER BARBERIO

Eli Wulfmeier and his band, Leroy from the North, will perform July 10 at Cadiuex Cafe.

Posselius) played piano, but that was about it,” Wulfmeier said. “My dad (Lee) was an attorney, which made it hard to get anything by him. He’d say, ‘you said you were here but you were here. How can you be two places at once?’”

He recalls playing with his high school band, Emergency Grapefruit, at The Blue Rose, which was located on Mack

near the border between Detroit and Grosse Pointe Park.

“Brink was our manager,” he recalled. “Everybody from school would come and watch us, which is wild because it was a bar. I have no idea how they got in.”

The music Wulfmeier writes and performs is primarily shaped by what he listened to growing up. He notes the Allman

Brothers Band, Grateful Dead, Steppin Wolf and The Eagles among his influences.

“I used to love listening to WCSX,” he said. “They played great classic rock and a lot of deep tracks back then. Someone gave me a copy of ‘Without a Net’ by the Dead and I was blown away. I’d never heard sounds like that before.

“And I love The Eagles, especially with Joe Walsh,” he added. “Him with The Eagles is just flawless.”

Wulfmeier moved to northern California to go to college, then to Los Angeles.

“I didn’t know a soul, but I was meeting people, going to auditions,” he said. “I was performing with different bands and opening solo for others.”

He and two other musicians formed Leroy from the North six years ago and started making albums. The name came about for two reasons.

“I’ve gone by Eli forever, but my real first name is Leroy,” Wulfmeier explained. “Plus, with my mustache and the kind of Southern rock sound to my music, everyone assumed I was from the South. I was like no man, I’m from Michigan.”

Following next

Thursday’s show, the band will perform in Harbor Springs, Flint and Wyandotte before heading back to California.

“We’ve got a new album coming out in mid-September, so we’ll put the finishes on that

and shoot some videos,” Wulfmeier said. “Then we’ll set up a new tour. It would be great if we could make Cadiuex Cafe a regular thing.”

See leroyleftfromthenorth.com for more information. Click on the “tour” tab for ticket information.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BOB GRAMBO

Making wishes come true

Grosse Pointe Sunrise Rotary President Sandra Cobb, center, stands with Make-A-Wish Michigan Chief D.E. Officer Sherri Collins and Director of Engagement Patricia McCann, who presented June 3, at Ford House. Collins shared the Make-A-Wish history of providing dream-come-true experiences to children with serious illnesses. She described how for “wish kids,” just the act of making their wish come true can give them the courage to comply with difficult medical treatments. She emphasized how the program also benefits others through volunteer work or philanthropy associated with Make-A-Wish programs.

ASK THE EXPERTS By Paramveer Swaich, D.O.

Summer scrapes & sunburn

As our much-awaited Michigan summer reaches full swing, I hope you are taking time to enjoy the warm sunshine, the smell of delicious outdoor barbecues and the joys of making new memories with friends and family. I know the kids who visit our practice are excited to be out of school and on vacation!

Kids are arguably the most active population in our communities during the summer — whether they’re at the playground or pool, hanging out with friends, playing sports or attending camp. Which begs the question, what are some common summer injuries your child may be at risk for?

One of the most common summer injuries in the pediatric population are scrapes. Most of the time they are either on the knee or the elbow. In the medical world, a scrape is called an abrasion. It can affect the epidermis, dermis or deep dermis. Most abrasions do not go past the dermis and will usually bleed right after the injury and also may be painful.

The best way to approach an abrasion is following these simple steps. First and foremost, wash the area with warm water and soap. Then, if there is any visible debris in the wound, carefully remove it using tweezers. If there is no debris present, pat the wound dry after washing it. Using a topical antibiotic such as Neosporin is within reason, although not required. Lastly, wrap the area with a bandage or wound dressing. It is very important the bandage or dressing is changed every day and given a chance to be cleaned.

Sunburn also is extremely common. The best method to combat this is using sunscreen and applying it frequently. There are many different types of sunscreen and strengths available. For kids, the best recommendation is to use a broad-spectrum sunscreen with a sun protection factor (SPF) of at least 15 or more. In addition, use enough sunscreen to cover all exposed areas, particularly the face, nose, ears, feet, hands and behind the knees. If you notice a sunburn on your child and they are younger than 1 year old, call your child’s doctor right away. For kids older than 1 year who have sunburn along with blistering, pain and fever, call your child’s doctor.

For sunburn relief, it is very important

to ensure your child is well hydrated. Using Tylenol or Motrin is appropriate for painful blisters. Using medicated lotions should be discussed with your child’s doctor. Some people find relief with aloe vera, which may be beneficial. Be sure to check with your child’s doctor prior to using aloe vera as some kids may not tolerate it well.

Summer is an amazing time, but with outdoor activity comes the risks of common summer injuries. Being prepared and up to date on how to handle them will help everyone relax and have fun. As always, consult your child’s doctor if you have any questions regarding the above-mentioned injuries.

Common items everyone should pack in your family’s travel bag for summer trips:

- Bandages in assorted sizes and types
- Gauze for larger wounds, and a roll of adhesive tape
- Antiseptic wipes or alcohol wipes for cleaning wounds and hands
- Tweezers for removing splinters or ticks
- Scissors for cutting bandages or medication packaging
- Pain relievers-acetaminophen or ibuprofen for headaches and muscle pain
- Antihistamines for allergies or insect bites
- Anti-diarrheal medication like Imodium or Pepto-Bismol
- Motion-sickness medication
- Sunscreen for preventing sunburn
- Insect repellent for protection against mosquito and other insect bites

Paramveer Swaich, D.O., is a family medicine physician at Corewell Health East-Grosse Pointe. For more information, visit corewellhealth.org.

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



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Summer mindset: clean eating with balanced diet

Dear Gabby: Help! I've been doing so well with healthy eating and workouts, but summer treats are calling my name. What can I do to not lose the progress I've made? — Tempted by Treats

Dear Tempted: You are definitely not alone in that struggle. The best approach is to focus on balance rather than cutting out

everything. Progress over perfection, people! Stick to your normal healthy habits most of the time and enjoy the treats without guilt when they come up. Also, stay active with things like walking instead of driving, biking or swimming so your movement stays consistent and if on vacation, be sure to get in a workout or activity at least once a day.

Plan ahead if you know a splurge is coming by eating lighter meals earlier in the day. Remember that summer is about enjoying yourself and feeling your best, not about being perfect.

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



No room to talk, no room to grow

DEAR ANNIE: I've been dating my boyfriend, "Dylan," for almost two years. He's perfect except for the fact that he avoids conflict like the plague. If I bring up anything even slightly uncomfortable — like that something he said hurt my feelings — he either shuts down, changes the subject or tries to make a joke out of it. At first, I brushed it off as him being laid-back, but now it's starting to feel like emotional distance. I've told him that I need open communication in a serious relationship, and he always says he understands — but nothing really changes. I don't want to force him into deep talks if that's not how he's wired, but I also don't want to spend my life tiptoeing around his feelings. How

do I know if this is just a communication style difference or a bigger red flag? — Feeling Shut Out

DEAR FEELING SHUT OUT: Talking about conflict is key in any adult relationship, and if Dylan isn't capable of it then he should at least be making an effort to learn how. Tell him how his responses (or lack thereof) make you feel, and if he's open to growth, you'll see small but steady signs — him staying present in tough conversations, following up or even admitting when he's uncomfortable. If, instead, he keeps dodging and deflecting, you're not dealing with a quirk. You're dealing with emotional unavailability.

DEAR ANNIE: I'm at

risk of asking the glaringly obvious here, but is my relationship really over? I worry I'm in denial and can't let go, so your take on this would really help. I've been with my boyfriend for 14 years. We live 15 minutes apart. He's widowed, I'm divorced, and we both have adult sons -- mine is 31, his is 40. Both lost a parent in their late teens. In all this time, I've never met his son or any of his friends or family, though he knows mine. My son doesn't like him mostly because of how excluded I've been, which he thinks is disrespectful. My boyfriend says he had an abusive father and doesn't like his two siblings or their families

very much. He only has one real friend but won't introduce me to him. When I asked why, he said he "likes his privacy." I chalked it up to his idiosyncrasies but still found it odd. We used to talk on the phone for hours every night. Occasionally, he's gone quiet for a week or two, but this time, though we haven't had a falling out, it's been eight months since we last saw each other. I told him I missed him, but nothing changed, we just kept talking on the phone. Now I'm starting to feel like I'm wasting my time on someone I love who clearly doesn't feel the same way. I don't want to be just his phone friend, but I'm not good at letting go. What do you think? — Still Holding On



Dear Annie

by Annie Lane

DEAR HOLDING ON: It's difficult to accept when something we've deeply invested in and want to work has run its course. As painful as it is to come to grips with, it sounds like this relationship has been over for a while, and it's time to fully accept that and cut ties. You've spent well over a decade with a man who's never introduced you to a single person in his life. Even if he's distant from family, he's kept you at arm's length in every way. And now, after eight months without seeing each other, he continues this pattern of avoiding you most of the time and engaging only when he wants to. Whether he means to or not, he's shown you exactly where you stand. Letting go is hard, but what's really left for you to hold onto? You already know the answer. This isn't love and it's certainly not the relationship you deserve. The longer you wait to accept that, the harder it'll be on your heart to move forward.

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

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A lasting legacy

Photos courtesy of the GPCC

The Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce honored Dr. A. Paul Schaap at this year's Legacy on the Lake event, which took place June 28, at Ford House.



Grosse Pointe Theatre, one of the program partners of the Schaap Center, wowed guests with a surprise performance complete with tap dancing (above) and a number from "Jersey Boys," (below) Dr. Schaap's favorite musical.



The rain stopped in time to welcome a full house for the event.



From left, Chamber Membership and Events Coordinator Abigail Turnbull, Chamber Finance Director Lisa Frasier, honoree Dr. A. Paul Schaap, Chamber President Jenny Boettcher and Legacy on the Lake Chairman David Balle, M.D., celebrate the end of a successful event.



Dr. A. Paul Schaap left the room speechless during a demonstration of what his team discovered that led him to form the company, Lumigen Inc. A stable molecule's luminescence allowed Lumigen to make its global mark and eventually was made in commercial quantities that have since been used in medical diagnostic tests.

We Tried It!

by Anna Lizer



The neck pillow that saved my sanity on an overnight flight to Paris

Flying is not my thing. At all. The second I hear the overhead ding and feel that subtle lurch as we lift off the runway, I'm convinced the plane is about to nose-dive into the Atlantic.

So when I booked an overnight flight to Paris for my 30th birthday, I knew I needed reinforcements. We were only going to be there a few days and I didn't want to waste my first morning in a groggy, jet-lagged daze. Enter the Dot&Dot Twist Memory Foam Travel Pillow.

I spotted this gem on Amazon for about \$25 during one of my pre-trip anxiety scrolls. It looked different from the usual U-shaped neck pillows that have never worked for me. This one claimed to be twistable, customizable



and seemed to have more structure than other neck pillows I'd seen online before.

I was skeptical, but des-

perate, so I ordered one and decided to try it out.

Cut to me on the flight, sitting in the very last row of the plane. My seat barely

reclined and was positioned directly next to the bathroom, which meant I had both minimal comfort and maximum foot traffic.

Also important, I am just shy of 6 feet tall and had approximately zero leg room. Luckily, my saint of a friend, Angela, was sitting next to me and generously allowed me to take over some of her foot space and general area. Without her, I might have gone full spiral.

And yet, despite all that, this pillow? She understood the assignment. The Dot&Dot pillow has just the right amount of structure, thanks to its bendable memory foam core. You can shape it however you want — wrap it around your neck, squish it against the window, turn it into a

mini lumbar cushion — and it stays put.

My neck wasn't flopping to the side, my head wasn't drooping forward and I actually managed to sleep. As in real, solid sleep. On a plane. In the last row. With limbs too long for economy.

The pillow also comes with a machine-washable cotton cover, which is a big plus when you inevitably drop it on the floor while digging for your eye mask. It has a snap closure so you can attach it to your carry-on or fasten it to your headrest if you're using it in the car.

Would I call this pillow life-changing? For a nervous, oversized flyer like me, maybe. It turned a night of potential panic

and sleeplessness into something shockingly close to restful. I made it to Paris feeling like an actual human.

I'm giving this product 5 out of 5 alligators and would definitely recommend trying it out on your next adventure. You can find it at tinyurl.com/5t4twzyn.

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

5 Out Of 5



Watermelon and Tajin

Courtesy of Mombeau's Table

This is one of the easiest, most unexpected flavor-packed punch you can serve up. Watermelon skewers with Tajin will be at the top of my hors d'oeuvres list this summer.

What is Tajin? Tajin is a Mexican chili pepper blend with cumin, paprika, garlic powder, onion powder and lime. It's smoky, salty and slightly spicy with a hint of citrus. I discovered it a few years ago and now buy it in bulk at Costco. It's great for grilled meats, sprinkled on corn on the cob and in this case, watermelon. You can find it in almost any grocery store.

Watermelon pairs so well with savory ingredients. A touch of heat, lime and salty cheese really brings out its sweetness. It took some time to convince my daughter to try this since

she's used to the typical watermelon wedge. Her eyes immediately got confused after her first bite. She was expecting to hate it. The first bite is citrus and salt but then comes the smoky, mildly spicy and sweet flavor of the seasoning and watermelon. And right at the end, the fresh tasting mint takes over. She went back in for another bite convinced that it was worth finishing.

My only note here is to think about the size of your watermelon squares. It's easiest to eat if each square can be eaten in one bite.

For a cocktail party, you may want to only put three pieces on each skewer. This could easily be served in salad form as a side dish with grilled meat. Use your best judgement. I love

unexpected simple pairings of food. This refreshing, easy and healthy appetizer is certainly a winner.

Cheers, Mombeau

Watermelon and Tajin Skewers
(About 12 skewers)

- 1/2 cubed seedless watermelon, cut 2-inch
- 2 limes
- 1 tbsp Tajin seasoning
- 1/2 cup cojita cheese, crumbles
- 2 tbsp fresh mint, chopped

Bamboo skewers

Place four to five cubes of watermelon on each skewer. Lay the



PHOTO BY KAREN FERGUSON

skewers flat on a plate or platter. Squeeze the lime juice over the top of each skewer.

Evenly sprinkle the Tajin seasoning so the top of each piece is lightly coated. Finish

with the cojita cheese and fresh mint. Serve chilled or at room temperature.



Lower the heat

Anti-alcohol movements in this country have been with us for decades. Some historians say they may stem from religious movements dating back to the days before this was a nation.

The late Yale University sociologist Dr. David Musto wrote a scientific analysis of prohibition movements about 30 years ago. In it, he said that anti-booze campaigns are regularly resurrected every generation.

One particularly virulent one occurred just prior to the start of the Civil War. It was so boisterous and widespread that former President Abraham Lincoln even gave speeches about it.

Several of the foes of alcohol in any form wanted to ban it completely. In one of Lincoln's speeches, he opposed

banning all alcohol, saying at one point that complete prohibition "would do harm to the forces of temperance."

Indeed, that exact situation occurred after this country instituted complete prohibition in 1919. Because it was made illegal, it created a backlash. The speakeasy was one of the most popular date-night festivities of the 1920s. Alcoholism was rampant.

The current situation in which several groups are demonizing all alcoholic beverages doesn't surprise me. I have been through this sort of assault on alcohol before. Such movements normally die of their own ennui — and facts.

Such as: The No. 1 killer of Americans is heart disease and medical science has shown that regular daily moderate consumption of a

glass of wine with meals lowers the risk of heart disease by well over 25 percent.

The good news is that the wine industry has been actively responding to consumer requests for lower-alcohol products. And I found one recently that is perfect for the anti-alcohol forces.

Before getting to that, however, a quick look at why previous examples of alcohol-free wine have thus far been a relative failure.

Traditional table wine is defined as the result of the fermentation of grape juice. During normal fermentation, the sugar in grape juice is converted into alcohol and carbon dioxide; the latter is unnecessary to a wine's aroma and flavor.

But what is essential to wine's aroma and flavor is the alcohol. There have been numerous efforts to create a wine with no alcohol, but every effort thus far has suffered because wine lovers dislike the aroma and taste.

The best example that has ever been produced has just been released by a Napa Valley company, Trinchero Family

Wines. It is called Luminara. Two reds and a white constitute the entire lineup. A chardonnay, a red blend, and a cabernet sell for \$20 each.

I find the wines, which contain small amounts of real grape juice, to be fascinating.

I poured the 2023 Luminara Cabernet for two professional wine judges. Neither knew the wine had zero alcohol. Their reaction was interesting. Both liked it, but couldn't identify the grape variety. One thought it was somewhat tasty with good structure.

And both were surprised when I revealed that it had no alcohol at all. I don't consider it to be a great substitute for serious table wine, but it certainly was satisfactory.

And it has a secondary use. Later that day, I conducted a test. I opened a bottle of a Napa Valley Cabernet that I knew had 15.5 percent alcohol. I didn't like it very much — the alcohol was simply too high.

But when I poured 5 ounces of that wine and added about one ounce of Luminara, the blend was excellent. I'm guessing that the mix-

ture had about 13 percent alcohol. It was certainly more attractive than the full-alcohol wine was all by itself, and also better than when I added an equal amount of water.

Luminara wines are definitely worth a try. You can learn more about them by visiting their website at luminarawines.com.

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

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SEE MENU



PHOTOS COURTESY OF TEMPLE HILL ENTERTAINMENT AND NEW LINE CINEMA
Isabela Merced as Aza Holmes in the 2024 movie “Turtles All The Way Down,” directed by Hannah Marks.

MOVIE REVIEW
“Turtles All The Way Down”
2024 - Rated PG-13
1 hr 51 min
★★★★☆

John Green is the best-selling author of an impressive list of popular YA novels. A couple of his books have been adapted for the screen including “Paper Towns” and the tragic “Fault in Our Stars” from 2014. If you haven’t seen this powerful film, I highly recommend it. “Turtles All the Way Down” is a recent film based on the novel of the same title. It deals with a girl with obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD), which is something the author has struggled with most of his life.

I can relate to the main character in the film because I have a lifelong friend, we’ll call him “H,” who also has OCD. I’ve witnessed firsthand how it can negatively impact one’s life. H kept it fairly hidden for the longest time, but when the pandemic hit, it really reared its ugly head. There are many forms of OCD. In his case, he’s a total germaphobe. He freely admits he has a problem, but still goes out of his way to avoid germs.

“Turtles All the Way Down” is a new film, brilliantly directed by Hannah Marks. It’s the story of Aza Holmes, played by Isabela Merced, best known for her role in the live-action film “Dora the Explorer.” Here she’s a 17-year old high school girl with OCD. She begins the film narrating a detailed lecture about the history and dangers of bacteria and how it controls her life. This is illustrated with colorful footage of neon colored germs squirming in a petri

dish. The images pop up from time to time throughout the movie as a reminder of what’s going on in her head.

Aza sees a therapist for her problems and the two become combative at times. It seems like her OCD isn’t getting any better and it’s hinted that part of her problem stems from the loss of her father at a young age. She’s a self-absorbed young girl who lives in constant fear of getting infected. This obsession seems to pick up steam as the film progresses. She loves hanging out with her lifelong friend Daisy Ramirez (Cree Cicchino). Daisy is her polar opposite — a free spirit who adds some wild, crazy energy to the film as she tries to pull Aza out of her self-induced shell. Every scene she’s in has a vibrant tone to it.

Neither of the girls have much in the way of money. So when a billionaire in town goes missing and there’s a \$100,000 reward for information leading to his whereabouts is announced, the two begin a search for him.

Their quest starts out with them hopping into a



Movie poster.

canoe and exploring his vast, wooded estate. They get caught in the act of trespassing and are taken to the billionaire’s impressive home. There Aza is reunited with the billionaire’s son Davis, who she met when they were children at “sad camp.” Apparently it was a camp



Movie Junkie Mark

by Mark Domin

“Life is too short to watch mediocre movies”

for kids dealing with the loss of a family member — Davis’s mother and Aza’s dad.

Davis and Aza were close when they were young and this provides a new opportunity to rekindle a romantic relationship. Aza is terrified about where this could

bacteria. She also constantly picks at a cut on her finger and sanitizes it and frequently changes the bandaid, for fear of infection. So the thought of kissing is out of the question.

Daisy begins seeing a classmate Mychal (Maliq Johnson), who’s a budding young artist. The four of them start hanging out together. They’re an awkward foursome to say the least. When Mychal’s work is accepted into a show, Aza isn’t sure she can attend the event, fearing she might pick up some germs from the crowd. It’s around this time that Daisy and Aza have the inevitable fight. Daisy has long put up with Aza’s quirks but it finally reaches a boiling point. She points out that Aza is so focused on herself, she knows next to nothing about her or her family. She confronts her and asks her if she even knows her parents names. Or the name of her cat. Or if she’s ever read any of her original Star Wars fiction she’s been posting on her website since she was a little girl.

Like most films about teens, a good part of the communication between friends is via text messages. It drives me crazy when the tiny screen of a smartphone pops up for a brief second or two and you have to squint or even hit the pause button to read the exchange. Here the messages appear as large, colorful subtitles, making them easy to read. Hats off to whoever



decided to present them this way!

One of the things that drew me to this film was the unusual title. When I come across a title like this, I almost always check out the movie and nine times out of 10, I’m not disappointed.

So where does the title come from? A philosophy teacher in the movie explains that the earth is resting on the back of a giant tortoise. This turtle is on top of another larger turtle, which is resting on another one, on and on into infinity. Make of that what you will. I interpreted it as saying “someone always has your back.”

I thoroughly enjoyed “Turtles All the Way Down.” It was a thought-provoking film with smart, believable dialogue, fine acting especially from Cree and Merced and excellent camerawork. While the movie is obviously targeted at teens, I think it appeals to folks of all ages — even old geezers like me!

Currently streaming on Max.

My rating system:

★★ 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.



Aza and Daisy search for the missing billionaire.



Daisy (Cree Cicchino) and her boyfriend Mychal (Maliq Johnson).



Gina (Judy Reyes) as Aza’s mom .



Daisy and Aza at school.

Weekly Challenge

UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

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

7/3

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★☆

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

Previous puzzle solution

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

6/26 Solution

Contract Bridge

THE SAFETY FACTOR

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ K 8
♥ K 7 6 3
♦ K 4 2
♣ A J 4 3

WEST

♠ Q J 7 3
♥ 9 5
♦ Q J 10 9
♣ 10 8 6

EAST

♠ —
♥ J 10 8 2
♦ A 7 5 3
♣ K 9 7 5 2

SOUTH

♠ A 10 9 6 5 4 2
♥ A Q 4
♦ 8 6
♣ Q

The bidding:

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

Opening lead — diamond queen.

For example, take this deal from the 1936 Bridge Olympics, which used prearranged “par” hands to determine the outcome. The salient point of the play is just as valid now as it was then. West leads three rounds of diamonds, declarer ruffing the third. South must now draw trump, but when he leads a low spade at trick four and West follows low, he should play dummy’s eight! If he doesn’t, he will sooner or later have to lose two trump tricks and go down one.

The obvious purpose of the deal was to test South’s knowledge of safety plays. In the given case, it was incumbent upon South to realize that the only threat to his contract was a 4-0 trump division, with West holding the four spades. If that situation existed, South could virtually guarantee getting home safely by leading a spade to the eight at trick four.

It is true that when four cards of a suit are missing, they will divide 4-0 only about one-tenth of the time. Nevertheless, a cautious declarer should take any step necessary to protect himself against this possibility.

Even though the safety play might frequently cost South a trick, he should be willing to pay that small premium, since making the contract is always the first consideration.

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by Steve Becker

Royal Stars Weekly Horoscopes

Moon Alert: Caution!
Avoid shopping or important decisions all day. The Moon is in LIBRA.

Happy Birthday for Thursday, July 3, 2025:

You are intuitive, intellectual and sensitive. You are also loyal and have an intense interest in other people. This year is full of new beginnings, adventures and major changes in your life. It’s time to take action, initiative and define your goals. Prepare for a leadership role later in the year.

ARIES

(March 21-April 19)
Home and family are your focus now, and it’s encouraging to know that for the first time in over a decade, you have a chance to improve where you live, as well as to improve your family relationships. Look for ways to do this; it is possible. Tonight: Get organized.

TAURUS

(April 20-May 20)
Remember that you have a winning year ahead because your attitude will be so positive! This year you’ll be optimistic. You believe in your future. Meanwhile, don’t hesitate to begin to streamline your world and let go of what is no longer relevant. Tonight: Socialize.

GEMINI

(May 21-June 20)
Look for ways to socialize today, and enjoy some time off for good behavior. Hidden love affairs and secret flirtations might happen for some of you. Be encouraged by the knowledge that you will get richer this year. Tonight: Be diplomatic at home.



CANCER

(June 21-July 22)

Today is a Moon Alert all day, which means take it easy and postpone important decisions and don’t shop for anything other than food and gas. Meanwhile, you have much to be grateful for, because lucky Jupiter is in your sign for the next year bringing you good fortune! How sweet it is. Tonight: Tell your story.



LEO

(July 23-Aug. 22)

This is a good time to relax a bit. Yes, you’re ambitious to boost your earnings. You also make a great impression on bosses and VIPs. Plus, with Mercury in your sign, you’re eager to communicate. Avoid big decisions and shopping today. Tonight: Money ideas?



VIRGO

(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Be careful, because all day today there’s a Moon Alert taking place in your Money House. This means this is a classic day for you to make a financial decision or purchase that you will later regret. Don’t do it! Avoid shopping except for food and gas. Tonight: Exercise or dance.



LIBRA

(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

You might be more emotional today, because since yesterday, the Moon has been in your sign, and it will stay there until tomorrow, and most of this window has been a Moon Alert as well. You’re not losing it. Relax. Avoid important decisions and shopping. Tonight: Memories.



SCORPIO

(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Your strong sense of adventure makes you want to travel or explore new places, new ideas and meet new people. Furthermore, physical and competitive activities also might attract you. Keep things light. Socialize with others. Wait until tomorrow to shop or make decisions. Tonight: Group interactions.



SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

You can use your strong energy now to accomplish things today, but postpone shopping or important decisions until tomorrow. Interactions with a friend might be important. In fact, you might want to nurture or help a friend, or work with a charitable group. Tonight: Check your finances.



CAPRICORN

(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

You need more sleep at this time, which is why it’s smart to catch some catnaps if you can. This is because the Sun is your source of energy, and right now, it’s as far away from your sign as it can get all year. (We’re not talking 93 million miles. We’re talking 5 inches on your chart.) Tonight: Socialize.



AQUARIUS

(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

You feel productive and energetic. Why not use this energy to do something different? For example, you’ll be happy to do some redecorating or make where you live more attractive. In fact, this is a great time to entertain friends, and who likes their friends more than you? Tonight: Be friendly.



PISCES

(Feb. 19-March 20)

This is a wonderful day to explore your creative potential and artistic talents. You will be imaginative and capable of innovative ideas. That’s because the Moon Alert today will ignite your creative imagination! Tonight: Patience.

BORN TODAY

Actor Tom Cruise (1962), actress, singer Betty Buckley (1947), actor Thomas Gibson (1962).

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg July 3, 2025

ACROSS

- Sea froth
- Betting consideration
- Communicates via WhatsApp
- “My bad!”
- Acerbic, as wit
- Beret or sombrero
- Vehicle identification digits (In this answer, note letters 4-6)
- NPR journalist
- Shapiro
- ___ for the course
- “Kill Bill” actress
- Thurman
- Beetle sometimes found in flour
- Straying
- Anticlimactic occasion (... letters 2-4)
- Bishop’s territory
- Spanish currency units before euros
- Sink or
- Valley with vineyards
- Sigur ___ (Icelandic band)
- “Relax!” (... letters 4-6)
- Start of a texter’s aside
- Mine products
- Assist illegally
- She helped Theseus
- They’re found under hoods
- Exacts revenge (... letters 4-8)
- Have more troops than, say
- Human: Prefix
- Rowboat necessity
- French friend
- Comedy show that Gilda Radner was on, in brief
- “This makes total sense,” or a theme hint
- Envision
- Greek letter representing change
- Actor
- Eisenberg
- Taxing agcy.
- Lake that sounds spooky
- What you can do with a pinkie or a four-letter word
- Absorbed, with “up”
- The North Star
- Certain scrolling key
- Winter hrs. in Utah
- Cornea’s organ
- “Geez!”
- Small amount of gel
- Came close

DOWN

- Shopping binges
- “It’s a necessity for me!”
- Where small boats moor
- Height extenders
- The word hidden in 16-Across, e.g.
- Pecans and others
- How much broccoli a mother might want her child to eat
- “Bath” that fades denim
- Fictional clownfish
- Stand up to
- Main course
- Emotion behind “Wow!”
- Abstainer
- Pasta sauce brand
- ___ Pass (border between Italy and Austria)
- Minuscule amounts
- All together
- Squad that won the most medals (126) at the 2024 Olympics
- Tennis great Andre
- Ridicule
- Name hidden in “Minor Arcana”
- Long-range weapon in “Fortnite”
- “Warrior” actor Nick
- In the style of
- Biopic about boxer Muhammad
- Music curators
- Morning moisture

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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

6/26 Solution

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7/3

Math Problem by Jill Singer

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12
13						14					15		
16					17						18		
19					20				21		22		
23			24	25		26	27						
28						29		30					
	31					32	33				34		
				35		36				37			
	38	39			40					41		42	43
44				45					46	47			48
49							50		51				
52							53	54				55	
56				57		58				59	60		
61				62						63			
64				65						66			

THURSDAY COMICS

Grosse Pointe News

Charles M. Schulz

IF YOU WERE CAPTURED,
YOU WOULD REFUSE
TO TALK EVEN IF YOU
WERE TORTURED!

*
LUNK!

WELL, MAYBE YOU
COULD TALK
A LITTLE...

Dan Piraro and Wayno

Andy Capp

Reg Smythe

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GO ON, JUST £10.
I'LL PAY YOU BACK.

HE'S EVEN
SPONGING IN
HIS **SLEEP**

GOLD SMITH & GARNETT

Glenn McCov

B.C.

Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni

Dad, that was the most amazing pyrotechnics display ever!

THANKS. I'LL USE LESS LIGHTER FLUID WHEN LIGHTING THE GRILL. NOW GO TELL YOUR MOM TO TAKE OUT A FROZEN PIZZA.

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I PICKED THE WRONG DAY TO TAKE UP PARASAILING.

7-4-25

HAPPY 4TH!

Dist. by Creator

Dave Whamond

Beetle Bailey

Greg, Brian, Neal and Mort Walker

I HATE FIREWORKS!
THEY GIVE ME
FLASHBACKS

WERE YOU
IN THE WAR?

NO, IN MY
PREVIOUS
LIFE, I WAS
A DOG

7-9
DILBERT

© 1999 CREATORS OF THE DILBERT MOVIE FOR FOX

THE ARMY DOESN'T NEED ANOTHER YOU. TELL HIM TO JOIN THE NAVY.

7/3
GREG
+ MORT
WALKER

Mother Goose and Grim

Mike Peters

WAIT A MINUTE!
THIS ISN'T THE
BEACH!

VETERINARIAN

MIKE PETERS

Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner

Tom Batiuk and Dan Davis

Crankshaft

Dennis the Menace

Scott Ketchum, Ron Ferdinand and Marcus Hamilton

Hank Ketchum,

Carpe Diem

Niklas Eriksson

I THINK YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO ACCEPT THAT IT'S PERFECTLY NORMAL WHEN YOU'RE OVER FIFTY TO GO BERSERK A LITTLE LESS OFTEN.

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Wumo

Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler

Back off! It's my turn to use the grill!

Never! We were here first!

KISS THE COOK

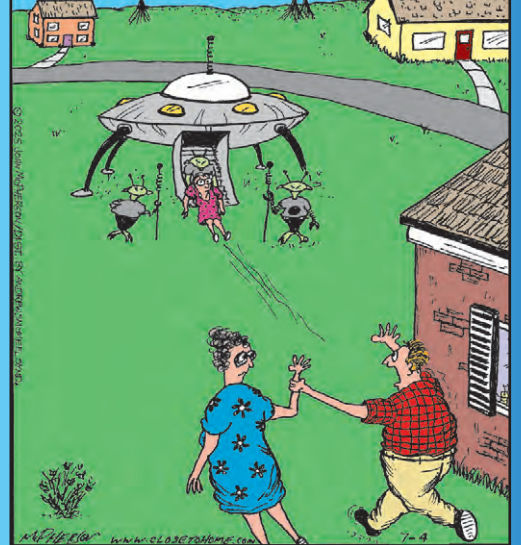
First sign of summer

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Jim Davis



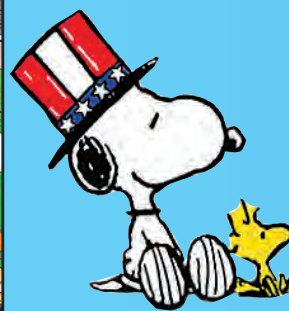
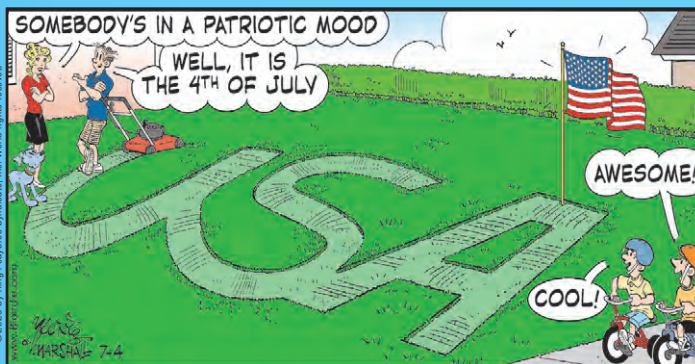
John McPherson



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



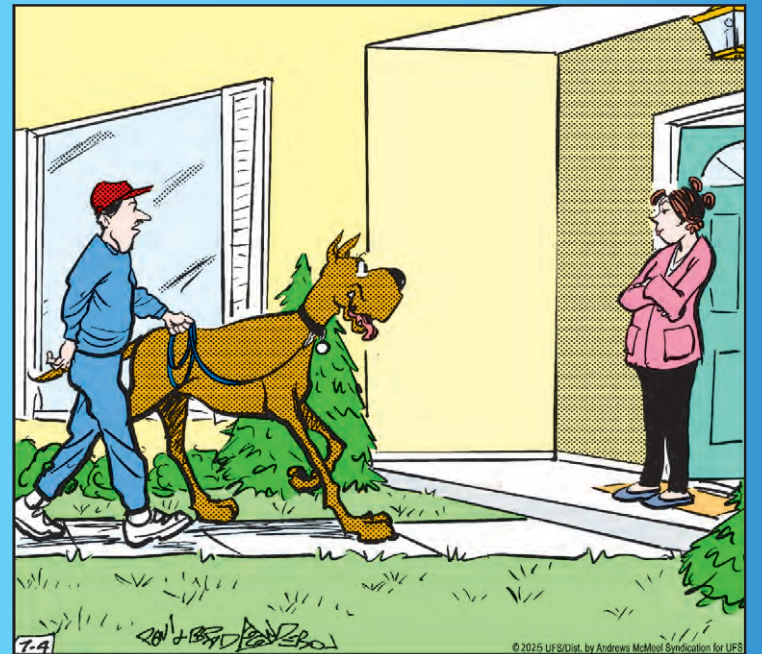
Chris and Dean Young



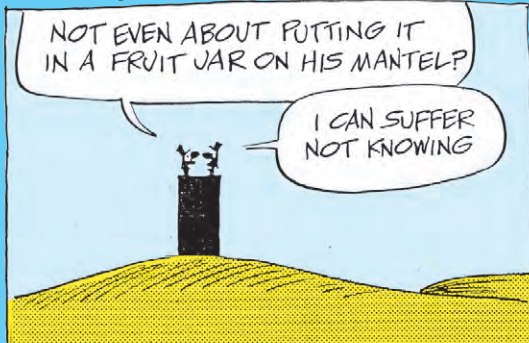
Tom Wilson



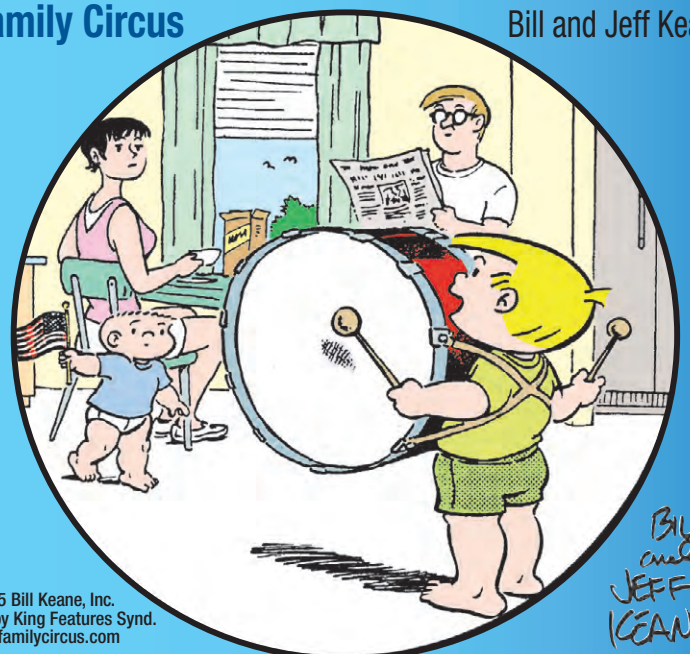
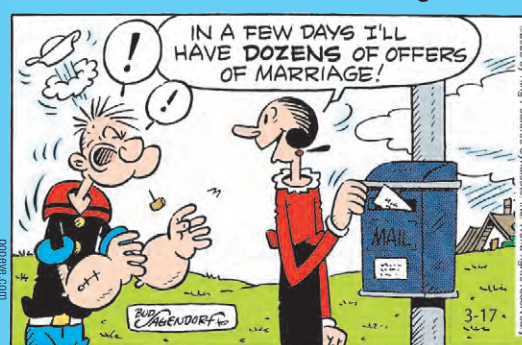
Paul & Brad Anderson



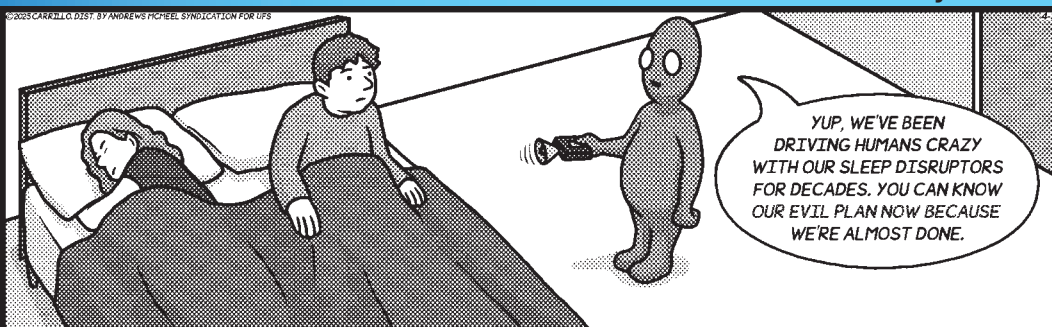
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“I’ll get your ears warmed up for the fireworks tomorrow.”



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Kid Scoop Together

July 4th Funnies

Circle every other letter to reveal the punch line for each of these riddles.

Happy Birthday, America!

July 4th is Independence Day in the United States!

How many stars can you find in this picture?



Who has to always work on the 4th of July?

(E)SIGRTELWYO
URVKDST

F _____

What did the flag say to the cloud?

(N)ROSTLHMIY
NTGBIQTPJV
UESZTYWIA
HVKELDG

N _____

What snack do fireworks eat at the movies?

(P)YORPDC
LOVRFNB

P _____

Why is the American flag so famous?

(U)PTKHLAWSQF
EIHNTIYPSJT
ZAQRVST

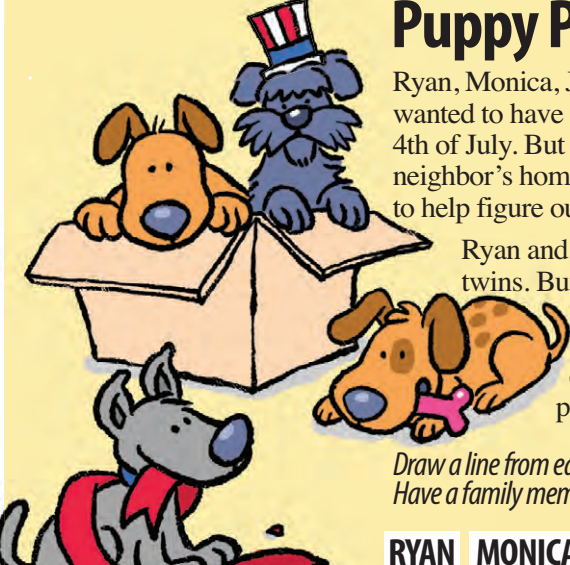
Puppy Parade

Ryan, Monica, Josephine and Jordan wanted to have a puppy parade for the 4th of July. But the puppies ran off to the neighbor's home. Can you read the clues to help figure out who owns each puppy?

Ryan and Monica's puppies are twins. But Monica's puppy does not have spots. Jordan's puppy likes wearing costumes, but Josephine's puppy likes chewing them!

Draw a line from each name to that child's puppy. Have a family member check your work.

RYAN MONICA JOSEPHINE JORDAN



See how many words you can make with the letters in:

INDEPENDENCE DAY

Score yourself:

1-5 words: SUPER SPARKLER 6-10 words: LIBERTY BELL RINGER 11 or more words: HIGH-FLYING EAGLE

Independence Day Crossword Puzzle

Complete this puzzle by using the pictures as clues.



Extra! Extra!

4th of July Search

Look through the newspaper to find:

- ☐ A patriotic picture
- ☐ A flag
- ☐ Stars and/or stripes
- ☐ Picnic food
- ☐ Something on sale
- ☐ A firecracker

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow written directions.

Loud fireworks can scare your pets. Be sure to keep them safe indoors on July 4th.

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Kid Scoop Puzzler

Draw the item that should come next in each row to continue the pattern.

★ ★ ★   ★ ★ ★  

  ★ ★ ★   ★

★ ★  ★ ★   

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension; students follow simple written directions.

Double Double Word Search

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

BALLOONS
COLLAR
EAGLE
FLAG
FOOD
FUN
HAT
HOT DOG
JULY
LOUD
PARADE
PUPPY
SAFE
STARS
STRIPES

F	B	A	L	L	O	O	N	S	J
E	F	X	S	E	P	I	R	T	S
J	X	U	Q	P	J	E	G	A	P
H	C	R	N	S	U	A	C	R	A
D	O	O	F	A	L	P	Y	S	R
U	L	T	J	F	Y	D	P	I	A
L	L	P	D	E	U	Q	F	Y	D
T	A	H	Y	O	E	L	G	A	E
Z	R	P	L	H	G	R	S	T	L

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

Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: **PATRIOTIC**

The adjective **patriotic** describes a feeling of love for, and loyalty to, one's country.

Saluting the flag is a **patriotic** act.

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

FROM THE  LESSON LIBRARY

Freedom!

Write a letter to the editor of the newspaper telling them what it means to be free in your community. Explain why you think these freedoms are important.

Standards Link: Writing: Write persuasive text in letter form.



What do you get mixing a T-Rex and fireworks?

ANSWER: Dino-mite.

Write On!

What Does Freedom Mean to You?

Write about why freedom is important to you.

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2D-3D ATHLETE OF THE YEAR NOMINEES | 4D-5D CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Alumna takes over North softball program after Smith’s retirement

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The Grosse Pointe North varsity softball program is undergoing a changing of the guard following the end of the 2025 spring season. With the retirement of former head coach Ron Smith after more than a decade at the helm of the Norsemen, a familiar face is taking the reins as the school announced last week that alumna Amy Zaraneek Gaidis is the new head coach.

“The compass always points North and North

will always be home,” Gaidis said. “That’s exceptionally true for me because I started on this varsity team as a freshman in the 2009 season and just never really left. Even when I was playing in college and later on coaching at all different levels ... I always found a way to come back to this program. ... It’s a very humbling and flattering change to be able to continue the legacy of the coaches that I played for there.”

Gaidis played four years of varsity softball for the Norsemen before

graduating in 2012. After that, she pitched at Wayne State University. Gaidis also has been working as a coach since graduating from North, giving private lessons and working as a pitching coach at the collegiate level before returning to North and most recently serving as the JV softball head coach.

Coaching runs in the family for Gaidis. She is the daughter of North varsity softball assistant coach Bob Zaraneek, who also has coached various sports and teams around

the Pointes during his career. Gaidis also is the niece of longtime Grosse Pointe South girls cross-country and track coach Steve Zaraneek.

“It’s been a lot of fun to have those connections and be able to talk about if a girl ran cross-country for my uncle Steve and then I coached her in lessons or coached against her on the softball field in the spring,” she said. “... With my dad, I feel like most of our text conversations are like, ‘Let’s take my daughter to get ice cream’ or ‘Who should lead off in our next game?’ It’s either all family or all softball and it’s fun that they intersect that way.”

As for Smith, his retirement comes after more than five decades of coaching softball and baseball at various levels. Smith coached Gaidis her senior season at North and has been working alongside her as a coach in the program the past few years, always having seen her as his eventual successor.

“She knows the kids and knows the game and it’s just a case of getting out there and getting your feet wet since there’s a difference between JV and varsity,” Smith said. “The way she’s been over the past few years assisting in the



PHOTO COURTESY OF GROSSE POINTE NORTH ATHLETICS

Amy Zaraneek Gaidis was recently named the new varsity softball head coach at Grosse Pointe North.



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Former North varsity softball coach Ron Smith announced his retirement following the end of the 2025 season.

playoff games and her being part of it, it’ll all be a plus for her to enter in and get the job done.”

While he plans on spending his retirement enjoying time with family and watching his grandchildren begin their own journeys in high school sports, there are some things about coaching Smith will miss. He has made decades of memories with athletes and their families and always enjoyed seeing the impact of his coaching on the lives of everyone he has helped teach.

“Watching the kids develop their personalities and having them come back and telling you how life has gone for them and what they learned playing for you,” Smith said. “... Watching them become the adults and people that they are has just been priceless.”

Vote Now! Athlete of the Year Contest voting open through July 9

By GPN Staff

Readers and sports fans around the Pointes have a few days left to cast their ballots in the 2025 Grosse Pointe News Athlete of the Year Contest. Voting online or by paper ballot concludes at 11:59 p.m. Wednesday, July 9, so be sure to show support and vote for who you think should be this year’s male and female Athlete of the Year before the polls close.

Readers can vote for their favorite male and female athlete once every 24 hours and the virtual ballot can be found online at grossepointenews.com or in the bio section of @

GPNewssports on Instagram. Voters also can fill out a paper ballot and can submit it to the Grosse Pointe News at 16980 Kercheval in The Village.

One male and one female athlete will be named Athletes of the Year by receiving the most votes in the Readers’ Choice poll. Another male and another female athlete will be honored as Athletes of the Year as selected by the Grosse Pointe News staff. All four winners will each receive a \$500 scholarship to their respective colleges or universities courtesy of the Grosse Pointe News.

This year’s nominees

Grosse Pointe News

**ATHLETE
OF THE
YEAR**

are comprised of the various student-athletes who have been featured in the Grosse Pointe News’ Athlete of the Week series throughout the school year.

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

The Athlete of the Year Contest is another chance for these athletes to be recognized for their success both in the world of sports and in the classroom. It shows how important sports are to a community like the Pointes and how these athletes will continue to have an impact on the programs that they have competed for.

If you want to cast your vote and help decide who will be named Athlete of the Year, be sure to do it before voting ends at 11:59 p.m. Wednesday, July 9. The winners of this year’s Athlete of the Year contest will be announced in the Grosse Pointe News and on social media July 17.

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

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2D | ATHLETE OF THE YEAR NOMINEES

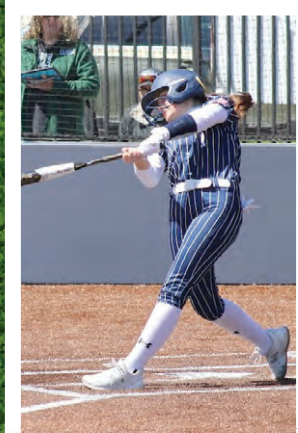


Scan to vote

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



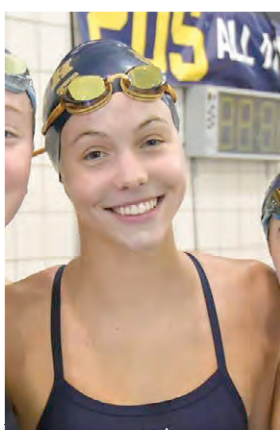
Henry Domzalski
Grosse Pointe South
Baseball



Morgan Duff
Grosse Pointe South
Track & Field



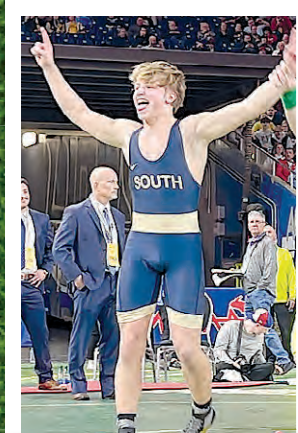
Abby Evans
Grosse Pointe South
Hockey



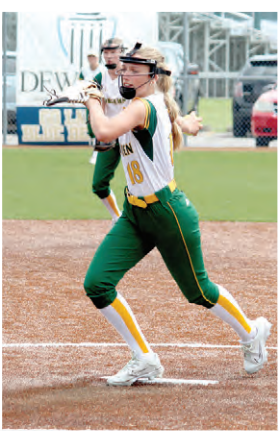
Whitney Handwork
Grosse Pointe South
Swim & Dive



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

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

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



Send your completed form to:
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media@grossepointenews.com

Entry must be postmarked Wednesday, July 9, 2025.

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Three skaters from Pointes headed to national competition

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Grosse Pointe often has been well represented at the national level when it comes to sports and more athletes are adding to that tradition this summer. Grosse Pointe’s Claire Wengel, Abby Owczarek and Evelyn Sherding will be three of the skaters representing the St. Clair Shores Figure Skating Club at the upcoming U.S. Figure Skating Excel National Festival in Colorado.

Owczarek and Wengel are both rising seniors at Grosse Pointe North, while Sherding is an eighth grader at Pierce

Middle School. All three skaters helped secure their spots at the Excel National Festival by scoring high finishes at the Traverse City Cherry Classic in June.

“I was working really hard to get there and get these scores and wasn’t sure if I was going to go,” said Owczarek, who will be competing at the Excel National Festival for the first time this year. “I’m really excited to go and compete because I was higher up in the rankings, so I want to be able to reciprocate the performances that I’ve had lately. ... To see some of my friends that I get to compete against, I’m really excited to com-

pete with them and work hard.”

The U.S. Figure Skating Excel Series is a series of competitions in which skaters earn points for their performances, with the top skaters in their respective groups selected to compete at the national festival. While it is the first time Owczarek is headed to the festival, both Wengel and Sherding qualified and competed in last year’s Excel National Festival in Boston.

“I got an idea of what it’s like to be on a national stage because it was my first really big competition,” Wengel said. “Going back this year, I know more of what to expect and am more prepared for it.”

Wengel, Owczarek and Sherding are three of the seven skaters from the St. Clair Shores Figure Skating Club who qualified for the national competition. With so many skaters from their home club making the trip to Colorado for the upcoming festival, it is a chance for them to make their hometown and club proud in the national spotlight.

“It’s going to be fun representing our club on this national level and hopefully doing really well,” Sherding said.

The 2025 U.S. Figure Skating Excel National Festival begins Thursday, July 10, in Colorado Springs, Colo.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF BILL WENGEL

Grosse Pointe North’s Claire Wengel will be one of the several skaters representing the St. Clair Shores Figure Skating Club at the US Figure Skating Excel National Festival in Colorado Springs, Colo., beginning July 10.



Pierce Middle School student Evelyn Sherding is heading to the US Figure Skating Excel National Festival for a second year in a row.



Abby Owczarek from Grosse Pointe North qualified for the US Figure Skating Excel National Festival for the first time after her performance at the Traverse City Cherry Classic in June.

I SAY— SPORTS EDITION By Mike Adzima

WNBA’s return to Detroit further solidifies city as sports hub

Detroit has always been a city with a proud sports culture, and some could say it is stronger than ever right now with the recent successes of teams like the Tigers, Lions and Pistons.

However, something has been missing from the city’s sports scene for a decade and a half — a professional women’s basketball team.

That is about to change after the WNBA announced Monday, June 30, that Detroit is one of three cities that will

receive an expansion franchise in the coming years.

The three expansion cities announced Monday will have their new teams starting in three consecutive years. Cleveland’s team will begin play in 2028, Detroit in 2029 and Philadelphia in 2030. This means that before the end of the decade, the WNBA will officially be back in the Motor City.

We do not know yet if this expansion WNBA team will become the new

iteration of the Detroit Shock, but the announcement of a team returning to the city seems to be coming at the perfect time. It is undeniable the WNBA is more popular than ever right now with the rise of superstars like Caitlin Clark. The league returning to Detroit feels like it will add another strong piece to the city’s proud sports tradition.

There are plenty of people who likely have been waiting for this ever since the Shock moved from

Detroit to Tulsa following the 2009 season. It seems like whenever the WNBA has announced expansion franchises, people always think Detroit will be one of them and now it finally is.

Growing up, I remember the success the Shock had in the WNBA before the team moved. The team made four appearances in the WNBA Finals in the 2000s and won three championships with former Piston Bill Laimbeer as head coach. With the combination of

success on the court and a local sports legend at the helm, the Shock seemed to have had a pretty good identity within Detroit sports culture before moving away.

The names who have invested in bringing the WNBA back to Detroit show just how important adding a professional women’s basketball team to the city means to some of its biggest figures. The effort has been spearheaded by Pistons owner Tom Gores, with help from a star-studded list of investors that includes Lions owner Sheila Ford Hamp, General Motors CEO Mary Barra, Lions QB Jared Goff and more. A lot of these people have invested in the city of Detroit over the years, wanting to see it thrive, and they see that a WNBA team can help.

Even though fans still have to wait four years before the team takes the court at Little Caesars Arena, the WNBA seems to be on track to keep growing more popular in the meantime. With the league on the trajectory it is, Detroit’s new WNBA team should not have trouble gaining fans when it comes time to play. Hopefully, the new team can reach the heights the city used to see with the Shock and become another point of pride for Detroit in the sports world.

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City of **Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in accordance with Chapter 8, Buildings and Building Regulations, Article IX, Fences of the 2017 City Code of the City of Grosse Pointe Woods, Sections 8-284(a) Exceptions and 8-284(b) Public Hearing, the City Council will hold a public hearing in the Council Chambers/Court Room of the Robert E. Novitke Municipal Center, 20025 Mack Plaza Dr., on Monday, July 21, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. to hear the request of Alan and Cathy Schuster, 1959 Broadstone Road (lot 336 Country Club Woods Sub.) Grosse Pointe Woods, MI, who are requesting to install a front yard fence at the building line. The fence application will require a public hearing in accordance with Section 8-284a(3). The fence application materials are open for public scrutiny.

All interested parties are invited to attend. The public may appear in person or be represented by counsel. Written comments will be received in the City Clerk’s office, (cityclerk@gpwmi.us), up to the close of business preceding the hearing. A group spokesperson is encouraged on agenda items concerning organized groups. 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.

Paul P. Antolin
City Clerk

G.P.N.: 7/3/25

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Have a safe & happy

★ 4th of July ★

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37829 MAST CT HARRISON TWP - WATERFRONT SOLD - BUYERS AGENT	23333 DOREMUS ST CLAIR SHORES - WATERFRONT SOLD - LISTING AGENT