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BoE rescinds policy

By Ted O'Neil
Associate Editor

THE GROSSE POINTES — The Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education voted 5-2 at its meeting Monday, Aug. 25, to rescind a policy that required certain emails between members be posted on the district's website.

Voting in favor of getting rid of the policy were President Colleen Worden, Vice President Laura Hull, Treasurer Tim Klepp, Secretary Valarie St. John and Trustee Clint Derringer. Trustees Ginny Jeup and Sean Cotton — the latter of whom owns the Grosse Pointe News — voted to keep the policy.

The policy, in place since 2015, said:

See POLICY, page 8A



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Welcome back!

Tuesday, Sept. 2, was the last first day of high school for Hadley Eszes, left, and twins, Natalie and Elizabeth Vassel — friends and neighbors since kindergarten. The trio, who are embarking on their senior year at Grosse Pointe South High School, was among the thousands of students returning to the Grosse Pointe Public School System for the 2025-26 school year.

Audit finds need for 650 trees

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — A comprehensive survey of the city's tree canopy found 521 gaps on city property, in addition to 130 unhealthy or dying trees that will need to be replaced or removed at some point.

Gaps are considered 40 feet between larger trees and 30 feet between smaller trees. The survey also takes into account distances from driveways, sidewalks and fire hydrants.

"I think we all know there's unhealthy trees around that people want removed and I think it was a little surprising to see how many trees there are that are looking like they're in decline," said Seth Krupp, M.D. and city council liaison to the City's Urban Forestry Commission. "Doing that math and thinking about how long those trees are going to be around and when they get removed is a bit of a wake-up call to think about how we need to increase our rate of planting so we're not continuing to recede in the number of trees we have in the community."

The recent boots-on-the-ground effort by

See TREES, page 2A

Author to speak at 9/11 memorial service

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — "It still stands as the most surreal day of my life and it still doesn't seem possible that it actually happened, but it did," said author Ed Zier, who will provide this year's personal reflection during The War Memorial's 9/11 Service of Remembrance.



Ed Zier

The service, free and open to the public, takes place at 8:30 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 11, on the lakefront lawn of the Alger House.

"As we mark the anniversary of 9/11, we pause to honor the lives lost, the heroes who rose in the face of tragedy and the enduring spirit of unity that followed," said Maria Miller, War Memorial president and

CEO, in a release. "This day reminds us of the strength we find in one another during our most challenging moments. At The War Memorial, we stand in remembrance and gratitude, committed to fostering a culture of resilience, compassion and community."

Three moments of silence will take place at

See AUTHOR, page 3A

GPPSS spent over \$50K to send student to private school

By Ted O'Neil
Associate Editor

THE GROSSE POINTES — The Grosse Pointe Public School System spent more than \$50,000 for a student to complete the end of her junior year and all of her senior year at a private, alternative high school.

The settlement agreement came after the student's mother took legal action against the district over treatment of the student in regards to her special education needs. "Elementary school and middle school were great, but

things started to go downhill in high school," M.S., the student's mother, told the Grosse Pointe News. "The school didn't want to work with her on her level."

At the mother's request, the Grosse Pointe News is not naming the student and only using the mother's initials due to potential social media backlash.

In the settlement, the district agreed to pay tuition for the girl to attend Aim High School in Farmington Hills, a private school that specializes in education for stu-

dents with autism, ADHD and anxiety.

The district further agreed to pay the mother \$7,000 in legal

"This doesn't happen often, but it probably occurs around the country more than people think."

MICHAEL EARLS
Aim High School head of school

was \$51,291.96. That included \$39,350 in tuition. The payments occurred between May 2024 and June of this year.

"This doesn't happen often, but it probably occurs around the country more than people think," said Michael Earls, head of school at Aim High. "It usually involves some type of mediation when the public school district can't meet the needs of the student."

See PRIVATE, page 5A

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Pointer of INTEREST

See story, page 4A



Brent Ravello

Home: Grosse Pointe Woods
Grosse Pointe Public Schools
industrial technology arts teacher



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New trash receptacles on tap for Village

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — Though it's not a project inherently filled with glitz and glamour, Mayor Sheila Tomkowiak has been at the forefront of the charge to procure new trash receptacles for The Village for quite some time.

"First item under new business, near and dear to my heart, is new garbage cans in The Village," she said, as the purchase request was brought before city council Monday, Aug. 18.

Promptly approved by the council, 40 32-gallon black cans with domed lids — intended to keep

garbage from flying out, as well as prevent rain from getting in — will closely mimic the style of the benches in The Village.

The expenditure aligns with part of Main Street Grosse Pointe's transformation strategy to maintain a clean and safe downtown, enabling it to charge the cost, not to exceed \$55,000, to the City's capital project fund amount earmarked for Village capital projects.

MSGP executive board members previously discussed interest in using the set-aside funds for this purpose since other projects, such as repairing the clock tower, are more fundraiser friendly, but no one wants to

donate money to garbage cans.

"One of my goals for the year was to get the garbage cans," said Councilman Chris Moyer, who has been a member of the MSGP board since its inception and recently was appointed chairman, to his fellow board members, "so I'm really grateful to all of you."

The cans currently in The Village are 20-plus years old and in various states of disrepair.

"Besides not being super attractive, they're also not very functional," MSGP Executive Director Cindy Willock said. "And so since the beginning of the year when our board itemized some top goal priority

capital projects, garbage cans have been near the front."

The Village originally had 40 trash receptacles lining the streets, but a recent count found 37.

A purchase agreement with Keystone Ridge Designs, the same manufacturer as the benches in The Village, will restore that total to 40.

"We've had additional restaurants come in in the last few years, as well as becoming a social district and we want to make sure we're giving everybody the opportunity to properly throw their garbage away," Willcock said.

An additional \$45,000 remains in the City's budget earmarked for Village capital projects.



COURTESY PHOTO

The 32-gallon trash receptacle with a domed lid was the selected design by manufacturer Keystone Ridge Designs.

Park's DDA renewal could be 40 years

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — For the first time in 40 years, late-mayor Palmer Heenan's name won't be on the D o w n t o w n Development Authority plan slated for renewal by this time next year.

Heenan headed the city upon the DDA's creation in 1986. He hadn't completed his 32-year run as mayor upon the plan's first renewal in 2012.

The current plan is set to expire next June, ending a 15-year run. The forthcoming renewal could last more than three times that long.

DDA board members

in July instructed Director Nick Sizeland and the authority's attorney, Kevin Kilby, to draft a renewal featuring a 40-year extension.

Forty years was considered a good compromise between what Kilby recommended as minimum and maximum terms.

"There is no set term under law," Kilby told the DDA board July 22. "My recommendation is a minimum of 30 years. Fifty years is a really long time. That's pushing it."

Forty years also is long enough to accommodate the life of most bonds the DDA may issue to raise funds for various projects. Bonds

can't be issued for periods longer than the designated life of the issuing entity nor useful life of the asset for which bond proceeds will be collected.

"Typically, we're on a 20-year bond payment," Sizeland said.

The DDA's purpose is to capture property taxes within its boundaries — commercial and public property on both sides of Jefferson from the Detroit border to Somerset — that otherwise would be passed to other jurisdictions, such as the county, for enhancements within the district. The DDA's current annual budget is \$149,000.

"There's three basic elements to the DDA:

economic development, property deterioration and historic preservation," Kilby said.

"If we could give DDA dollars to further encourage economic development and improvements to the grounds of city hall, that's an extremely worthwhile goal," DDA board member Giuliano Mancini said.

Board members want the renewed document to include an updated list of the DDA's general goals and objectives. They consist of but are not limited to:

- ◆ widening sidewalks to encourage retail businesses, outdoor seating at restaurants and pedestrian safety;
- ◆ adding protected

bicycle lanes, possibly linking lanes in the Park with those already on Jefferson in Detroit;

- ◆ continuing to review parking options, including construction of a parking deck with ground-floor retail;
- ◆ adding decorative pedestrian and street lighting;
- ◆ planting additional vegetation, from hedges to greenbelts;
- ◆ collaborating with Detroit organizations to enhance the Jefferson corridor, including cross-border green-space and
- ◆ extending storm and sewer system separation on Jefferson from Lakepointe to Westchester.

"There are opportuni-

ties where we can work on a cross-border business association, conformity in holiday décor, façade improvement and, maybe, similar standards," Sizeland said. "Maybe as part of our border we have public art or activation spaces and walkability to create a sense of place. That could also activate our district."

"The intent of this discussion is very preliminary," Mancini said.

Board members agreed with Hodges to expand DDA boundaries to include the alley behind Trombley Road.

"You see a lot of alley redevelopment in Detroit and other urban areas into beautiful spaces rather than just functional things," said Mayor Michele Hodges,

See DDA, page 4A

TREES:

Continued from page 1A

members of the City's Urban Forestry Commission spanned about two months and revealed north-south streets in the community have the most need. As far as east-west streets, Lincoln and Lakeland also have a significant number of gaps.

"We're not advocating that we plant trees in every single one of these spots," Krupp clarified, "but these are all potential spots and opportunities where we feel like we could start making a plan and a budget to hopefully plant trees at a significantly faster rate than we have to remove them, so we don't continue to lose trees and ultimately have less of a canopy in the

future."

Using the survey findings, the commission now will map out the gaps, enabling it to zero in on the areas with most significant need. It intends to focus efforts around tree planting in those areas, leaving city staff to focus on handling requests from residents who want a tree on the property in front of their homes.

"The more people we have requesting trees, the better," Krupp said, noting interested residents should reach out to forestry@grossepointe city.org. "If we know citizens are ready and want a tree and are going to take care of it, those spots are easier to prioritize."

The work is part of an update to the City's Urban Forestry master

plan, which is targeted to be completed and presented to city council this fall.

The update encompasses reassessing the needs and budget, as well as the list of recommended species of trees to plant in the city.

"We're definitely going to change, pretty significantly, the recommended trees," Krupp said, "with more focus on native trees, more focus on trees that are resilient to changing climate and more trees that do well in hotter, drier climates."

Since the last update in 2017, approximately 279 trees have been added to the city, but around 30 have been removed each year.

The city's budget for tree planting and maintenance is around \$12,000

annually and typically covers homeowner requests, funding anywhere from 40 to 50 trees annually at around \$300 to \$400 per tree.

The commission's current goal is to fill spots faster than the city is losing trees, as well as come up with creative ways to help supplement the city's budget to plant more trees, Krupp noted.

"Some things that we have discussed are planting smaller trees and in larger quantities," he said. "And the forestry commission is also starting to make plans for a larger scale fundraiser for additional tree planting above and beyond what the city is able to do inside its budget and to target some areas where there is more significant need in the city."

CITY OF HARPER WOODS WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN CORRECTION NOTICE

Harper Woods Synopsis: **Regular City Council Meeting**, published 8-21-25 line 3 of the Resolutions should have read:

RESOLUTIONS NOT PASSED

3) to approve the Special License application in the amount of \$50.00 to provide for the sale of liquor at the 2025 Blues in the Woods festival to be held on August 23, 2025 and further to authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the necessary documents on behalf of the City.

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100 Women making a comeback

By Ted O'Neil
Associate Editor

THE GROSSE POINTES

—A group of local women focused on charitable giving is reforming after a pandemic-forced hiatus.

100 Women Grosse Pointe will hold its first meeting since 2020 at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 17, at Whiskey Six.

"It's such a simple concept, I was enamored by it," said Jeanne Lizza, who along with Christie Scoggin is leading the

renewal effort. "Our goal is 100 women, but if we could get more that would be great."

Scoggin said the local impact is what led her to join originally.

"I was drawn to it because of how easy it is to make an impact locally," she said. "We think we can build up to 100 or more."

The group was formed by Lori Brophy, Marlene Heitmanis and Judy McGoughlin in 2016, and ran through 2020. The

idea originated in Jackson in 2006, and has spread to more than 600 chapters globally.

How it works:
◆ members gather once a quarter and pledge to donate \$100 per meeting to a nonprofit group,

◆ members nominate a charity and three are chosen randomly,

◆ representatives of those groups or the member who nominated them give a three-minute pitch,

◆ members vote and either write a check to the

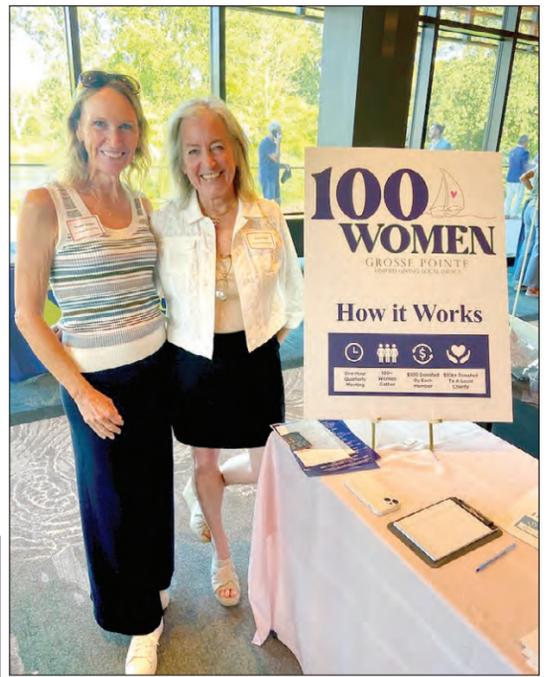
winning charity that night or promise to donate on that group's website within seven days and

◆ the winner comes to the next meeting to give a five-minute update on how the money was spent.

"Those who aren't selected can be nominated again at a future meeting," Lizza said. "Those who do win are eligible after a year."

There also are rules winners must follow.

"They aren't allowed to solicit members for future



COURTESY PHOTO

Christie Scoggin, left, and Jeanne Lizza representing 100 Women Grosse Pointe at the recent Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce nonprofit mixer.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE WAR MEMORIAL

War Memorial Board Chair Amy Chesterton addresses the crowd during a prior 9/11 Service of Remembrance at The War Memorial.

AUTHOR:

Continued from page 1A

the service — one each representing when American Airlines Flight 11 and United Airlines Flight 175 crashed into the North and South towers of the World Trade Center, and one representing when American Airlines Flight 77 crashed into the Pentagon and United Airlines Flight 93 crashed in a field near Shanksville, Pa.

The service also will include the annual reading of the names of Michigan lives lost in the attacks and remarks from Zier, who was chief operating officer of a financial services company with offices on the 77th and 78th floors of the South Tower at the World Trade Center.

A string of circumstances made it so Zier had breakfast with his daughters at their home in New Jersey the morning of Sept. 11, 2001, and was still making his way to the office when the attacks occurred.

"By the time I got to Hoboken, New Jersey, where the trains come in from New Jersey, and then you take a subway or a ferry across the Hudson River, it had already started," he recalled. "I watched it sadly from New Jersey. I really thought everybody I worked with was dead and it was the most crushing moment of my life."

Though his office employed 190 people in the South Tower, many software programmers chose to work late hours so only 96 people were at work when the first plane hit the North Tower.

Of the 96, all but 16 ignored building security instructions to remain in their offices because the streets below were dangerous.

"The fear, I subsequently learned, both talking to people the next day, the week after or

even years later when I interviewed them for the book, was such that they wanted to get out of there," Zier said, "even though there was no way on earth they could ever have conceived that a second plane was going to strike our building."

When the second plane struck floors 78 through 84 of the South Tower some 16.5 minutes later, the four Baseline Financial Services employees on floor 78 are believed to have died instantly.

The 12 employees on 77 — many of them senior management having stayed behind to gather important material — were knocked to the ground as the plane wing crashed through the floor above them.

Zier published "Undaunted" in 2021, as a way to pay tribute to the four individuals who died, as well as to be a legacy piece for the survivors.

"I called it 'Undaunted,' because the 12 on 77 were undaunted to get out with their lives — one of them being a seven-months pregnant woman," the author said, noting how they climbed down 77 flights of stairs in a hot, pitch-black stairwell filled with white smoke. "They all went together. None of them went ahead. In other words, no one moved faster than she could move."

In the book, Zier also mentions David Alger, who was running Fred Alger Management — a top client of Baseline Financial Services — out of the North Tower in 2001.

It wasn't until 2023, when Zier came to visit his daughter who recently had moved to the Farms, that he learned of his unexpected connection to Grosse Pointe.

"I knew I was going to be in Grosse Pointe on 9/11 and every 9/11, I

always try to participate in whatever commemoration or remembrance service there is wherever I am," he said. "I found out that Grosse Pointe not only has a 9/11 remembrance service, not only does it have a magnificent War Memorial, but it's also connected to Fred and David Alger, who were my clients and who were in the other tower."

Though now residing in Florida, Zier jumped at the invitation from The War Memorial to participate in this year's remembrance service.

He's passionate about keeping the memory of 9/11 alive and, as such,

will speak on never forgetting.

"The importance of never forgetting is why these (remembrances) are critical, so that we don't repeat the mistakes of the past and we don't allow the lost lives to be forgotten or to be trivialized as a statistic," he said.

Following the service, a coffee social hour will be held in the Alger Center Community Room for attendees to gather for conversation, reflection and fellowship.

Registration for the service, though not required, is requested at warmemorial.org/events/911service2025.

donations, although we're free to give them more money," Lizza said. "They also can't create, sell or distribute any list of our information, so women who join can be confident in that. If they break the rules, they can never be considered again."

Some of the nonprofits that received financial support during the first iteration of the group included Kevin's Song, Motor City Mitten Mission, The Arc of Grosse Pointe Harper

See WOMEN, page 4A

The Week Ahead

MONDAY, SEPT. 8

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Park City Council meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Rescheduled Grosse Pointe Woods City Council meeting, 7 p.m.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 9

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores Finance Committee meeting, 9 a.m.
- ◆ Main Street Grosse Pointe Board of Directors meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Citizens' Recreation Commission meeting, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 10

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

THURSDAY, SEPT. 11

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Historical Commission meeting, 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 12

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Movie in the Park, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 13

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Park Farmers Market, 9 a.m. to noon at Kercheval and Lakepointe.

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4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

Industrial arts teacher provides tools for success

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

In an office at the end of a first-floor hallway at Pierce Middle School, an academic counselor from years ago had a poster on the wall reading, "Think ahead."

The "think" part was printed in bold block letters spaced evenly for easy reading and comprehension. So far, so good.

"Ahead" was where the problem started. And where the poster's message lay. Its letters began big and bold. From the "h" onward, however, they began running out of room. The poster wasn't wide enough. To fit dwindling space available, the letters got sequentially smaller, jumbled, cock-eyed and overlapped like the piled-up railroad cars of a derailed train.

Lesson: The printer didn't think ahead. He or she reached high with ambition but, by not considering the limited space available, flamed out.

The importance of thinking ahead, of planning, of wedging possibilities into practicality is a lesson Pierce's current industrial technology teacher, Brent Revello, stresses with each fraction of an inch.

"I'm naturally — cautious is not necessarily the right word — I try to look ahead as much as I can to foresee potential issues and mitigate them," Revello said. "It serves me well. Having a

healthy respect and an appropriate amount of caution when using any kind of tool is wise because it slows you down and makes you think."

Revello works at two of Grosse Pointe's public schools. At Pierce, he teaches seventh- and eighth-grade wood and metal shop. There are three levels of students for each hour of instruction. At South High School, Revello teaches architecture, engineering and small engine repair.

"I have projects and support systems for every student," he said. "All of my classes are the same way. (At South), I have three to four levels of architecture, three to four levels of engineering, thankfully only one level of small engine and an innovations class in which we're trying to develop what we call 21st-century skills."

In wood and metal classes, projects can be almost anything: building from scratch a shelf, footstool or lamp. Tools range from hammers and clamps to band saws and welders.

Incoming students arrive with various levels of proficiency.

"As long as they're trying and see improvement, they're going to get a good grade — assuming they're behaving," Revello said.

A tenant of woodworking is to "finish first."

"Finish" is how you're going to put paint, stain

or clear coat on a project," Revello said. "If you don't consider that from the beginning, you may run into trouble. You have to think about what the result is going to be and keep that in mind throughout the whole project."

Part of Revello's planning process is figuring out what projects students like, can handle and if materials required are obtainable within the district's budget.

Tailoring projects to a particular student is common, especially if a student has lofty goals.

"OK, you want to do something different," Revello said as though talking to a student. "Explain your goals and let's see if we can work together to find something to test those goals."

He considers himself a mentor.

"In industrial arts, we get to see how students apply the tools and talent they learn," Revello said. "I find it important to have a good rapport with my students. Not only can we then communicate, but I can see if the student's feeling uncomfortable with their body language using a saw or something."

Setbacks are part of the overall process of moving forward.

"I like to give students the opportunity to fail," Revello said. "The goal is to identify where they made a mistake, (how) they could fix it and if fixing the error is worth the time."

People learn from failure.

"One of the skills I hammer is measurement," Revello said. "You'll find out if you have 1/16 of an inch off when you assemble everything, which shows why the most basic thing is potentially one of the most important. I try to give students experiences to experience that."

Revello is from rural mid-Wisconsin and lives in Grosse Pointe Woods. His upbringing came with a mindset.

"In a farm community, you're going to help whether you want to or not," he said. "If you find something to do before being told to do something, usually you're left alone. Things feel faster here in some ways, like it's a bigger world."

His route to teaching required a couple changes of course.

He went to college at Michigan Technological University to become a civil engineer.

"I found out that despite being good at math, once you get to calculus III and differential equations, you need the right kind of machinery," Revello said. "I hit a brick wall, shifted into construction management and graduated."

He worked for an engineering firm but really got on track with Menards' home improvement store's management training program.

"What I liked most was being able to help (a customer) solve a proj-



PHOTO BY BRAD LINDBERG

Brent Revello saws a wooden leg of a table he made during a woodworking competition at last month's Kercheval After 6 in Grosse Pointe Park.

ect, especially somebody who had very little skills," Revello said.

He even advised people how to change a light bulb.

Working with his hands. Helping novices get ahead. Everything seemed to point toward becoming an industrial arts teacher.

Plus, he had a taste of teaching in college. He taught a martial arts gym class.

"I'm a black belt," Revello said.

He left Menards to enroll in an industrial arts teaching curriculum in Menomonie.

"It's big in Wisconsin, especially more rural Wisconsin," Revello said. "I took my first semester and fell in love with the educational psychology, understanding how people learn."

He came to Michigan five or six years ago

when his wife, Sarah — they met in a Tae Kwon Do gym class he taught at Michigan Tech — got a job in metropolitan Detroit.

"Grosse Pointe was one of the few industrial arts jobs that was open in the greater Detroit area," Revello said. "I applied on a whim and got lucky."

He's comfortable with the way he pursues goals and overcomes challenges.

"It's incremental, solid growth over time," Revello said. "Like a tree. If you grow fast, you grow weak. If you grow slow and steady, you'll stay around for hundreds of years. I'm not going to be around for 100 years, but maybe my lessons can be passed down through the generations."

Like that counselor's poster.

DDA:

Continued from page 2A

also on the board. "That could be one of those visionary things for further down the road, or sooner."

"As I write it, I'm going to put everything in there," Kilby said.

"We'll have the generalized water and sewer projects at the discretion of the board, street projects at the discretion of the board, so you have some flexibility when it comes to broad projects in the future."

Renewing and amending a DDA plan costs

\$10,000 to \$15,000, he said.

"Half of that is publication — notice in the newspaper, first-class mailing, envelopes, letters," he said.

Many goals proposed for the forthcoming renewal echo those in the founding plan from 1986.

City officials at that time sought, among other things, to "pursue revitalization of the district through various enhancements which includes entrance way improvements, soften the appearance of the commercial area, improve vehicular and pedestrian circulation

to reduce conflicts, address parking needs and, wherever possible, in adjacent residential areas, complement existing retail and office use by expanding compatible development."

State law requires a public hearing as part of the renewal.

"Everybody in the district will get a first-class mailing from the board stating there's going to be a public hearing," Kilby said. "We'll probably post it around the district, also, to make sure. It's published in the newspaper, also. You can have more if you desire."



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WOMEN:

Continued from page 3A

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example, is a group I continued my involvement with," Lizza said. "They provide a shower and a pair of new undergarments to homeless people in metro Detroit. My neighbor, Al Sobotka, used to work for the Red Wings, so he'd bring me promotional T-shirts that didn't get used and I'd deliver them."

Scoggin said the group

is the perfect outlet for women who want to get involved in charitable giving but don't know where to start.

"That's pretty powerful if we can give \$10,000 locally four times a year," she said. "It's easy to be kind and we need more of it in the world."

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City of Grosse Pointe

Theft

Approximately \$6 in change was stolen from a vehicle parked in the 600 block of Washington overnight into Monday, Aug. 25.

Intoxicated

A 60-year-old Grosse Pointe man was arrested for driving intoxicated at 11:45 p.m. Monday, Aug. 25, after being stopped for speeding at Washington and Maumee.

Two for one

A 49-year-old Roseville woman was caught in the area after stealing multiple items from a business in the 17000 block of Mack at 6:10 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 26.

The woman confessed to the crime and also was in possession of multiple items stolen from a business on the Detroit side of Mack. The items later were returned.

Uttering & publishing

A 34-year-old Dearborn man was arrested Wednesday, Aug. 27, for an instance of uttering and publishing in May 2024, when he cashed a fraudulent check that was stolen from the mail.

—Laurel Kraus

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

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

Grosse Pointe Park

Robbery

When a crook entered a sandwich shop this week, pulled a knife and demanded, "This is a robbery, open the register," the cashier didn't get cute and ask, "Do you want fries with that?"

"The suspect walked behind the counter and took \$250 in cash out of the register," police said.

The armed robbery occurred at 3:25 p.m. Monday, Sept. 1, in the 15300 block of Jefferson.

Police described the robber as male. He wore a white hooded sweatshirt and sweatpants.

"(He) entered the store (and) acted as (though) he was going to make a purchase," according to police. "(He) left in a silver Jeep Cherokee."

Life saver

Although the Park contracts ambulance service to the same private company retained by most other Grosse Pointes, public safety officers still respond to medical runs and, as happened late last month, typically arrive first on scene.

The arrangement was lifesaving for a 2-year-old choking in the 1100 block of Grayton.

Medics and at least

one patrolman, PSO Jesse Lafriniere, deployed to the scene at 8:25 a.m. Monday, Aug. 25.

"Acting quickly, the public safety officer was able to dislodge a grape from the 2-year-old's throat with back blows and chest compressions, clearing the airway," according to an investigator.

Medics took the child to a hospital where his condition was reported as "doing well," police said. "Excellent job."

Tools taken

An unknown thief stole \$1,400 worth of landscaping equipment from a contractor's trailer parked during the afternoon of Tuesday, Aug. 26, in the 1400 block of Maryland.

The landscaper was working in a yard shortly before 3 p.m. when he noticed a RedMax weed whip and edger missing from the trailer.

Fake \$50

A man paid for a pizza with a \$50 counterfeit bill at a business in the 15100 block of Mack shortly after 1:30 a.m. Monday, Sept. 1.

"The cashier gave the suspect \$29 back," according to police. "The bill was fake. The suspect was confronted

and ran on foot westbound on Mack."

Police described the suspect as a tall, 20-something black male with braided hair.

—Brad Lindberg

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

Grosse Pointe Shores

Nothing to report per dispatch.

—Ted O'Neil

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

Grosse Pointe Farms

Forgot to lock

A resident in the 200 block of Fisher forgot to lock his vehicle and it was rummaged through between 9:30 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 24, and 10:30 a.m. the next morning.

Missing was the vehicle registration and insurance, as well as an old black Samsung Galaxy S21 that no longer is connected to service.

Approximately \$15 in change was stolen from a second vehicle in the 200 block of Fisher between

10 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 24, and 6 a.m. the next day.

Bitcoin scam

A 70-year-old Farms woman was scammed into depositing \$8,200 into a cryptocurrency machine on Warren near Alter Tuesday, Aug. 26.

The suspect claimed to be with Comcast and told her there was strange activity on her account consistent with child pornography.

Credit score

A 60-year-old Farms woman's low credit score clued her in to the fact that a U.S. Bank credit card fraudulently was opened in her name in October 2019, and had a remaining balance of \$21,867 with no payments made.

Unlocked

An unlocked vehicle in the 100 block of Ridgemont was rummaged through in the late evening Wednesday, Aug. 27.

Smashed

Though two suspects smashed the window of a white Dodge Ram 1500 parked on eastbound Mack near La Belle at 2:15 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 28, the vehicle's owner does not believe anything

was stolen from within.

—Laurel Kraus

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

Grosse Pointe Woods

Stolen vehicles

Two vehicles were stolen over the holiday weekend.

The first occurred overnight into Friday, Aug. 29, in the 500 block Lakeshore Lane. There was no broken glass and the owner reported he is missing a set of keys to the 2018 Ford.

A Kia was taken overnight into Monday, Sept. 1, in the 1900 block of Severn.

Stolen wallet

A resident in the 2100 block of Hampton didn't know her wallet was stolen from her vehicle until getting a fraud alert from her credit union.

Security footage showed the suspect enter the unlocked vehicle around 2 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 31. Several credit cards and cash were in the wallet.

—Ted O'Neil

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

PRIVATE:

Continued from page 1A

GPPSS said it could not comment due to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act — commonly known as FERPA — when asked if the district paid to send any other students to Aim High. The district's online check register, which dates back to 2016, shows no other payments to the school.

The result of the mediation states, in part, "The parties to this settlement agreement and release of claims recognize and acknowledge that this agreement reflects a compromise of disputed facts and legal claims that are specific to the parties. The parties further acknowledge that none of the terms of this settlement agreement and release of claims are deemed or construed to be an admission or concession of any liability or fault on the part of any party."

M.S. said her daughter, as a person on the autism spectrum, is "high functioning" and was in a mix of general education and support classes at Grosse Pointe North High School. Also diagnosed with emotional impairment, the

girl's Individualized Education Program included a paraprofessional and a team of support staff she could turn to when "feeling overwhelmed, intense anger or emotions, triggering behavior from peers or faculty or any mental concerns."

"They were there for her to talk out the issue and resolve it before it escalates," M.S. added. "Certain things trigger her."

The mother said because of a sexual assault that occurred during middle school, her daughter doesn't "mesh well" with men and she also doesn't like praise or attention.

According to a timeline she provided, a male teacher on Nov. 8, 2023, drew attention to her daughter in class.

"He knew that and I think he did it on purpose," she said. "The other thing is, she doesn't have a filter."

The mother said her daughter told her paraprofessional of the teacher that she "wanted to hit him over the head with his guitar."

"She didn't direct it at him and she didn't say it loud enough for anyone else to hear," M.S. said.

The student's paraprofessional and sup-

port group, however, took it as a threat to the teacher. She ended up getting suspended for 42 days and the district insisted rather than return to North she attend one of two day treatment centers in either Southgate or Detroit.

"We toured them and they didn't feel safe," M.S. said. "A functional assessment we had done in February of 2024 said she belonged in a school setting."

The girl continued to do school work at home, with some tutoring from the district, until the

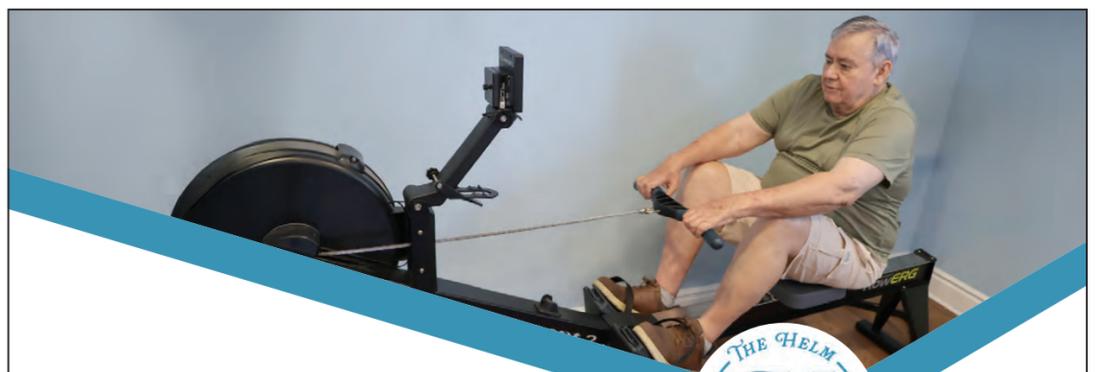
end of February 2024. That's when M.S. decided to seek legal counsel.

"Their lawyer told my lawyer he advised them to settle," she said. "This could have been avoided."

She added her daughter finished her senior

year at Aim High with a 3.6 grade-point average and did not have a single behavioral issue.

"She was one of three students selected to speak at graduation," M.S. said. "I'm proud of where she is now, but I'm not proud of how we had to get here."



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— DAN MCCRARY

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POINTES OF VIEW

GROSSE POINTE WOODS / GROSSE POINTE SHORES / GROSSE POINTE PARK / GROSSE POINTE FARMS

Grosse Pointe News

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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

Three strikes

Actions taken by the “board majority” (sound familiar?) of the Grosse Pointe Public School System continue to strain credulity.

Three recent occurrences stand out in particular and they certainly do not help build trust with voters who soon will be asked to vote on a \$120 million bond.

The most recent is the board’s decision to rescind a transparency policy that has been in place for nearly a decade (see story, page 1A).

It read:

“Posting of Board of Education Electronic Communications. The Board of Education supports informing the people so that they may fully participate in the process. To that end, the Board directs the administration to publish on the District website copies of all emails sent by a Board member (whether initiated or in response to any other email) to a quorum of the Board, as follows: A. e-mails regarding an agenda item shall be linked to the agenda item; and B. e-mails not related to an agenda item shall be accessible via a link entitled ‘School Board Electronic Communication.’ The administration shall treat the publication as a request for the emails under the Freedom of Information Act and Policy 8.2, redacting accordingly. Publication is not a substitute for a meeting under the Open Meetings Act. Under the Open Meetings Act, members of the Board may not use e-mail to deliberate toward or render a decision on matters pending before the Board.”

It essentially was a watchdog tool that served three purposes:

- ◆ it allowed residents to keep an eye on what board members were discussing outside of regular meetings,
- ◆ it saved taxpayers money by not having to pay fees associated with Freedom of Information Act requests and
- ◆ it saved school personnel valuable time by not having to fulfill copious FOIA requests.

A resolution to ditch the policy passed by a 5-2 vote at the board’s meeting Monday, Aug. 25. Voting in the affirmative were President Colleen Worden, Vice President Laura Hull, Secretary Valarie St. John, Treasurer Tim Klepp and Trustee Clint Derringer. Trustee Sean Cotton, owner of the Grosse Pointe News, and Trustee Ginny Jeup voted to keep the policy.

The resolution, introduced by Ms. St. John and Ms. Hull, properly pointed out that the original intent of the policy was to promote transparency, deter potential violations of the Open Meetings Act and discourage deliberation among a quorum of the board via email.

The logic of the resolution then goes fuzzy, saying it “has had the unintended consequence of encouraging rather than preventing OMA violations by normalizing or facilitating deliberations among a quorum outside of a properly noticed public meeting.”

The district stopped posting emails in January of this year on the advice of legal counsel, that being “the policy, in its current form, may create legal risk and that the act of communicating with a quorum via email — even when disclosed publicly — may still constitute improper deliberation under the OMA.”

We are unsure why the sudden shift when hundreds of emails had been posted over the past nine years. We also are not aware of any OMA lawsuits filed against the district regarding said emails.

As the saying goes, make it make sense. Posting the email might bring about an OMA violation?



ILLUSTRATION BY KEN SCHOP

As one astute observer pointed out at a recent board meeting, that is like saying a police officer giving a driver a speeding ticket caused the speeding. If an OMA violation occurred in an email chain, THAT is the violation, not the posting of it.

Now, the board is completely free to violate the OMA as often as it wants without getting caught. If nothing else, rescinding this policy creates an appearance of impropriety.

Speaking of the OMA.

You may recall our story in the Aug. 21 edition indicating that the board may have violated the OMA last month while conducting a mid-year review for Superintendent Andrea Tuttle after Ms. Hull made a motion, seconded by Ms. St. John, to enter into closed session.

“Under Michigan’s Open Meetings Act all meetings of a public body shall be open to the public except for limited and specific circumstances, such as to consider a periodic personnel evaluation, and then only if the named officer or employee requests the closed session,” Erin Malone, deputy general counsel for the Michigan Press Association, said at the time. “Courts have clarified that the Legislature’s intent is that the officer, rather than the public body, controls whether a meeting will be open or closed in this particular scenario.”

Some people on social media, wrongly, have tried to put the blame on Dr. Tuttle. The law clearly states the meeting must be open unless the person under review requests it be closed. The meeting should have started in open session and only been closed had Dr. Tuttle requested it. As board president, Ms. Worden should have known this.

Then, in July, Ms. Worden singled out a resident by name in an email to Dr. Tuttle regarding decorum during public comments at board meetings.

“While we have SROs (school resource officers) at our meetings, I am requesting that you work with law enforcement to ensure they are prepared to: 1. Immediately escort disruptive individuals from the premises when their behavior becomes aggressive or threatening; 2. Be briefed on the ongoing situation with Mr. (Richard) Schroeder so they can respond appropriately if future incidents occur,” part of the email read.

In reviewing several recorded meetings where Mr. Schroeder spoke, we saw nothing that amounted to an “incident” that should warrant threatening him with police action.

As we said at the time, Ms. Worden, an attorney, surely understands concepts such as “chilling effect” and “prior restraint.”

As the saying in journalism circles goes, sunshine is the best disinfectant. Sadly, it appears the board majority is moving toward the shadows.

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.

When a cry brings a community to life

To the Editor:

The morning of Aug. 25, my family lived through the longest and darkest minutes of our lives. Our 2-year-old son, Sammy, choked on a grape, lost consciousness and stopped breathing. For over 90 seconds he was blue and still, despite the desperate, heroic efforts of his mother, Cindy, his siblings and myself. In that frozen moment of terror, when we were convinced we had lost him, the strength of prayer, the calm guidance of a 911 dispatcher and ultimately the arrival of Grosse Pointe Park’s finest would prove to be our miracle.

Into our home rushed Officer Jesse Lafriniere of the Grosse Pointe Park Public Safety Department. With the speed, confidence and compassion of a true guardian, he took our son into his arms, cleared the airway and brought him back. The sound of Sammy’s cry — angry, loud, alive — was the most beautiful sound any of us had ever heard. Moments later, our EMT team had him stabilized and sped Sammy off to the Shery Cotton Henry Ford St. John’s Children’s Hospital (how lucky are we?). What could have been our family’s last memory of Sammy instead became a story of survival and grace.

I want to say this as clearly as possible: God is good and so is this community. In the very worst moment of my life, the people of Grosse Pointe Park — the officers, EMTs, hospital staff, neighbors and friends — showed me that we live in a place of unmatched courage, compassion and humanity. To Officer Lafriniere and every first responder who walks into danger and heartbreak to save strangers’ children as if they were their own, you have my eternal respect.

Beyond the uniforms, it was also our neighbors and friends who carried us through. Without hesitation, our neighbors on Grayton Street, the Dula family, stepped in to care for our other three children while Cindy and I rushed to the hospital. Our dear friends Marta and the Robinson family came within minutes to calm our kids and offer comfort. Our trusted babysitter, Sue, was there in the aftermath to help steady the chaos and my mother-in-law drove frantically from Troy to be at our side. Knowing that my other children were safe and cared for in those fragile hours gave me the strength to be fully present for Sammy.

Since that day, our community has shown up again and again — bringing food, sending prayers and offering every kindness imaginable. Each gesture has reminded us that while tragedy tested us, it also revealed the extraordinary goodness that surrounds us. This is not just a place where we live; this is a community that holds each other up when it matters most.

From my family to yours, thank you for

WEEKLY BUGLE, LLC

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:
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ADVERTISING
(313) 882-3500

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Advertising Manager

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Julie R. Sutton:
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MARKETING
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(313) 882-6900 ext 567

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GROSSE POINTE 7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

September 4 – 10

THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
67° 48°	68° 49°	67° 47°	68° 48°	80° 50°	85° 64°	91° 67°
Rain Showers	Mostly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy
60%	29%	0%	29%	10%	10%	10%
SUNRISE 7:01 am SUNSET 7:59 pm	SUNRISE 7:03 am SUNSET 7:57 pm	SUNRISE 7:04 am SUNSET 7:55 pm	SUNRISE 7:05 am SUNSET 7:54 pm	SUNRISE 7:06 am SUNSET 7:52 pm	SUNRISE 7:07 am SUNSET 7:50 pm	SUNRISE 7:08 am SUNSET 7:48 pm

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

See LETTERS, page 7A

I SAY By Anne Gryzenia



Toxic Facebook gossip

Facebook groups can have a lot of great outcomes — like when someone finds your tod-

dlers favorite toy at the park or you find the perfect table for your new dining room on the mom swap. And let's not forget the birthday fanfare — that can be a good time! Scrolling to see friends both old and new, from past lives and jobs, conjures up great memories and reminds us to reach

out to those we haven't seen in a while.

But then there are the other posts. The neighborhood eyes and ears. The self-appointed watchdogs who broadcast every minor incident like Gladys Kravitz from "Bewitched." Nosy neighbors and town criers have always existed,

but Facebook gives them a megaphone — and an eager chorus of commenters quick to pile on with "expert" opinions and accusations. Oftentimes these virtuous vigilantes post anonymously. It sure is easy to be a keyboard warrior.

Here's the problem: What feels like "commu-

nity service" often is toxic and damaging. It isn't fact; it's speculation dressed up as truth.

Recently, I've seen posts about kids in the neighborhood spiral from harmless observations to baseless accusations of racism and bullying. In one case, a child was named out-

right. In another, photos of kids on bikes were posted by someone who didn't even actually know if the group was responsible for the "crime" she claimed was committed. That's not vigilance. That's gossip. And gossip in the digital age has real consequences.

So before you hit "post," try a little test. Is it helpful? Is it necessary? Is it true? Is it kind? Are you sure about that?

LETTERS:

Continued from page 6A

giving us back our son and for reminding us how truly blessed we are to call this place home.

JAMES BRAND
SHIFITAN & FAMILY
Grosse Pointe Park

Good deed returns tenfold

To the Editor:

On Monday, Aug. 25, in the afternoon, I was in CVS in The Village. I saw six young men about 12 or 13 looking at candy. One commented about the price. At the time, I had a lot of singles in my wallet. I passed out two singles to each boy. They, of course, were surprised a stranger would do that. (I happen to have a 13-year-old grandson in the Woods.)

When I was about to pay for my purchases at the back of the store, the boys approached. They had a gift for me that they purchased — a beautiful scented candle. What joy!

One of the boys had on a Farms-City baseball shirt. He said Chip Getz was the coach. We talked a little about baseball and I think they all played.

The parents need to know what fine young men they're raising in this community. The cashiers and I were brought to tears.

LINDA MANGOL
Grosse Pointe Park

Renovation doesn't have to mean rezoning

To the Editor:

While we appreciate the Grosse Pointe Woods City Council's recent letter to the editor and desire to move the city forward (a desire, by the way, shared by the vast majority of residents, myself included), there is a basic principle that is being ignored by the council and planning

commission, despite it being brought up by many residents many times at past meetings.

That principle is that the property does not have to be rezoned to be renovated. Updating the building proper is a completely separate issue from rezoning how the property can be used, the latter of which would have lasting implications for both current and future residents beyond this one developer's request.

By purposely adding to this confusion between renovation and rezoning, the planning commission (and the city council) are playing on the public's sympathies surrounding removal of what, in their opinion, is an eyesore rather than being truthful about their desire to rezone all of Mack Avenue to commercial use in order to pad the pockets of developers and architects and garner more taxes for the city.

In the end, it's really very simple; renovation does not have to mean rezoning.

Let's work together on making the city better for both residents AND business owners rather than creating an adversarial and unnecessary rezoning issue, the likes of which will only get worse as the city seeks to use its recent \$50,000 Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) grant to attempt a re-write of the zoning ordinance under the guise of "simplification."

BETH ANN BAYUS
Grosse Pointe Woods

Public servants overstepping

To the Editor:

In their letter to the editor Aug. 28, Grosse Pointe Woods mayor and two council members urge residents to support rezoning or it will "cost us dearly."

Wow. Not only has the

planning commission failed, in fact and law, in its duties this past year with four rezoning matters, now we have three of the seven-member city council playing the role of 11th hour lobbyists desperate to sway the community before a critical vote.

Council members are elected to represent the community impartially, applying due diligence in gathering information, conscientiously analyzing facts, objectively weighing all perspectives, scrutinizing and upholding the law. Transparency, balance and respect for residents' voices is essential.

For five months residents against rezoning (growing from 15 to 300 to 500, now approaching 700 petitioners from all areas of the community) have presented factual data, backed by the zoning law and the city's own internal procedures, that clearly demonstrates no legal or equitable basis for rezoning 20160 Mack.

Yet the mayor and these two council members have decided that this rezoning is best for the city. They place developer's rights above taxpayer rights; try to steer resident-developer meetings; promote mediation that presumes commercial rezoning was approved; authorize their city attorney to advance the developer's position; and disavow their own motion for further public proceedings.

The lobbying of their letter ("choose rezoning," "cost us dearly," "voice your support") raises huge red flags, provoking serious concerns about fairness, bias and due process. Council members campaigning via the press, for a specific outcome on the eve of a vote, suggests pre-judgment and erodes the neutrality owed to citizens.

Thank you, council

members Gafa, Granger, Koester and Motschall for not crossing that line.

JON DOUGHERTY
Grosse Pointe Woods

Get the facts from residents on the ground

To the Editor:

In a front-page rezoning story, the developer cries "woe is me," and, with city admin, hides taxpayers for hindering commercialization.

While Buccellato persists to duck the issues, constituents provide facts. Let's again set the record straight.

Fact: March — 20160 marketed as "commercial, shopping-strip center, patio, build-to-suit" defying zoning ordinance intent to "avoid ... encouraging marginal strip business development."

Fact: April public hearing — Developer states site "could be 1-2-3 national retail stores, or national chain restaurant — 'and you'll love it.'" Despite illegal application and strong resident opposition, planning commission recommends rezoning. City staff schedule site plan meeting on two days' notice presuming rezoning. Only 13 residents can attend, powerless to represent the then-150-plus petitioners against rezoning. Buccellato a no-show; sends architect.

Fact: May — Council tables rezoning, ordering "further public proceedings."

Fact: June — Planning commission cancels "public hearing" and "discussion aligning zoning ordinance with master plan and future land use plan."

Fact: July — City promotes developer's case. Presuming rezoning a done deal, schedules "legal" mediation with judge on one week's notice, urging non-binding compromise. Next: Ignoring council's May

order for "further public proceedings," commission recommends rezoning without further public input.

Fact: August — Pressured by residents, Buccellato commissions traffic study five months after legal due date. Study relies on 2019 data and St. Clair Shores volume count. Other analytics beg critical questions.

Fact: To date, 20160 is currently in use, though developer deems it "unsalvageable." Mayor and two council members publicly influence constituents (via GP News) to support rezoning.

Flawed applications, questionable data, opinions vs. facts, an alarming disregard for process and public input. Yet the developer cries victim, with the community as culprit. And the city intervenes on the developer's behalf.

This isn't about "anti-development." It's about responsible, inclusive planning; transparent, honest processes; and protecting the unique character of our community. Residents aren't the problem — they're the only ones demanding accountability.

CHRISTINA PITTS
Grosse Pointe Woods

Taking issue

To the Editor:

I take issue with the letter by Cheryl Denman. Grosse Pointe school board president Colleen Worden was the top vote getter in the most recent election. In fact, she got the most votes in school board history. The community supported four new trustees 10 months ago and still does.

If the superintendent wanted an open session for her evaluation, all she had to do was say it and post the agenda that way, since it came out of her office. Dr. Tuttle is a seasoned superintendent so she is not new to the rules.

Further, why hasn't the superintendent spoken to her board president in six weeks? It is incumbent on the superintendent to call the board president weekly and have weekly standing meetings. Not the other way around.

If the superintendent is not accepting these new trustees and the community's mandate, she is the one who needs to step down.

Worden is professional, kind and calm when the same malcontents who lost seats ridicule her at each meeting. We are lucky to have her, an Assistant Macomb County Prosecutor, leading our board. The paper would do better for its reputation to stop printing this nonsense.

MARGARET WEERTZ
Grosse Pointe Shores

Protect integrity and safety

To the Editor:

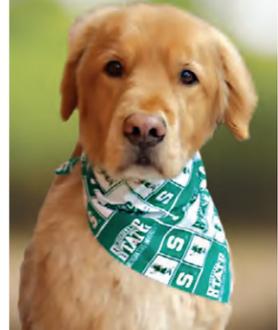
We are down to the wire as the Grosse Pointe Woods mayor and city council prepare to vote on whether to rezone the property at 20160 Mack from residential-office to commercial. Having attended many of the city planning committee and council meetings since April, I've heard the developer and some council members continue to argue that this is the only way forward — even as nearly 700 residents have voiced opposition.

They claim we need more commercially zoned space to serve residents' needs, even though at least a dozen commercial properties already sit vacant up and down Mack. They argue that the current zoning is too restrictive and that no one wants to lease professional office space anymore. Well, gee — who has the power to influence that? Instead of forcing more retail, why

See LETTERS, page 8A



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8A | SCHOOLS

Motor City Mitten Mission golf outing Sept. 19

The Motor City Mitten Mission Memorial Charity Golf Outing — a tribute to honor and remember the volunteers, staff and clients of the Motor City Mitten Mission who have passed away — takes place Friday, Sept. 19, at St. Clair Shores Golf Club, 22185 Masonic, St. Clair Shores.

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m., as does bidding for silent auction

items. A shotgun start kicks off the outing at 10 a.m. Entertainment is planned at 2 p.m., followed by dinner, awards and remarks at 3 p.m.

This annual event supports the services provided by MCM, a nonprofit dedicated to supporting those experiencing homelessness and housing insecurity.

To register, visit birdease.com/mcmmemorialgolfouting.

POLICY:

Continued from page 1A

“Posting of Board of Education Electronic Communications. The Board of Education supports informing the people so that they may fully participate in the process. To that end, the Board directs the administration to publish on the District website copies of all emails sent by a Board member (whether initiated or in response to any other email) to a quorum of the Board, as follows: A. e-mails regarding an agenda item shall be linked to the agenda item; and B. e-mails not related to an agenda item shall be accessible via a link entitled ‘School Board Electronic Communication.’ The administration shall treat the publication as a request for the emails under the Freedom of Information Act and Policy 8.2, redacting accordingly. Publication is not a substitute for a meeting under the Open

Meetings Act. Under the Open Meetings Act, members of the Board may not use e-mail to deliberate toward or render a decision on matters pending before the Board. The Superintendent, in consultation with the Board’s Policy Committee, shall develop administrative guidelines to implement this policy.”

Those guidelines dictated that the district’s Freedom of Information Act coordinator review each email and consult with legal counsel as to whether particular emails should be published. In accordance with FOIA, certain emails were exempt, including those regarding pending litigation, those that could violate the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and those that would violate attorney-client privilege.

Worden said the district stopped posting emails in January on the advice of counsel.

St. John, who introduced the resolution along with Hull, said dis-

trict attorneys believed posting the emails could lead to legal liability and communicating with the full board, even if posted publicly, could constitute a violation of the Open Meetings Act.

The move came a little less than two weeks after the board may have violated the OMA while conducting a mid-year review for Superintendent Andrea Tuttle after Hull made a motion, seconded by St. John, to enter into closed session.

“Under Michigan’s Open Meetings Act all meetings of a public body shall be open to the public except for limited and specific circumstances, such as to consider a periodic personnel evaluation, and then only if the named officer or employee requests the closed session,” said Erin Malone, deputy general counsel for the Michigan Press Association, at the time. “Courts have clarified that the Legislature’s intent is that the officer, rather than the public body, controls whether a

meeting will be open or closed in this particular scenario.”

Cotton said rescinding the policy would shift costs to residents who will now have to pay FOIA fees to obtain emails, rather than the district paying attorney fees to review emails.

“We need to balance legal risks versus transparency,” he added. “The policy is pretty well written and rests on transparency.”

Derringer said he felt the policy was used to politicize issues.

“Transparent work should happen in front of the public at the board table,” he said.

“If legal risk is at the heart of this, we could get rid of emails altogether for board members,” Cotton said.

It is unclear why the district’s legal counsel just now advised against posting emails. Both 2016 and 2023 saw more than 100 posts. Other years ranged from a low of one in 2019, to a few dozen in other years.

PRIDE OF THE POINTES

Rachel Rybicki of Grosse Pointe Park, a gymnast at the University of Alabama, was named to the 2025 Scholastic

All-America team. Rybicki was among nine of her teammates to earn a 4.0 grade-point average.

LETTERS:

Continued from page 7A

not shift to residential and build a small group of condos, like the St. Clair Terraces or others in Grosse Pointe?”

My home, along with several others on the first block of Oxford Road, was built in the late 1920s. Many of us are approaching the milestone of 100-year-old homes. A “strip mall,” like the one featured last week on the front page of the GP News, does not align with the historic,

residential character of our neighborhood.

I, along with many residents, urge the mayor and council to vote NO on rezoning, to protect the integrity and safety of our community.

WENDY LAWRENCE
Grosse Pointe Woods

Rezoning is a rocky road

To the Editor:

On the eve of a vote, the mayor and two council members lobby for rezoning as “a path forward.”

Sadly, they rely on

opinion — not data, analysis, evidence or law — to back their conclusions. So it is, instead, a very rocky road.

Try convincing current professionals that office zoning harms the community and that restricted office zoning “limits potential” and “inhibits new and improved amenities and opportunities.”

On the flip side, claiming that commercial zoning will suddenly “attract more businesses that serve residents’ needs” is spurious, especially in the face of numerous empty commercial

spaces along Mack.

Property values? Do the research. Studies disagree on whether commercial zoning raises property values. To claim certainty where none exists is deceptive.

As for preserving the “unique feel,” “warmth and charm” of our community: look closely at the proposed façade. Does it resemble our colonial character, or does it insult the very identity residents seek to protect?

By definition, 20160 Mack is neither dilapidated nor deteriorated. Is

it neglected? What are the comparisons? Where is the evidence for “safety concerns” and claims of “unwanted activity?”

And how does the building’s current state “cost us dearly?” If this building should be razed (the opinion of the developer) my own circa 1930s home should be demolished.

Is 20160 Mack being targeted unfairly — its architecture, historic value and character maligned — in swift pursuit of developer dough and tax dollars and lots of parking spaces? Is this

type of commercialization and design the land use future of the entire Mack corridor?

The role of all city staff and agents is to remain neutral while gathering and analyzing facts, enforcing laws and codes. Only after objective analysis of all information can a conscientious decision be made. Anything less completely erodes trust in the process and risks reshaping our community without a solid foundation in truth.

JANE FRAHM
Grosse Pointe Woods

Malignant Melanoma: See Something, Say Something



By Dustin Baker, M.D., M.S.

Melanoma remains the most lethal form of skin cancer, and its incidence continues to increase. Once considered a highly aggressive cancer resistant to therapy, it has now become much more manageable with significant improvements in quality of life and survival — even among those with advanced disease. Early detection remains critical to positive outcomes.

Multiple factors are implicated in melanoma risk, the main being cumulative sun exposure and history of sunburns, particularly in youth.

Pale complexion, fair skin, abnormal moles, and immunosuppression all increase risk. Family history also raises risk over 2-fold. Along with early detection, prevention is key: sunscreen and protective clothing, avoiding mid-day sun and tanning beds, and regular complete skin exams.

Malignant melanoma differs from other skin cancers. It can invade locally, spread to lymph nodes, and metastasize widely. A definitive diagnosis is easily obtained with a “punch biopsy” under local anesthetic in the clinic. Biopsy confirms or rules out melanoma, determines the depth of invasion and assesses risk of advanced disease. If confirmed, treatment includes a “wide local excision” and possibly a “sentinel lymph node biopsy.” This biopsy removes the first draining lymph nodes to evaluate for possible spread.

The characteristic signs of a melanoma can be recalled with the ABCDE mnemonic; Asymmetry, irregular Borders, non-uniform Color, Diameter over 6 mm, and Evolving/changing size, shape or color. Melanomas may also occur in uncommon locations — under fingernails, eyes and mucosal surfaces (lips, mouth, anus). A small fraction lacks the typical dark color. Any suspicious change warrants prompt evaluation by a primary care physician, dermatologist, or qualified surgeon to guide diagnosis and treatment. You are your best advocate.

Dr. Dustin Baker is a Board-Certified general surgeon specializing in general, trauma, and critical care surgery. He operates at Corewell Health Beaumont Grosse Pointe Hospital, with his partners, Drs. Ryan Soheim, Chris Scipione, and Arman Krikor. His clinic is located on the hospital campus, at 16815 E. Jefferson Avenue, Suite #240 in Grosse Pointe, (313) 473-4690. He and his team are currently accepting new patients.



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2B OBITUARIES | 3B CHURCHES | 4-6B SENIOR LIVING | 6B AREA ACTIVITIES

Art Takeover Project returns to The Village Kickoff celebration is Sept. 11

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Detroit artist Tim Burke's 8-foot-tall "Community Cats" sculptures will return to The Village as the third annual Art Takeover Project begins to take shape.

Burke is among several returning artists, as well as many newcomers, to the interactive art display, presented by Main Street Grosse Pointe and Posterity Gallery.

"Half of the artists are brand new; they've never done this before," said Michelle Boggess-Nunley, Posterity owner. "All of them are from all over Michigan. Our goal was to keep things local."

"... We accepted 85 artist applications and we have 36 (host) spaces," she added of the six-block exhibition loop. "We'll have outdoor installations, 3D, 2D, mixed media, watercolor, oil, photography, collage, textile. We had a lot more applicants this year, so we were able to jury the process a little more."

The event's popularity has grown, evidenced by the number of works displayed — approximately 250 total pieces — as well as participating busi-



Debbie LaPratt is among the artists who will be featured in the Art Takeover Project.

nesses and restaurants. "They came to us this year," Boggess-Nunley said of business owners. "People are really excited about the event. ... Stores are requesting artists; they've found an artist they love and want to have back. But most (of the pairings) are done at random, which is part of the fun — seeing who you'll end up with."

This year's Art Takeover Project kicks off with an evening event 5 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 11, in The Village.

During the event, some of the artists will give live painting demonstrations

in or near the shops where their work is displayed.

Other highlights of the kickoff include the return of Renaissance Festival performer The Amazing Flec, the acoustic sounds of Eugene Strobe, a to-be-determined folk band performing on the St. Clair plaza, caricature artist Emad Tammo and others.

"The idea is to have an artsy feel during the kickoff," Boggess-Nunley said. "And all the stores are going to be doing something special, too."

Sept. 11 also is the first day of the scavenger hunt, which will run the duration of the three-week Art Takeover Project. Maps and scavenger hunt cards will be available for adults and children at participating businesses. Adult winners will receive gift cards, merchandise and



PHOTOS COURTESY OF POSTERITY GALLERY

A painting by Roselyn Rhodes.

other goodies courtesy of participating vendors and merchants. Prizes also will be presented to children.

Boggess-Nunley hinted that the scavenger hunt questions are in numerical order according to the businesses listed on the map, so moving from No. 1 (Posterity Gallery) to No. 36 (Lucky Coffee) is suggested for an easier hunt.

However, there's no hurry; hunts may be completed in one day or spread out over multiple visits to The Village.

"People also can vote for their favorite artist and the winner will get a solo exhibition in 2026," Boggess-Nunley said, noting voting is offered

in person only.

Voting boxes are stationed at Half Moon Outfitters, Savvy Chic and Posterity Gallery.

While the artwork will remain up until Saturday, Oct. 4, a closing event takes place Thursday, Oct. 2, during which winners will be announced.

"We have such a great little downtown here," Boggess-Nunley said. "The shops are great, the shop owners are wonderful. The point is to connect everyone and the best way to do that is through art. Art is a universal language; it speaks to everybody."

While the idea is meant to attract people to The

See ART, page 3B



Sculptor Estella Boudreau's work will be featured during the event.



Leslie Dietsch's work is displayed at SideStreet Diner.

Participating artists

- ♦ Germaine Fletcher
- ♦ Rosi Triano
- ♦ Mark Domin
- ♦ Mo Osborne
- ♦ Setareh Ghoreishi
- ♦ Gabriela Jimenez
- ♦ Estela Boudreau
- ♦ Regina Kaden
- ♦ Joan Smykowski
- ♦ Dan Mc Nerney
- ♦ Tony Roko
- ♦ Sandra Campeau
- ♦ Christopher Charron
- ♦ Allison Lund
- ♦ Will Schippert
- ♦ Bill Schahfer
- ♦ Nicole Eddie
- ♦ Melissa Valenti
- ♦ Savannah Melcher
- ♦ David Stasiak
- ♦ Mark Zapico
- ♦ Tim Burke
- ♦ Pinetop Jackson
- ♦ Kate Apple
- ♦ Ryan DeMattio
- ♦ Christine Wardwell
- ♦ Emily Wardwell
- ♦ Donna Zetterlund
- ♦ Emily Bush
- ♦ Patricia Taylor
- ♦ Jill Teats
- ♦ Todd Ortbring
- ♦ Dawson Sarcona
- ♦ Dawn Ray
- ♦ Aimee Tomlinson
- ♦ Brant MacLean
- ♦ Cara Rossi
- ♦ Cynthia Van Haaren
- ♦ Mary Ellen Bazil
- ♦ Cheryl Halthco
- ♦ Lakhia Wilson
- ♦ Michelle Boggess
- ♦ Michelle Beaupre
- ♦ Natasha Wilde
- ♦ James Whitworth
- ♦ Leslie Dietsch
- ♦ Jeffrey Van Andel
- ♦ Katie Ninivaggi
- ♦ Luba Sordyl
- ♦ Dave Morose & Bea Reid
- ♦ Mary Anne Pilette
- ♦ Giovanni Gulley
- ♦ Dan Knighton
- ♦ Roselyn Rhodes
- ♦ Coleen Kordas
- ♦ Angelo Sherman
- ♦ Erin Maday
- ♦ Carole Everts
- ♦ Debbie LaPratt
- ♦ Vikas Relan
- ♦ Sheri Gulla
- ♦ Tanya Henze-Palazzolo
- ♦ Camille Goscicki
- ♦ Robert Stone
- ♦ Suzy Fishback
- ♦ Rob Cameron
- ♦ Cheryl Barill
- ♦ John Kilpatrick
- ♦ Dylan LaPratt
- ♦ Elizabeth Mikos
- ♦ Amanda Koss
- ♦ Linda Boyle
- ♦ Natalie Bohlinger
- ♦ Jacquelyn Block
- ♦ Joann Brady
- ♦ Wilhelmina Giblin
- ♦ Megan Sawyer
- ♦ Luke Hunker
- ♦ Diane Harris
- ♦ Nancy Erickson
- ♦ Christine Crossley
- ♦ Paul Lyon
- ♦ Valarie St. John
- ♦ Yazmin Aguilar
- ♦ Jennifer Peabody

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2B | OBITUARIES

OBITUARIES

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

Mary Elizabeth Hynes

Mary Elizabeth Hynes, 90, passed away Saturday, Aug. 23, 2025, in Muskegon, surrounded by her loving family.

Mary was born May 23, 1935, in Howell, to Walter and Elizabeth (nee Corbin) McQuillan. She graduated from Howell High School in 1953, and was the valedictorian of her class. She received a Bachelor of Education degree from Michigan State University and Master of Education degree from Wayne State University. She loved her 25-year career teaching second grade at St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic School prior to her retirement.

Mary married Paul Hynes June 14, 1958, and they enjoyed 60 years of marriage until his passing in 2018. Together, Mary and Paul enjoyed a lovely life raising their three children on the Eastside of Detroit. They were able to retire early and spent 30 years in Gladwin, in the Sugar Springs community, and nearly 20 years wintering in Scottsdale, Ariz. In her retirement, Mary found a love of art and art classes.

She is survived by her children, Kathleen McMillan (Andy), Phillip Hynes (Jill) and Maribeth Walker; grandchildren, Brendan Hynes, Andrew Hynes and Cruzita Walker; great-grandson, Axl; sister, Barbara Knight; and brother-in-law, Robert Hardy. Mary was predeceased by her parents; husband, Paul; brother, William McQuillan; and sister, Dorothy Donahoe.

A memorial Mass will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 28, at St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church Marian Chapel, 2929 McCracken, Norton Shores.

Memorial donations may be made to the Capuchin Retreat Center, 62460 Mt. Vernon, Washington, MI 48094, capretreat.org/give-now/; or The Leila and Cyrus Poppen Hospice Residence-Harbor Hospice, 2065 E. Mt. Garfield, Muskegon, MI 49444, bit.ly/4INu2E3.

Mary's family extends a special thanks to the staff at DaySpring, the

place Mary made a wonderful late-in-life home, as well as Harbor Hospice and the Poppen Residence for the remarkable care and love they showed Mary.

Arrangements were entrusted to the Lee Chapel of Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services. Sign her online guestbook at sytsemafh.com.

Diane Knapp

Diane (nee Nevergold) Knapp, 84, of Grosse Pointe, passed away peacefully Thursday, July 31, 2025, following a brief illness.

Diane was born May 12, 1941, in Buffalo, N.Y., to Edward and Elizabeth Nevergold. She graduated from Grosse Pointe High School and earned a degree in elementary education from Albion College. Diane also was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority.

In 1963, Diane married Robert "Bob" Knapp at Christ Church Grosse Pointe. They shared 62 years of marriage and raised two children, Jill and Jeffrey.

After college graduation, Diane taught second grade in St. Clair Shores. As her own children entered elementary school, Diane returned to teaching as a preschool teacher at the Neighborhood Club for 26 years before her retirement. In the years that followed, Diane found joy in running into her now-grown former students and their parents, who fondly called her "Mrs. Knapp."

Diane, also known as Mimi to her loving family, could be described as "all-knowing." Years ago, Diane was gifted a special embroidered pillow which read, "When all else fails ask Mimi."

She enjoyed reading, baking, volunteering and many special friendships. Every summer while raising their children, Diane, Bob and the kids would spend weekends at their Knapp family cottage on Union Lake. In later years as their family grew, the couple rented a large vacation home each summer in Elk Rapids and enjoyed a special week of family time together. Diane will be

deeply missed by all who knew her.

Diane is survived by her husband, Robert; children, Jill (Steven) and Jeffrey (Jennifer); granddaughters, Betsy, Katherine and Elise; great-granddaughter, Elise (Mimi's "two-two"); sister, Nancy Smith; brother, James Nevergold; as well as a nephew and many nieces, great-nieces and great-nephews.

Marion Margaret Yezbick

Marion Margaret (nee Orlando) Yezbick, 82, passed away suddenly Sunday, Aug. 24, 2025, at home in St. Clair Shores.

Marion was born July 10, 1943, in Detroit, to Russell and Lena (nee Tocco) Orlando. A lifelong Catholic and Michigan resident, Marion grew up attending Holy Family Catholic Church in Detroit and more recently attended St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church.

Marion was a woman of deep faith and unwavering love for her family. She was proud of her Italian heritage and carried on many family traditions, especially in the kitchen, where she was known for her delicious meals and ability to bring everyone together around the table. She had a warm, welcoming spirit and a great sense of humor that could brighten any room. She loved her Detroit Tigers, often cheering them on while keeping a scoresheet on her kitchen notepad.

She married Donald Yezbick in 1969. They were married for 45 years before Don passed away in 2014. She was a devoted mother who raised her two sons, Frank and Anthony, and was ecstatic with the birth of her grandson, Santino "Sonny" Yezbick, the son of Anthony and Alexandra. She loved spending Saturdays with her grandpup, TigerLily.

Marion is survived by her loving sons, Frank (Stephanie) and Anthony Yezbick (Alexandra); cherished grandson, Santino; three siblings, Joanne Bufalino, Frank Orlando and Dominic



Mary Elizabeth Hynes



Diane Knapp



Marion M. Yezbick

"Donny" Orlando (Cathy); and many extended family members and friends who will miss her dearly. She will live on forever in the hearts of those who knew and loved her.

Marion will lie in state at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 3, until a 10 a.m. funeral Mass at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 22412 Overlake, St. Clair Shores. She will be interred alongside her beloved husband at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, 25800 W. 10 Mile, Southfield. The family invites those who wish to attend to meet at the front gate of the cemetery at noon.

Lionel Joseph Montagne

Lionel Joseph Montagne, 105, passed away peacefully Thursday, Aug. 28, 2025, at home surrounded by his loving family.

Lionel was born July 28, 1920, in Detroit, to Edward and Irene Montagne. The second of five children, Lionel graduated from University of Detroit Jesuit High School and Academy in 1939, and attended the University of Detroit Mercy. He always credited the Jesuits for giving him a good education.

He enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps in 1941, and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, as well as the Air Medal, while fighting in World War II in the European theater. He flew a single-engine L-5

named "The Old Gray Maire" by Grosse Pointe's Maire Elementary School, which raised funds for its production. He received an honorable discharge in 1947.

Lionel was a General Motors employee for 44 years and spent most of his career with the Chevrolet division before retiring in 1985.

He was a devoted Catholic husband and father and was active in parish life at both St. John Berchmans Catholic Church and St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church. Lionel was the oldest altar server at St. Joan; he served until he was 99 years old. In retirement, he enjoyed golfing, walking at Eastland Center, woodworking and doing puzzles, among other activities.

Lionel was predeceased by his first wife of 52 years, Ellen Martin Montagne. He is survived by his wife of 24 years, Helena VandenBussche Montagne (Juanita), Barbara Koch, Judith Zedan (Louis), Mariann Montagne (Robert Herrboldt) and William Montagne (Kelly); and stepfather to Chantal VandenBussche (Debbie), Anne VandenBussche (Frank Delaney), Antonia Abud (Paul Kerby) and Yvette Belloli. He also leaves behind 26 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren. He also was predeceased by his



Lionel Joseph Montagne

infant son, John; brothers, Edward, Arthur and Robert Montagne; sister, Germaine Canar; and son-in-law, Frank Samborski.

His family offers a heartfelt thank you to Angela Paradise-Southway, who was so dedicated and loving in Lionel's final chapter of life.

A Mass of Christian burial took place at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church in St. Clair Shores. Interment took place at Resurrection Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 22412 Overlake, St. Clair Shores, MI 48080, osvhub.com/sjascsgiving/funds; University of Detroit Jesuit High School and Academy, 8400 Cambridge, Detroit, MI 48221, uofdjcsuit.org/giving/ways-to-give; or the Solanus Casey Center, 1780 Mt. Elliott, Detroit, MI 48207, solanuscasey.org/help-us-serve/donate/.

Arrangements were entrusted to Chas. Verheyden Inc.

Share a memory at verheyden.org.

Author Elizabeth Gilbert coming to Authors to the Pointe

Grosse Pointe Public Library welcomes critically acclaimed author Elizabeth Gilbert to its Authors to the Pointe event Nov. 5. She'll be speaking at The War Memorial at 7 p.m.

"Elizabeth Gilbert rose to fame for her No. 1 New York Times best-seller, 'Eat, Pray, Love,'" Library Director Jessica Keyser said. "Now she has a new book coming out this fall, 'All the Way to the River,'" which follows her relationship with her late partner, Rayya Elias.

Starting as a magazine journalist, Gilbert wrote articles published in Harper's Bazaar, Spin and The New York Times Magazine. Her work caught the attention of editors at GQ, where she soon became a stalwart, writing vivid, provocative pieces that grew into books and even a film: 2000's "Coyote Ugly." Gilbert was a finalist for the National Magazine Award and her work was anthologized in Best American Writing 2001.

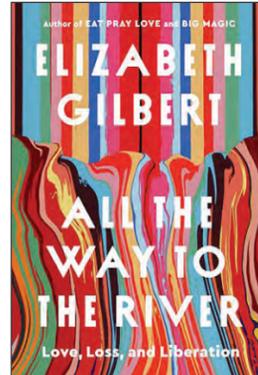
Best known for her works of nonfiction including "Big Magic:



PHOTO COURTESY OF DEBORAH LOPEZ

New York Times best-selling author Elizabeth Gilbert, best known for her novel, "Eat, Pray, Love," has a new book out, "All the Way to the River."

Creative Living Beyond Fear," she's also the author of "City of Girls" and "The Signature of All Things." While her more recent work has grabbed the spotlight, Gilbert's earlier books met with critical acclaim. Her publishing debut, a collection of short fiction titled "Pilgrims," was a New York Times Most Notable Book and won a Pushcart Prize, among other honors. Her first



novel, "Stern Men," won the Kate Chopin Award and her third book, "The Last American Man," which explores America's long-standing intrigue with the pioneer lifestyle, was a finalist for the National Book Award.

Tickets for Authors to the Pointe go on sale Monday, Sept. 8, for \$40 each and include an autographed copy of Gilbert's new book. To purchase tickets online, visit the library's website, grossepointelibrary.org.

The Friends of the Grosse Pointe Public Library and the Grosse Pointe Library Foundation are sponsors of Authors to the Pointe.

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Stories with style

'Behind the Brushstrokes' features tales and techniques of the masters

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

The Grosse Pointe Artists Association is giving art enthusiasts a closer look at two of the 14 paintings on display throughout Grosse Pointe as part of the Detroit Institute of Arts' Inside/Out program.

Its "Behind the Brushstrokes" workshops, led by artist and teacher Donald Cronkhite, will examine "Cafe Scene in Paris" by Henri Gervex, which can be found in front of The War Memorial, and "Self Portrait with a Straw Hat" by Vincent Van Gogh, which is located at Pere Gabriel Richard Park.

Not only will Cronkhite discuss the works involved, he'll also lead students in creating copies of the masters' works, making each workshop a hands-on experience.

"You don't have to be a great artist to enjoy his classes," GPAA President Karen Pope said. "And he brings everything —

paint, canvasses. If you don't draw, he even brings something so you can sketch onto the canvas. He talks you through the entire process, how to use colors, how to use shadows."

Replicating master artworks is a time-honored practice in art education and a valuable way to learn about technique, composition and the thought processes of great painters, Pope noted. "And Donald has become a master at it. He gives you a deeper appreciation of the artist and the way he works."

Cronkhite will discuss "Cafe Scene in Paris," created in 1877, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursdays, Sept. 4, 11 and 18.

His Van Gogh workshop takes place 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursdays, Sept. 25, and Oct. 2 and 9.

Cronkhite meets artists where they are, so all skill levels are welcome.

"If you have experience, you can go on your own, but if you don't have experience, he goes with

you step by step," Pope said. "He's a kind, supportive teacher and meets you where you need to be met."

All materials for the workshops are provided.

"Of course, he'll gossip, too," Pope said. "Donald knows the backgrounds of the artists, so people will get a deeper feel for them. It's a deep dive into the artists themselves."

"And you'll kind of get to know how they got (to the DIA)," she added. "The DIA was the first American institution to get a Van Gogh, back when he was under appreciated."

"Behind the Brushstrokes" are in support of the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce, which brought the Inside/Out program to the Pointes, as well as The War Memorial, where the GPAA is housed.

The DIA's Inside/Out installations run through the end of October.

To register for the GPAA classes, visit grossepointeartcenter.org/classes.



COURTESY PHOTO

St. Paul Lutheran Church hosts its giant rummage sale Sept. 5 and 6.

Rummage sale returns to St. Paul Lutheran

Billed as "the east side's greatest," St. Paul Lutheran Church's annual rummage sale takes place 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Sept. 5, and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 6.

Handicap-accessible parking and an elevator offer convenient access to the basement sale.

The rummage sale offers something for everyone, including

clothing (guests may fill a grocery bag for \$10), shoes, books, toys, jewelry, household items, holiday décor, small appliances, linens and more.

The "Boutique Department" is filled with new, collectible and name-brand items at affordable prices.

Organizers encouraged visitors to come Friday for the best selection

and return Saturday when items are half price.

St. Paul uses funds raised to assist several charitable organizations, including ministries in metro Detroit and global outreach programs.

St. Paul is located at 375 Lothrop, at the corner of Chalfonte, in Grosse Pointe Farms. Call (313) 881-6670.

High Holiday services offered

The Grosse Pointe Jewish Council will hold High Holiday services, observing Rosh Hashanah

Monday, Sept. 22, and Tuesday, Sept. 23. Services on Yom Kippur will be held Wednesday, Oct. 1,

and Thursday, Oct. 2.

There will be special children's services on both holidays.

The Grosse Pointe Jewish Council strives to promote the heritage and traditions of the Jewish religion and culture for the benefit of its membership and the community

of metropolitan Detroit's Eastside. For 35 years, the GPJC has offered religious services, as well as educational and social events.

The GPJC Sunday

School will resume this fall for ages 5 to 13.

For information on High Holidays and membership, call (313) 882-6700 or email thegpjc@comcast.net.

ART:

Continued from page 1B

Village, the hope is they'll discover a store they've never been to, a new place to eat or an artist whose work they admire, she added.

"We do it a couple months before Christmas so people will think of us when it comes time and buy local," she said. "If everyone did 10 percent of their shopping locally, it would make such a difference to downtown businesses."

All art sales during the Art Takeover Project are commission free, Boggess-Nunley added, "meaning 100 percent of the sale goes to the artist. It's our way of giving back to the artists for all their support."

"... We have the most incredible art scene in metro Detroit," she added. "The art community — and there are new artists all the time in Grosse Pointe — they just blow your mind. The



Artist Dan Knighton is among the featured artists.

work they produce is next level. This is a nice display of everything in one place for other people to see the talent we

have here."

For more information, visit posteritygallery.com/arttakeover2025 or call (313) 884-8105.



Angelo Sherman's work will be featured in the project.



This painting by Mary Ellen Bazil will be among those on display.

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

WEDNESDAY
10 a.m. - Bible Study
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4B | SENIOR LIVING



BE SMART WITH YOUR HEART

Great medicine starts with knowledge and small actions

By Grosse Pointe News Staff

It's no secret that heart health is one of our most important concerns as we age. If your body were an automobile, the heart would be the engine. You may be able to limp along on a bad tire or low fluids, but without the engine running smoothly — that car might as well be locked up in the garage.

With heart disease proving to be a leading factor in longevity for women, men and people of most ethnic and racial groups, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention urge everyone to pay attention to the vitality of this all-important organ.

For many, the heart is taken for granted in youth — but as the years creep up, warning signals can go off to alert us to the fact that we haven't taken the best care of ourselves in earlier decades.

The good news is that with attention and a few sensible lifestyle changes, one can do wonders to improve heart health and avoid heart attack or stroke. Knowledge is definitely power.

There are many things seniors can do to modify their risk for heart disease, but there are also some factors that cannot be changed. Education is essential either way, and learning the risk factors for heart disease is vital.

Since the American Heart Association's founding in 1924, deaths from cardiovascular diseases have been cut in half. With a mission to educate and support patients and ultimately to save lives, they also drive breakthroughs in medical science. Together with dedicated doctors and researchers they advance health care, offering hope and transforming lives every day.



Here are the facts. First, the factors over which there is less or no control:

- The risk for heart disease increases with age. For men, the risk rises after age 45, and for women it increases after menopause, or around age 55. Aging naturally leads to changes in the heart and blood vessels that increase the likelihood of developing cardiovascular problems, according to the National Institute on Aging.

- Initially, men are at a higher risk of developing heart disease. However, over time, a woman's risk after menopause tends to equal that of a man's. As estrogen levels decline after menopause, fat can build up in the arteries, causing them to narrow. After menopause, body weight may increase, which is also a risk factor for heart disease.

- Genetics play a role. Those with a close relative who developed heart disease at an early age may be at elevated risk. UChicago Medicine says Black and Hispanic people also have an elevated risk of heart disease compared to those of other heritages.

The following are the more controllable risk factors for heart disease:

- Hypertension, also known as high blood pressure, forces the heart to work harder and can stiffen the

arteries. This can damage blood vessels over time. Medications and additional lifestyle changes can help seniors combat hypertension.



- Smoking tobacco can damage blood vessels and reduce oxygen in the blood. Smoking also increases the risk of blood clots. Johns Hopkins Medicine says cigarette smokers are two to four times more likely to develop heart disease than nonsmokers.

- High levels of low-density lipoprotein (LDL), known as "bad" cholesterol, contribute to the buildup of plaque in the arteries. This can narrow arteries and restrict blood flow. Some cholesterol issues are influenced by genetics and are more difficult to control with diet and exercise. Cholesterol production can also be affected by stress and some medications.

- Lack of physical activity is a risk factor for obesity, high blood pressure and high cholesterol, each of which increases a person's chances of being diagnosed with heart disease.

- Believe it or not, healthy teeth matter. Poor dental health can allow bacteria to enter the bloodstream, which may potentially lead to inflammation that affects heart health. To be safe, brush and floss regularly.

- Learning CPR with your family, friends and coworkers could mean the difference between life and death. The American Heart Association trains 22 million people in CPR every year. Since nine out of 10 people who have a cardiac arrest outside of the hospital don't survive, it's easy to see why quick CPR helps. If performed immediately, CPR can double or triple a person's chances of survival.



Beyond the threat of heart attack and stroke is another heart-related issue that also tends to rise with age — atrial fibrillation, which is often referred to as "Afib." Television viewers accustomed to seeing advertisements for Afib medications might recognize the name of the condition but still come away with questions about what it is, its risk factors and other details.

So, what is it? The American Heart Association notes that atrial fibrillation is an irregular heartbeat, or arrhythmia. When a person has Afib, the heart does not contract and relax to a regular beat. Instead, the upper

chambers of the heart, also known as the atria, beat irregularly. When that occurs, an insufficient amount of blood is being pumped out of the atria, which causes the blood to pool in those chambers. The AHA notes that pooled blood can clot, which in turn can cause blood to be pumped out of the heart to the brain. When that happens, it blocks the blood supply to the brain, and which can ultimately cause a stroke.

Existing heart disease and high blood pressure increase a person's risk for Afib. Various heart conditions that fall under the heart disease umbrella, including hypertrophic cardiomyopathy and coronary artery disease, increase risk for Afib.



One immediate thing that can be done is to make sure you keep your routine schedule of trips to the doctor and make sure they count by asking the right questions.

Here is a list of questions seniors can keep handy to ensure they are partnering properly with their physicians to stay on track with good health:

- **What can I do to lower my blood pressure?** If your doctor discovers hypertension, ask for a detailed plan to lower that blood pressure, including safe physical activities and dietary recommendations in addition to medicine. Better yet, practice good habits before anything happens.

- **Can I do anything to improve mobility?** Reduced mobility can limit needed exercise and increase the risk of falls. When visiting their physicians, seniors can report any mobility issues and ask what they can do to address them or prevent them from progressing.

- **Do I need additional health screenings?** Screening saves lives, even if exams can sometimes be inconvenient, if not unpleasant. Seniors can use each doctor's appointment as an opportunity to discuss screenings and determine if there are any additional tests they should be getting each year.

By understanding risk factors and actively making changes to behaviors that can be modified, seniors can take strides toward protecting heart health and living their best lives.



For more information on preventing heart disease and stroke, contact the American Heart Association at heart.org or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at cdc.gov.



Second Time Around

By Margie Reins Smith

What's an icon?

The most over-used word in the English language today, I think, is “iconic.” It’s slapped on items that are ubiquitous and plastered on people who don’t deserve it. Iconic should describe something or someone that is universally recognized and a symbol of something more. Iconic shouldn’t label something that’s just flashy or surprising.

For a few weeks I kept a list (Honest! It’s

right here beside my desktop computer!) of all the people and things that were described as “iconic” on TV, radio, the internet and in the news. The word jumped into my lap several times a day.

The Waldorf-Astoria was called an iconic hotel; Al Capone, the iconic gangster; T-shirts, the iconic apparel; Wrigley Field, the iconic ball park.

The bald eagle, the Grand Canyon, Sophia Loren, Wrigley Field, the National Park System, Fleetwood

Mac, Hulk Hogan, Shakespeare’s leading men — Lear, Hamlet, Macbeth and Othello — and Inspector Maigret were added to my list.

Wait. Who the heck is Inspector Maigret? Doesn’t “iconic” denote something well-known or recognized by all? Sherlock Holmes is the iconic crime-solver for me. Hercule Poirot and Miss Marple are — in my mind — iconic detectives. I never heard of Inspector Maigret.

I discovered that PBS, my favorite TV station,

is premiering a new Maigret series on its Sunday evening Masterpiece Mystery program starting in October, so I’ll get to decide firsthand just how iconic this guy really is. The series is billed as “a contemporary adaptation of Georges Simenon’s novels about the iconic — THERE’S THAT WORD AGAIN! — detective.”

I looked up some information about this so-called icon. Simenon could be called prolific, but I don’t think his Maigret is iconic. Simenon published 10 novels about the inspector in 1931; seven more in 1932. He wrote them

at breakneck speed, devoting only 10 to 11 days to crafting each narrative. More than 800 million copies of the Maigret stories have been sold and they’ve been translated into more than 50 languages. The Maigret series is apparently the second best-selling detective series ever. Ever! Sir Arthur Conan Doyle’s Sherlock Holmes series is first.

I’ll give Simenon this: He was one of the first to write police procedurals — stories that emphasize step-by-step actions taken to solve a crime. Police procedurals are iconic, I’d say.

Hmm. I considered these novels. I love Sir Arthur Conan Doyle’s Sherlock, so maybe I would like Maigret. I borrowed an Inspector Maigret novel from my local library. It was translated from French. I read it in one afternoon and was unimpressed. It’s a little over

130 pages in one of those pocket-sized 5-by-8-inch paperbacks. The Inspector certainly was smart and he was a good detective, but he was not likable or quirky like Hercule Poirot or Sherlock Holmes or Miss Marple, or the ruffled rain-coated Lt. Columbo or even Jessica Fletcher in “Murder, She Wrote.” He’s gruff and grumpy and impolite.

Like Agatha Christie’s Marple and Poirot, he follows the clues and collects information, figures out what happened, then waits until he has solved the case before getting in touch with all the suspects. He invites them to get together in one room. Then he reveals which one is the murderer. That particular plotting device, I’d say, is iconic.

Maigret, in my mind, not iconic. Also — much as hate to admit it — Margie Reins Smith is NOT iconic.

Bicknell lecture series kicks off Sept. 17

The Dr. Frank Bicknell Lecture Series, presented by the Grosse Pointe Historical Society, soon will be underway, offering several lectures on a range of topics and interests.

The series is supported by an endowment named after the eponymous honoree.

Beginning this fall, regular Bicknell lectures will take place at the Grosse Pointe History Center, 375 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms. Seating and equipment for the presentations are made possible by a bequest from the estate of James P. Danaher.

Admission to the lectures is free, but advanced registration is requested as seating is limited.

The series begins at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 17, with “Stained Glass in Grosse Pointe,” presented by author, photographer and architectural historian Dale A. Carlson.

Grosse Pointe institutions featured in this presentation include Christ the King Lutheran Church, Christ Church Grosse Pointe, the Edsel and Eleanor Ford House, First English Evangelical Lutheran Church, Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, Grosse Pointe Presbyterian Church, Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church’s sanctuary addition, St. Ambrose Catholic Church, St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church and St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church.

Carlson was born and raised along the northeastern shores of Lake Michigan where, as an adolescent, he developed a fascination with the city of Detroit. Throughout the 1990s, he studied art, journalism and graphic design at four Michigan colleges, including Michigan State University, while simultaneously migrating closer and closer to Detroit.

In 2004, he relocated to Oakland County and in 2019, earned an associate degree in photo-

graphic technology from Oakland Community College. He is pursuing a bachelor’s degree in art history at Wayne State University,

which he plans to complete in December.

Carlson serves on the Berkley Historical Committee and has authored three books,

“Corrado Parducci: A Field Guide to Detroit’s Architectural Sculptor,” “Kahn’s Detroit: A Field Guide to Albert Kahn Designs of the Metro Area” and “Stained Glass New Orleans: A Field Guide.” He is close to completing his next book related to stained glass in the Grosse Pointes, from which the lecture topic was derived.

Carlson credits his late wife, Carolin Venegas Jones, for

inspiring his ventures into publishing and photography.

The Bicknell series continues well into 2026, with the following schedule:

◆ Oct. 15, “Tattletale Sounds: The Edmund Fitzgerald Investigations”

◆ Nov. 19, “Preserving Our Cultural Heritage: 1620–2025, A Career Road Trip Saving Our Precious Stuff”

◆ March 18, “Detroit Style Pizza: A

Doughtown History”

◆ April 15, “The Detroit and Cleveland Navigation Company”

◆ May 20 — at the Ford House Visitors Center, 1100 Lake Shore Road, Grosse Pointe Shores —

“Corrado Parducci: Grosse Pointe’s own Architectural Sculptor”

Register for the lectures online at gphistorical.org/bicknell-lecture.html.

For more information, call (313) 884-7010.



COURTESY PHOTO

The stained glass at Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church on Moross Road will be among those discussed.



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Members of the Maire Elementary School Safety patrol, c. 1950. Gift of Donald P. Barnes, Jr.

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The Grosse Pointe Historical Society has thousands of resources about the history of the Pointes and adjacent communities. Visit our web site to find out more.



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

6B | SENIOR LIVING

The Helm named a great place to work

The Helm at the Boll Life Center recently announced it has been recognized by Crain's Detroit Business as one of the Best Places to Work in Southeast Michigan. The Helm ranked 10th out of 92 best places to work.

"I am incredibly honored to receive this recognition on

behalf of our entire team," The Helm Executive Director Krista Siddall said. "We are mission driven with shared values and a passion for making life's journey the most rewarding for older residents of the Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods. I think the work we do is reflected in our corporate cul-

ture. At the heart of everything is a culture where compassion, respect and purpose drive us every day."

The selection was made based on an assessment of the organization's policies and practices and employee opinions about their workplace experience. Crain's partners

with Workforce Research Group to research registered companies' PTO, benefits, "fun" perks, training, diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives and more. This is worth 20 percent of the final score. Another questionnaire sent to employees looks at employee experience, role satisfaction,

workplace culture, training, leadership and work-life balance. These results account for 80 percent of the score.

"We do so much good for our community and our seniors and we have fun doing it," Siddall added. "And now all of southeast Michigan knows it, too."

The Helm hosts educational estate planning event

For those who have considered how their values and generosity will live on through the causes they care about, The Helm is hosting a special evening dedicated to purposeful planning and giving.

A free educational session with experienced estate and

financial planning professionals takes place at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 10. Attendees will learn how thoughtful estate planning can support loved ones and the charitable organizations that hold a special place in their hearts.

This informative session will

cover:

- ◆ the importance of having a clear and up-to-date estate plan;
- ◆ giving strategies that support nonprofits without impacting current finances;
- ◆ how to leave a legacy through a will, trust or benefi-

ciary designations; and ways to reduce potential tax implications for heirs.

Presenters are Robert Lubera, Esq., and Jennifer Lohrer-Elstone, CPA.

Those who are just beginning to think about their legacy, as well as those who are looking

to refine their plans should gain valuable insights to help them take the next step with confidence.

Light hors d'oeuvres and wine, along with coffee and tea, will be served.

For more information and to register, call (313) 882-9600.

AREA ACTIVITIES

Questers

The Pear Tree Questers meet at 10:45 a.m. Friday, Sept. 5, at the Ford House Visitor Center. Members will view the exhibition, "Wish You Were Here: Unpacking Ford Family Travel," which takes visitors through history, adventure and innovation. Lunch will follow in The Continental. The day chair for this event is Madeleine Phillips.

POST Detroit

POST Detroit, 14500 Kercheval, Detroit, hosts several workshops during September. To sign up for the following,

visit mutualadoration.com:

- ◆ Bring Your Pet: Create a Custom Paw Print Tile, by appointment 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 5. Cost is \$65.
- ◆ Sewing Machine Essentials Workshop: Drawstring Bags, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 6. Cost is \$75.
- ◆ Macrame Workshop: Hanging Wooden Shelves, 2 to 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 6. Cost is \$75.
- ◆ Drop-in Workshop: Resin Jewelry, noon to 3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 7. Cost is \$25 per piece.
- ◆ Two-Day Ceramics Workshop: Botanical

Nesting Plates, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sundays, Sept. 7 and 14. Cost is \$125.

Ford House

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

- ◆ Story Festival, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 6.
- ◆ Outdoor Summer Concert: The Dave Hamilton Band, 7 to 9 p.m. Friday, Sept. 12. Ticket prices vary.
- ◆ New Friends of Ford House Orientation, 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 17.

For tickets and information, visit fordhouse.org.

Library

The Grosse Pointe

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

- ◆ Teen Tabletop Game Club, 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 6, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.
- ◆ Beginning CAD Modeling, 4 to 5:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 8, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.
- ◆ Tuesday Night Book Discussion, 7 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 9, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.
- ◆ 7th & 8th Grade Book Group, 7 to 8:15 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 9, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.
- ◆ Im-Prompt-Tu Reads, 11 a.m. to noon Wednesday, Sept. 10, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.
- ◆ In Hot Mug Discussion Group, 1 to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 10, at LeRouge Boulangerie, 15215 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Park.
- ◆ OpenSpot Theatre Workshop, 4 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 10, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.
- ◆ Teen Anime/Manga

- ◆ Home Food Preservation Series with Michigan State University: Seed Saving 101, 4 to 5 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 11, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.
- ◆ Library Bigs & Littles, 10 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 13, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.
- ◆ Family Movie, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 13, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.
- ◆ Anime-Style Character Design & Concept Art Workshop with Finn Heenan, 1 to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 13, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.
- ◆ Reader Dog, 2 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 13, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

Clair Shores. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Sept. 8, Ford House, 1100 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Shores.

Noon to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 10, Holy Innocents-St. Barnabas Parish, 26100 Ridgemont, Roseville.

Noon to 6 p.m. Friday, Sept. 12, Recreation Authority of Roseville & Eastpointe, 18185 Sycamore, Roseville.

Register at redcrossblood.org.

Rotary

The Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe hosts its next meeting at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 10, at Village Grille, 16930 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe. Member Kelly Boyd speaks. Email grossepointerotary@gmail.com.

Jardinieres

La Societe des Jardinieres hosts its first meeting of the season at noon Thursday, Sept. 11, at Filippa's restaurant on Mound Road in Shelby Township. The program will be "Insect Crisis," presented by hostess Pat Hays. Dues will be collected.

Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

- ◆ 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 7, St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 21620 Greater Mack, St.

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Call 313-643-5845 to RSVP by September 10.

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LIFE & LEISURE



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

Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Centennial Park grand opening scheduled Oct. 25-26

The Detroit Riverfront Conservancy invites the metro Detroit community to celebrate the grand opening of the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Centennial Park Oct. 25 and 26. The celebration begins at 10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 25, with a press conference and ceremonial grand opening of the 22-acre park.

Elements of the conservancy's Detroit Harvest Fest will move to the Ralph Wilson Park grand-opening celebration and will become a free event this year, including live entertainment, fall activities and local eats. Guests can take a ride down the 23-foot-tall bear slide at the Delta Dental Play Garden, be the first to shoot hoops in the William Davidson Sport House, stroll the water's edge along the Huron-Clinton Metroparks Water Garden and enjoy live music on the grass of the DTE Foundation Summit.

The opening weekend is presented by the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy and the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation.

"Ralph Wilson Park will open as one of the most iconic public spaces in the country and will represent a massive step towards the completion of our vision for 5.5 miles of perpetual public access to our revitalized riverfront," said Matt Cullen, chairman of the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy Board of Directors. "Our community owes a tremendous debt of gratitude to the Wilson Foundation for launching this vision for Detroit, as well as to the



PHOTOS COURTESY OF NADIR ALI

The DTE Foundation Summit at Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Centennial Park.

many partners that joined them in turning this vision into a reality, such as William Davidson Foundation, Huron-Clinton Metroparks, Delta Dental, Erb Foundation, DTE Foundation and all of the other benefactors who have made this achievement possible."

Conservancy leaders expect the dramatically changed landscape along the downtown riverfront to provide significant economic benefits in the area as well. Construction began on the project the summer of 2022.

The park honors the legacy of late entrepreneur, veteran and philanthropist Ralph C. Wilson Jr. It was designed by New York-based Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates, which won

an international design competition in the conservancy hosted in 2018.

The park is another major step forward in completing the nonprofit's goal of developing 5.5 miles of revitalized waterfront along the Detroit Riverfront.

The conservancy celebrated the completion of the 3.5-mile East Riverfront in fall 2023.

"When Ralph Wilson Park opens in a few months, it will be a world-class gathering place for all," said Ryan Sullivan, CEO of the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy. "The park's design has been community-led since the beginning and Detroiters of all ages have contributed ideas and inspiration that have come to life in this park. We are thrilled to

welcome everyone to this public space the weekend of Oct. 25 and 26. There is truly something for everyone to enjoy."

In addition to the grand opening of Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Centennial Park, Oct. 25 also marks

the opening of the boardwalk in front of Riverfront Towers and a new stretch of Riverwalk just west of the boardwalk.

Once opened, this new stretch will allow Detroiters to move seamlessly between Belle Isle,

Eastern Market, Michigan Central and downtown Detroit, all along the Riverwalk and associated greenways.

Ralph Wilson Park is located along the West Riverfront at 1801 W. Jefferson.



The Delta Dental Play Garden.



The William Davidson Sport House.

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Neighborhood pet leaves it all behind

Dear Gabby: My neighbor's dog poops in every yard and she never picks it up. Help! — Stepping in it in the City

Dear Stepping: Few things ruin a morning stroll faster than a fresh surprise on the sidewalk.

Start with a friendly face-to-face approach if you can. A simple "Hey I've noticed some dog waste being left behind.

Can you help spread the word about cleaning up?" might be enough to plant the seed.

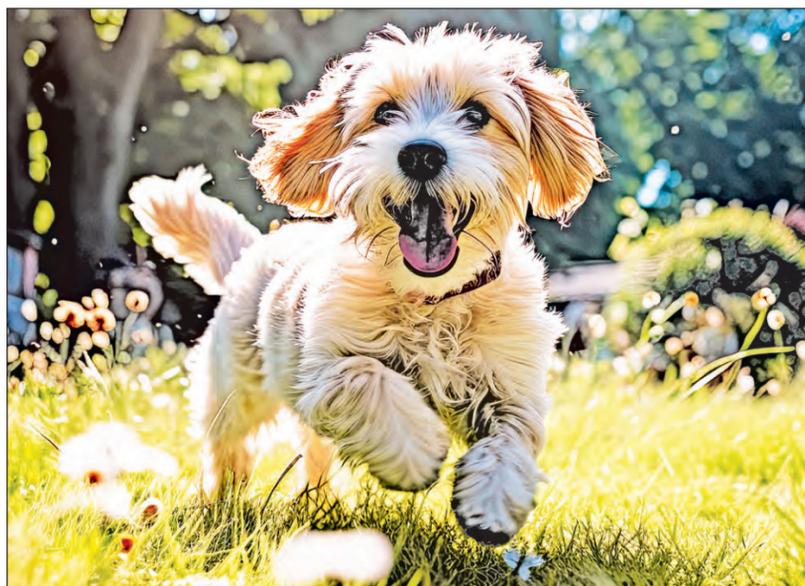
If that doesn't work, a polite yard sign can reinforce the message without direct confrontation. And if the problem continues, don't be afraid to reach out to the city's public services department.

Many neighborhoods have rules about pet

waste and can send reminders or issue warnings. It's not petty; it's about keeping the neighborhood clean and livable for everyone, including the dogs.

— Gabby

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



Guidance from grandma

DEAR ANNIE: I am a 68-year-old Grammy, and I love to do things with my grandchildren. Unfortunately, as we age, our immunity lowers, and we can become sick more easily.

We can expose whooping cough to our grandbabies by just holding them. Pneumonia can be deadly, too, along with COVID-19 or the flu.

So, as we become older, we have to take care of ourselves so we can enjoy our grandchildren, which we have been blessed with. I have six, from the ages of 19 to 1. — Oregon and Idaho Grammy

DEAR GRAMMY: Your words of caution are well-founded, and your grandchildren are

lucky to have such a conscientious and loving grandmother.

DEAR ANNIE: As someone who lived in an environment similar to the Cinderella who wrote to you, I wanted to say that I thought your response was a good one, except for finding Prince Charming. NO ONE can save us but ourselves. Before looking for Prince Charming, Cinderella needs to learn to love herself. This can be tough with her background, but it is doable.

Cinderella might want to emotionally step outside of herself and talk to her "better emotionally healthy self." She can do this with or without a ther-

apist. The answers she will receive will be so much better than looking for a Prince Charming to save her or to complete her.

The purpose of finding a mate is neither to be saved nor to live happily ever after. The mate should help Cinderella be the best possible version of herself, but Cinderella can become her best version with or without the prince. — A 72-Year-Old Cinderella Who Is Still Finding Herself and Enjoying the Journey

DEAR CINDERELLA: Thank you for sharing your letter. You are correct that one of the most important love affairs to have is loving yourself. But finding a Prince

Charming is icing on the cake. There are many wonderful cakes without icing, but there are also many wonderful cakes with icing.

DEAR ANNIE: My friend and I have been friends for 30 years. We met when we were little kids, and now we are both 37.

She has two beautiful daughters by different men. The father of one of her daughters is her current boyfriend, and they have no plans to get married. The way I see them parenting, it is as if they are playing house.

I asked my friend if she wants him to marry her, and she said yes, but he sees no reason to because, he says, "it is



Dear Annie

by Annie Lane

just a piece of paper."

My biggest concern is that he dotes on the daughter they have together, age 2, and he virtually ignores her other daughter, who is 8. What makes me most upset is that she has started calling him "Daddy." I told my friend that she should correct the older daughter, or one day, when she is grown up, she will want to know who her real dad is.

What should I do? — Concerned Friend

DEAR CONCERNED FRIEND: You should mind your own business. You are concerning your-

self with some pretty personal details of your friend's life. It is her choice as to what she is comfortable with in the relationship. Just focus on your friendship and enjoying your friend. If your friend is concerned for her daughter's feelings, she will step in herself. The only way it would be appropriate if she were to confide in you that she herself is worried.

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

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We Tried It! Lots of ice is nice

School may be starting, but it's still summer and let's face it, having lots of ice is nice.

For some the obsession for ice is real and, apparently, a fairly American ideal. A handful of my friends and family have traveled to Europe the last few summers (including my famous "We Tried It" writer and cousin Anna Lizer, whom you regularly read in this space). When they came back, most of them talked not as much about the Eiffel Tower or the Vatican, but about how much they missed ice. Apparently, it's just not a "thing" over there. No wonder we won the Revolution.

That's unlike my house, where there's a daily, family-wide competition for these frozen delicacies. We pride ourselves on our gatekeeping over who we deem the "Biggest (Ice) User" in the house and argue over it like it's a reality TV show. None of us are afraid to openly shame who we "heard" taking too long at the ice dispenser in our family group chat.

With Yeti cups basically attached to my four children's hands at all times, it makes me contemplate how I survived my childhood only drinking from a hose. Also how my family survived with just a single

refillable metal ice cube container in our freezer. We '70s and '80s kids are resilient, I'll say. But in 2025, I'm just as bad (good?) about needing copious amounts of ice with my emotional support water cup as the next kid.

So while we are a well-hydrated clan, we also completely devastate our ice inventory, usually by lunchtime.

We're even lucky/obsessed enough with ice to have an additional "artisan ice cube" maker within our freezer, which came with our model. We dip into those suckers once

the regular cubes are gone. (Side note: My husband wants it on record that he "hates" water and never uses our ice — allegedly. Funny how those big,

round artisan cubes magically find themselves in a glass of whiskey and bits on Friday evenings, but I digress.)

All of this brings us to how I recently took matters into my own hands. I took the plunge and purchased a portable ice maker for our countertop. I hardly wanted one more

by Hanna Lizer



apparatus to take up counter space or lug up and down our basement stairs (read: air fryer), but I was sick of tracking our ice levels like the stock market. While researching ice makers — and by researching I mean looking at Instagram — I saw a post from "Today" on the best countertop ice makers, which linked this article: <https://www.today.com/shop/ranked-best-ice-makers-rcna206227>.

The one that caught my eye was the Crzoe Portable Countertop Ice Maker Machine, available at Amazon, Walmart and Target. Its price point was startlingly affordable, ranging from \$35.98 to \$39.99, depending on the store. You can purchase at [tinyurl.com/236h649s](https://www.tinyurl.com/236h649s).

I zeroed in on Amazon, but the catch for me was the shipping cost. For some reason at the time, it was an additional \$35. You read that correctly. I hesitated. I checked the other stores' shipping costs and those were less but delivery was 10 to 14 days out. So I paid the premium and looked at it like a convenience fee to get it so quickly.

I did check Amazon again before submitting

this review and not only is the exorbitant shipping fee gone, the ice machine was 10 percent off. However delivery was 10 days out, so I think you just have to pick the lesser of two evils. Or actually go inside a store and buy it — something I did not do.

In any event, I got the ice maker in short order, tore open the box and read through the directions. It took five minutes to attach the handle, remove all of the protective film and wipe down all the parts. It said to allow the machine to sit for three hours for refrigerator coolant to settle, so I obliged, not wanting to screw the thing up before I even got started.

Everything from there was pretty straightforward. I used distilled water for my cubes (experts advise ice stays frozen longer with distilled water, so if that wisdom is good enough for the Gospel according to TikTok, I'm in). I pressed the On/Off button on the control panel on top of the maker, waited "6 to 13 minutes" like the directions indicated and waited for the magic to happen.

I would say by minute 10, ice was flowing into the basket. I watched it all unfold like I was a first-time passenger on the Maid of the Mist. When the ice compartment at the bottom of the machine filled up, the machine moved up the load of ice

fork-lift style to a removable basket, which acts like a sort of holding tank. Then it started another round. I would estimate that each "fill up" of water amounts to five or six rounds of ice making, with about a dozen medium-size, round "bullet" ice cubes (the hole in the center earns them the nickname) per round.

Soon I was taking out the removable basket with fresh batches of ice and methodically filling a gallon Ziplock bag to store in the freezer. Kids, you'll never go thirsty again, I thought, feeling a bit like a pioneer fetching water for her family from a fresh spring.

An "ICE FULL" indicator light notifies you when it's time to empty the basket, which is helpful. However, my indicator light was a little sensitive when an ice cube didn't completely clear into the holding tank, so I had to keep my eye on that. Not a problem when you're captivated by this little bugger like I was. Might get irksome when you just need it to keep making ice when you are busy entertaining.

This machine is a small, but mighty-adjacent 8.6 inches wide and weighs 6.2 pounds. It fit nicely on my bar countertop. It comes with a handle, too, making it easy to transport. I also thought it made the ice

See ICE, page 3C

Not yet fall-ish dinner

Courtesy of Mombeau's Table

Fall has certainly been teasing us the past week. Even though summer doesn't officially end until Sept. 22, I have seen trees with leaves already changing and have felt the cold, crisp air. As I write this, my kids are back in school and everyone's mindset has shifted to routine. I always feel that surge of "supermom" energy for at least the first month of school.

There are always healthy breakfast and snack options. Dinners involve every color of the rainbow and are served exactly at 7 p.m. to those not in after school activities. This energy typically tapers off a bit as the months go on but then I get recharged once the new year arrives. By May, it's pretty much a "grab what you can find in the pantry" mentality. And I'm ok with this. Everyone knows the drill.

This week, I thought I would share a very typical meal in my house. I was struggling to come up with an idea for this week's recipe. So, what better idea than to show you exactly what I pulled together for my hungry family last Thursday?

It was a cold day and I wanted to make something in the oven that was comforting and hot. Something that would

make the whole house smell good. This is a chicken and rice dish with lots of summer vegetables. To "fall it up," I used lots of fresh sage that is overflowing in the garden. You could use thyme, rosemary or even basil instead but I love the earthy comfort of sage.

This recipe gave me a reason to use my new favorite ingredient. It's a spice rub from Eastern Market's butchery, Strauss Brothers. This small batch seasoning called Bold Beef is out of this world. Yes, I used Bold Beef seasoning on chicken because it's good on anything. It's peppery, salty and has lots of celery seed in it. I found mine at a small grocery store in Port Austin. If you are ever at the Eastern Market or spot it in the grocery store, you won't regret buying it. If not, use your favorite all-purpose chicken seasoning or any garlic herb rub. You just want flavorful chicken.

I like this meal because it's a satisfying, one-pot dinner that is loaded with vegetables. In my opinion, it's best served with lots of grated parmesan sprinkled over the top. My kids loved it and nobody complained about all the zucchini.

Take advantage of any "supermom" energy

while it lasts. I think we can all agree that it's short-lived.

Cheers, Mombeau

Chicken and Rice with Zucchini, Corn and Sage

2 lbs boneless skinless chicken thighs (about 6)

1 tbsp olive oil

1 tbsp all-purpose seasoning (Strauss Brothers, Bold Beef)

1 medium onion, chopped

2 garlic cloves, minced

1 medium zucchini, sliced

2 ears of fresh corn kernels, raw

4 cups tuscan kale, bite-sized pieces

2 tbsp fresh sage, chopped

¾ cups jasmine rice, rinsed

½ cup dry white wine

1 ½ cups chicken broth

Salt and pepper to taste

Grated parmesan for serving

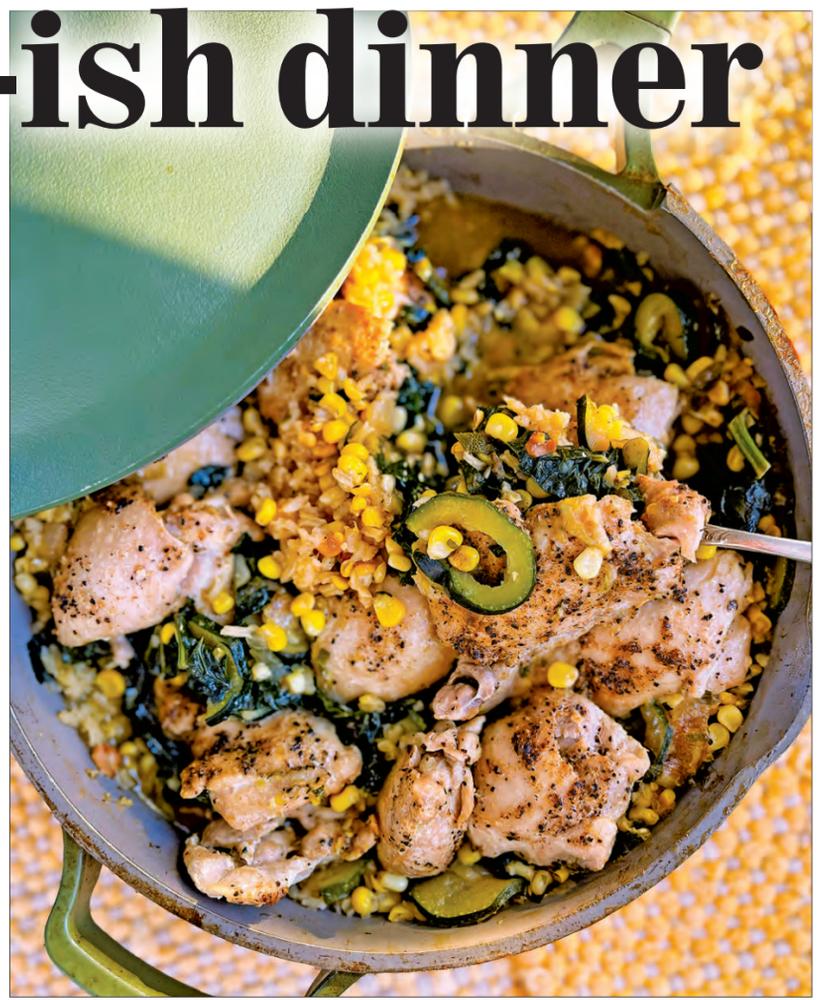


PHOTO BY KAREN FERGUSON

Preheat your oven to 375 degrees. Start by seasoning both sides of your chicken liberally with your rub of choice. Heat a large oven-proof skillet with a lid, to medium-high heat. Brown each side of the chicken for about two minutes or until each side gets a bit of color. The chicken will finish cooking in the oven. Remove the pieces and set aside.

Add in the onion, garlic and zucchini and give

it a stir. Add in a pinch of salt and pepper. Let the vegetables cook until soft, about five minutes.

Next, add in the corn, sage and rice. Mix together so the rice gets evenly coated with any remaining oil in the pan. Let it toast for a minute or so then add in the wine. Stir the wine through the vegetables and rice while scraping the bottom to get up any brown bits.

Once the wine has

reduced to about a tablespoon, add in the stock and kale. Keep stirring until the stock gets warm and the kale wilts in. Bring to a simmer and gently lay the chicken pieces over the top. Cover with a lid and bake in the oven for 30 minutes.

Remove from the oven, carefully take the lid off and let cool for about 10 minutes. Serve with lots of parmesan cheese to sprinkle over the top.

Wine and lifestyle

Government statistics released last week showed that U.S. wine consumption hit a 90-year low in 2024, validating what we all knew: Wine sales in the last year dipped steeply.

There are several reasons for this, including scary statements from several "health" organi-

zations alleging that even a sip of wine causes problems. This has been undercut by medical science, which indicates benefits from moderate consumption.

But accusing wine seems to infect more U.S. consumers than do scientific papers. I defer to Dr. R. Curtis Ellison, professor

of medicine and public health at Chobanian and Avedisian School of Medicine since 1989.

Ellison says that one glass of wine per day may increase breast cancer very slightly, but that is offset by a huge decrease in heart disease, the No. 1 killer of Americans.

Although the wine industry would like to tell Americans the other side of the story about the health benefits of moderate consumption, Congress prohibits it. It was in 1988 that Congress required all alcoholic beverages to have warning labels on them.

In addition, the industry was strictly prohibited from making any statement at all that implied that moderate use of wine could benefit people. The penalties were severe.

It was just about the same time (1990) that Robert Mondavi wrote a "mission statement" that was released at the time that Copia, "The American Center for Wine, Food, and the Arts," was being built in Napa.

A year later, the gov-

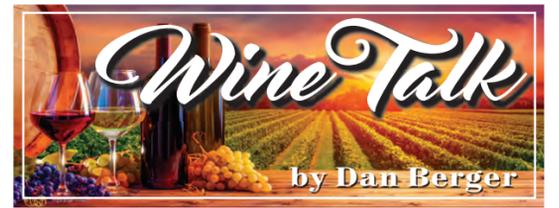
ernment denied Copia's plan to use it's "mission statement" because it implied that wine in moderation was healthful. However, the government warning label could stay.

The Copia statement eventually was forced to remove the word "healthful," to read:

"At Robert Mondavi, we view wine as an integral part of our culture, heritage, and the gracious way of life. We believe wine is the temperate, civilized, sacred, romantic mealtime beverage. Wine has been praised for centuries by statesmen, philosophers, poets and scholars. Wine has been with us since civilization began and will be with us indefinitely."

Meanwhile, the following list contains names of wine, people, and the ages at which they died:

Napa winemaker Andre Tchelistcheff, 92; UC Davis viticulture professor Harold Olmo, 97; Sonoma County winemaker Louis Foppiano,



101; British wine author Andre Simon, 92; British wine collector/author/Bordeaux chateau manager Harry Waugh, 97; Mendocino winegrower Charlie Barra, 92; Modesto winery owner Ernest Gallo, 97; Napa winery owner Robert Mondavi, 94; Los Angeles Times wine columnist/wine merchant Robert Lawrence Balzer, 99 1/2; Mendocino winemaker John Parducci, 96; British wine critic/auctioneer/author J. Michael Broadbent, 92; winemaker Brother Timothy Diener (The Christian Brothers), 94; pioneer Sonoma County grape grower Louis Paganini, 98; Portugal winemaker Baron Bodo von Bruemmer, 105; Napa winemaker Mike Grgich, 100; winemaker Warren Winiarski, 94; Dorothea Tchelistcheff (widow of Andre), 99; Freixenet Chairman Josep Ferrer Sala, 99; winery owner

Maddalena Riboli, 101; Peter M.F. Sichel, Blue Nun founder and owner of Chateau Fourcas-Hosten, 102.

The key words to remember in all of the health statements about wine are daily and moderation.

Wine of the Week:

2023 Rodney Strong Rose of Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast (\$22) — A citrus/guava and cantaloupe melon aromatic is appealing, and the wine has a subtle taste of tropical fruit. It is dry, but not austere. Only 12.5 percent alcohol. Occasionally seen for less than \$20. Good value.

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

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A new study suggests there isn't solid evidence that drinking in moderation helps you live longer. The new meta-analysis, published in JAMA Network Open, examined data from 107 studies with more than 4.8 million participants.

ICE IS NICE

Continued from page 2C

pretty quickly. I chose the stainless steel model, which comes with a large window so you can see how much ice is in the tray. I could definitely hear it operate, but I'm not convinced if that was just because I was so focused on its every move. According to the brand, this machine will make up to 26 pounds of ice per day. This ice maker is a nice

addition to your home, whether your household consumes ice like mine does and will use it frequently, or if you just like to entertain and have fresh ice to serve your guests. If you plan enough in advance, you could make several bags of ice before a big holiday or birthday party, place it in an ice bucket and not fuss with the ice maker at all once the festivities begin.

My purchase definitely falls into a want more than a need, but for what it is

(not super fancy) and what I "needed" (functional), I give it an emphatic 5 out of 5 alligators.

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

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PHOTOS BY ANNE GRYZENIA

Tailgate vibes for the perfect backyard football party

By Anne Gryzenia
 Publisher

Football season is here and that means it's time to huddle up with friends, fire up the grill, and turn your outdoor space into the ultimate game day hangout. Whether you're hosting a Saturday tailgate or a Sunday watch party, we've rounded up our favorite essentials to keep the crowd warm, well fed, and wildly entertained. From a giant inflatable projector screen to cozy blankets, crowd pleasing games, and the perfect tumbler for your hot cider or cold beer, these picks will help you create a football gathering that's just as memorable as the game. And if you're lucky, we might even sneak in a winning chili or cider recipe from Mombeau's table.

Football centerpiece, top, by Rustic Root Design puts everyone in the mood for a great game day party. Linen napkins and cute favors, right, like mini pennants and helmets dress up the table and provide take-home party favors.





CHUG A MUG

Great details make a party — like these sturdy mason jar football mugs, far left, with a built-in straw for spill-less drinking even when you jump to cheer a fantastic play! The stitching decal is just like on the precious pigskin being tossed around — and gives your gathering football flair. Get a set of six from [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) for your next festive event.

LADY'S CHOICE

For a feminine touch, use silk or fresh floral stems as plate decorations, left, for an easy but impressive tablescape. A pompom hydrangea has all the team spirit you'll need for a beautiful table. Check out fresh floral stems at [Rustic Root Design](https://www.rusticrootdesign.com) — or have them create a custom centerpiece for your party.



BEST SEATS IN THE HOUSE

Turn your backyard into the ultimate fall football hangout with a 21-foot inflatable outdoor projector screen! It's a game changer for fall entertaining. With a 13x7.4 foot white screen and double-sided projection capabilities, everyone gets a great view—no matter where they're sitting. It sets up in minutes with the included quiet blower, and when the game's over, it packs away easily in its storage bag. Perfect for cozy blankets, snacks, and cheering on your team under the stars. From [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).

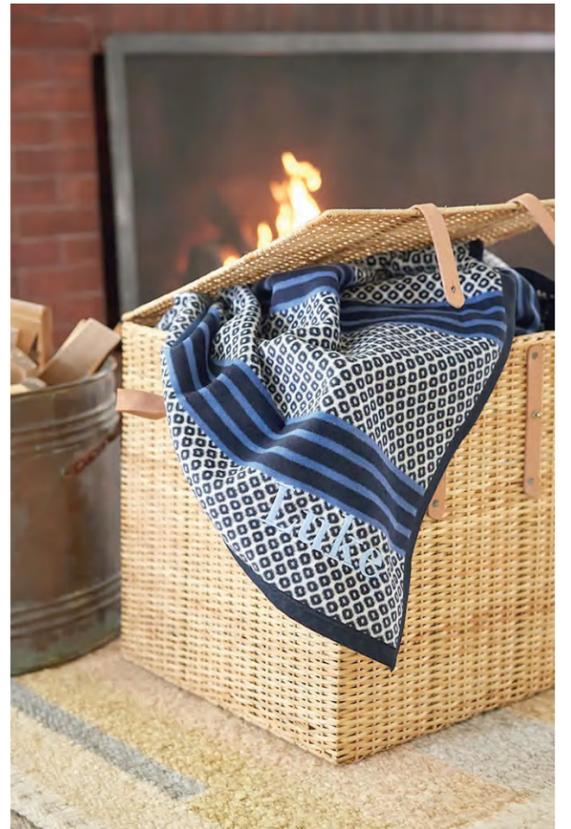
TOAST YOUR TEAM

The Corkcicle Traveler Tumbler is the MVP of outdoor football parties. This game-day essential has a generous 36-ounce capacity and triple insulation, keeping your favorite drinks hot during those chilly fall kickoffs or ice cold well into overtime. A leak-proof lid means no spills as you move from the snack table to the fire pit, and two lid covers double as 10-ounce cups—perfect for toasting a big win with a friend. From [Small Favors](https://www.smallfavors.com).



WARM UPS

Crisp fall air and football go hand in hand with a cozy cotton blend ChappyWrap blanket. Watch the game from the yard, tailgate or huddle around a fire pit in soft warmth. The classic New England birdseye pattern in bold blue brings timeless style to your sofa or outdoor setting. Machine washable. Buy it at [chappywrap.com](https://www.chappywrap.com).



THE PARTY'S HERE!

Let guests know where the bash is with a full size weather-resistant 8.5'x2.5' outdoor flag, left. It's perfect for tailgating parties or for celebrating game day festivities. Made from heavy duty nylon fabric, this officially-licensed NFL flag comes with easy-to-assemble 11.5' steel pole and ground stake to stay firmly planted. From [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).

Official NFL Lions playing cards, above, pass the time during lulls but keep everyone in the spirit of supporting their team. From [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).

SERVE UP HAPPINESS

Detroit Lions party goods from [Party Adventure](https://www.partyadventure.com) are a great way to show your team colors with no cleanup. Paper napkins and plates simplify hosting!



Pre-game GAMES



Make your watch party even more fun with some warm up activities to get everyone in a sporting mood.

Cornhole

No football party is complete without a little competition, and cornhole is the ultimate crowd-pleaser. Easy to set up, fun for all ages, and perfect for backyard tailgates or driveway watch parties, this classic lawn game keeps the energy high pre-game, between quarters and during halftime. It adds that perfect laid-back vibe to your football festivities.

Ladder Golf

Make your gathering a touchdown between plays with this easy to learn, quick to set up game for all ages.

The goal is simple: toss the bolas (two balls connected by a string) and try to land them on the ladder's rungs for points. But the real fun comes from the laughter, last-minute comebacks, and light-hearted rivalry it sparks.

PutterBall

It's the ultimate halftime showdown! Bring a little green to your gridiron party with

PutterBall. Think of it as "mini-golf meets beer pong."

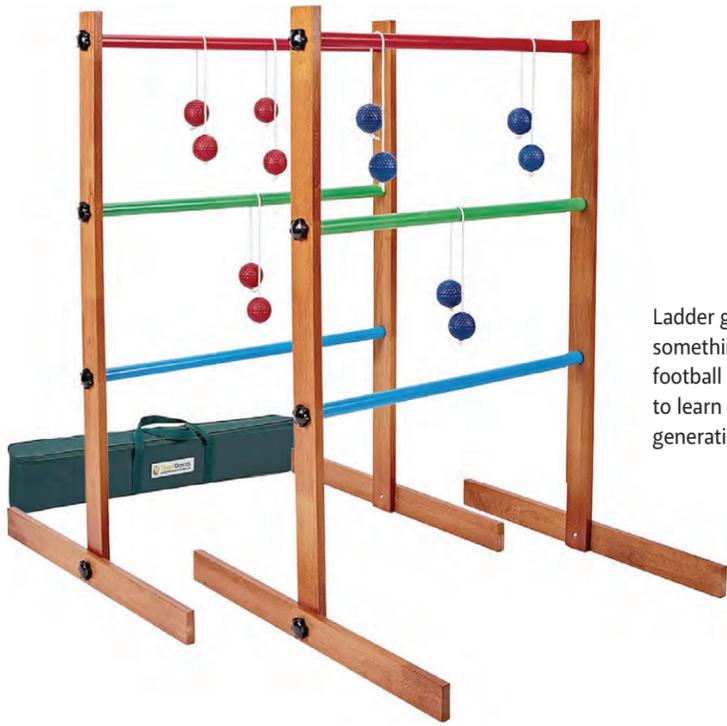
Whether you're a seasoned golfer or just in it for the fun, the golf game keeps guests engaged through timeouts, halftime, or pre-game hangouts.

Indoors or out, it's a fun, low-key activity that pairs perfectly with snacks, drinks, and team spirit.

For all your fall football festivities, a great host has a plan to keep friends and family engaged before, during and after the highlights and breaks. Check these great ideas out on [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).



Cornhole, above, is the ideal game-day crowd pleaser — it's easy to play for everyone.



Ladder golf, left, is something new for your football fiesta. It's simple to learn and play, while generating lots of laughs.



PutterBall, above, is great for indoor or outdoor play. Get guests up on their feet and moving as they challenge one another to friendly fun.

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FIRE IT UP!

The BioLite FirePit+, right, is an all-in-one device to handle wherever the football party takes you. From **Half Moon Outfitters**.

halfmoonoutfitters.com



A blazing fire for warmth or eats is the perfect complement to any fall football gathering. If you are into the latest design you might want to try the BioLite FirePit+ from Half Moon Outfitters. Thanks to its patented airflow system and see-through X-Ray mesh body, everyone gets a front-row seat to the flames. Want to grill up burgers or brats before kickoff? Just lift the fuel rack, toss in some charcoal, and you've got a portable hibachi-style grill ready to feed the whole team. Control the flames right from your cell phone with the free

Bluetooth app, and enjoy up to 30 hours of burn time on a single charge.

If custom is more your game, visit the team at Shores Fireplace & BBQ for a sturdy commercial grade gas fire pit insert and choose a custom enclosure built with CSA-certified technology to ensure exceptional performance that's as safe as it is memorable.

Choose grand details such as granite, marble, and glass tops with endless style options from bowls, coffee tables, high top bar tables and stone options. Numerous media options are available like ceramic logs, glass, manufactured river stones or geo stones.

They even perform free onsite estimates to help you determine size, style, location and gas line run — to get it right.

A custom fire pit from **Shores Fireplace & BBQ**, is the perfect way to marry top technology with the enclosure of your dreams. You get to personalize each facet to best suit your needs and outdoor decor.

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PARKING LOT

TAILGATE PARTIES FOR EVERY LIONS SUNDAY AWAY GAME IN FALL 2025!

SEASONAL RECIPES

Courtesy of Mombeau's Table

Touch down on warm and crispy sausage cheese bread



Sausage Bread

This is my recipe for sausage bread, which is essentially a stromboli. Sausage, peppers, onions and provolone cheese are wrapped in store bought pizza dough. Then it's baked until golden and crispy. This recipe has a slight zip from pepperoncini peppers. If you want to make it spicy, swap mild Italian sausage for hot Italian sausage along with some red chili flakes. This is handheld and great at room temperature. So, it's perfect for watching the big game. Serve with your favorite marinara sauce for dipping. Cheers, Mombeau.

- 1 Tablespoon olive oil
- 1 red bell pepper, sliced
- 1 yellow pepper, sliced
- 1 small onion, sliced
- 2 cloves garlic, mined
- 10-15 pepperoncini slices
- 3 Tablespoon pepperoncini juice
- 1.5 lbs mild Italian sausage
- 1 large pizza dough at room temperature
- 6 slices provolone cheese
- 1 egg



Heat a skillet over medium heat with one tablespoon of olive oil, the onions and peppers. Cook for about five minutes or until the vegetables are soft. Remove the casings from the sausage links and add to the pan along with the garlic. Break the sausage apart into larger chunks. Once the sausage is almost cooked through, add in the pepperoncini and their liquid. Stir the mixture together and cook until the juice has evaporated, about three to five more minutes. Turn the heat off and set aside to cool.

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees. Roll the dough out into a large circle or oval shape on a floured surface. It should be about one quarter inch thick. In a small bowl, mix the egg with a splash of water. Brush the egg wash all over the top side of the dough. Lay down the provolone slices in the middle of the dough leaving a couple inches for the border border on the top and bottom of the dough. The cheese slices can overlap with each other. Scoop the sausage mixture over the top of the cheese. Fold the top and button ends a couple inches over the filling. Then fold in the sides, making a log shape. The egg wash will create a seal. Flip the sausage bread onto a parchment lined baking sheet, seam side down. Brush the top with any remaining egg wash and cut three small slits on the top. Back for 25 minutes or until golden brown.

Clyde's game day chili with the fixin's hits the spot



Clyde's Famous Chili

This chili recipe comes from the famous Washington D.C. establishment, Old Ebbitt Grill. It's so good in fact, I wrote about it a couple years back. It's a classic meat and beans chili with a bit of heat and lots of tang. It's so easy to throw together and so good that I rarely have leftovers. In fact, I had to fight the kids off just so I could get enough for a picture! This is a tried and true recipe at my house, best served with an ice cold beer. Cheers, Mombeau.

- 1 Tablespoon vegetable oil
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 green bell pepper, chopped
- 1.5 lbs ground beef
- 4 Tablespoon chili powder
- 2 15 oz cans mild chili beans
- 1 12oz jar chili sauce
- 2 Tablespoon chili sauce
- 2 Tablespoon Worcestershire sauce



In a large stock pot over medium heat, brown the onions, green pepper, and garlic for a few minutes. Drop in the ground beef and cook through, about ten minutes. Drain the fat out of the pot. Return to the heat and add in the chili powder. Combine together and let the chili powder saute with the meat for a bit to toast up. Next, pour in the chili sauce, beans and Worcestershire sauce. Stir to combine and bring back to a boil. Reduce to a simmer and let bubble away for about 20 minutes, stirring a few times in between. Serve with chopped



Detroit Lions Fun Facts

In 1997, Barry Sanders rushed for over 2,000 yards in a single season, ensuring his place as one of the all-time greats in football history. To honor his overall impressive career, the Lions retired his number 20 jersey.

SOURCE: facts.net

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8C | LIFE & LEISURE



PHOTOS COURTESY OF LOW SPARK FILMS, SAFEHOUSE PICTURES AND THINK MEDIA STUDIOS
Left, Jenny Slate as Rose, Adam Scott as Robbie and Nick Kroll as Bill in the 2016 movie "My Blind Brother," written and directed by Sophie Goodhart.



The foursome dining.

MOVIE REVIEW
"My Blind Brother"
2016 - Rated R
1 hr 25 min
★★★★☆

I was pleased to discover this was not your typical rom-com. It seems like about 99% of the ones produced by Hollywood over the past twenty years are remakes of the same tired story. They feature a couple of attractive, sweet leads, who meet serendipitously, have a falling out, reunite, and conclude with an "...and they all lived happily ever after" ending. In other words, they're totally formulaic—sort of comfort food for the brain. "My Blind Brother" is quite a bit different than the usual fare and I found that refreshing.

This is the first feature film by writer/director Sophie Goodhart, who is

best known as one of the writers of the fabulous TV show "Sex Education." If you've never seen it, I highly recommend this groundbreaking British comedy. The stars of this movie are Adam Scott (known mainly for his TV work), Nick Kroll (a Voice Over talent on tons of shows and films), Jenny Slate ("It Ends with Us" "Marcel the Shell with Shoes On"), and Zoe Kazan ("The Kindness of Strangers" "The Big Sick" "The Ballad of Buster Scruggs"). Confession: I've been a big Adam Scott fan since his "Parks & Recreation" days, but here he plays a different kind of character. You'll see what I mean.

We first meet the two brothers Robbie (Scott) and Bill (Kroll) at a charity marathon run. Robbie is blind and he's guided

by Bill who runs the entire exhausting 26 miles tethered to him. At the end of the race, he's interviewed by a cadre of adoring local reporters. Robbie then takes the podium and accepts a cheque for his charity. He makes a speech where he thanks all his supporters. After singling out his parents and friends, he says he'd especially like to thank someone special who made it all possible. Just as Bill prepares to receive accolades Robbie blurts out, "God," totally ignoring his brother. It's right here when we discover what a narcissistic, egomaniacal jerk he is.

Bill takes it all in stride. This isn't the first time he's been overlooked for his efforts. We learn that he's the one responsible for his brother's blindness, due to an accident he caused when they were kids. His guilt has prompted him to look after his brother over the years. It's an uncomfortable relationship at best.

Early in the film, Bill meets Rose (Slate) at a wake for her ex-boyfriend. Lo and behold, Rose is also a guild-ridden soul. She constantly berates herself for her ex's death because right after she broke up with him, he was hit by a bus.

Not surprisingly, the two end up sleeping together. While they seem to be perfect for each other, she doesn't give Bill her number. However, she resurfaces a few days later, when to Bill's dismay, she's going out with his brother. Talk about an awkward situation. Neither one lets on anything about their recent tryst.

The mismatched trio end up spending a good deal of time together. Then Robbie and Rose decide to set Bill up with her roommate Francie (Kazan). They head out for a night of dancing and dinner which starts out smoothly. The two women

Movie Junkie Mark

by Mark Domin

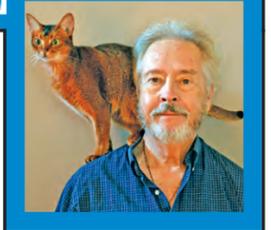
"Life is too short to watch mediocre movies"



Bill communicating with Rose on the sly.



Jenny Slate as Rose.



Zoe Kazan as Francie.



Robbie and Rose listening to a book on tape.

are totally shocked when Robbie takes the wheel and does a bit of driving, with the guidance of his brother. It's a tad hair raising, to say the least. The subsequent dinner proves to be a total failure. Francie is a foul-mouthed sort who isn't afraid to speak her mind. Let's just say it doesn't end on a happy note.

Throughout the movie we can sense that Bill and Rose have feelings for one another, although Rose is totally in denial. It makes for some rather uncomfortable but humorous scenes. That's part of what makes this such an engaging movie. While all three characters have their negative aspects and aren't exactly likable, you still find yourself rooting for things to resolve themselves. You just want everyone to be happy. Like I said in the beginning, this isn't your're

typical rom-com.

The three leads are what make this such an offbeat, and different kind of movie. In most of the movies I've seen Adam Scott in he usually plays a sweet, happy-go-lucky guy. But he can be a real jerk when he wants to be. Here his darker side really works overtime, and he plays a blind character very convincingly. Nick Kroll is the underachieving brother who has a menial job managing a copy center and loves to partake in smoking weed. He's underappreciated by his brother and parents. But he's okay with that. Jenny Slate plays a complex and self-loathing woman to perfection. One of the only negatives I have about the movie is that I thought Zoe Kazan was underutilized. I absolutely love her and wish she played a bigger part in the film.

Overall, I really got a kick out of this little indie gem. It features snappy dialogue, a great storyline, a decent score, and of course, excellent acting. If you're in the mood for something refreshingly entertaining, check this one out!

Note to parents: The film is rated "R" due mainly to the swearing.

I'd be inclined to rate it "PG-13."

Currently streaming for free on Kanopy (with your library card), Tubi, and Plex. Also on Prime Video, Roku, and Fandango at Home with a subscription, and to rent on Apple TV, YouTube, and other streaming services.

My rating system:

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

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

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

★★★★ One you'd recommend to friends.

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

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

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



Robbie and Rose listening to a book on tape.



Brothers Bill (Kroll) & Robbie (Scott).



A quick smooch.

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Grosse Pointe News THURSDAY COMICS

Peanuts

Charles M. Schulz



Bizarro Dan Piraro and Wayno

Andy Capp

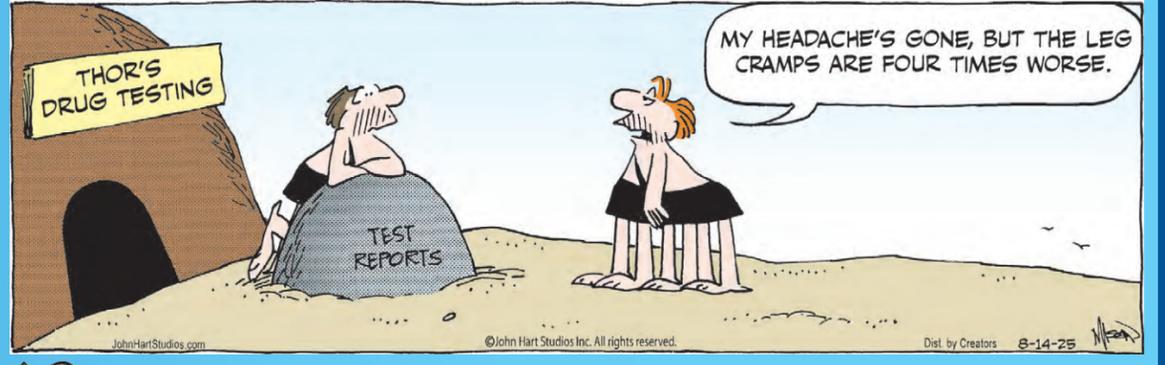
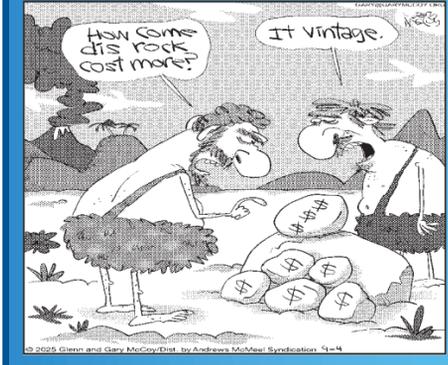
Reg Smythe



Flying McCoys Glenn McCoy

B.C.

Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni



Reality Check Dave Whamond

Beetle Bailey

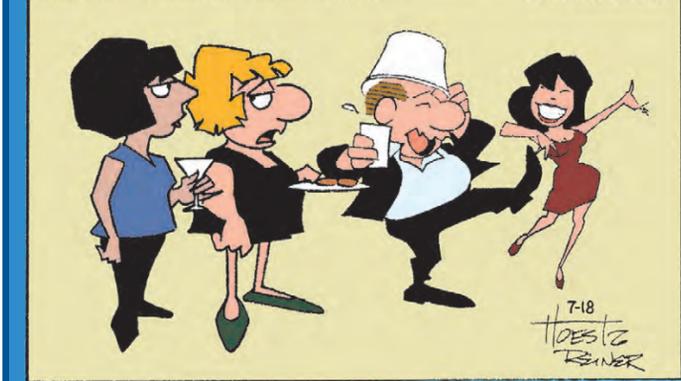
Greg, Brian, Neal and Mort Walker



Mother Goose and Grim

Mike Peters

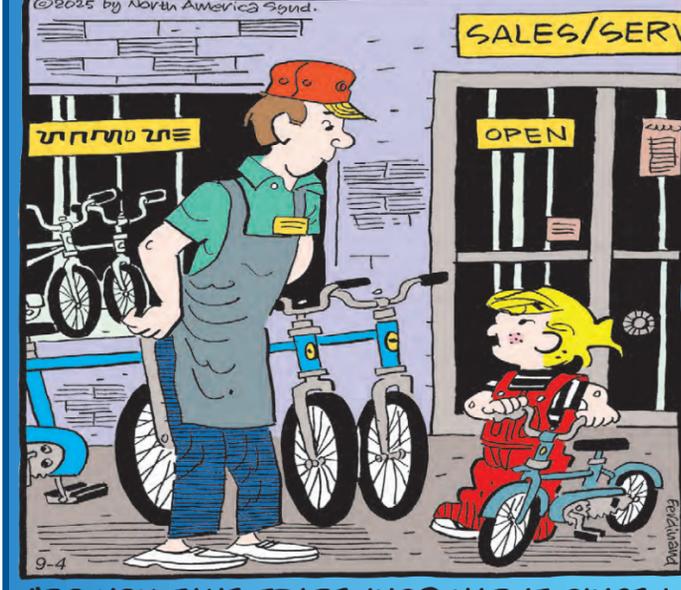
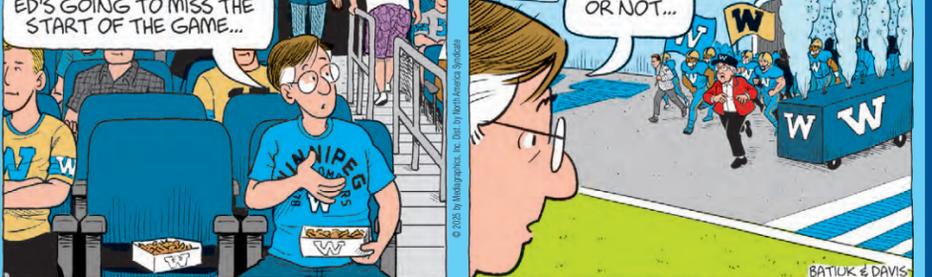
The Lockhorns Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner



Crankshaft

Tom Batiuk and Dan Davis

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



Carpe Diem

Niklas Eriksson



Wumo

Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler



THURSDAY COMICS

Garfield

I LIKE HUMANS

THEY'RE THOUGHTFUL, COMPASSIONATE AND CARING

AND THEY MAKE GREAT PETS

JIM DAVIS 9-4

Hagar The Horrible

IT'S TRUE! THE WORLD LOOKS NICER WITH ROSE-COLORED GLASSES!

AND EVEN NICER WITH A BLINDFOLD!

Close To Home

MOOOOO!

Wizard of Id

THE WIZARD DID SAY HE WAS STARTING A FANTASY FOOTBALL LEAGUE...

Ziggy

“OK! Who’s the wiseguy who changed my ringtone to a mooing sound anytime my mother calls?!”

THE FOLLOWING PROGRAM CONTAINS NO SEX OR VIOLENCE! ...BUT MOST OF THE COMMERCIALS ARE STILL PRETTY RAUNCHY!!

Blondie

I'M STARTING TO THINK PUTTING THE TV BACK OUT HERE ISN'T SUCH A GOOD IDEA

COME ON DOWN TO BILLY BOB'S BARBECUE AND GET YOUR HANDS ON HALF-PRICED BUFFALO WINGS TODAY ONLY!!

WHY'S THAT?

THAT'S WHY

Chris and Dean Young

Over The Hedge

RJ, THAT YES-BOT APP IS JUST AN ECHO CHAMBER DEVICE TELLING YOU HOW GREAT YOU ARE!

BUT I CAN DO THAT ALL BY MYSELF!

EXACTLY!... WHAT YOU NEED IS SOMEONE TO FIRMLY AND CONSISTENTLY TELL YOU HOW FULL OF @#%\$! YOU ARE!

Marmaduke

AND THAT WOULD BE YOU? MY PLEASURE.

IT REALLY IS HIS PLEASURE!

Crock

HUGE SANDSTORM APPROACHING!

OUR SPECIAL EFFECTS DEPARTMENT HAS A SMALL BUDGET

Popeye

I WANTS YOU TO KNOW I YAM NOT MAD!

THAT IS QUITE NICE OF YOU!

I THINKS IT IS... SOB... A WONDERFUL IDEA FER YOU TO MARRY A KING!

YOU DON'T LOVE ME!

F Minus

HUH. THE INTERNET AGREES WITH YOU. WHEN ROB SAID "WELP" AND SLAPPED HIS HANDS ON HIS LAP, THAT'S WHEN WE WERE SUPPOSED TO GO HOME.

Family Circus

“Is Labor Day when we start counting how many days till Christmas?”

Kid Scoop

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Kid Scoop Together

Read today's *Kid Scoop* page to find the answers to the questions below.

Ice Cream Flavors



What's Your Favorite?

Each year, the International Dairy Foods Association asks people what their favorite ice cream flavor is. And nearly every year, **chocolate, vanilla** and **strawberry** are the top three flavors.

But sometimes another flavor snags a top spot. Circle every other letter below to see which one.

C **O** V O L K T I N E F S W A J
N Y D Z C U R N E L A T M S

C O

Standards Link: Language Arts: Follow simple written directions.

Chocolate

Chocolate is made from the seeds of a **cacao tree**. The seeds are inside the cacao plant's fruit. Each fruit pod is about 10 inches long and is shaped like a football.



22	14	6	18	10
12	13	12	15	6
8	9	6	3	2
4	5	8	9	14
36	17	28	7	8
40	24	2	16	20

Tasty Treat

About how many pounds of chocolate does the average American eat every year? Color the odd-numbered spaces yellow and the even-numbered spaces brown to reveal the answer.



Vanilla

Vanilla comes from the seed pod of a rainforest orchid. People have used vanilla for thousands of years as a flavoring, a perfume, a medicine and an insect repellent.

Use the code to find where most vanilla is grown.

Legend:
 ● = A
 ★ = C
 ▼ = D
 ● = G
 ⊕ = M
 ● = R
 ⊙ = S

Strawberry

For thousands of years, people have gathered and eaten wild strawberries in the woods of Europe and North America.

Today, farmers grow tons of the popular berries.



Help the strawberry reach the basket.

Extra! Extra! Tasty ABCs

Look through the newspaper for pictures and names of flavors and foods. Cut them out and put them into ABC order.

Standards Link: Language Arts: Place grade-level appropriate words in alphabetical order.

- What are the three most popular ice cream flavors in the U.S.?
 - Orange, pineapple, and pickle
 - Strawberry, chocolate, and vanilla
 - Blueberry, strawberry, and chocolate chip
- What is the name of the bean that people use to make chocolate?
 - Cacao
 - Chocolate
 - Coffee
 - Yumster
- On average, how many pounds of strawberries per person do Americans eat in a year?
 - 8 pounds
 - 17 pounds
 - 55 pounds
 - 102 pounds
- Where is most of the vanilla in the world grown?
 - Los Angeles
 - Manitoba
 - Antarctica
 - Madagascar



Aztec Legend: How People Discovered Chocolate

Read the legend, then number the pictures in order.

One ancient Aztec legend tells the story of Xolotl, the sun god, and his selfish desire to keep cacao beans hidden from humans.

Quetzalcoatl, the god of wisdom, wanted to share the beans. When Xolotl refused, Quetzalcoatl changed into a blue frog and led children to the cacao trees.

The children found the pods and brought them to their village.

The Aztecs used the cacao to create a chocolate drink with honey and became a powerful civilization.

They never forgot the importance of sharing and continued to leave chocolate under the trees for the little blue frog.



Kid Scoop Puzzler

We all scream for ice cream! Each of these treats below have an exact twin. Draw lines to connect each pair.



Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Double Double Word Search

- BERRIES
- CACAO
- CHOCOLATE
- DAIRY
- FROG
- FRUIT
- GROWS
- POD
- SEED
- SHARE
- SUN
- TREE
- VANILLA
- WILD
- YEAR

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

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

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

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Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: **LEGEND**
 The noun **legend** means a story from the past, often based on a mix of fact and fiction.

The **legend** of Paul Bunyan is fun but not really true.

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

FROM THE LESSON LIBRARY

Sell Your Ice Cream

Invent a new flavor of ice cream. Look through the newspaper for words that describe your new flavor. Cut out the words and create an ad to sell your ice cream.

Standards Link: Follow simple written directions.

Why do ice cream cones carry umbrellas?

ANSWER: In case of sprinkles!

Write On!

Flavor Inventor

If your job was to invent new ice cream flavors, what would you come up with? What would you call your flavor? How would you advertise it?

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

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Blue Devils roll over Renaissance in varsity football season opener

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Weeks of anticipation and excitement culminated Thursday night, Aug. 28, as the 2025 high school football season officially kicked off around the state of Michigan. In the Pointes, Grosse Pointe South varsity football ran through the tunnel for the first time this season looking to begin the new campaign with a victory. They did just that, putting on a dominant performance against Detroit Renaissance to win 49-0. "Enthusiasm was high and we had really just been focused on the first week and establishing the procedures and the weekly routine that we're going to do throughout the season," South football head coach Chad Hepner said. "I think we did a pretty good job of that and tonight was a lot of fun."

The Blue Devils hit the ground running last Thursday night, scoring on their first possession of the game. South's defense forced Renaissance to punt on its opening drive. Once the Blue Devils got the ball, a few plays set them up on the goal line for junior quarterback Sam



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

South football players run onto the field with senior A.J. Zieleniewski (No. 55) carrying the American flag ahead of the team's season opening game against Renaissance last Thursday, Aug. 28.

Rouleau to punch in the first touchdown of the year on a QB sneak.

Later in the first quarter, Rouleau showed he could get things done through the air as well as on the ground. He launched a 40-yard

touchdown pass to Heath Roberts to give South a 14-0 lead. The Blue Devils were not done adding to the scoreboard in the opening quarter. The defense put points on the board with a pick-six by

William Willson, making it 21-0 in favor of South before the end of the first frame.

Charlie Michelotti added to the lead early in the second quarter with a touchdown run that made it a four-pos-

session game. South continued to attack on the ground with another rushing touchdown, this time by Andrew Wilson, to extend the advantage to 35-0. A second rushing score of the night for Rouleau helped cap off

the first half and send the Blue Devils into the locker room with a 42-0 lead.

"We just kind of scratched the surface of what you're going to see

See SOUTH, page 2D

North football kicks off 2025 season with loss to Utica

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The Grosse Pointe North varsity football team knew it was going to be tested right away in its season-opening game on the road against Utica Thursday, Aug. 28. The Norsemen entered the season with questions about who might step up at key positions and facing a team like the Chieftains out of the gate

did not make things any easier. While North saw some positives in its Week 1 performance, the team began the season in the loss column with a 47-14 defeat.

"It was a wake-up call for some of our younger players," North football head coach Joe Drouin said. "We had about six or seven sophomores and one freshman starting their first varsity game. That's a big chunk of

young guys getting their first taste of Friday night lights. ... We were out-sized and out-experienced."

Utica took an early 7-0 lead with a touchdown on its first drive of the game. The Norsemen forced a turnover the next time Utica had the ball, with senior Makhi Passmore getting an interception for North. However, the turnover was unable to create much momentum

and the Chieftains scored again to take a 14-0 lead after one quarter.

In the second quarter, Utica continued to pull ahead. A couple more touchdowns brought the deficit to 27-0 for North before the Norsemen finally got on the board. Jacob Sahadi connected with Peter Rheame on a 37-yard touchdown pass for North's first points of the game and the two sides went into the half-

time break with Utica up 27-7.

The Chieftains scored again in the third quarter to bring the lead up to 33-7. North's only other points of the game came in the fourth quarter, when Deon Doe threw a touchdown pass caught by Caleb Butler. However, Utica continued to put points on the board and eventually finished off the big win.

Doe ended the game as

North's leading rusher with 22 yards on five carries. He also completed seven of 10 passing attempts for 72 yards and a touchdown. Sahadie completed four of his nine attempts for 88 yards and a touchdown. Rheame led the team in receiving with four catches for 108 yards and a score.

A large loss to open the season can cause some frustration, but North's coaches took pride in the way the team kept its poise throughout the game. North is away from home again in Week 2, facing Warren Cousino. The Patriots also are 0-1 after a 42-28 loss to Stoney Creek in their season opener.

The Norsemen know they need to put the Week 1 loss behind them and remain focused ahead of another test against a team from the larger MAC Blue Division.

"Our kids stayed within themselves and stayed focused," Drouin said. "Keep that focus and we can make it through the first two games healthy, then we get to the (MAC) Gold and start playing schools that are more in a situation like ours."

North travels to Cousino Friday, Sept. 5, with kickoff at 5 p.m.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GROSSE POINTE NORTH ATHLETICS

Grosse Pointe North varsity football took the field for the first time in the 2025 season last Thursday, Aug. 28, suffering a 47-14 loss to Utica.

2D | SPORTS

South girls swim piles up state cut times in early meets

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Grosse Pointe South's varsity girls swim and dive team has made a habit of coming into a new season expecting to compete among the best teams in the state. The Blue Devils have done just that in some of their first meets this season, earning both winning and losing results while putting on strong performances throughout to help prove that the team is worthy of its No. 2 ranking in the state for Division 2.

South started the season Wednesday, Aug. 20, with a clash against Division 1 powerhouse Ann Arbor Pioneer. The Blue Devils ended up losing the meet 112-74, but still came out looking impressive.

The Blue Devils had three relay teams and seven individuals clinch state-qualifying times in the first meet of the sea-

son. Most notably, sophomore Caroline Bryan swam a qualifying time of 56.63 in the 100 fly, which became the fastest time in the country this season at the time of the meet.

Bryan, along with Whitney Handwork, Lorelei Carr and Nicole McEnroe swam a qualifying time in the 200 freestyle relay at 1:40.68. Handwork, Bryan, Mischa Eng and Quinn Ryan clocked a time of 3:42.89 in the 400 freestyle relay.

After a season-opening loss to the state's No. 1 ranked team in Division 1, South came out in its second meet Thursday, Aug. 28, looking dominant. The Blue Devils welcomed Ottawa Hills and ended the night with a 146-39 victory, winning first place in every event except diving.

Heidi Bryan made a state cut and took first with a time of 2:19.39 in

the 200 IM. Eng also qualified for states and earned first place in the 100 freestyle at 56.65. Making two state cuts with a pair of first-place finishes was Handwork, who qualified in the 200 freestyle (1:57.72) and 100 breaststroke (1:10.42).

The 50 freestyle was won by McEnroe, making a state cut with a time of 25.64. She also made a state cut in the 100 backstroke, finishing second at 1:01.73. Another impressive performance came from junior Olivia Colt, who recently joined the team after moving to Grosse Pointe from Hawaii. Colt made a state cut time of 5:29.91, while finishing second in the 500 freestyle.

The Blue Devils will be on the pool deck again for their third straight home meet of the season Thursday, Sept. 4, hosting L'Anse Creuse North at 6 p.m.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF JESSICA BRYAN

Above, senior Heidi Bryan swims the 200 IM for South in the team's meet against Ottawa Hills last Thursday, Aug. 28.

Below, sophomore Avery Stevenson leans against the wall after finishing a swim against Ottawa Hills.



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Junior Trey Grabowski attempts to break a tackle after hauling in a catch during South's win over Renaissance last Thursday, Aug. 28. Grabowski finished the game with two receptions for 25 yards.

SOUTH:

Continued from page 1D

out of (Rouleau) this year," Hepner said about his quarterback. "We held him back a little bit with some things, especially since we got up early, but he's got the moxie and the confidence to do the job."

Already with a large lead, the Blue Devils were content to simply run out the clock for much of the second half. The team scored one more time, with Wilson getting his second touchdown of the night, and the 49-0 lead stuck from late in the third quarter until the end of the game.

Wilson led the team

with 34 yards rushing on seven carries. Michelotti had 23 yards rushing while also making his presence felt on defense, coming up with four tackles, one sack and one forced fumble.

After making things look easy with a dominant win in Week 1, South is expecting a much tougher test in its Week 2 matchup against Romeo. The Blue Devils will head on the road to face the Bulldogs, who lost their Week 1 matchup 39-7 to the state's No. 7 ranked team, Rochester Adams.

A dominant win to begin the season always is a morale booster, but every week of the season is still a learning experience. Hepner and the

Blue Devils know last Thursday's win still presented plenty of opportunities to grow and get better, with things that will need to be sharpened up before going on the road to take on a team from the MAC Red Division.

"Some of this was us executing well, but I think some of it was that we had (Renaissance) a bit overmatched," Hepner said. "... We know that every job gets tougher when the guy lining up across from you is bigger and stronger than we maybe saw this week and going on the road in the MAC Red is always tough."

South visits Romeo Friday, Sept. 5, with kickoff at 7 p.m.



South junior Charlie Bedsworth barrels ahead through a group of Renaissance defenders during a run.

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Knights come up short against Lincoln-King in close opening game

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

University Liggett School varsity football took the field for the first time in the 2025 season Thursday, Aug. 28. The Knights hosted Detroit Lincoln-King Academy for a Week 1 matchup where both teams hoped to shake

off the rust and start the new year with a win. It was a low-scoring game and Liggett found itself starting the season in the loss column 14-6.

The Knights and Eagles both began the game shaking off the cobwebs that came with a long offseason. Neither team found much success in its

opening drives, but Liggett made the first dent in the scoreboard before the first quarter was over.

Sophomore quarterback Miles Moss found senior receiver George Caudle in the corner of the end zone. Caudle caught the ball with some assistance from his helmet — evoking

memories of David Tyree and the New York Giants in Super Bowl XLII — giving the Knights a 6-0 lead.

Caudle's touchdown ended up being the only points of the first half and the only points Liggett scored on the day. Lincoln-King made its way onto the scoreboard early in the third quarter, breaking through with a touchdown run by Trey Coombs. A successful two-point conversion for the Eagles gave

them an 8-6 lead.

Coombs and the Eagles added to the lead later in the third quarter. The sophomore running back found the end zone for a second time to extend Lincoln-King's lead to 14-6. That score held through the fourth quarter and to the end of the game.

Moss finished his first start at quarterback for the Knights with 170 passing yards and a touchdown. Senior running back PJ Walker ran for 40 yards and had

four catches for 31 yards. Sophomore receiver Julius Barnett had seven catches for 63 yards and also ran for 47 yards.

The Knights will look to bounce back from the loss as they match up against Detroit Country Day in Week 2. The Yellowjackets also enter the showdown having suffered a season-opening loss, falling to Portland 30-6.

Liggett hosts Country Day Saturday, Sept. 6, with kickoff at 1 p.m.



PHOTOS BY MIKE ADZIMA

Senior receiver George Caudle makes an impressive catch in the end zone to score Liggett's only touchdown of the game in a 14-6 loss to Lincoln-King Academy last Thursday, Aug. 28.



Running back PJ Walker takes a carry for the Knights. The senior finished the game with 40 rushing yards and 31 receiving yards.



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SPORTS



Sophomore Miles Moss attempts one of his first passes as Liggett's starting quarterback. He finished his debut for the Knights with 170 passing yards and a touchdown.

School is back in session and the fall sports season is heating up. If you're looking for a place to keep up with all the action, look no further than @GPNewsports on Instagram. Our page is dedicated to providing fans around the Pointes and beyond with the latest news and features surrounding Grosse Pointe North, Grosse Pointe South and University Liggett sports.

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5. 22100 Marter, SCS

See Classifieds for more details ● = ESTATE SALE ○ = YARD SALE

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Blue Devils cross country collects top-five finishes to begin season

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The Grosse Pointe South boys and girls varsity cross-country programs started the 2025 season hot with some top finishes in early races. The boys team secured a second-place finish in the Clawson Popsicle Invitational Tuesday, Aug. 26, while South's girls team has finished

in the top three in both of its first two meets of the fall.

The Blue Devils girls program also raced at the Clawson Popsicle Invitational, finishing in third place as a team. It was the second time in the early season the South girls earned third place in a meet, opening the season with a third-place finish at the Lamplighter Invitational Aug. 15, a performance

that stood out particularly to the squad's head coach.

"We did a great job of running together and pushing one another in this very first race of the season," South girls cross country coach Steve Zaranek said. "This will be a key to our success this fall."

Two runners from the South girls team finished in the top five last Tuesday in Clawson.

Sophomore Paige Garbo crossed the finish line in third place with a time of 21:32, and freshman teammate Eleanor Pilsner was just behind her in fourth place at 21:38.

The Blue Devils had four more runners finish the race in the top 20. Morgan Costello took home 14th place. The trio of Rylee Piornack, Erin Korsak and Viviana Ostrowski

finished 17th, 18th and 19th, respectively.

South's boys team also had several runners finish high on the leaderboard in Clawson, as the team placed second overall. Grayson Wodzisz finished ninth overall with a time of 19:23, just one second ahead of teammate Logan Garbo, who crossed the line 10th.

Everett Wood also made his way into the

top 15, coming in 14th place. Oscar Resnick was the fourth Blue Devil to earn a spot in the top 20 when he came in 19th, and teammate Lualhati Verzosa rounded out the top 20 in 20th place.

Both the boys and girls teams for the Blue Devils will be back in action Saturday, Sept. 6, heading on the road for the Algonac Muskrat Invitational.



COURTESY PHOTO

From left; South girls cross country runners Erin Korsak, Vivi Ostrowski, Morgan Mannino, Morgan Costello, Rylee Piornack, Paige Garbo and Calisse Budek at the season's opening event, the Lamplighter Invitational.

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