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# Grosse Pointe News

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NOVEMBER 13, 2025  
GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

## Late fees waived for feds

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE PARK** — Sympathetic dwellers of city hall expressed alliance with their D.C. counterparts by waiving late fees for federal employees on municipal utility payments until 90 days after the feds get back in the saddle.

A united city council approved late-fee cancellations Nov. 10, just as some Democrat members of the U.S. Senate ended their holdout and voted with all but one Republican to return Uncle Sam to business.

“The city recognizes the ongoing federal government shutdown may cause temporary financial hardship for federal employees who are cur-

rently furloughed or working without pay,” said Mateusz Tylecki, deputy finance director, in a memo to city council. “To support our federal government-employed residents during this time, the city will forgo utility billing penalties for verified employees affected by the shutdown.”

“It’s great being proactive and bringing this to the table,” Mayor Michele Hodges said.

Council didn’t just support the gesture. Members agreed with Councilman Brent Dreaver, newly appointed as mayor pro tem, to extend late-fee exemptions to relatives of federal employees living in the same household. An example would be granting an exemption to a water bill penalty in the

See FEES, page 4A



Carolers serenaded attendees of The War Memorial’s 2024 tree lighting ceremony.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE WAR MEMORIAL

## Tree lighting returns to War Memorial Gingerbread house contest calls for Christmas creatives

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE FARMS** — The second annual War Memorial Tree Lighting Ceremony returns 4 to 7 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 23, with the lighting ceremony set to

take place at 5:30 p.m.

“It feels like a really great kickoff to the season,” said Jennifer Sutton, director of public programs and special events. “That was one of my favorite things about it last year. It really sets the mood for all of our

Christmas activities.”

In its inaugural year last November, the festivities saw significantly more people attend than organizers anticipated, “which is always a great problem to have,” Sutton said. “So we changed it up a little bit this year.”

Namely, the vintage holiday market will be expanded throughout the historic Alger House, with more vendors offering paintings, ornaments, linens, jewelry, candles, home decor, glassware

See TREE, page 4A

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See Section C

## GPPSS bond OK'd by large margin

By Ted O’Neil  
Associate Editor

**THE GROSSE POINTES** — The Grosse Pointe Public School System’s \$120 million bond proposal passed with 70 percent of the vote in the election Tuesday, Nov. 4. There were 10,088 votes in favor and 4,250 opposed.

“We extend our sincere thanks to all community members who participated in the election and cast their votes,” Superintendent Andrea Tuttle said in a statement. “The successful passage of the bond represents a significant investment in the future of our schools. This program will fund essential district improvements and address critical needs, with priorities shaped through thoughtful community input. Together, we are reinforcing our shared com-

mitment to building the future for our children.”

The highest support came from Grosse Pointe Farms, where 75 percent of voters were in favor of the bond. The lowest support was in Grosse Pointe Shores, with 58 percent of voters in favor.

Grosse Pointe Park and the City of Grosse Pointe were 74 percent favorable, with Grosse Pointe Woods and the GPPSS portion of Harper Woods both at 65 percent favorable.

Each series of the bond will last 20 years, with the first set at \$25 million to be issued this month.

The annual debt millage required to retire all district bonds currently outstanding is estimated to remain at or below 3.14 mills, which means no increase from the debt

See BOND, page 9A

## Spice & Tea citation dismissed

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**CITY OF GROSSE POINTE** — Because the painting portraying pumpkins, flowers and dwarves was removed from the front windows of the Spice and Tea Exchange in The Village prior to a civil infraction hearing in city court last week, City Attorney Chuck Kennedy moved to dismiss the case against the small business owner.

“We had discussions with the defendants that if the sign mural in question was removed prior to today’s date, I would dismiss on behalf of the city,” Kennedy told Municipal Judge David Draper.

The case promptly was dismissed with the hear-

ing lasting a matter of minutes Thursday, Nov. 6.

“I think it’s a step in the right direction,” said Sara Biery, owner of the Spice and Tea Exchange of Grosse Pointe. “The city ordinance for temporary signage was a

*‘Our goal is not to have to change (the ordinance). Our goal is to create or somehow address directly this particular type of thing as opposed to classifying it as signage.’*

SARA BIERY  
The Spice and Tea Exchange owner

stretch to apply in this case and so our goal is still to have design guidelines created that would address this kind of thing specifically.”

The controversy began when Biery hired local artist Chantel Christ to paint a fall-themed dis-

play on her shop’s windows in mid-August. She immediately was cited by code enforcement officers for violating the city’s temporary signage ordinance which requires temporary signs not cover more than 10 percent of the total window

and door sign area visible from the exterior and that temporary signs only are allowed on the interior of business establishments, as opposed to painting the outside of a window.

The citation did not come with a monetary fine, only a notice that the display must be removed within several weeks.

City Manager Joe Valentine stated at the

See SPICE, page 3A

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Obituaries . . . . . 2B  
Sports . . . . . 1D  
Classified ads . . . . . 4D

**Pointer of INTEREST**

See story, page 4A



**Don Sicko**  
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# Tomkowiak retains mayoral seat; Gillooly is next Calcaterra elected to council

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**CITY OF GROSSE POINTE** — Mayoral challenger Chris Boettcher was unable to play an UNO Reverse in last Tuesday's election, as he attempted to take back the seat incumbent Mayor Sheila Tomkowiak won from him in 2019.

Instead, Tomkowiak will continue as the mayor of the City of Grosse Pointe another two years, having received 63.87 percent of the votes to Boettcher's 35.93 percent.



Sheila Tomkowiak

"I certainly am happy to serve and to continue the good work that we've begun," said Tomkowiak, who enters her fourth

term as mayor. "I am grateful to the residents for recognizing the work that our council has been doing together and for honoring me with their votes. I am also very grateful to my fellow council members for the strong support of my leadership.

"... We will continue to work toward having a reasonable collegial council that makes good decisions with the best interests of the residents at heart."

As she looks toward leading the City the next two years — and in accor-

dance with ongoing major projects such as the pending stormwater separation — Tomkowiak has her sights set on spearheading the creation of a coherent, consistent joint crisis communication plan for all the Grosse Pointes.

Following last summer's shooting at a Rochester Hills splash pad, she has been in communication with Mayor Bryan Barnett, who has made it his mission, Tomkowiak said, to

See CITY, page 5A

# Gillooly is next Farms mayor

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE FARMS** — Voters last Tuesday elected eight-year councilman John Gillooly as mayor of Grosse Pointe Farms by a nearly 70 percent sweep.

He received 2,476 votes, or 69.39 percent, to Councilman Joe Ricci's 1,080 votes, or 30.27 percent.

"I'm humbled beyond belief," said Gillooly, a municipal attorney, who has represented the Pointes. "I've grown up in this community, I've tried to work hard for this community and the other Grosse Pointes professionally for more than 30 years and I look forward to working to maintain and improve the quality of life that we have in one of the top cities in the country to raise a family, work and do business."

Gillooly is prepared to pick up where former mayor Louis Theros left off.

"We're going to continue to work very hard," he said. "We have huge construction projects underway. The sewer separation project is going to improve the quality of life and property values for a large segment of our residents. We're



John Gillooly

going to work very hard on the park in many ways, including the new aquatic center. We're going to work to hold taxes down."

He's also committed to a public engagement strategy that has been all but perfected by the Farms in recent years, wherein residents are given ample opportunity to weigh in on major council decisions and city officials actually listen to the feedback.

"The process is extremely important to me," Gillooly said. "I want residents to have a hand in the process in all of the important decisions city council makes. I want them to have advanced notice, a right to comment about it, to digest it,

See FARMS, page 5A

# New Park council is raring to go

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE PARK** — A morning tide of Election Day voters ebbed midday, then swept in again during the dinner hour.

"We just had a killing right now," said election official Heidi Black, about a backup of in-person voters at the Precinct 4 check-in table shortly before 6 p.m.

Black and Precinct Chairman John Rizzo were 11 hours into a 13-hour day staffing polls 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 4, at Lavins Activity Center in Windmill Pointe Park.

They'd helped process 187 voters so far.

"It was the before-work crowd and then, because kids didn't have school today, a lot of parents were coming in the morning," Rizzo said. "It sort of slowed for a bit, then grew from 2 to 3 p.m. The after-work crowd picked up and hasn't stopped."

Voting ceased two hours later and the Park had a new city council member, the only contested race of the day.

Vote totals were tallied by 10:45 p.m. But waiting lasted until 2 a.m. for results from the city's six precincts to be double-checked and run through the Wayne County overseers.

Only then was it learned from the Park city clerk's office that incumbents Tom Caulfield and Max Wiener won second, four-year terms joined by first-time candidate

Patrick Gleason.

Four candidates competed for three seats. Finishing out of the running was Olga Merametdjian, also a first-timer.

One of the open seats was created by first-term councilwoman and losing mayoral challenger from two years ago, Christine Gallagher, taking the one-and-done route.

Some 3,541 residents cast votes during the election — 2,070 by absentee ballot in advance of the actual day and 1,471 combined at all precincts at Windmill.

"We've been busy," City Clerk Bridgette Bowdler said at 6 p.m. "We're still processing absentee voters. But, it's been smooth. Not as crazy as the presidential election. People are relaxed on this one."

The voting breakdown by candidate was:

- ◆ Caulfield, 2,490;
- ◆ Gleason, 2,271;
- ◆ Wiener, 2,234 and
- ◆ Merametdjian, 1,277.

Councilman Caulfield said, "I am honored to service the residents of Grosse Pointe Park for another term. I sincerely thank all for their continued support. I look forward to working again with Max and our newest council member, Patrick Gleason. I am confident Patrick will serve the residents well. I also commend Olga for a well-run campaign."

Councilman-elect Gleason, a member of the recreation commission known to follow through with what he

says he's going to do, said, "I feel gratitude for the opportunity to serve this community and its residents. It's been a gift to live and build my life here. It's a privilege to be the newest incoming member of council and I look forward to working with the other members under Mayor Hodges' leadership and working to ensure that the city administration has the support necessary for our city to thrive."

Councilman Wiener, head of the infrastructure committee, said, "I'm very excited the residents are giving me the opportunity to keep building on our work. I want to keep the proactive posture both on improving our long-term finances and upgrading our infrastructure. I'm particularly excited to be adding a new member to our team in Patrick Gleason, who has proven himself to be an engaged and hard-working resident."

Merametdjian said, "I am so grateful for the support. Of course, I wasn't thrilled that I didn't make it, but it was OK. One of my close friends said, 'You may not make it the first time, but you're going to get your name out there. And when you run again, it will be better.' And I definitely plan on running again."

Results are unofficial but considered unlikely to change meaningfully.

"We have seven days to wait for cured ballots and overseas ballots to come in," Bowdler said.

She pinned the reporting delay on the county.

"I can't post anything until the county called me to let me know if they received our results," she said. "It took them about two hours to call."

Nov. 4 wasn't limited to council candidates. Two uncontested races were concluded, too, along with passage of a public school bond proposal.

## Mayor and judge

Voters awarded Mayor Michele Hodges a third, two-year term. She received 2,633 votes and had no opposition.

"Even though this election was uncontested, it's a reminder that public service requires dedication to each and every resident," Hodges said.

"I'm honored to continue serving as mayor and I want to express my sincere gratitude to everyone in our community for their trust and support. With a new council member joining us, I'm excited about the opportunity to build fresh energy together. Our shared goals remain clear: advancing a community where teamwork leads to excellence and service as a guide for moving forward. None of us succeeds alone and together we will chart the path."

She said she was impressed with Gleason's work on the recreation commission and volunteering to help maintain gardens and restore the wood play-scape at Patterson Park.

"Mr. Gleason's high vote count provides tes-

See PARK, page 5A

# No surprises in Shores, Woods elections

**GROSSE POINTE WOODS AND SHORES** — With seven uncontested council races between them and one charter amendment, Election Day was straightforward for both cities.

Woods voters approved a charter amendment by a margin of 89 percent to 11 percent that changes the title of city administrator to city manager. The position supervises all department heads and city employees.

An ordinance amendment in 2022 also increased the duties of the role to include supervision of the city clerk and treasurer/comptroller.

City Administrator Frank Schulte previously said the change is because city council

wanted the title to be more in line with the other Pointes and surrounding communities.

"It's a better description of our organizational chart and how it flows," he said.

Mayor Art Bryant agreed.

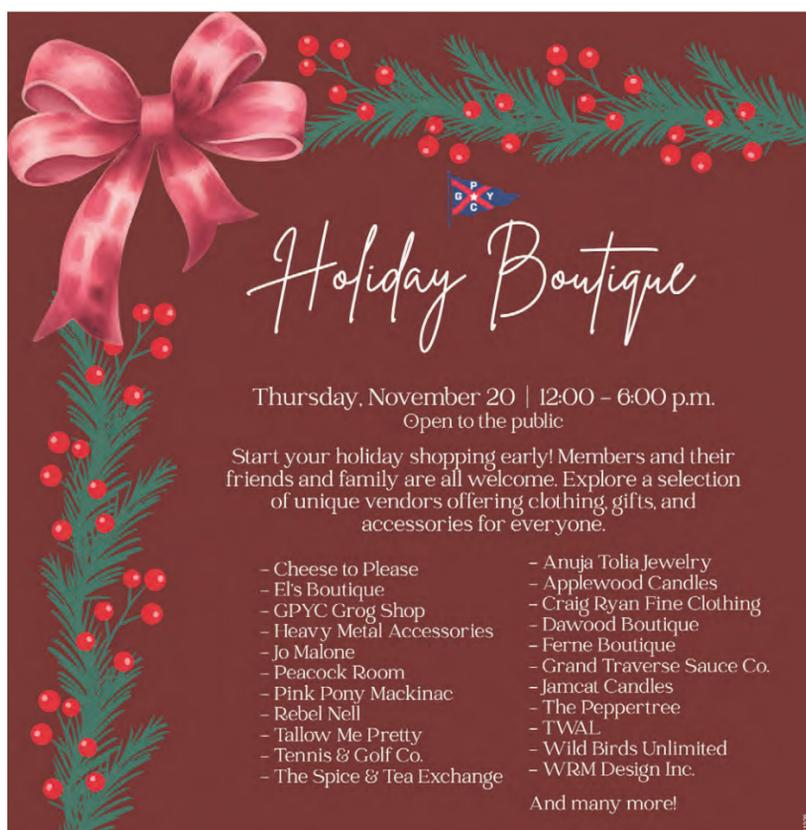
"Frank has basically been acting as a city manager since 2022 when we shifted the treasurer and clerk," he said. "The title city administrator implies that person isn't in charge of everything at city hall, that there's no single leader."

There were 3,784 votes in favor of the change and 465 against.

Also in the Woods, Bryant was re-elected, as were councilmembers Vicki Granger, Todd McConaghy and Jim Motschall.

In the Shores, councilmembers Sandra Cavataio and John Dakmak were re-elected. Newcomer Scott Houghton was elected to fill the seat previously held by Robert Barrette, who chose not to run again after 14 years on council.

—Ted O'Neil



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# Village tree lighting next Friday

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**CITY OF GROSSE POINTE** — The first snowfall of the year settled in metro Detroit Sunday, providing a fitting backdrop as crews spend the week transforming Kercheval into Christmas Street ahead of the annual Village Tree Lighting next Friday.

"The whole Village will be decorated by (this) Friday," said Laura Clements, City of Grosse Pointe Foundation member and president of Bishop Design and Display, which is contracted each year to bring the streetscape holiday cheer.

True to her word and

thanks to the City's foundation, the decor will be kicked up a notch this year.

The dulling decade-old ornaments typically adorning the blue spruce at St. Clair and Kercheval are being fully replaced with a new set.

Set to feature a more colorful arrangement, larger ornaments and final designs, the display is highlighted by a new three-foot electric star topper.

"I don't know of any other municipality's tree that has a topper like what we're going to do," Clements said. "My guys do a lot of different jobs and they haven't seen anybody that's done anything like this. It will be a

showstopper, guaranteed."

The clocktower's finicky colorful lights also are being replaced this week, weather permitting, with a tasteful white set.

"I can remember some years ago where my crew was wearing T-shirts and shorts (decorating The Village)," Clements said Monday — a crisp 31 degrees. "Five years ago, it was 78 degrees today."

Currently, the forecast calls for a high of 48 degrees when The Village Tree Lighting takes place 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 21. The actual tree lighting is set for 6 p.m.

"This tree is always spectacular, but I think

it'll be even more spectacular this year," said Cindy Willcock, Main Street Grosse Pointe executive director.

New this year, Elsa from "Frozen" will take the stage following the tree lighting for a performance and sing-along.

Residents also can expect the traditional festivities, with carols by the Grosse Pointe South High School Choir, hot cocoa provided by the Grosse Pointe Boat Club and the opportunity to make s'mores.

"Parking is free after 6 o'clock in The Village," Willcock said of a new initiative that kicked off this month, "so it's even more of a reason to come down."



COURTESY PHOTO

The Village Christmas tree will no longer look quite like it did here in 2024, as the City of Grosse Pointe Foundation has purchased all new ornaments and a three-foot tree topper.

# New pro tem in Park Woods shooting case delayed again

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE PARK** — Hodges — Mayor Michele Hodges — likes her council shaken, not stirred. By rejiggering its hierarchy this week, she intended to keep fresh ideas flowing.

"Rotating leadership is a healthy strategy that allows us to grow, contribute, bring fresh ideas and to build bridges," Hodges said. "My goal is to strengthen our ability to have impact and ensure the entire council is engaged. And to foster and, more importantly, deepen the collaboration we have with our community."

A sober-minded, reconstituted city council registered its collaboration Nov. 10, the first meeting since the Nov. 4 election, by unanimously agreeing with Hodges to appoint Councilman Brent Dreaver as mayor pro tem.

Dreaver is midway through his first, four-year term.

"You've shown maturity, passion, courage and heart during your two years with us," Hodges told him during the nomination.

"I'd like to do it," Dreaver said. "I'm hon-

ored and have big shoes to fill."

He takes over from now second-term Councilman Tom Caulfield, highest vote-getter in last week's race in which Councilman Max Wiener also won a second term and Councilman Patrick Gleason won office for the first time.

To Caulfield, Hodges said, "You've truly been an exceptional teammate, a real asset to this community. I don't see that changing. In fact, Tom, I'm working on strategy to take your impact to the next level."

City charter requires a mayor pro tem be appointed at the first meeting following a municipal election.

"Council member Dreaver ... you bring intellect to the table," Hodges said. "You work hard. You've shown professionalism. You have a mission-minded mindset. You've been a bridge. You've advanced strong narratives and served to educate the community as a result. You've shown maturity, passion, courage and heart during your two years with us."

Hodges used the opportunity to lay out a strategy for the new term.

She said, "It's my hope this stuff I'm proposing will strengthen connective tissue we know is crucial to build social capital and will serve to signal to the community that we are a serious, professional, well-oiled team that is absolutely committed to working closely together."

"There is no 'us versus them.' There are no factions or divides. We are simply a bench of strong and committed residents seeking only to lead with impact and demonstrate clearly to the community with every decision we make, including this one, that long-term, sustainable outcomes are what we strive for and what we will achieve through collaboration."

"We've come a long way, team, with each of you helping to move us forward. This decision is yet another punctuation point along our journey to a highly functioning community. I believe it's the mortar that will make this team an undeniable force. Everyone on this council has a vital role to play in shaping our success."

By Ted O'Neil  
Associate Editor

**GROSSE POINTE WOODS** — A probable cause conference related to a shooting last month was delayed a second time Wednesday, Nov. 5.

It originally was delayed Wednesday, Oct. 15, because the defendant's court-appointed attorney had only been appointed the previous day and did not have time for discovery.

"This is a significant case with a lot of details he needs to get a hold of," Municipal Judge Theodore Metry said at the time.

This delay was for similar reasons because the defendant recently retained her own attorney.

Amanda Marie Wilkins, 39, is charged with assault causing great bodily harm less than murder, use of a dangerous weapon and felony firearm, meaning the use of a firearm in the

commission of a felony. Oct. 3, in the 1900 block of Roslyn.

If convicted, she faces up to 10 years in prison, plus a mandatory two years for felony firearm. The shooting occurred the morning of Friday,

A 37-year-old Woods man, whose name police are not releasing, was

See DELAY, page 8A

## The Week Ahead

### MONDAY, NOV. 17

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Public School System Facilities Committee meeting, 5:30 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods City Council meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Park Planning Commission meeting, 7 p.m.

### TUESDAY, NOV. 18

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Senior Citizens' Commission meeting, 4 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores Parks Committee meeting, 4 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores City Council meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Planning Commission meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Citizens' Recreation meeting, 7 p.m.

### THURSDAY, NOV. 20

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Library Board of Trustees meeting, 6:30 p.m. at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.

## SPICE:

Continued from page 1A

time the city was trying to be accommodating as best it could, but still had to enforce its ordinances.

Biery decided to appeal the citation in court, which enabled her to keep the painting until early November.

Following last week's dismissal, the situation is out of the court's purview, at least for now, but Biery still intends to find a way to paint a Christmas scene on her shop's windows.

She's hired local attorney Dan Williams, who may offer a unique perspective on the controversy given he served on city council — which doubles as the zoning board of appeals — from 2017 to 2021.

"Our goal is not to have to change (the ordinance)," Biery said. "Our goal is to create or somehow address directly this particular type of thing as opposed to classifying it as signage."

In the interim, city administrators provided small business owners in The Village an outline of storefront holiday decoration display rules in keeping with the city's ordinances, aiming to head off any similar situations.

They are as follows:

- ◆ Displays may be placed during the period of Nov. 1 to Jan. 15 for businesses;

- ◆ businesses are encouraged to maintain cohesive, creative and high-quality holiday displays that enhance the downtown experience;

- ◆ displays must not obstruct entrances, exits or pedestrian access;

- ◆ displays on store windows must be on the inside of the window and limited to 10 inches from the window edge around the perimeter of the window;

- ◆ materials or decorations that are unsafe, poorly maintained or detract from the appearance of the downtown must be repaired or removed.

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## 4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

## From basketball to business

Former coach turns passion for sports into apparel brand

By Mike Adzima  
Staff Writer

Born and raised on Detroit's westside, Don Sicko never imagined a life where sports were not at the heart of it.

"I grew up in a very sports-oriented neighborhood," he said. "... Everybody in the neighborhood played. My first idols were the high school players at St. Andrew, which is where I went to school for 13 years. ... It was a very sports-oriented school also and I had a huge love for three sports: football, basketball and baseball."

Of those three, the middle one changed the course of Sicko's life. He is a basketball nut. A guru, some might say, even referring to himself as the "commissioner of ball" on social media.

That title is well

deserved for Sicko. He went from playing to coaching basketball seamlessly as soon as he could. He began coaching basketball, as well as baseball and football, at the high school level around the Detroit area, eventually dropping the other sports to fully focus on basketball.

Hoops always was Sicko's favorite and he always wanted to be the best, so when he began taking coaching seriously, it was time to learn from the best.

"I looked in the NCAA records at the top 20 defensive teams and wrote handwritten letters to the coaches of those teams," Sicko said. "One wrote me back and his name was Bob Knight. He said, 'I've got a notebook and it's for sale,' so I purchased it and made it the basis of my defensive phi-

losophy. More than any one thing, that would have accounted for a lot of the success I had as a high school coach, but I didn't want to be one-dimensional, so I tried to develop better offensive techniques as I went along, too."

Sicko turned his high school coaching success into opportunities to coach at the Division I collegiate level, first as an assistant coach at Kent State University. Then, he was hired as an assistant coach with the men's basketball team at the University of Michigan in the early 1980s under legendary head coach Bill Frieder.

After a few seasons on the bench with the Wolverines, Sicko got the chance of a lifetime. In 1982, he became the head coach of the men's basketball team at the

University of Detroit Mercy, a program that always had his heart.

"When I was a CYO player at St. Andrew, my coach was a player at the University of Detroit named Frank Chickowski," Sicko said. "... Frank would bring Dave DeBusschere to our practices to help mentor us and tutor us. I was in basketball heaven and University of Detroit was at the center of it. ... I was in love with the University of Detroit, so to get that opportunity was huge. Some people at that time said, 'Why would you have left the University of Michigan?' but what I just said explains it. It was a different era and I was plugged into the greatness of that program during those years."

Sicko went on to be named the 1986 Midwestern Collegiate Conference (now known as the Horizon League) Coach of the Year. He stepped down from his role with the Titans in 1987, and did not coach again until he took the job as head coach at Notre Dame High School in Harper Woods for a few years in the early 2000s.

During those years in between, Sicko explored other paths and opportunities. He went from basketball to business, working in branding and sales with companies such as Life Is Good, CCM and Reebok.

Even as his full-time career shifted to business, basketball was still in Sicko's blood. He had opportunities in the media to write about basketball. He spent 20 years as a Michigan-based scout for the prestigious Portsmouth Invitational Tournament, a basketball showcase for potential NBA draft picks.

"It was really a great 20



COURTESY PHOTOS

Don Sicko, right, with his grandsons, Hayden and Brody Vinyard.

years and I really enjoyed it because I got to stay in the game and see high-quality basketball," Sicko said.

Now, he watches sports mostly as a fan. It is the reason why he officially moved to Grosse Pointe a few years ago, to cheer on his own grandchildren and watch them begin their sports journeys at Grosse Pointe South.

Seeing sports through the lens of a fan rather than a coach is what inspired Sicko's latest venture. Earlier this year, he received a trademark for Fan Blood, his own sports apparel brand designed to help fans show their pride.

"Branding has always been a very conscious endeavor in my background," he said. "I started to think about an athletic brand that could speak to fans' passion about their teams. Every fanbase has its own unique passion, but it's equivalent. Alabama fans feel as strongly about their brand as Grand Valley State does. I tried to formulate an idea with the concept of, 'What's in your veins?' ... It all started to come together with that thought process."

Still in its early stages, Fan Blood already is

growing strong. Sicko set up an online shop with a wide selection of apparel for fans of dozens of college and pro teams, as well as gear that appeals to people's passions that might not be related to team sports, including anything from hiking to gardening.

"If you're passionate about something, your passion is as strong in your area as anything in athletics," he said. "... It's evolved into an athletics-meets-lifestyle brand where it's for everyone."

It is that kind of strategy that is helping Fan Blood appeal to the masses. Fan Blood's products can be found on the shelves of Lacquer Gift Shop inside Detroit's Motor City Casino.

"Building a brand can be a very challenging area," he said. "I think the basic concept is appealing to a wide range of people and I think we've got a great name and great logos. We can go in different directions and what we're trying to do is get traction in all different areas. Some areas grow faster than others and I think we're going to follow the wave and find out which channel our growth can come the quickest. ... In the end, it's building the brand name."

## Chick-fil-A opens Thursday

DETROIT — In spite of being embroiled in a two-year controversy that came with building high-traffic drive-thru lanes directly abutting a school playground for small children, the Chick-fil-A location at Mack and Marseilles officially opens Thursday, Nov. 13.

Hours of operation are 6:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Saturday for drive-thru, carryout and third-party delivery.

On opening day, those who dress in cow print can receive one free entree or kids meal as part of a cheeky campaign that encourages people to skip burgers and "Eat More Chikin."

The new Detroit location will be led by owner-operator Manda Taylor.

Taylor, a Detroit resident, grew up around a family-run local business, previously served as a teacher and cheer coach for many years and, in 2022, joined Chick-fil-A as a team member, later being accepted into the Chick-fil-A Leadership Development Program.

"When I was young, I would save my allowance for visits to Chick-fil-A in our

local mall, because it always felt like such a special treat," Taylor said in a prepared statement. "Now, representing this brand and becoming a local owner-operator for my own restaurant is truly a dream come true. I'm honored to bring the same delicious food and genuine hospitality that I remember so fondly from my earlier years to the Detroit community and I look forward to making Chick-fil-A Mack Ave., a place where our community feels valued and cared for."

In combination with the opening of the new location, Chick-fil-A is donating \$25,000 to Junior Achievement of Southeast Michigan, which delivers hands-on programs in financial literacy, work-readiness and entrepreneurship to young people.

Another \$25,000 is being donated to Feeding America via its partner food bank Forgotten Harvest, to support local hunger relief efforts.

Taylor also will partner with Food Rescue Detroit, which facilitates the donation of surplus food from restaurants and stores to social service agencies.

## TREE:

Continued from page 1A

and more.

"People can expect a variety of gifts, if they're looking for hostess gifts, (holiday) gifts or just something nostalgic, but also just that festive idea of a holiday market," said Mata Kartsonas, market organizer.

Storytime with Belle also has been moved from the Alger House

library to the campus' art and classes wing, where more children can fill the additional space.

Readings take place at 4:15, 4:45, 5 and 6:15 p.m.

In the same wing from 4 to 7 p.m., children also can create their own paper cranes with instructor Nobuko Yamasaki, to take home and place on their Christmas tree.

Further adjusted plans include live sculpting of a

snowman from 4 to 4:30 p.m. by Chad Hartson of Ice Creations, rather than the outdoor marshmallow roasting that was included last year.

"And then we switched up the VIP event in our ballroom and made that a little bit more family-friendly," Sutton said.

Now called the Mingle with Kringle Reception, attendees may purchase tickets — \$35 for children, \$45 for adults — to meet with Santa for cookies and hot cocoa, as well as enjoy a macaroni and cheese bar, following the tree lighting.

"We'll have the big 20-foot tree and we're doing some new decorations in the colonnade this year that'll be hanging," Sutton said, "so it'll be a really festive experience."

Adding to the overall

Christmas cheer, The War Memorial will host its first gingerbread house decorating competition noon to 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 16.

Registration is \$30 per team or individual. The kit and decorating supplies will be provided, although participants are welcome to bring additional supplies as long as they're edible.

"We wanted to have something a little extra and fun," Sutton said.

Decorated gingerbread houses will be displayed in the Patriot Gallery, where Pointers can vote on their favorites, up until the winner is announced during the tree-lighting ceremony.

The winning team or individual will receive a free table for four at The War Memorial's Breakfast with Santa.

## FEES:

Continued from page 1A

name of a wife sharing the address of her federally-employed husband.

Councilmen Marty McMillan and Max Wiener said they "absolutely" and "certainly" supported the expansion.

"Regular billing and payment schedules will continue, but no penalties will be assessed until three months after the federal government shut-

down has officially ended, at which point normal penalty assessments will resume on all applicable accounts," Tylecki said.

Abeyance requires applicants verify their federal employment status by providing the following information:

◆ a valid federal employee identification badge or recent pay stub, plus

◆ a valid driver's license matching the name on the utility account.

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# PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

## City of Grosse Pointe

Nothing to report per dispatch.

— *Laurel Kraus*

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

## Grosse Pointe Farms

### Upcharge

An Ohio man unsuccessfully attempted to defraud a 48-year-old Farms man last week, sending him a fraudulent \$35,890 check in the mail for a boat the Pointer is selling for \$35,000.

### Dodge vehicles targeted

The threat against Dodge vehicles continued in the Farms last week.

A 2021 Dodge Ram's

window was smashed and its car stereo stolen between 3 p.m. Monday, Nov. 3, and 4 a.m. the next day in the 300 block of McMillan.

A 2026 Ram 1500's window was smashed and its information display screen stolen overnight into Friday, Nov. 7, in the 400 block of Bournemouth.

### Dark at 5

A 21-year-old Detroit man was cited for driving at Canyon and East Warren without a driver's license or headlights at 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 8.

— *Laurel Kraus*

Report information about these and other crimes to Grosse Pointe

Farms Public Safety, (313) 885-2100.

## Grosse Pointe Shores

Nothing to report per dispatch

— *Ted O'Neil*

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

## Grosse Pointe Park

### B&E

Little is known about a breaking and entering two weeks ago in the 700 block of Pemberton other than \$140 cash was missing, there was no sign of forced entry, nor any video evidence, according

to a police summary.

"(The) crime is under investigation," police said.

Officers said the incident happened between 8 a.m. and 1:15 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 1.

### Car theft

Nothing marked the scene of a vehicle theft overnight Tuesday, Nov. 4, in the 1300 block of Wayburn, except the absence of a 2018 Jeep Grand Cherokee.

The vehicle was reported stolen while parked in a rear driveway.

### Warrant

A 53-year-old Detroit man being investigated for a traffic infraction on Mack at Wayburn at 8:30

p.m. Saturday, Nov. 8, was arrested on an outstanding warrant from Macomb County.

Park police said he was speeding. The warrant specified aggravated assault.

— *Brad Lindberg*

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

## Grosse Pointe Woods

### Stolen tools

About \$9,000 in tools were stolen from the back of a work van in the 2000 block of Allard sometime Monday, Nov. 3. The owner did not

notice until an employee returned to the shop.

The employee was unsure if the van was locked while at the job site.

### Retail fraud

An unknown black female between 30 and 40 years old is accused of stealing \$2,100 in eye-glass frames from a business in the 19300 block of Mack around 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 8.

The suspect was wearing blue shoes and a blue hoodie under a black jacket.

— *Ted O'Neil*

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

## CITY:

Continued from page 2A

inform other communities about the necessity of municipalities having a plan in place on how to communicate during a crisis, what is expected of city staff and elected officials and how to approach the aftermath in following days.

"You need to have a methodology in place for dealing with all of that," Tomkowiak said. "We have five Grosse Pointes and the world out there looks at us as one, so how do we communicate with one voice to the world if there is a problem in any one of our Grosse Pointes?"

Joining Tomkowiak in re-election to city council are incumbents Maureen Juip and Chris Walsh, who received the highest number of votes with 1,419 and 1,371, respectively.

Elected to the third open seat is newcomer David Calcaterra, who earned the third-most votes at 1,086. Incumbent David Fries, who has served one term on council, lost his seat after receiving 965 votes.

"I'm really looking forward to serving on the city council in the city I've lived my whole life,"

Calcaterra said. "(Residents) can expect someone who's going to, in the very beginning, just sit back and learn from the wealth of experience on the board at the moment."

Unexpectedly, the city saw a record-breaking 41.32 percent voter turnout for a local election, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk Chris Hardenbrook reported.

"We had the third highest percentage turnout in all tri-counties," he said, "That's Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties."

In the 2023 general election, the city experienced 35 percent turnout; in 2021, it was 25 percent; and in 2019, 35 percent. The city only ever has seen higher turnouts in a general election in 2005, with a 48 percent turnout, and 1989, with a 50 percent turnout.

"It was steady all day long without issue," Hardenbrook said, "except for a 15-minute window in the evening time (when) we had this huge rush after work, where we had a little bit of congestion at the entrance."

Tuesday's election was the first held at The Neighborhood Club after the Grosse Pointe Public School System said Maire Elementary School no

longer was an option.

While the polls were set up in the second-floor conference rooms for an election that typically has lower voter turnout, the city will use the facility's gymnasium for larger presidential elections.

"Obviously, we have to have our polling location within our jurisdiction and being such a small city, we really don't have too many options," Hardenbrook acknowledged. "So for The Neighborhood Club to step up and offer their building and welcome us back and welcome potentially for the larger election use of their gym — which is a big programming (space) for them to sacrifice for a day — we're very appreciative of The Neighborhood Club and all their staff for taking us on."

Many voters seemed to appreciate the convenience of the new location.

"People came and they're either on their way to workout or they were coming from a workout," Hardenbrook noticed. "It's a one-stop-shop. I can get my workout and then my vote in all in the same place."

Still, absentee voters outnumbered those on Election Day, 1,151 to 902.

## FARMS:

Continued from page 2A

and to observe and participate in the big decisions that we have to make going forward. We're going to continue, like we did recently with the pool project, we're going to continue that."

In an uncontested city council race, incumbents Sierra Donaven and Beth Konrad Wilberding will serve another term on council and are joined by former public safety director Dan Jensen.

Ricci, who served on council since 2013, is halfway through his

current term and may remain on council in that capacity.

Municipal Judge Charles Berschback also will serve another term, as he ran for re-election unopposed.

Voter turnout Tuesday exceeded expectations for a local election, hitting 40.12 percent.

Absentee voters numbered 2,211, compared to the 1,419 voters who showed up to The War Memorial.

"Election Day went very well," Assistant City Manager/City Clerk Derrick Kozicki said, "and it was great to see a steady stream of voters all day long.

The voter turnout percentage was on the higher end of the range that we had estimated before Election Day."

Gillooly, who was at the polls chatting with residents from 6:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., particularly was struck by the number of children who tagged along with their parents to vote.

"I literally saw several hundred kids, at least, accompanied their parents to the polls," he said, "which is such a good head start on civic responsibility, on the importance of voting and the privilege of voting that we can't take for granted."

## PARK:

Continued from page 2A

timony to his level of engagement within the community," she said. "He had already proven himself."

Also uncontested was John Parnell Jr. in his

race to replace retiring Municipal Judge Carl Jarboe.

Parnell received 2,509 votes. He was unavailable for comment.

### School bond

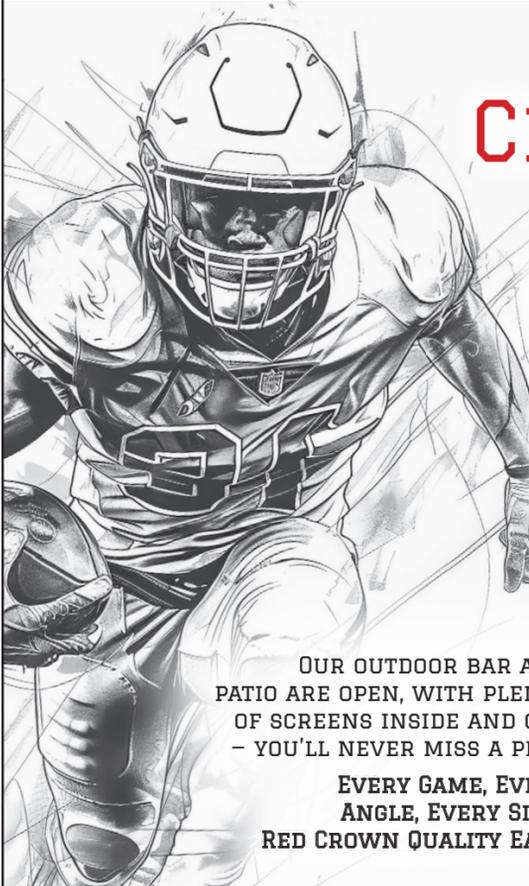
Park voters joined others throughout the district by supporting a \$120

million bond proposal to remodel, reequip and refurbish buildings and facilities.

The Park vote was 2,465 to 866.

"I think a lot of people are coming out for the school millage," Bowdler said, explaining the evening rush.

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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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### OUR VIEW

## A healthy discussion

**T**he fact voters in the last 15 months have approved two millages and a bond for the Grosse Pointe Public School System means we obviously care about our schools. And by extension, we care about our students.

Which is why we are concerned about the proposed new health education standards from the Michigan Department of Education.

Under the current standards, and state law, students are required to take a health class as part of the Michigan Merit Curriculum. It deals with things like diet, exercise, hygiene, the use of drugs and alcohol and mental health.

The only thing of a sexual nature deals with the prevention of HIV/AIDS and other communicable diseases. Parents are allowed to withhold their student from that portion of the class.

At the same time, school districts have the option to offer a separate sex education class as an elective.

It appears to many that the department of education is trying to blur those lines with the proposed new standards.

For example, while current law requires districts that offer sex education classes to stress abstinence as a “responsible and effective method” for preventing pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections, the word appears just three times in a draft of the new health class standards — all in the sixth- through eighth-grade section.

It includes this reference: “Assess personal health practices and develop short- and long-term goals that support healthy sexual behaviors (e.g. abstinence, delay, use of contraception, use of barriers, giving and obtaining consent.”

Seriously?

Has the department forgotten that the age of consent in Michigan is 16? Does the state actually want to suggest middle schoolers engage in illegal activity?

Sue Carnell, the interim state superintendent, testified on the draft plan before the Michigan House Oversight Committee late last month.

Questions from legislators on the committee expressed concerns that some of the content in the draft standards are of a highly personal — and controversial — nature, including things such as gender fluidity, reproductive health, advocacy and sexual orientation.

“What is the fixation on sexual activity that is so predominant in this document?” Committee Chairman Rep. Jay DeBoyer, R-Clay, asked Carnell.

We agree. There is something offputting and concerning about adults who want to discuss some of these topics with other people’s children.

When asked if she would agree that there are only two genders, Carnell answered, “There are other viewpoints.”

That is exactly why some of these topics should not be broached outside the home, be it for ethical, moral or religious reasons.

People can hold whatever personal view they want to on something like gender identity, but biology tells us there are only two genders. We certainly would not want a science teacher, for example, teaching flat Earth theory, regardless of what they might personally believe.

Carnell also dropped a shocker during the committee hearing, saying the new standards, “can be applied across all content areas.” Gives a whole new meaning to a math teacher discussing non-binary numbers.

She also said several times that parents can “opt out” of disagreeable content. That presents a problem whereby students could end up missing large chunks



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

## Pure Grosse Pointe

Olaf recently enjoyed a day in the sunshine, patrolling the fence line and munching on grass. A day in nature is a nice break from his stall at the Grosse Pointe Equestrian Club on Cook Road in Grosse Pointe Woods. Olaf, who stands more than 16 hands tall, is a gentle giant and popular with kids who learn to ride on him.

**GUEST VIEW** By Cindy Willcock

## The magic of shopping local

“Amazon failed me.” That’s how a recent plea began to a local boutique owner in our community. A customer had an event to attend, but the dress she ordered online didn’t arrive. In a bind, she reached out to the shop, asking if they could open early to help her find something to wear. And of course, the owner said yes.

That’s the magic of shopping local.

It’s not just about the merchandise; it’s about the people behind the counter who know your name, who care about your day and who will go the extra mile when you’re in a pinch. It’s about real relationships, real service and real-time solutions.

Would Amazon or any other online retailer open early for you? Stay late? Deliver something same-day, in person to your doorstep because you had a wardrobe emergency? Of course not. Algorithms don’t care if your package gets delayed. But your local small business owner does.



So why don’t we choose local first?

We’ve been conditioned to believe that convenience lives in a cardboard box on our doorstep. But true convenience is walking into a store, trying something on, getting honest feedback and walking out with exactly what you need. No guesswork, no

See GUEST, page 7A

of so many classes that they end up failing.

It also could force teachers to resign or be dismissed for refusing to address certain topics.

According to Rep. Jamie Thompson, R-Brownstown Township, who addressed the committee, Michigan’s new standards are based on a national document that was heavily influenced by the nonprofit SIECUS, the Sexuality Information and Education Council of the United States. The group has come under fire for opposing abstinence education, promoting what some see as promiscuous and high-risk sexual activity to elementary school children and speaking out against laws designed to keep minors safe online.

When contacted about how the Grosse Pointe Public School System would react if the new standards are adopted, the district provided this statement: “GPPSS will utilize its longstanding process for curriculum review and adoption. It is also important to recognize that even if the State Board of Education adopts them, we still have local control as to what we include in our AHE (adolescent health education) curriculum. The EPLC (Educational Programs Leadership Council) process, including the AHE Committee and Human Sexuality Advisory Board, will guide that work.”

We suggest you contact the GPPSS Board of Education ([gpschools.org/about-gppss/school-board](http://gpschools.org/about-gppss/school-board)) and make your thoughts known on the matter.

## 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](mailto:editor@grossepointenews.com) or by filling out the letters form on our website, [grossepointenews.com](http://grossepointenews.com).

### Park for recreation, not a meadow

**To the Editor:**

I am writing in response to the “Meadow in the park” article in the Oct. 30 issue. It is my understanding that the two Park residents proposing this “meadow” at Patterson Park are doing so primarily on their own, without the expressed support of the full beautification commission, nor with little or any official authorization from the city of Grosse Pointe Park. Contacting any state or federal authorities without specific authorization from duly elected or paid city officials can potentially lead to what might be unwelcome regulatory oversight. But that’s a future, potential problem if this meadow is actually planted. Reasons to reject a meadow include:

1) The hill where this proposed meadow would go is used by Park residents and their children for snow sledding, cross-country snowshoeing, the annual marsh-mallow drop, running and rolling downhill activities by young children, middle and high school cross-country training and ... walking and running activity by young and old year round.

2) There is no accessible outdoor water source in that corner of Patterson Park. To establish any sort of plantings, you need to have consistent watering for at least the

See LETTERS, page 7A

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### GROSSE POINTE 7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

November 13 - 19



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50° 33°	53° 35°	54° 45°	60° 37°	49° 44°	50° 46°	50° 34°
Mostly Clear	Mostly Cloudy	Cloudy	Chance Rain	Chance Rain	Cloudy	Cloudy
0%	10%	10%	40%	40%	40%	30%
SUNRISE 7:20 am SUNSET 5:11 pm	SUNRISE 7:22 am SUNSET 5:10 pm	SUNRISE 7:23 am SUNSET 5:09 pm	SUNRISE 7:24 am SUNSET 5:08 pm	SUNRISE 7:25 am SUNSET 5:08 pm	SUNRISE 7:27 am SUNSET 5:07 pm	SUNRISE 7:28 am SUNSET 5:06 pm

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

I SAY By Renee Landuyt



# Why do we say what we say?

I think creatively. And logically. And, sometimes literally. So when something doesn't make sense, I tend to question it. Or I'm at least curious about it. That is why some of the sayings that I, and probably you, grew up with, and that people still say, don't make sense. So I wonder where they came from or why that saying is even said.

Have you ever paid attention when using a phrase you've heard growing up or thought about what it meant. Like the saying, "A friend in need is a friend indeed." Are they? It seems like the friend helping the friend

in need is a friend indeed. The saying actually means a true friend helps you when you are having a difficult time. So why is it worded to sound the opposite?

How about when your mom used to say, "Hold your horses." Huh? As a little kid you'd think, "What horses?"

"A watched pot never boils." Yes, it does. I've tested this theory when adding salt to water and it boils quicker. I've watched it.

"A stitch in time saves nine." How?

"Don't count your chickens before they hatch." That's a little dark.

"Don't put the cart before the horse." Well, that's just dumb. Who would do that and expect it to work?

Or the saying "sweating like a pig." The problem with that is pigs don't sweat.

I like when people say they slept like a baby because then I ask, do you mean you woke up a few times during the night?

And then there's "happy as a clam." Clams are probably not happy since they are taken out of their home and eaten. The original saying was, "Happy as a clam at high water," which makes more sense because then they aren't exposed to predators or people because they are safe in high water.

"The proof is in the pudding." What the heck? The real saying is, "The proof of the pudding is in the eating," because you could judge if the pudding

was cooked properly by taking a bite.

"Spill the beans." We think that means revealing a secret, but it comes from ancient Greek when spilling beans revealed election results.

"Pull yourself up by your bootstraps." Um, you can pull your boots up by the bootstraps, but I think it's impossible to pull yourself up. The saying actually means to improve your situation by your own hard work and no outside assistance. But again, why bootstraps?

Is it just me or does anyone else think about these things? I have caught myself lately using a few and when I do, it brings it to the forefront and I think, what does that actually mean? Which is what started this "rolling stone gathers no moss"

idea of saying things that don't make sense or are just plain weird.

When someone says "it's raining cats and dogs," I think, why don't you just say it's really raining hard?

And why in the theater does "break a leg" mean good luck? If you broke your leg, it wouldn't be good luck. Why don't we just say what we mean instead of using sayings that have the opposite meaning or that aren't always correct?

If someone says something is the "bee's knees" it means it is something of high quality. Not sure why that is equivalent to high quality, but it turns out that bees do have knees in each of their six legs. Who knew?

Or how about the saying, "on cloud nine." I've

said it and I know it means to be very happy but why nine? Why not eight or 11? Apparently it comes from an old system of classifying clouds and cloud nine is a metaphor for being on top of the world.

Yep, this is a part of how my brain works. I question things. In psychology class in college, the professor had a drawing on an overhead of two cars and one had crashed into the other. She asked, "How fast were the cars going?"

I raised my hand and said zero and she asked, "Why zero?"

I replied that the cars were stopped and not going anywhere.

She replied, "You'd be a good one to study."

I took it as a compliment.

## YESTERDAY'S HEADLINES

### 1950

75 years ago this week

#### ALL BUILDING RECORDS SMASHED:

The rate of new home construction in the Grosse Pointe School District has continued to surpass all previous years, according to the third quarterly report just issued by L.M. Bartlett, Director of Pupil Personnel for the Grosse Pointe Public Schools. This report shows that a total of 1,155 dwelling permits

were issued in the various municipalities comprising the Grosse Pointe School District during the first nine months of this calendar year.

### 1975

50 years ago this week

#### SCHOOLS RAP

**STATE CUT:** Grosse Pointe Superintendent of Schools Dr. James A. Adams has joined with 15 other Michigan superintendents in recommending that their

boards take legal action in regard to state education and budget cuts.

### 2000

25 years ago this week

#### LIONS' ANSWER IS WITHIN:

The writing was on the wall for Bobby Ross, who resigned Monday as head coach of the Detroit Lions. Ross, who has always been an emotional man, was not distressed merely by the Lions' pathetic 23-8 loss Sunday to the Miami Dolphins. Ross clearly felt he had tried every coaching trick in the

book and none of them worked with the Lions. The task of turning things around and leading the Lions to the playoffs falls to a familiar face to Michiganians — Gary Moeller.

### 2015

10 years ago this week

#### DRONE RULES

**COMING:** If you still define a drone as a worker bee, you need to catch up. Drones are remote-controlled aircraft used in battlefields as well as backyards and can be effective tools for police and conservation

officers. They also can be a pain in the neck for the next-door neighbor. That's why the discussion has begun in Grosse

Pointe Woods about regulating the devices before one starts hovering over your backyard pool.

## GUEST:

Continued from page 6A

returns, no disappointment.

When we default to online giants, we're not just risking a fashion faux pas. We're missing out on the human connection that makes our communities thrive. We're bypassing the businesses that sponsor our kids' sports teams, decorate their windows for the holidays and show up for local causes without being asked.

Shopping local isn't just a transaction; it's an investment in the character and resilience of our towns. It's how we keep our Main Streets vibrant, our storefronts full and our neighbors employed.

While shopping locally is important 365 days a year, the holiday shopping season traditionally begins the day after Thanksgiving and is followed by Small Business Saturday. Merchants in The Village will be offering small swag and special deals.

So next time you need a dress, a gift, a last-minute miracle — start with your local shops. They're not just open for business. They're open for you.

Why let Amazon fail you, when your community is ready to lift you up?

Cindy Willcock is executive director of Main Street Grosse Pointe.

## LETTERS:

Continued from page 6A

first couple of years.

3) A meadow is going to attract wildlife to inhabit it and/or to feed off the plants growing there. Grosse Pointe Park and Jefferson-Chalmers just beyond have established populations of squirrels, raccoons, rabbits, field mice and deer, plus colonies of feral cats. ... In the wild, ticks feed on warm-blooded, furry animals. These same animals can carry the bacteria that cause Lyme disease.

4) Patterson Park is a park, designed for human use and enjoyment. It is not a native plants or wildlife refuge and should not become one. We have limited, open green space for resident recreation, so let's not think of restricting what open space we do have.

TINA ZIEMBA, PH.D.  
Grosse Pointe Park

Editor's Note: This letter was edited to reach the 300-word limit. Find the writer's full letter online at [grossepointe.com](http://grossepointe.com).

## Successful election

To the Editor:

The League of Women Voters of Grosse Pointe congratulates all of the candidates who were successful in the Nov. 4 election. We thank you for your willingness to serve our communities and for taking on the important responsibility of representing your con-

stituents.

We also extend our appreciation to those who ran for office but were not elected. Stepping forward to run is an act of public service. Campaigning requires time, commitment and engagement with voters on the issues that matter most to our communities.

A special thanks to our local clerks and to everyone who served as election inspectors/poll workers and on the absentee voter counting boards. Your dedication ensured that our elections ran smoothly and accurately.

Finally, we thank the voters who participated in this election. Democracy is strongest when community members are informed and engaged.

The League of Women Voters remains dedicated to empowering voters and defending democracy. We will continue our nonpartisan work to provide voter education, encourage participation and support fair, secure and transparent elections.

LYNNE PIERCE,  
PRESIDENT  
League of Women Voters  
of Grosse Pointe

## Many thanks

To the Editor:

On behalf of the Gloria and Thomas Kitchen Memorial Foundation, I would like to thank the community for their support of our recent annual fundraiser to support cystic fibrosis research.

Thank you to our gen-

erous sponsors:

Event sponsor: R.R. Dossin Family Foundation;

Platinum level: William and Stephanie Listman; Gold level: Art Tucker Excavating, Birchwood Homes LLC, Duross Painting Co., Mary Kramer, Matthew and Jennifer Kitchen, Robert Kitchen, Anne MacIntyre and John Polizzi;

Silver level: A.H. Peters Funeral Home, Holcomb Contracting LLC, Michael and Lisa Fuller, Jason and Janet Griswold, Charles and Laura Huebner, Paul and Elizabeth Huebner, Four Way Asphalt Paving LLC, Jay and Kate Lytle, Lewis and Laura Tillman, Andrew and Julia Vieweg;

Bronze sponsors: Roger and Bethany Akins, Dr. Kevin and Cathy Grady, Robert Lyles and Barbara Chiappella.

Finally, many local individuals and businesses donated goods and services to support our fundraising efforts. They are: Buddy's Pizza, The Charlevoix, Coreander's Children's Bookshoppe, Costco, Current Water Co., Bruce and Carolyn Dall, Detroit Yoga Lab, Dyno Detroit, Edsel & Eleanor Ford House, Fishbone's, Five Iron Golf Detroit, Fowling Warehouse, The Grand Hotel, Sue Keon, Leon and Lulu, Jackie Listman, Dana Lockniskar, Kirk and Wendy Maltby, Erika Page, Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle, Michigan Pedaler, Mr. C's Carwash, Motawi Tileworks, Motor

City Casino and Hotel, Orange Theory Grosse Pointe Woods, Outdoor Adventure Center, Dawn Parker, Christie Perry, The Portrait Place, Robert's Restaurant Group, The Spice and Tea Exchange, Thrive Interiors, Toledo Zoo, Top Golf, Tower Therapeutic Fitness, Trader Joe's, Village Grille, Village Palm and Zef's Dockside Bar & Kitchen.

In this season of giving thanks, the Gloria and Thomas Kitchen Memorial Foundation would like to extend heartfelt thanks to our generous community for their continued support.

STEPHANIE LISTMAN  
Event Chairperson

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# Beauty commission gets just desserts

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE PARK** — A 10-minute meeting of the Grosse Pointe Park Ethics Board concluded last week with the triumvirate advising the city's beautification commission how to comply with conflict-of-interest rules when contracting the daughter of two city representatives for discount catering services at next week's annual awards banquet.

Ethics board members on Nov. 5 also commended Beautification Chairwoman Lisa Kyle for seeking a ruling.

Finally, they recommended a conflict-of-interest provision be extended to relatives of city representatives and employees, not just representatives and employees alone.

The main ruling, in turn, accomplished at least three things.

It overruled the city's previous finance director's prohibition of the catering arrangement.

The ruling also simplified planning for next week's awards banquet and let beautification commissioners put on the event at far less cost than last year when restricted by the finance director to retain another caterer at market rates.

"In the past, Sarah Hansen catered the event with a significant discount," said Kyle in her written request for a ruling. "We are able to save \$600 to \$800 using her." Hansen is the daughter of Commissioner Shellie Hansen and Robert Hansen, a public works employee.

"Because of this, our previous finance director would not allow us to hire her," Kyle explained.

Hansen submitted a \$750 bid to supply 75 people expected to attend this year's banquet with hors d'oeuvres, charcuterie, salads, three main dishes and desserts.

"We used a retail caterer last year that doubled the cost of catering," Kyle said.

The beautification

awards banquet is the commission's biggest annual event. Members spend weeks searching the city for properties considered contenders for recognition.

"We hold an annual awards ceremony to recognize residents, businesses and volunteers who have beautified homes and properties in the city," Kyle said.

Last year, awards were issued to 37 recipients in five categories: residential, century (for houses at least 100 years old), sustainability, business and civic. This year's banquet is 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 13, at the Tompkins Community Center, Windmill Pointe Park.

Members of the ethics board issued a verbal, not written, opinion in favor of the catering proposal due to the time crunch of next week's banquet.

"There's no way we'd get a written opinion, but our written opinion would be that it is perfectly OK for the beautification commission to contract with Hansen

Catering, but that in voting for it on the commission, (Commissioner) Shellie Hansen should abstain," Ethics Chairman Rick Pacynski said. "I thank the beautification commission and Lisa Kyle in particular for asking for an advisory opinion."

Lacking disclosure and abstinence, the arrangement would be a conflict of interest, according to member David Breen.

He said, "My advice is it be disclosed and that any approval process for which any of the conflicted employees or commission members are involved recuse themselves from making a decision (on the contract). As long as it's fully disclosed and the people involved recuse themselves, I see nothing wrong with it."

"I'm 100 percent in agreement," board member Anthony Agosta said. "The (ethics) ordinance identifies the intention of the Code of Ethics. As long as the conflict is disclosed and they refrain

from discussion, deliberation or voting thereon, it shouldn't be a problem, especially here, when they have a bid that is almost twice the amount of the bid from the daughter's company. As long as the disclosure is there, and they refrain from making votes on it, I don't see it as a conflict."

"However one reads this," Pacynski said, "and whether it is formally a conflict of interest or not, our recommendation would be that (Commissioner) Shellie (Hansen) abstain from voting. We certainly would support the contracting if someone is giving the city a better deal. I'm not sure what the thinking was when it was prohibited in the past."

"We are thrilled the ethics committee approved our request for this year," Kyle said afterward. "We have used Sarah (Hansen Catering) in the past and she always did a great job at a savings for the commission. She has always provided excellent service and the

most delicious food and desserts."

"I'm appreciative of the opportunity to review this with the ethics board," City Manager Nick Sizeland said. "We want to help our commission and make sure we are doing this with the public's trust."

While researching the matter, Pacynski said he found something odd about the ethics ordinance.

"It says, 'No officials or employee of the city shall engage in a business transaction in which he or she may profit because of his or her official position or authority,'" he said. "There's nothing in here about family. Frankly, the ordinance should be clarified in that regard. Because I don't know why you'd have disclosures in the disclosure part of the ordinance if it wasn't intended that the businesses of children would be included in these prohibitions or definitions of what's a conflict of interest."



COURTESY PHOTO

## The fast and the foolish

A 21-year-old West Bloomfield man received two tickets after pulling this stunt — no pun intended — on southbound Lakeshore near Fontana Lane in Grosse Pointe Shores around 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 5.

Public Safety Director Ken Werenski said witnesses told officers the man was pointing his phone toward Lake St. Clair when he hit the open gate of the landscape trailer, which acted as a ramp, and drove his 2008 black Ford Escape partially through the front of the trailer.

The man admitted to officers he was filming the lake and showed them the video. He was ticketed for failure to stop within an assured, clear distance and for distracted driving causing an accident.

He was treated for minor injuries at Henry Ford St. John Hospital and released. Werenski added the witness also told officers it was like "something out of a movie."

## Star of the Sea hosts preview night

Our Lady Star of the Sea School hosts a PreK-Kindergarten preview night at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 19, in the school library, 467 Fairford, Grosse Pointe Woods.

The preschool provides a develop-

mentally appropriate program designed to promote cognitive, social, emotional, physical and spiritual growth in a nurturing atmosphere.

For more information, call (313) 884-1070.

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## Outgoing councilman honored

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**CITY OF GROSSE POINTE** — Though first-term City Councilman David Fries will not serve another four years following the results of last week's election, those with whom he served believe he already has made a lasting impact on the city.

Fries, who has been on council since 2021, was honored with a resolution during his last meeting in the role Monday night.

"It has been wonderful to sit next to you for these last four years," Councilwoman Maureen Juip said. "You served with a true spirit of service and a lot of integrity."

The resolution highlights Fries' passion for devoting his personal time and resources to Neff Park, funding out of his own pocket the restoration of the Neff Park clock tower, new little red wagons and holiday luncheons for city staff.

"Councilmember Fries' efforts over these years to keep the City of Grosse Pointe and its parks safe and inviting are truly appreciated," the resolution reads. "His contributions as a city council member have made a positive impact on the City of Grosse Pointe for years



PHOTO BY LAUREL KRAUS

During his last council meeting, Councilman Dave Fries is honored with a resolution, presented by Mayor Sheila Tomkowiak Monday, Nov. 10.

to come.

"Councilmember Fries will retire from council in November 2025, but will always be known for his caring nature and commitment to the City of Grosse Pointe and its residents."

Throughout the last four years, Fries worked diligently with fellow council members and civic groups on projects such as the city's stormwater separation project, adaptive reuse of the historic Grosse Pointe

Public School System administration building, construction of the Notre Dame townhouses and many other routine but important council decisions.

"You've been the triple threat," Councilman Seth Krupp, M.D., said to Fries at the close of the meeting. "You've given your time, your treasure and your talent to this city. And that says a lot about who you are as a person. We're going to miss you here."

## DELAY:

Continued from page 3A

shot in the right forearm. The incident occurred on the front lawn of Wilkins' residence.

"They were dating but didn't live together," Public Safety Director John Kosanke previously said. "They were arguing and it spilled out onto the front lawn."

Kosanke said it also was not the first time officers were called to the home due to domestic disturbances. The victim is expected to make a full recovery.

Wilkins was arraigned

shortly after the incident and released on a \$200,000 cash/surety bond, meaning she paid \$20,000.

The new hearing is rescheduled for 11 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10. A preliminary examination could occur a week later.

"I need time to talk to Amanda about the police report and other issues," Elias Muawad, her attorney, told Metry. "I have doubts we'll get to the preliminary exam."

He did not elaborate if that meant Wilkins would plead or if a plea deal with the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office was a possibility.

Metry also questioned Wilkins about two bond violations, those being a dead ankle monitor battery and missing a required alcohol test.

"These are minor violations that I'll hold in abeyance and if there are no other minor violations they'll probably be dismissed," he said. "The court usually assumes a missed test means there was some type of use."

Terms of her bond include no drinking alcohol, submitting to alcohol testing twice a week, wearing a GPS monitor, no possession of a firearm and no contact with the victim.

# Richard students get message of hope, perseverance

By Ted O'Neil  
Associate Editor

**GROSSE POINTE FARMS** — Richard Elementary School students got an extra treat on Halloween during an hour-long assembly where they heard from motivational speaker and professional wrestler Chris Gray.

"I dare you to be different and accept others for being different," Gray told the students. "Like Mr. Rogers always said, you are valued. We all have different gifts and different ways of telling the world who we are."

Gray, who previously wrestled in the WWE and currently appears with TNA (Total Nonstop Action) Wrestling — seen weekly in 150 million homes in 120 countries — said people used to call him "weird" when he was growing up because he



COURTESY PHOTO

Chris Gray, standing middle back, who wrestles under the name Cody Deaneer, holds one of his championship belts while surrounded by Richard Elementary School students at an assembly last month.

wanted to be a pro wrestler.

He said his mom was the one who encouraged him to dream big, buying him action figures of his favorite wrestlers, Hulk Hogan, Jake "The Snake" Roberts and Ricky "The

Dragon" Steamboat, all of whom he has gotten the opportunity to work with over the years.

"It's important to use your imagination," Gray said, showing the students those action figures, as well as one of his

championship belts. "People say you can be whatever you want to be, but that's a lie because it's missing a few words. You can be whatever you want to be ... if you put in the work."

Gray, who grew up in a

town of 200 in Ontario, Canada, said he spent a year driving three hours each way to a wrestling school to learn the craft.

"The first night, the teacher made me throw myself down on my back 100 times to learn how to fall," he recalled. "Driving home, I was wondering if people were right, but I didn't give up. I realized he was testing me, so I went back the next night. That hard work paid off."

Gray said there were eight people in the audience for his first wrestling match. Four years later, WWE gave him an audition, where he wrestled before an audience of 20,000 and 4 million TV viewers.

"Two years after that, I was signed by TNA," he said. "That's when I learned to focus on the positive rather than the negative."

Turns out Hogan was

picked to run TNA.

"My very first hero, the man who made me want to be a wrestler, caused me to lose my job," Gray said. "He was bringing five wrestlers with him from the WWE, so they had to get rid of five of us."

"But did I give up?" he continued. "No, I put in the work."

He eventually was rehired by TNA, where he was a tag team partner with Jake the Snake and was managed by Ricky the Dragon.

Gray said he's been giving motivational speeches for a decade, doing between 50 and 100 presentations a year.

"One of my high school teachers asked me to come and share my unique story," he said after his Richard presentation. "Then another school asked and I realized people can do this for a living."

## BOND:

Continued from page 1A

millage levied in 2024.

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

According to historical data, bond elections in Michigan over the past decade with no millage increase have had an 82 percent chance of passing. Those with a millage increase were a 50/50 shot.

The estimated millage that will be levied to pay for the new bonds in the first year is 0.70 mills and the estimated simple average annual millage

that will be required to retire each series of the bonds is 1.63 mills annually. The remainder of the levied millage will go toward paying off the 2018 bond.

Tuttle previously said bond money will be spent on every facility in the district and will touch on infrastructure needs, as well as safety and security, athletics, arts and other extracurricular endeavors.

Using information put together by Plante Moran in 2022, administrators identified \$60 million in critical needs the bond would address such as HVAC systems, roofs,

windows and parking lots. The district then appointed a Bond Advisory Committee to decide on the other \$60 million. Meeting four times over three months, the committee favored:

- ◆ \$8.2 million for new furniture,
- ◆ \$4 million to refurbish the Christian A. Fenton Performing Arts Center at Grosse Pointe North High School,
- ◆ \$9.7 million for boiler replacements,
- ◆ \$750,000 to relocate the main office at Grosse Pointe South High School,
- ◆ \$125,000 to resurface the track at South,

◆ \$50,000 to each building principal to use at their discretion on critical needs,

◆ \$1 million for air conditioning upgrades at the administration's discretion,

◆ \$475,000 for early childhood initiatives and

◆ \$3 million for locker room renovations at the high schools.

Another \$3.7 million will go to reconfigure the closed pool at Parcels Middle School, possibly into a technology and innovation hub, a STEM lab or an e-sports arena. Tuttle said such features could attract more students to the district.

Some \$5 million will go toward keeping the closed Trombly Elementary School up to code should the district decide to reopen it.

"We extend our sincere gratitude to our community for its steadfast support of our students, our team and our schools," Tuttle said. "We also thank our Bond Advisory Committee, Board of Education, district team, families and community members for their dedication in sharing accurate information and helping the community make an informed decision about this important initiative. In the months

ahead, the district will continue to provide updates on progress and ensure transparent communication between district families, staff and community members."

The second and third series of the bond most likely will come in 2027 and 2030. Amounts will depend on project and cash flow needs, as well as interest rates.

Estimated cumulative interest is \$83 million, which the millage described above would be used to pay down. There also is \$82 million in interest outstanding on the \$111 million 2018 bond.



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## An 'Open Letter' to ALL Americans ...

Subject: **'TOUGH LOVE'** ...

The very best kind of love is not always 'soft and gentle' ...

Many (**MANY!**) years ago, my very young sisters and I would often engage in the 'squabbles' that **ALL** young children engage in ...

My dear mother knew that she could never truly understand the many 'dynamics' that were at the heart of such squabbles; so rather than even try to decide which one of her children was most at fault, mom sent **ALL** of us to 'sit in a corner' until we figured it out for ourselves!

The founding fathers of our great country are, in many ways, comparable to our 'parents' ...

They had the 'smarts' to teach us not 'what' to think - but 'how' to think ...

They eliminated dictators and gave us a government 'of the people, by the people, and for the people' ... and consisting of...

- a **President** (elected by 'we the people' and intended to act like a parent) ...
- a **Congress** (elected by 'we the people' and intended to create reasonable laws) ...
- a **Supreme Court** (appointed by the President and confirmed by Congress) to ensure that the laws created by Congress were fair and reasonable - and did not 'favor' any one category of 'we the people' citizens.

The 'people' in Congress were intended to simply 'represent' the wishes of 'we the people' ...

Unfortunately, they don't seem to be doing this; and are more often representing the dictates of their respective political parties!

We the people of America (and that includes **ALL** of us; regardless of our 'identities' - and including Democrats, Republicans and Independents - need to send our elected officials to 'sit in a corner' until they figure out a way to resolve the issues that they have created!

And while I am at the lectern, I want to remind **EVERYONE** of a great sermon delivered by one of my favorite 'inner-city pastors' - the very important message of which was ...

"When you 'give' a fish to someone, you feed that person for one day; but if you 'teach' a person to fish, they can feed themselves forever!"

Might be 'tough love' ... but certainly a very important 'lesson of life' ...

- Ron Lamparter  
Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236

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PHOTO COURTESY OF THE DETROIT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Luxury liners were commonplace along the Detroit River decades ago.

## Author's latest work explores Great Lakes luxury liners

### Dossin Museum to host Nov. 16 book launch

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

In his youth, architect and author Bruce Kopytek remembers visiting Detroit with his father, a World War II Navy veteran.

"He would love to take us to Belle Isle to watch the ships," he recalled. "He would talk about my uncle taking a steamship to Buffalo. ... I remember seeing the Detroit skyline with what looked like ocean liners.

"... This has been a passion all my life, so I chose it as my next book, after Hudson's," he added.

Kopytek's "Hudson's: Detroit's World-Famous Department Store" was published in 2022. In the three years since, he's been working on his newest release, "The D&C Lake Lines and the Fabulous Luxury Liners of the Great Lakes," which examines the Titanic-like steamships that called Detroit home from the late 1890s and beyond to around 1950. The book officially



PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY OF DETROIT FATHER DOWLING COLLECTION

The City Detroit III, painted by Father Dowling.

launches Sunday, Nov. 16, at the Dossin Great Lakes Museum on Belle Isle. The public is welcome to attend the 2 p.m. event, which will feature a 45-minute multimedia presentation followed by Q&A.

Copies of the book — a 672-page, eight-pound coffee table book — will be available for purchase as well.

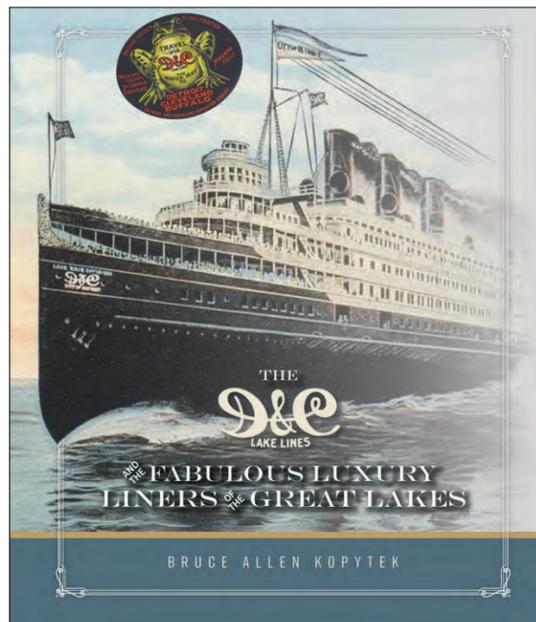
"I thought it was time

to bring history to life," Kopytek said. "As an enthusiast, I know a lot about it, but the general public is quite uninformed. There are seven cruise liners on the Great Lakes now. It is growing in popularity, so this book is timely."

The book includes a wealth of information about the Detroit and Cleveland Navigation Co., which was head-

quartered in Detroit. One of a handful of ship lines operating passenger steamships on the Great Lakes, it benefited from the brilliance of "genius naval architect" Frank E. Kirby.

"He was born in Ohio, studied in New York and had great interest in steam engines and naval architecture," Kopytek said. "He came to be associated with the big-



Bruce Kopytek's latest book will launch at the Dossin Great Lakes Museum Nov. 16.

gest shipyard in Detroit, the Detroit Shipbuilding Co."

Among Kirby's well-known designs are the Bob-Lo boats — the Columbia and the Ste. Claire — as well as the Detroit Shipbuilding Co.'s Tashmoo and D&C's City of Detroit III. "He insisted on good design and safety provisions," Kopytek said. "... In this book, there are lots of tragedies on ships like this, but nothing on a Frank Kirby ship."

Another notable name examined in the book is the McMillan family, which emigrated from Scotland to Canada and included Sen. James McMillan.

"He saw the smokestacks in Detroit and wanted to cross the river to become an industrialist," Kopytek said. "...

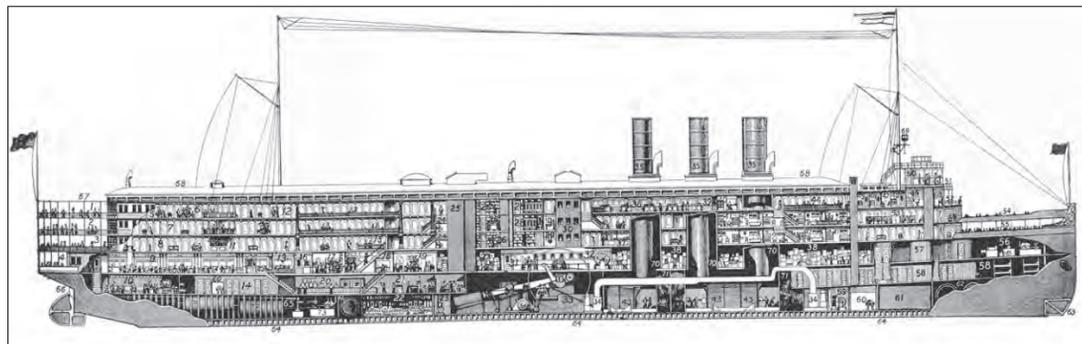
He was one of the first to build an estate in the Pointes and where he went, the wealthy followed."

McMillan was one of the largest stockholders of the D&C. His family was part of the dynasty that ran the line until it was sold in 1947. Kopytek said he was privileged to meet "living legacy" Sandy McMillan, of St. Clair Shores, the last surviving member of the family who rode on one of these ships.

"He's a cool connection to an industry that's been long gone for many years," Kopytek said.

Other chapters explore additional ship lines and their fleets, including the "crude" Walk-in-the-Water, a paddle steamer that was

See LUXURY, page 4B



FROM THE COLLECTION OF THE AUTHOR

A cutaway of the City Detroit III

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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.

## Carroll "Mitzi" McCaffrey

Carroll "Mitzi" (nee Donahue) McCaffrey, 86, died peacefully Saturday, Nov. 1, 2025, at The Herrick House in Beverly, Mass. She was the beloved wife of the late John Francis McCaffrey Sr.

Mitzi was born Dec. 15, 1938, in Detroit, to John R. and Mary Carroll Donahue, both now deceased. Raised and educated in Detroit, Mitzi graduated from Marygrove College, a private Roman Catholic college founded and run by the Sister Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. There, her deep faith and spirit of generosity — values that guided her throughout her life — were nurtured. This foundation of faith shaped her character from an early age and remained her compass until her final days.

Mitzi began her career as an educator and taught in Milwaukee and Detroit. She and her lifelong partner and husband of 56 years, John, shared a belief that the greatest gift one could give or receive was the gift of education. As they began their family, Mitzi devoted her time and love to creating a warm, welcoming home while supporting her four children in all of their pursuits. The McCaffrey home always was lively and filled with laughter, sports, music, competition and love.

John's career took the family from Grosse Pointe to New Canaan, Conn., and later to Winnetka, Ill., before they eventually returned full circle to Connecticut. There, Mitzi rediscovered her passion for education and volunteering, which became her vocation as she devoted countless hours to the St. Aloysius Parish and School for

more than 20 years.

Mitzi was happiest when surrounded by her ever-growing family at home, with family dinners and traditions and time together. She was a passionate supporter of her children's athletic and artistic endeavors and took immense joy in cheering on the next generation — her grandchildren — as they followed in those footsteps. Whether watching footballs, hockey pucks, basketballs or lacrosse balls fly, or standing by the door with the family dog waiting for the next "adventure," she took it all in with a smile and love in her heart. Through every chapter of family life, Mitzi remained the gentle, steady presence who anchored them all. Her legacy of kindness, faith and family will forever live on in all who loved her.

Mitzi is survived by her sons, John F. McCaffrey Jr. (Bree) of Southlake, Texas, Timothy McCaffrey Sr. (Alyson) of Houston and Robert McCaffrey Sr. (Ashley) of Milton, Mass.; daughter, Carroll Willa (Keith) of Topsfield, Mass.; beloved grandchildren, Macyn and Miller McCaffrey, Mary and Timothy McCaffrey Jr., Kailyn and Hunter Willa and Betsy, Bert and Teddy McCaffrey; and many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her husband, John; and sister, Mary Kay Gersuk (Jack Donahue Jr.).

A funeral Mass was held Nov. 8, at St. Rose of Lima Church in Topsfield, Mass., followed by a celebration of life at 1640 Hart House in Ipswich, Mass.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Catholic Charities, 117 N. Common, Ste. 2, Lynn, MA 01902, [ccab.org/about-us/locations/?form=DonateNow](http://ccab.org/about-us/locations/?form=DonateNow).

Arrangements were entrusted to O'Donnell Cremations-Funerals-Celebrations. Share a memory at [odonnellfuneralservice.com](http://odonnellfuneralservice.com).

## Alfred Richard Reuther Jr.

Alfred "Bud" Richard Reuther Jr., 91, of Grosse Pointe Farms, passed away at home Friday, Oct. 31, 2025.

Bud was born at Grosse Pointe Cottage Hospital in 1934. A lifelong resident of Grosse Pointe, he attended Richard Elementary School, Brownell Middle School and Grosse Pointe High School, graduating in 1952. He also was an Eagle Scout.

Bud graduated from Michigan State University in 1956, and earned a master's degree in economics from The George Washington University in 1958.

He began his career at Chase Manhattan Bank in New York. For many years he was treasurer of Michigan Consolidated Gas Company (now DTE). He completed his 50-year career as Vice President and Senior Financial Advisor in the private client group at Merrill Lynch.

Bud's avocation and love was public service. He served for two terms as a councilman for the City of Grosse Pointe, where he also was on the retirement board. For two years, he was chairman of the Republican Party when Grosse Pointe was in the 14th Congressional District (population of 500,000). For a number of years, he was a Republican delegate to the Michigan State Convention. In 1980, he was a Reagan National Delegate from Michigan to the GOP National Convention.

During his volunteer time, he served as presi-



Carroll McCaffrey



Alfred R. Reuther Jr.



Catherine Melcher

dent and chairman of The Children's Center in Detroit. Bud also served as president of the Parents Association of Hillsdale College and remained a member of the President's Club. He was a member of the Club for Growth, Family Research Council, Alliance Defense Fund (now Alliance Defending Freedom) and Mackinac Center for Public Policy. His private life included memberships with the Country Club of Detroit and Witenagemot Club.

Bud's family settled in Detroit in 1839, when his great-great-grandfather, Gottlieb Beck, came from Philadelphia to start the first leather tannery in Michigan, in the area now known as Greektown in downtown Detroit.

Bud is survived by his wife of 67 years, Jane; son, William (Mary Lacey); daughter, Brooke Ross; and eight grandchildren, Clark, Hadley, Caroline, Ted, Charlotte, Frank, Emily and Catherine.

A private service will be held at a later date.

Memorial donations may be made to the Mackinac Center for Public Policy, 140 W. Main, Midland, MI 48640, [mackinac.org/donate?source=MCP/PP/header](http://mackinac.org/donate?source=MCP/PP/header); or Alliance Defending Freedom, 15100 N. 90th, Scottsdale, AZ 85260, [bit.ly/4hPV6IM](http://bit.ly/4hPV6IM).

## Catherine Schleh Melcher

Catherine Schleh Melcher, 75, of Grosse Pointe, passed away Wednesday, Nov. 5, 2025, with her family holding her hands and singing her favorite

songs.

A lifelong Grosse Pointe resident, Cathy was the soul of her family. She loved her children and grandchildren fiercely. She was easily recognizable driving around town with her beloved Weimaraner, Robin, barking out of her sunroof.

Cathy loved cooking and gardening and was a voracious reader. She played the role of family photographer and enjoyed going to the dog park, birding, eating out, family dinners, being the family meteorologist and listening to classic rock while singing along with her daughters.

She was predeceased by her husband and love of her life, Edward Melcher. She is survived by her daughters, Indra Melcher Eschenburg (Chris), Emily Melcher, Lauren Melcher Davis (Joel) and Savannah Melcher; and grandchildren, Piper Eschenburg, Tatum Eschenburg, Edward Eschenburg and Daniel Davis. She will be deeply missed by her family and friends.

Arrangements were entrusted to Chas. Verheyden Inc.

## Thomas Ross Kneeshaw

Thomas Ross Kneeshaw, 85, died Thursday, Oct. 30, 2025, in Detroit.

Tom was born Dec. 28, 1939, in Toledo, Ohio, to Byron Ross Kneeshaw and Isabel Elizabeth (nee Walters) Kneeshaw.

Tom was an active member of the Men's Club of Grosse Pointe, Indian Village Tennis Club and Cadillac and LaSalle Club. After retirement, Tom and his wife,



Thomas R. Kneeshaw

Sheila, traveled to many destinations, visiting gardens, lighthouses and art museums.

Tom is survived by his wife, Sheila; daughters, Rachel (Nate), Lisa and Lori; grandchildren, Madeline, Benjamin, Tierra and Destiny; great-grandchildren, Braylin, Mahari and Lorena; and sisters, Mary and Susan.

Visitation will take place at 10 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 22, until his noon funeral Mass at Chas. Verheyden Inc., 16300 Mack, Grosse Pointe Park.

Arrangements were entrusted to Chas. Verheyden Inc.

## MEMORIAL

### John "Jack" R. Schneider

John "Jack" Raymond Schneider, 88, passed away Monday, Sept. 22, 2025.

A funeral Mass will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, Nov. 21, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Family and friends may begin to gather at 9:30 a.m. Find his full obituary in the Oct. 2 Grosse Pointe News.

Arrangements were entrusted to Chas. Verheyden Inc.

# Bicknell lecture series continues Nov. 19

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

Regular Bicknell lectures 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.

Up next is "Preserving our Cultural Heritage: 1620 — 2025, A Career Road Trip Saving Our Precious Stuff," presented by Peter Cook, a retired museum administrator and curator. He will take his audience on an antique road trip with stories of rescue, intrigue, mystery and innovation. Architecture, land, deco-

orative arts, monuments and national living treasures will be represented in this historical journey.

Cook, who grew up in Grosse Pointe Park, has served as the chief curator of Plimoth Plantation in Massachusetts, administrative director of "Historic New England," chief curator of the Bennington Museum in Vermont and guest curator for an exhibition about material culture, including historical

textiles.

He and his wife, Nancy, specialize in pre-industrial textiles and livestock breeding on their Tare Shirt Farm in Berwick, Maine, using 18th-century farming techniques. He also served as a senior lecturer in the graduate program at Lesley University in Cambridge, Mass.

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

◆ 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](http://gphistorical.org/bicknell-lecture.html).

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

## GPPL hosts night at the movies

The Grosse Pointe Public Library presents the film "Sunfish (& Other Stories of Green Lake)," written and directed by former Michigan resident Sierra Falconer, at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 19, at the Windmill Pointe Park Theater, 14920 Windmill Pointe Dr., Grosse Pointe Park.

The 87-minute film had its world premiere at this year's Sundance Film Festival, where it was a nominee for the Grand Jury Prize in Drama.

It follows the residents of a small town and the lake that

binds them together. Lives intertwine around Green Lake as a girl learns to sail, a boy fights for first chair, two sisters operate a bed-and-breakfast and a fisherman is after the catch of his life. Each chapter introduces new lives and relationships portrayed with subtlety and nuance, capturing the quiet beauty of human connection.

Admission to view the film is free, but reservations are required. Visit [grossepointe.librarycalendar.com](http://grossepointe.librarycalendar.com) or call (313) 640-4775.



# Recital caps Palazzolo's teaching career

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

For years, Joseph Palazzolo has been a fixture of Grosse Pointe's musical community.

From instructing choir students and teaching piano to directing the Grosse Pointe Community Chorus and serving as director of music at Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church, he's had a hand in the community's musical upbringing for ages.

As he nears his 72nd birthday, Palazzolo is letting go of his final post in the Pointes.

"The last four or five years of my life, I've been winding down these different things," he said, noting he first gave up teaching choir, then retired from the Grosse



COURTESY PHOTO

## Joseph Palazzolo

Pointe Community Chorus after 14 years. A year ago he stepped down as music director at the church — a post he held since 2002 — and now is moving away from teaching piano.

To celebrate his retirement, Palazzolo wel-

comes the community to hear his students perform their farewell recital at 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 23, at St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 20475 Sunningdale Park, Grosse Pointe Woods.

"Although I will continue to perform in concert, I am about to put away my scale books, theory books and lesson notebooks," he said. "Since 1996, I have taught classes of private students as large as 25 and as small as four. Now it's time to hang up my teaching hat."

The recital will feature his current class of seven, as well as a few additions.

"One student, Joseph Burgoyne, never got to play his senior recital because of the pandemic," Palazzolo said.

"We've been trying to get together ever since. I've taught all four of the kids in that family for a number of years. He'll be performing."

Additionally, Palazzolo will perform a solo and he'll be joined for a duet with Hans Barbe.

"He's going to be my successor teaching these kids," Palazzolo said. "He's already my successor at Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church."

Though his teaching career is coming to an end, Palazzolo still continues to serve as music director at Congregation for Humanistic Judaism in Farmington Hills. It's a part-time post that well suits him.

"They have Friday night services, so I don't have to get up early Sundays," he said of the

position, for which he serves as pianist and cantor. "I was working there concurrently with GPUC as I was winding down the GPUC position."

"Now I just have that job, so I'm really retired or semi-retired," he added. "I want to have more time for me, to do a lot more traveling. I love to travel. I'm discovering all these new things I haven't done before."

"For years I was telling people where to go and what to do," he added. "... I didn't want to direct anymore. So I'm going in a different direction."

That direction includes taking a chamber music class in France, working out with a private trainer and skydiving.

"There are all sorts of new and exciting things I've been doing," he said.

"I got in touch with my Sicilian heritage by visiting my ancestral town a half hour west of Palermo in Sicily. ... I might even try my hand at comedy."

Though he's excited for the next chapter of his life, he said he loved teaching and watching his students grow up.

"As long as I have taught them to love music, I've done my job," he said. "I don't want them to hate music. I'm very demanding. I expect excellence. I want them to do their absolute best. When you expect their absolute best, they rise to the occasion."

Following the Nov. 23 recital, Palazzolo will host a potluck, complete with Jet's Pizza.

"Come and bring a dish to pass," he said. "Preferably finger foods."



## Collection week for Operation Christmas Child is Nov. 17-24

Volunteers are preparing to collect Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts during National Collection Week, Nov. 17 to 24, when nearly 5,000 drop-off locations will open across the country, including locally at Crosspointe Christian Church, 21336 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

Since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has been collecting and delivering gift-filled shoeboxes to children, including many who are suffering from war, poverty, disease and disaster. Operation Christmas Child hopes to reach another 12 million children in 2025 with the hope of Jesus.

A step-by-step guide for packing a shoebox may be found online at [tinyurl.com/bdzeb6m4](http://tinyurl.com/bdzeb6m4).

The project partners with local churches across the globe to deliver these tangible expressions of God's love to children in need. Participants can donate \$10 per shoebox gift online through "Follow Your Box" and receive a tracking label to discover its destination.

"Samaritan's Purse works around the world to help people in need, but it's not about good works — it's about the Gospel," said Franklin Graham, president of Samaritan's Purse. "Please prayerfully consider packing a shoebox this year with Operation Christmas Child. These simple gifts open the door for us to share the true meaning of Christmas."

Drop off at Crosspointe takes place 9 to 11 a.m.

and 1 to 3 p.m. Monday, Nov. 17, through Wednesday, Nov. 19; 9 to 11 a.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 20; 9 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 3 p.m. Friday, Nov. 21; 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 22; 6 to 8 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 23; and 9 to 11 a.m. Monday, Nov. 24.

For more information, visit [samaritanaspurse.org/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/](http://samaritanaspurse.org/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/).



## Eastside Republicans to host candidates running for statewide offices in 2026

The Eastside Republican Club will host candidates running for statewide offices in 2026 at its next forum, Tuesday, Nov. 18, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Candidates who have confirmed their attendance are Anthony Forlini, Amanda Love, Timothy Smith and Monica Yatooma, who are running for secretary of state; Doug Lloyd, who is running for attorney general; and Shelly Wright, who is running for State Senate, District 12.

Candidates for the sec-

retary of state and attorney general on the Republican ticket will be chosen by delegates at the Endorsement Convention held March 28, 2026, at the Suburban Collection in Detroit.

"The mid-term election in 2026 will be the prime opportunity to change the direction of our state with two of the most important administrative positions being that of secretary of state and attorney general," said Renee Strobl, Eastside Republican Club chairwoman. "Currently we have an unlawful and politically partisan secretary of state and an attor-

ney general whose case was dismissed by the courts after having filed bogus felony charges against 2020 Michigan Republican electors."

A successful midterm for the Republicans also would mean flipping the upper legislative chamber from Democrat control. They could be one seat closer should Wright win her race against incumbent Kevin Hertel.

Doors open at 7 p.m. and all are welcome.

Stay up to date at EastsideRepublicanClub and follow the ERC on Facebook or X @EastsideGOP.

## Program teaches voters to 'Know What You Sign'

The League of Women Voters of Grosse Pointe is hosting an educational program, "Know What You Sign," to help community members better understand the petitions currently circulating throughout Michigan that could go before voters in 2026. The program will take place 7 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 19, at the Grosse Pointe Public Library Ewald Branch, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

Petitions provide citizens the opportunity to bring issues to the ballot for all voters to decide. However, what is written on petitions — and what is said about them — can sometimes be unclear, misleading or confusing. This program will provide the lan-

guage on all petitions currently circulating. It is important to fully understand what the proposed ballot initiatives would do if ultimately approved by voters.

"Signing a petition is not just adding your name; it's taking the first step toward putting a proposal before all Michigan voters," League President Lynne Pierce said. "It is important to understand exactly what a petition means and how it may affect you and your community."

This event is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact the League of Women Voters of Grosse Pointe at [lwvgrossepointe@gmail.com](mailto:lwvgrossepointe@gmail.com).

## CHURCH EVENT

### St. Michael's

St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 20475 Sunningdale Park, Grosse Pointe Woods, hosts its next Lunch, Laugh and Learn Thursday, Nov. 20. Dr. Maureen Murphy, director of the Corewell clinic at Harper Woods

High School, will speak. The clinic, which serves all residents of Wayne County, opened in September and is a community partner with St. Michael's. Reservations for lunch are required. Call (313) 884-4820 by Tuesday, Nov. 18, to secure a seat.

## World hunger awareness meal

Christ Church Grosse Pointe invites the community to an interactive learning experience that explores global and local inequality at 10:15 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 16.

The church's "One Big World" Youth Peace and Justice Team will sponsor a world hunger awareness meal that brings the realities of worldwide hunger and income disparity into focus.

The team researched and planned this educational experience themselves. Participants will step into the shoes of people living at different economic levels around the world, creating an immersive learning

environment. As participants share a meal with their neighbors, they'll gain fresh insight into the challenges faced by billions worldwide and the ongoing need for compassion and action in Wayne County, which has the highest childhood instability rate in all of Michigan.

This event is open to everyone sixth grade and up — church members and community friends alike. Free childcare will be available.

Food will be donated by The Jagged Fork.

For more information, call (313) 885-4841 or contact Lisa Brown at [LBrown@ChristChurchGP.org](mailto:LBrown@ChristChurchGP.org).

Worship Service

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

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

**Solomon Spangler, Pastor**  
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# AREA ACTIVITIES

## Library

The Grosse Pointe Public Library hosts a variety of programs. To register for the following, visit [grossepointelibrary.org](http://grossepointelibrary.org).

◆ Through the Eyes of Rose, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 13, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Copy of Content Creator 101, 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Nov. 15, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Drop-In Dino Stories on the Big Screen, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 15, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ Fossil Fails: Reimagine Dinosaurs using craft supplies, 2 to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 15, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Introduction to Merchandise Making with Author/Artist Robert Liu-Trujillo, 3 to 5 p.m. Monday, Nov. 17, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Storytime Shuffle with Miss Mo, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 18, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Storytime Shuffle with Miss Mo, 11 a.m. to noon Tuesday, Nov. 18, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Welcome to Jurassic Park: Teen Movie Night, 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday,

Nov. 19, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ “Sunfish (& Other Stories on Green Lake)” film screening, 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 19, at Windmill Pointe Park theater, 14920 Windmill Pointe Dr., Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Craftnoons @ the Library, 1 to 3 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 20, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Brave Belle’s Bookclub, 6 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 20, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ Non-Fiction Book Club, 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 20, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Poetry Workshop with M.L. Liebler, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 20, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Grosse Pointe Community Game Meet-Up, noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 22, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.

## The Family Center

The Family Center of Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods offers free programs and resources that help build happier, healthier families. The following programs take place at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, unless otherwise noted. Learn more at [familycenterhelps.org](http://familycenterhelps.org) or RSVPreplyjo@familycenterhelps.org.

◆ Stress Relief for the Holidays, 6 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 13, at Morton Development Group, 19934 Harper.

◆ Fireside Yoga, 7 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10. Bring a mat.

## The War Memorial

The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, offers programs and activities for the community. For information on the following, visit [warmemorial.org](http://warmemorial.org)

◆ Candlelight: The Wizard of Oz — A Classical Concert, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 13. Tickets range from \$45 to \$67.

◆ Gobbled Together: Kids’ Crafting Workshop, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 15. Cost is \$50.

◆ Gingerbread House Decorating Competition, noon to 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 16. Cost is \$30 per team.

◆ A Speakeasy Afternoon, 4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 16. Tickets are \$20 general admission, \$45 VIP.

◆ Night Cap: At-Will Band, 7:15 to 10 p.m. Friday, Nov. 21. Tickets are \$15 general admission, \$40 VIP.

## The Helm

The Helm at the Boll Life Center, 158 Ridge, Grosse Pointe Farms, offers a variety of classes

and programs. Registration is required at (313) 882-9600 for the following:

◆ The movie “Funny Thing About Love” is shown at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 13. Cost is \$3 for members, \$5 for guests, and includes snacks.

◆ Thanksgiving Luncheon, noon to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 18. Cost is \$20 for members, \$25 for guests.

◆ Holiday Basket-making, noon to 4 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 19, with instructor Deb VanderLinde. Cost is \$60 for members, \$65 for guests.

◆ Chat with the Chiefs, 10 to 11 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 19, with Grosse Pointe Farms Director of Public Safety John Hutchins and Deputy Director Andrew Rogers.

◆ Lunch & Learn: Caring for Mental Health as You Age, noon to 1 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 20, with presenter Michele Reid, M.D. Cost is \$8 for members, \$10 for guests.

◆ Friendsgiving Bingo and Treats, 10 to 11 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 20. Cost is \$2 for members, \$5 for guests, and includes one card and refreshments.

◆ The movie “Green and Gold” is shown at noon Friday, Nov. 21. Cost is \$3 for members, \$5 for guests, and includes snacks.

## POST Detroit

POST Detroit, 14500 Kercheval, Detroit, hosts several workshops during November. To sign up for the following, visit [mutualadoration.com](http://mutualadoration.com):

◆ POST Clothing Swap, noon to 8 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 14.

◆ Coffee Cupping with Dessert Oasis, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 15. Cost is \$50.

◆ Drop-In Workshop: Ceramic Ornaments, 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 15. Cost is \$25.

◆ Jewelry Workshop: Enameled Pendants + Earrings, 2 to 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 15. Cost is \$100.

◆ Mixed Media Abstract Collage Workshop, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 16. Cost is \$60.

◆ Pajaki Workshop: Polish Folk Art, 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 16. Cost is \$125.

◆ Seasonal Craft Cocktails + Cookie Decorating Workshop, 3 to 6 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 16. Cost is \$75.

◆ Hand Lettering Workshop: Brush Pen Basics, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 19. Cost is \$55.

◆ Sewing Workshop: Reversible Tote Bags, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 22. Cost is \$100.

◆ Ceramics Workshop: Puff Pipes, 5:30 to 8 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 23. Cost is \$75.

## American Legion

American Legion Post 372—Frederick M. Alger Post hosts its next meeting at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 18, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Information about how veterans can access their VA benefits will be shared by the State of Michigan Veterans Administration. All veterans are welcome to attend to learn more and explore membership opportunities.

## Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

◆ Noon to 6 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 20, St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 21620 Greater Mack, St. Clair Shores.

◆ 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 21, Grosse Pointe Woods Community Center, 20025 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ 7:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Friday, Nov. 28, Henry Ford St. John Hospital, 22101 Moross, Detroit.

Register at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org).

## Live music

The Paxton/Spangler Band will perform songs from its new LP, “Trick Bag,” as well as other favorites, 7 to 10 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 22, at Marge’s Bar, 15300 Mack, Grosse Pointe Park. The gig is in honor of RJ Spangler’s birthday. Call (313) 881-8895.

## Sunrise on Vernier

Sunrise on Vernier, 1850 Vernier, Grosse Pointe Woods, hosts a support group at 4 p.m. the second Wednesday of each month. For more information, call (313) 642-2000.

## Toastmasters

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

## A tinted postcard of the D&C terminal



FROM THE COLLECTION OF THE AUTHOR

## LUXURY:

Continued from page 1B

the first such craft to run on Lake Erie, Lake Huron and Lake Michigan.

The author also discusses the relationship between steamships and immigration.

“People would come from Europe to New York to Chicago, which was the railroad hub

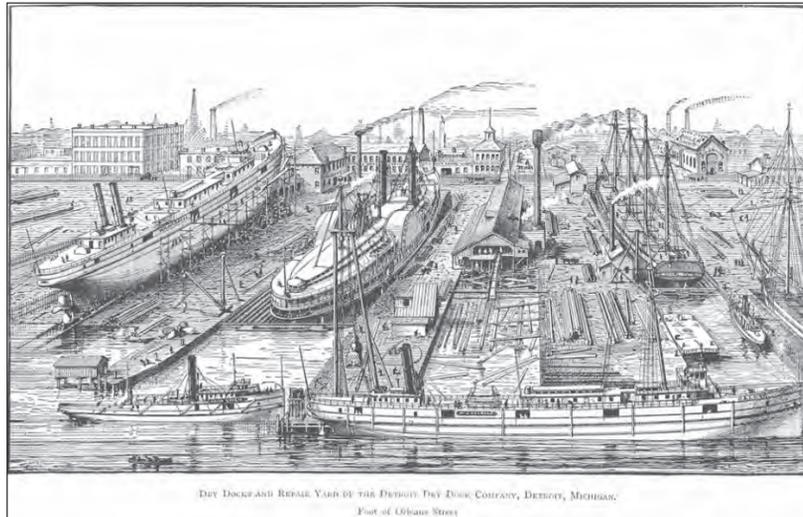
that would then lead them west,” Kopytek said, noting Detroit’s role in the route. “Michigan Central Railroad was the line to Lake Michigan. It didn’t reach Chicago until the 1870s. ... It would take three or four weeks to get from New York to Chicago. Once a direct steamship was built in 1902, from Buffalo to Detroit, it cut the time of that journey.”

Through his work, Kopytek doesn’t just tell history; he shows it. He brings his subject matter to life through fine art, maps, diagrams and vintage tinted postcards. He even created readable deck plans for the piece, providing an all-encompassing look at luxury liners of the past.

His extensive research is paired with images courtesy of the Detroit Historical Society, as well as paintings created by Father Edward J. Dowling courtesy of the University of Detroit Mercy.

“He was an engineering professor at the university and a premier Great Lakes historian who was well-known throughout the country,” Kopytek said of Dowling. “And he was a painter; he left behind paintings of the Great Lakes ships and the university allowed me to publish them. They’ve been sitting in an archive in the UDM library and now people have a chance to see them in this way.”

“... There’s a lot of history in this book,” he added. “There’s a connection to everything.” Another connection? Kopytek’s book launch takes place at the Dossin Great Lakes Museum, which prominently fea-



FROM THE COLLECTION OF THE AUTHOR

## An illustration of the Detroit Dry Dock Co.

tures a piece of D&C history.

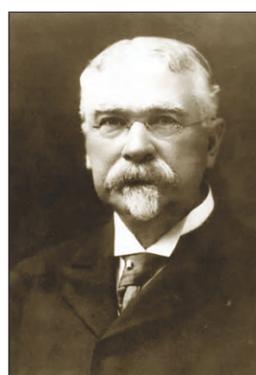
When D&C’s City of Detroit III was dismantled, the wooden fittings from the Gothic Room aboard the steamer eventually were purchased by the museum.

“(Dossin) is one of the best maritime museums on the Great Lakes,” Kopytek said. “The lobby of the museum is the smoking room of that ship.”

The public is invited to the launch and to learn about Great Lakes shipping history through the eyes of one of its biggest fans.

“I threw the kitchen sink at this topic,” Kopytek said. “(This book) is a chance to have all this history in your home, in one place, to refer to it or to admire the paintings and old photographs.”

“The D&C Lake Lines and the Fabulous Luxury Liners of the Great Lakes” may be purchased online at [editionsbk.com](http://editionsbk.com) and will be stocked at the Dossin gift shop.



FROM THE COLLECTION OF THE AUTHOR

## Portraits of Frank E. Kirby, left, and Sen. James McMillan



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE DETROIT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## A look inside the City Detroit III



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE DETROIT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## A painting of the Greater Detroit

# LIFE & LEISURE



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## North alum makes movie debut

### Also wrote a play, accompanying book

By Ted O'Neil  
Associate Editor

After acting on stage in New York and around the country for more than a decade, George Abud called the audition process for his first movie “insane.”

“When you audition for a play, you’re right there on stage,” he said. “With movies, they send you scenes and you film yourself and send it back. If they like it, they’ll invite you to meet in person.”

The 2008 Grosse Pointe North High School graduate made his film debut in “Caught Stealing,” released earlier this year.

“I sent in my tape and then my agent called, saying the director, Darren Aronofsky, wanted to meet with me,” Abud said. “But I was in St. Louis doing a musical, so we ended up doing it over Zoom, which was very kind of him. He told me he watched my audition 25 times and asked how I got so funny. I haven’t

done a lot of comedy, but I told him it was from watching ‘Green Acres.’”

The cast of the dark comedy includes well-known names such as Zoe Kravitz, Liev Schreiber and Vincent D’Onofrio.

“I don’t really watch a lot of movies, but all my friends said it was a big deal,” Abud said. “Everyone on set was so encouraging and kind, especially since I wasn’t familiar with a lot of the terminology.”

Abud plays the neighbor of the main character, appearing in four scenes.

“Although my senses are geared mostly toward theater, I’d love to do more movies,” he said.

Abud also recently premiered a play he wrote during the pandemic at the Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis. “The Ruins” is about two musicians who meet in a room with just days to live. He plays the oud, a pear-shaped, lute-like instrument from the Middle East, while the other actor plays the cello.

“It’s basically about if their lives were meaningful,” Abud said. “They play songs for each other and recite poetry. The question is, what’s enough to prove someone has lived a full life?”

An accompanying book of poetry, also written by Abud titled “A Day and Its Night,” was published by Cogrounded, an education-focused publishing company started earlier this year by his brother, Gary Abud Jr.

“The timing could not have been better,” Abud Jr. said. “This is our first foray into the fine arts educational space. It was great publishing an elegant, original piece of art that expresses visually what the play expressed musically.”

“It was great to see our creative practices come together,” Abud said.

For now, he’s performing as Fred in “A Christmas Carol” off-Broadway. He’ll begin directing a modern-day version of “Threepenny Opera” he wrote starting in January.



COURTESY PHOTO

George Abud, left, and Gary Abud Jr. at the Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis.



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

From left, Grosse Pointe Public Library Director Jessica Keyser, author Elizabeth Gilbert, Assistant Director Darlene Dery and Operations Manager Kim Hart.

## Authors to the Pointe

The Grosse Pointe Public Library hosted its annual Authors to the Pointe event Wednesday, Nov. 5, at The War Memorial. More than 400 people attended the talk, given by nationally

acclaimed author and journalist Elizabeth Gilbert, whose book, “Eat, Pray, Love” sold more than 30 million copies and was made into a movie.

Prior to the talk, the

Friends of the GPPL hosted a VIP meet-and-greet with Gilbert.

Everyone who attended both events received a signed copy of her new memoir, “All the Way to the River.”



Mary Lusch and Marge Freundl get a head start on reading Elizabeth Gilbert’s new memoir, “All the Way to the River,” at the Friends of the GPPL VIP event before Gilbert’s talk.

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# GROSSE POINTE Gabby



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## When warranties may not be worth the expense

**Dear Gabby:** Is it worth buying the extended warranty on appliances or am I just a sucker? — Curious in the City

**Dear Broke:** Think of extended warranties as the casino of consumer confidence. They're betting your

new fridge will survive and statistically, they win. Unless it's a particularly high-end item or a brand with a bad reputation, skip the warranty and create a small "oops" fund for repairs.

**Bonus:** That fund doesn't expire or require customer ser-

vice music to access. Peace of mind comes from preparedness, not paperwork.

— Gabby

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



## Keeping the peace at Thanksgiving

**DEAR ANNIE:** Every year, Thanksgiving turns into a tug-of-war in my family. My siblings and I all live within driving distance of our parents, but the holiday always comes with arguments about who's hosting, who's cooking and which in-laws get priority. This year feels worse than ever. My sister insists that everyone come to her house, but my brother refuses because of something she said last year. My parents just want peace but are too afraid to pick sides. I want us all together, but I also dread another holi-

day full of tension, whispered complaints and people leaving early in a huff. How do I keep Thanksgiving from turning into a battlefield without feeling like the referee? — Weary Turkey

**DEAR WEARY:** You are not the United Nations. Stop trying to broker world peace at the dinner table. Thanksgiving should be about gratitude, not grudge-holding. Let each adult take responsibility for their own choices; if they don't want to come, that's on them. You can host with warmth, set

clear boundaries and refuse to play referee. Invite everyone, but don't twist arms. Whoever shows up gets your best stuffing and your best self. Whoever stays away will miss the pumpkin pie and maybe realize next year that family drama isn't worth more than family.

**DEAR ANNIE:** I love my family, but every gathering turns into a drama. My mother criticizes my sister, my sister snaps back and before long I'm stuck in the middle trying to keep the peace. I leave these visits

emotionally drained and sometimes wonder why I keep showing up. I don't want to cut ties, but I also don't want to spend every weekend refereeing arguments that have nothing to do with me. How do I set boundaries with my family without becoming the "bad guy"? — Tired of the Drama

**DEAR TIRED OF THE DRAMA:** The only role you are required to play in this family production is yourself. You are not the referee, mediator or emotional punching bag. The healthiest boundary you can set is simply

## Dear Annie



by Annie Lane

this: "I will not stay in the middle."

When the arguments start, excuse yourself. Step outside, clear dishes or politely say, "I am not getting involved." It may feel awkward at first, but you will be amazed at how quickly people stop dragging you in once they realize you will not play along.

Boundaries do not make you the bad guy. They make you a health-

ier, calmer version of yourself. You can still love your family while refusing to absorb their conflicts. Love does not mean sacrificing your peace. It means protecting it so you have something real to offer when the dust settles.

Send your questions for Annie Lane to [dearannie@creators.com](mailto:dearannie@creators.com).

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## JJ's Custard Company, every kid's favorite hangout

On a hot August day in Grosse Pointe, the timing couldn't be more perfect to open the doors of the much-anticipated, sweetest, newest neighbor on Kercheval in the Park. JJ's Custard Co. quickly became every kid's favorite end-of-summer hangout.

Grosse Pointe residents, brothers and fathers of beautiful young families, owners Alex and Mark Aliahmad chose the space at 15229 Kercheval, previously a AAA Insurance building, "because we

thought the local community would benefit from a quality custard shop," Alex said.

While this is one of eight currently franchised Michigan locations, it's the only location within our surrounding neighborhoods, with the next closest location in Madison Heights.

"Renovations were required to fulfill the appearance of a fun and vibrant ice cream shop," Alex said.

The 2,000-square-foot



COURTESY PHOTOS

### JJ's Custard Company.

space screams fun, excitement and happiness with bright pink walls "dripping" in hot fudge and sprinkles and a swirling milkshake-like floor and comic-like characters that travel along the massive front counter and hard-scoop ice cream cooler.

JJ's Custard Co. sources all of its products from Michigan-based Guernsey Ice Cream.

"We offer two primary flavors, chocolate and vanilla, in addition to a rotating selection that currently includes pumpkin, ashta (a cured cream), espresso, blue moon, cake batter, strawberry and pistachio," Alex said.

Umm, how do you decide between those delicious choices? And let's not forget toppings,

because there are 30 options from which to choose. Yes, 30.

I kept hearing something about the "loaded zone," so I obviously had to inquire and now I need one — and so will you. The loaded zone is where you will find its first specialty, a loaded cone.

"A loaded cone consists of a custard cone, infused with a topping of your choice (ie: hot fudge/caramel/sprinkles) and rolled in another topping," Alex said.

Wow! Told ya, everyone needs this in their life. It probably would take me a half hour to decide on my loaded cone. All I know is that espresso custard would be involved. These cones also explain why "drippy" is a popular term at all locations.

If cones aren't your thing, don't worry. JJ's Custard Co. also offers cups, shakes, sundaes, parfaits, slushies and flurries in all different flavors and combinations.

"Our holiday special includes an apple pie flurry made with vanilla custard, apple spice sauce and a

## Food Gossip



by Nina Taormina

graham cracker crust," Alex said.

A flurry, similar to a DQ Blizzard or a Wally's Whirly, has been my go-to since I was a child. I can't wait to see all the fun ones JJ's comes up with.

Another staple in the cold dessert category is the ice cream sandwich and, yes, JJ's has those too. It also has a Wowaffle sandwich, featuring your choice of custard sandwiched between two waffles. You might as well roll it in a topping while you're at it. Who says breakfast can't be dessert?

Another fun specialty at JJ's Custard Co. is its sweet buns, filled with custard and all sorts of goodies from Fruity Pebbles to s'mores and even strawberries with Nutella. Dusted with powdered sugar, there's no sweet treat like it.

Another fan favorite that got really popular over summer is the Dubai sundae — a blend of custard, fresh strawberries, Nutella and pistachio.

Not a huge fan of soft serve custard? No worries. Remember that hard-scoop ice cream case along the front counter? Well, it's filled.

"In addition to custard, we provide 24 hard-scooped Guernsey Ice

Cream flavors," Alex said, "and non-dairy Dole Whip."

I love a place with something for everyone. And the cherry on top? Pies!

"At our Grosse Pointe location, we have ready-made custard pies with current flavors including Oreos, Fruity Pebbles, Strawberry Shortcake, Loaded Reese's, Cookie Monster and ashta pie," Alex said.

JJ's Custard Co. has partnered with DoorDash, so parents, pay close attention to that account. It also recently launched catering services, just in time for holiday parties. Call direct to discuss your orders.

This happy place is open seven days a week from 1 to 9 p.m. Keep up with the drip on Facebook: JJ's Custard Company-Grosse Pointe or join its 52,000-plus followers on Instagram@thecustardco.

Welcome to the neighborhood, JJ's Custard Co. There are no better owners I could think of to pour their love for the community right back into it.

Fun Fact: The Custard Co. has two catch phrases: "Treat yo' self" and "Every day is my cheat day." Both sound pretty fitting to me!

Happy two-year anniversary, Food Gossip! Stay tuned. Stay hungry.



Clockwise from top left, a Wowaffle, a Cookie Monster ice cream sandwich and a pair of sweet buns.

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A variety of loaded cones.

# We Tried It!

by Anna Lizer



Laundry is the worst. If you've ever done laundry for multiple people, especially high schoolers, you know the pain of everyone owning the same clothes in the same sizes. One missing sweatshirt or pair of shorts in the wrong drawer can turn into a full-blown crisis.

I actually take pride in my laundry routine. I get the washer going in the morning, everything is



dried and folded by the afternoon and back in closets before the kids even get home.

But there are still challenges: Someone forgets their sweatshirt at a friend's house; a shirt gets left on the tennis court; or, the worst of all, a brand-new Lululemon scuba hoodie gets lost in the trunk of a car and vanishes forever.

That's when I decided

to make a change. If you live in this house, your clothes are getting labeled. Shorts ending up in the wrong drawer? Not anymore. Hoodies disappearing without a trace? That's over. Laundry is now organized, calm and efficient.

I ordered the Acorn Custom Clothing Labels from Amazon for \$14 for 75 labels. Before you place the order, you type

in the name you want printed on the labels. They arrived in less than a week and were incredibly easy to peel and stick onto the tags of each garment. They have stayed put through every wash so far and it has made laundry in my house so much easier.

This product gets five out of five alligators and has been an amazing addition to

the laundry routine.

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



5 Out Of 5

## Sweet and savory holiday tarts

Courtesy of Mombeau's Table

As soon as the leaves began to turn, I started craving a way to use apples and puff pastry — but I couldn't quite decide what to make. I went back and forth between hand pies, turnovers and mini tarts before finally settling on something a little more elegant: a savory first course or holiday hors d'oeuvre that captures the season in every bite.

These apple, Brie, and caramelized onion tarts combine together jammy onions, earthy thyme and creamy Brie. All sweetened by a drizzle of honey. Nestled on top of golden, flaky puff pastry, they strike that perfect balance of sweet, savory and rich. A holiday starter that feels festive and fancy without the fuss.

They're not quite one-biters, though you could make them smaller if you like. Personally, I love the larger version, five or six bites.

Served warm with a crisp green salad as an elegant first course if you so choose. Or served at room temperature that are passed

and cut into fourths.

And while caramelized onions might sound fancy, they're really not. All it takes is a little patience. Slowly cooking them coaxes out their natural sugars, turning the onions deeply golden and sweet. It's the secret to the tart's rich and savory flavor.

Add these to your next dinner party repertoire. Your guests will love them.

Cheers, Mombeau

### Apple, Brie and Caramelized Onion Tarts

2 medium sweet onions, sliced

2 tbsp butter, divided

1 tbsp olive oil

1 tsp thyme leaves, plus extra for garnish

1-2 large Honeycrisp apples (about 36 slices)

8 oz Brie cheese

3 tbsp honey, for drizzling

1 sheet puff pastry, thawed

1 whisked egg, for brushing

Melt one tablespoon of butter with the olive oil in a skillet over medium-low heat. Add the onions, thyme, a pinch of salt and a few turns of pepper. Let them cook slowly, stirring now and then, until they turn soft and golden, about 35 to 40 minutes. If they start to stick, add a splash of water to loosen the brown bits and deepen their flavor. When the onions are caramelized and jammy, set them aside to cool slightly.

While the onions cook, preheat your oven to 375 degrees and line a baking sheet with parchment.

Roll out the puff pastry just a bit larger with a rolling pin, about an inch wider and longer. Then cut it into nine even squares. Place the squares on the baking sheet and use a fork to prick the centers, leaving a half-inch border so the edges can puff up to

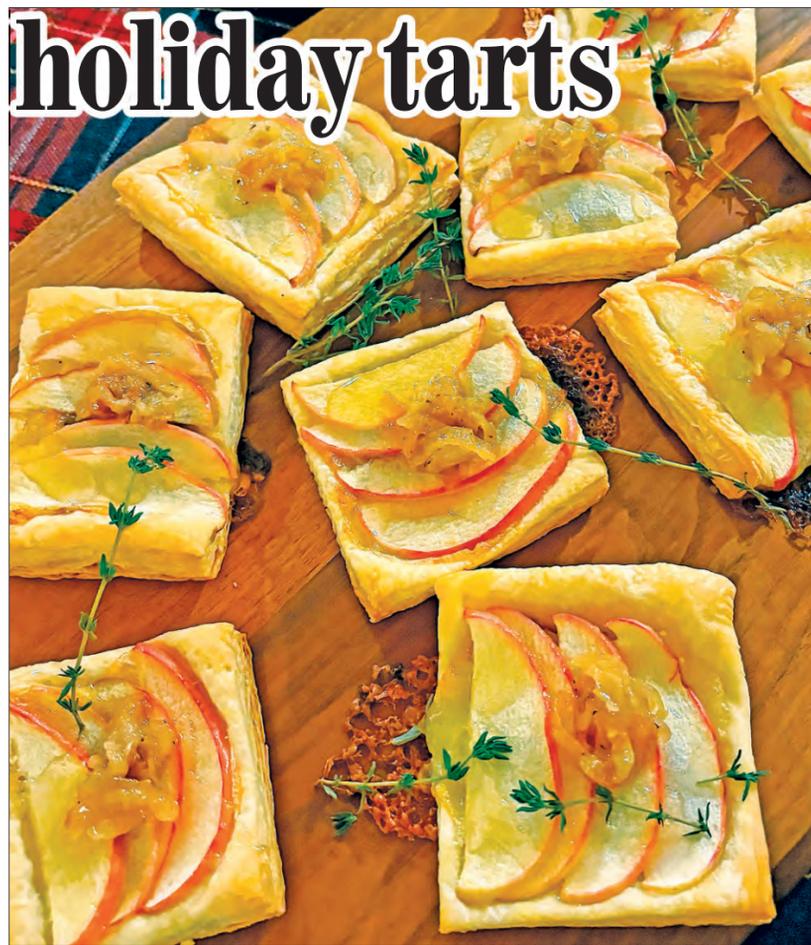


PHOTO BY KAREN FERGUSON

form a crust. Brush those edges with a little of the whisked egg for shine and color.

Slice the Brie into two-inch pieces about three-quarters of an inch thick. Place one piece of Brie in the center of each pastry square.

Spoon about a teaspoon of the caramelized onion on top, followed by four thin slices of apple. Brush the apple slices lightly with the remaining melted butter. Top each square with a bit more caramelized onion.

Bake the tarts for 15

to 17 minutes, until the pastry is golden, flaky and puffed around the edges. Once out of the oven, drizzle each tart with honey and scatter over a few fresh thyme leaves.

Serve warm or at room temperature.

## Chenin blanc

A few terms you may find on bottles of white wine: Pinot d'Anjou, Savennieres, Anjou Blanc, Montlouis, Saumur, Steen, Vouvray, Pineau de la Loire and Cremant de Loire.

The wine inside such bottles is generally slightly sweet, but usually has excellent acidity so it goes nicely with lighter-weight foods and is not typically very expensive.

Most of these terms come from French and the wines usually are best consumed young and are frequently a delight on hot days. All of them are made from

the same grape variety, one that is widely known as chenin blanc.

(Steen is the word used for it in South Africa, where it is prolific and makes excellent whites. And Cremant is a sparkling wine.)

And there are more terms for chenin blanc — Coteaux du Layon, Bonnezeaux and Quarts de Chaume are sweet chenin blanc dessert wines.

One reason for all these names is that many of them identify different regions, and under French law, the region alone may identify the wine grape used. As

place names, they may not be used elsewhere to identify a wine.

The reason for their proliferation is that chenin blanc produces an attractive, lighter-styled wine that was once more popular in the United States than it is today. Starting in the 1980s, chenin blanc began to decline in popularity as many Americans discovered chardonnay.

So, although chardonnay became the "call" pre-dinner sipper in upscale restaurants, chenin blanc's popularity declined — but not because people didn't like it. It was simply that chardonnay was a more upscale choice. Chenin has always been a favorite in France's Loire Valley. This high-acid white wine grape can make many wine types — sparkling wines to dry, off-dry, to balanced dessert wines.

Of course, it also may make bland, neutral wines if the vine's vigor isn't controlled. Among the best chenin blanc-based wines in the Loire and my favorite is Savennieres, a typically dry wine, though some slightly sweeter versions can be more complex.

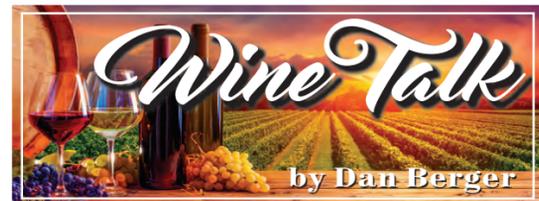
Once highly important in California (in the 1970s it was made by Charles Krug and Chalone), today this

melon-scented wine is usually off-dry.

It has been in the spotlight recently as it has come back from obscurity. Most of the newer Napa Valley versions come from grapes grown by Ballantine Vineyards north of St. Helena and are dry. Among the best local producers who never stopped making a chenin blanc are Chappellet in Napa and Dry Creek Vineyards in Sonoma's Dry Creek Valley.

As a grape, it is large-berried and tight-clustered. Because of this, it is notoriously susceptible to rot if rain hits before harvest.

In California, the grape thrives in Clarksburg in



the Stockton Delta, whose soils are loaded with a high concentration of peat.

**Wine of the Week:**

2023 Dry Creek Chenin Blanc, Clarksburg (\$18)

— This is one of the most stylish chenin blancs made in California today. It has an absolutely stunning level of bright melon fruit, a trace of citrus, and a rich mid-palate that nevertheless finishes dry and crisp.

This producer has been making dry chenin blancs for five decades and has always achieved greatness for this wine. One of the best value whites in the state every year.

To find out more about Sonoma County resident Dan Berger, visit the Creators Syndicate webpage at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).

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COURTESY PHOTO

Chenin blanc is a crisp white wine ranging from dry to sweet and sparkling styles with notes of honey, pear and quince.

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# GIVE THANKS

Warm, modern tones set a place for cozy togetherness



PHOTO BY ANNE GRYZENIA

**A unique blend of natural wood, feathered and leather chargers — with bright accent florals — interacts nicely with the elegant blue and white china for the perfect balance of formal festivity with a warm, rustic glow. The tablescape above is as comfortable and inviting as it is beautiful.**

By Anne Gryzenia  
Publisher

When Thanksgiving rolls around each year, it feels important to present a table that's as beautiful as the meal about to be served. We were fortunate to be able to draw from the inspiration we took away from the Michigan Design Center's Gather Event, held last October/November to benefit Gleaners Community Food Bank. The event featured creative table designs by nearly 30 of the metro area's most talented interior designers.

Filled with great ideas and ready for the challenge, we set off to design this year's holiday table. We decided to use a selection of charming vintage blue and white dishes from our family collection, with a rustic wood dining table as our base. This combo blends the comfort of relaxed natural wood with the elegance of intricately decorated china. For a bright holiday vibe, we added white and orange roses and greenery.



The orange and blue tones complement one another nicely and pull everything together for a festive yet cozy look that will invite guests to feel happy and comfortable.

When you have 25-plus people coming over, sometimes you have to get creative with your components — such as using multiple types of glasses or napkins. We sort of like the less formal look of staggering different sets.

In this case, the cozy fireplace and candles matching the plates add to the warm, homespun feeling in the room.

The beauty of creating your own unique look is that there is no wrong way to do it. Play around with chargers and runners until you like what you see. You never know what will work!

We chose a dark brown woven wood charger for some of the place settings and a brown leather charger for others. Just balance out the mixing and matching and you're golden.

Have fun with it and make it your own. The most important thing is to create an environment where your guests feel at home and can have a great time.

Enjoy all the fun planning and preparing — and most of all, enjoy the holiday.

Have a very happy Thanksgiving!



PHOTOS BY ANNE GRYZENIA

## A FAMILY TABLE

Warm wood serves as the stage for bright, homey colors, above and below. White and coral linens blend beautifully with the blue patterns, above right. Stunning porcelain centerpieces hold an array of roses and fall flowers on both tables, highlighted by shades of zesty orange that accent the blues and browns. Cozy family memories begin here.



PHOTO BY JILL CAVANAUGH



## GET THE LOOK:

Wedgewood in the hibiscus pattern, from [theleagueshop.com](http://theleagueshop.com), tops a rich brown rattan charger from [williams-sonoma.com](http://williams-sonoma.com), top. For the mix-and-match look shown on the table, opposite page, check for vintage sources like Facebook Marketplace and [ebay.com](http://ebay.com) — and have fun building your collection.

Above center: Lush persimmon-toned 100 percent European flax linen napkins are machine washable, from [amazon.com](http://amazon.com). Shop assorted stemware at The League Shop to complete your table.

Paper makes it easier for drinks and desserts. Pretty Delft blue Caspari napkins, above left, from Amazon. Rust leaf napkins, above right, from [ikea.com](http://ikea.com).

## PERFECT PIECE

This lovely serving platter, right, is the ideal piece for our look. We found this one on Facebook Marketplace for a steal! Having just the right servingware makes hosting so much easier.

# Holiday recipes from Fairway Packing Co.'s kitchen

The menu for Thanksgiving usually is packed with tradition, favorite dishes and time-honored recipes. But it's also exciting to occasionally change up the menu to include something new. It's fun to incorporate a new appetizer or side dish each year to bring in new flavors and new favorites.

To accommodate the preferences of guests — or to serve a larger group — many hosts serve two (or more) main dishes so everyone is happy. A second option offers variety and allows your loved ones to sample something different.

Our friends at Fairway Packing Co., have shared some of their best special recipes that have been kitchen-tested and crowd-approved. We thought you might like to invite these special taste treats to your own holiday table.



## Truffalo Meatballs

### Sauce

- 1/4 cup butter
- 1/2 cup Truff Hot Sauce or truffle hot sauce
- 2 T Mikes Hot Honey

### Meatballs

- 1 lb. ground beef
- 1 lb. ground sausage
- 2/3 cup panko breadcrumbs
- 1/2 cup crumbled blue cheese
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/4 cup dried parsley flakes
- 1/2 tsp. steak salt
- 1 egg, lightly beaten

Preheat the oven to 425 degrees.

Put all the meatball ingredients in a bowl and mix. Form into meatballs, about the size of golf balls, and set them so they do not touch on a greased baking sheet. Bake for 25 minutes or until the internal temperature reaches 165 degrees.

Meanwhile, in a small saucepan over medium-low heat, combine all of the sauce ingredients. Remove from heat once butter has melted and everything is well combined.

Transfer cooked meatballs to a large bowl and pour the Truffalo Sauce on them. Toss to coat, crumble with additional blue cheese and serve with celery sticks and a side of blue cheese dressing or ranch.



## Prosciutto Wrapped Pork Tenderloin

- 1 1½-pound pork tenderloin
- 1½ T fennel seeds, roughly chopped
- 3-4 garlic cloves, minced
- 2 T fresh finely chopped rosemary, about 4 or 5 sprigs
- 1 T olive oil
- 1 T coarse ground mustard
- ¼ tsp steak salt
- 8-10 slices of prosciutto, about 6 oz.
- Cooking twine, cut into 4 or 5 six-inch pieces

Preheat grill to medium heat or if using the oven, preheat to 425 degrees. Pat the pork tenderloin dry with paper towel and trim any excess fat and silver skin.

Combine fennel seeds, garlic, rosemary, olive oil, coarse ground mustard, salt and pepper. Rub mixture on the tenderloin. (If you have time, allow to marinate overnight.)

Next wrap in prosciutto and carefully secure with butcher's twine and lightly rub with olive oil.

Oven method: Cook for 25 to 30 minutes or until internal temperature reaches 145 degrees. Grilling method: Oil grill grates and sear pork tenderloin on all sides to crisp the prosciutto, turning about every five to six minutes. Cook until the internal temperature reaches 145 degrees, about 25 to 30 minutes. Allow to rest for 10 minutes before carving.



## Spinach and Artichoke Crab Dip

- 2 T olive oil
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 2 5-ounce packages of baby spinach, chopped
- 1 14-ounce can quartered artichoke hearts, drained and chopped
- 1 8-ounce package cream cheese, cut into 1 inch pieces
- 1 1/2 cups shredded pepper jack cheese
- 1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese, divided into 1/4 cups
- 1/3 cup sour cream
- 1/3 cup mayo
- 1 6-ounce can Heron Pointe lump crab, drained
- 1 tsp red pepper flakes
- Steak salt

Heat olive oil in a medium saucepan over medium heat. Add garlic and cook for 30 seconds.

Add spinach, half at a time, stir and wilt before adding the other half. Season with steak salt. Continue to cook until most of the liquid has evaporated. Next add artichoke and cook for an additional three minutes.

Reduce heat to low and add cream cheese and pepper jack, crab and red pepper flakes. Stir to combine and heat through, about three to five minutes.

Transfer dip to an eight-ounce cast iron skillet or an oven-proof skillet, sprinkle with remaining parmesan and broil until the top is golden and bubbly, about five to eight minutes. Let cool for one to two minutes before serving.

*The Steak Shop*  
**THANKSGIVING TURKEYS**

Fairway Packing Steak Shop  
20877 Mack Ave,  
Grosse Pointe Woods, MI  
48236

www.fairwaypacking.com (313) 332-5114



## Share some turkey fun facts at the table

Each Thanksgiving presents an opportunity for friends and loved ones to gather around a dinner table and enjoy a delicious meal together. Turkey frequently is the centerpiece of such feasts. Many may be surprised to learn how turkey and other foods came to be such integral components of this traditional meal. Here are some facts about turkey and more.

### MAIN COURSE

Around 88 percent of Americans will eat turkey for Thanksgiving dinner.

### BIG BIRD

Americans eat roughly 46 million turkeys on Thanksgiving. That's a 'lotta' drumsticks!



### ALL IN A NAME

Many people say "Tom Turkey" at Thanksgiving, but hens (female) are more commonly found at the table than a Tom (male) turkey. Poult are young turkeys. Toms are more likely used for deli meats, cutlets and ground meat because they are so much larger.

### PASS THE TATERS

As many as 2,500 to 4,500 calories may be consumed by a single person during the Thanksgiving meal. That's more than the recommended calorie intake for an entire day for most healthy adults. Loosen those belts ...

### HELP!

Turkey still frozen? Lumpy gravy? The "Turkey Talk-Line," sponsored by Butterball, is there to save the day. Expert turkey chefs are on call during the holiday season to answer your frantic questions.

### GROWING UP

It typically takes 14 to 18 weeks for a turkey to reach maturity. Heritage breeds descended from wild flocks will take longer to mature.

### CRY 'FOWL'

Though turkey is the traditional main course at Thanksgiving tables across the country, it is not confirmed that turkey was at any "first Thanksgiving" meal. (Just some turkey-spreading rumors.) Accounts vary and only allude to "fowl" being consumed.

### I'LL FLY AWAY

Despite being more inclined to run, turkeys, particularly wild ones, are able to fly. Domesticated turkeys may not be able to fly because they are bred to be heavy for more breast meat.

### RUN, TURKEY, RUN

Dark meat in poultry is associated with muscle use because working muscles require extra blood vessels to deliver oxygen, making meat darker. Turkeys predominantly run, so their thighs are known for being rich with dark meat.

### FOILED AGAIN

TV dinners were born from turkey leftovers in 1953. The meat was packaged in aluminum trays with various side dishes.

### IT'S IN THE CAN

Jellied cranberry sauce is a common complement to turkey. Ocean Spray indicates more than 5 million gallons worth of jellied cranberry sauce is purchased for Thanksgiving.

### SEE-FOOD DIET

Despite eating all this extra food, the average holiday weight gain is only about four-fifths of a pound, according to the New England Journal of Medicine.

### TURKEY EVERYTHING

Cornwell's Turkeyville, USA is a dining and entertainment compound dedicated to all things turkey, located in Marshall, Mich. What began as a humble turkey diner has grown to include an innovative and traditional expanded all-turkey restaurant, separate dinner theater, ice cream parlor, gift shop, 14-acre campground with two pools and a fishing pond, flea market, Simpler Life classes, juried craft shows, annual events and more. Visit Turkeyville at 18935 15 1/2 Mile Rd., Marshall, MI, 49068. Call (269) 781-4293 or visit turkeyville.com for more information.



### DID YOU KNOW?

A 2024 Economist/YouGov poll found that turkey continues to reign supreme on the Thanksgiving dinner table. When asked what they'll be eating at Thanksgiving dinner, 67 percent of poll participants indicated they plan to eat turkey, making it the most popular food to find its way onto the dinner table for this popular holiday. Additional staples also remain wildly popular among Thanksgiving celebrants, suggesting that food is among the more sacred Turkey Day traditions. When asked what they plan to eat at Thanksgiving dinner this year, participants noted some easily recognizable favorites:

- Mashed potatoes: 56 percent
- Bread or rolls: 55 percent
- Pie: 54 percent
- Stuffing: 51 percent
- Gravy: 51 percent
- Green beans: 40 percent
- Sweet potatoes: 39 percent
- Cranberry sauce: 38 percent
- Corn: 33 percent

Start the conversation this year at Thanksgiving dinner with a few of these fun facts. You may wow the crowd — or just get stuck on cleanup duty! Grins or groans, either way we owe the turkey a little appreciation.



## Best Thanksgiving weekend travel tips

Thanksgiving is consistently one of the busiest travel holidays of the year. In fact, AAA indicates that in the United States, it may be the most traveled of all the holidays, with record numbers of both drivers and air travelers. In 2024, nearly 80 million Americans were expected to travel over Thanksgiving weekend. The Wednesday before Thanksgiving is a particularly busy day on the roads, but high volumes continue throughout the weekend.

A high demand for travel during this time of year means individuals wanting to see friends or family for Thanksgiving should plan accordingly. These tips, courtesy of AAA and the Transportation Safety Administration (TSA), can make Thanksgiving travel go more smoothly.

- **Book flights early.** If you are able, secure flights early in the day and use personal time off from work to fly in to a destination at the beginning of the week. The propensity for flights to be delayed or canceled increases as the day and week goes on. An early departure may increase the chances of a flight leaving on time. Also, the TSA reports that the Tuesday and Wednesday before Thanksgiving, as well as the Sunday after, are the busiest days for Thanksgiving air travel. Choosing an alternative day to fly may mean smaller crowds and less stress.

- **Consider TSA PreCheck®.** TSA PreCheck is a paid program that enables you to get through security lines faster. Interested parties must verify their identities through a third-party service that handles PreCheck applications and await confirmation of approval. A TSA PreCheck membership lasts five years. This membership offers consistent time savings at the airport with dedicated PreCheck lanes and the benefit of keeping items like laptops and liquids in your bag.

- **Consider traveling by train.** If Amtrak services your destination, taking the train may be the least stressful way to travel over Thanksgiving. In addition to not having to navigate roadways or sit in traffic, you won't face security screening like you will at the airport. Once on the train, there is Wi-Fi, nice views and efficient travel. Trips booked in advance are more affordable than booking closer to the holiday.

- **Pack light.** Avoiding the baggage carousel can shave much time off of travel. Plus, there's no risk of luggage getting diverted or not making it to your final destination. A carry-on bag is the way to go for ease, particularly if you must get on a different flight if the original one is delayed or canceled.

- **Service your car.** If road travel is planned for Thanksgiving, make sure your car is in good condition for a road trip. Be up-to-date on oil changes, make sure the tires are properly inflated and double-check your emergency preparedness kit prior to leaving. It also may be a good idea to invest in AAA benefits, which afford extra peace of mind in the event of a breakdown as well as savings on travel-related expenses, such as lodging.

- **Pack your patience.** In addition to your holiday essentials, it is wise to also pack some patience this Thanksgiving travel season. Leave extra time so you're not racing to your destination and can calmly contend with people also looking to get home for the holidays.

Remember, millions of people are traveling to give thanks alongside those they love, just like you. Offer each other a little patience and grace along the way and you will have more to be thankful for.

## Plaid Friday: The community 'shop local' alternative

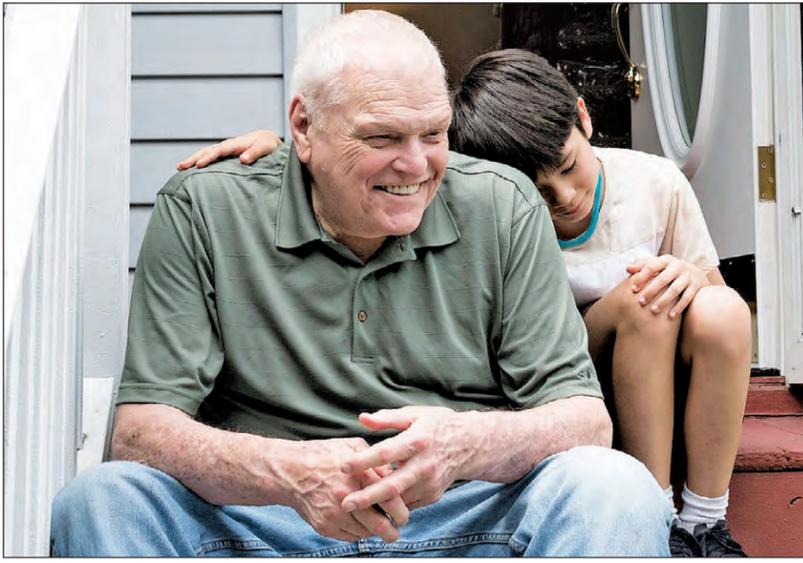
Consumers are urged to shop locally as much as possible, as local merchants provide distinctive benefits over larger retailers, such as specialized products and superior customer service. Plaid Friday is one such day when communities strongly encourage residents to patronize local businesses.

Plaid Friday occurs the day after Thanksgiving. Many people recognize it as Black Friday, but Plaid Friday focuses on a relaxed and enjoyable shopping experience that emphasizes community and the creativity of local businesses as opposed to the hectic pace of traditional Black Friday shopping. Plaid Friday originated in Oakland in 2009, when it was presented as an alternative to the frenzy of Black Friday.

The "plaid" in the name symbolizes the weaving together of small businesses and individuals to form an interconnected community fabric.



8C | LIFE & LEISURE



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CINEMAWERKS, ALLUSIONIST PICTURES AND ELECTRIC PANDA ENTERTAINMENT  
Above, tender moment between Del played by Brian Dennehy and Cody played by Lucas Jaye in the 2019 movie "Driveways," directed by Andrew Ahn.

**MOVIE REVIEW**  
"Driveways"  
2019 - Not Rated  
1 hr 23 min  
★★★★★

Brian Dennehy had a long and prolific career, starring both on the stage and the silver screen. A quick check with IMDb showed that he was in 185 films — that's a pretty impressive achievement. He usually played supporting roles and was often cast as a macho police officer or a tough cowboy. But there was a softer side to him as well like his role in "Cocoon." So I was saddened to hear of his passing in 2020.

Fortunately he made this wonderful film before he died. It's one of his last movies and what a beautiful way to go. "Driveways" is the quintessential indie film. Sure, there isn't a lot of action in it, and the story slowly unfolds, but that's just one of the things that makes it so memorable. It features a great cast that includes Hong Chau ("The Whale," "The Menu") and Lucas Jaye ("The Sleepover," "True Lies"), great directing by Andrew Ahn ("Spa



Kathy (Hong Chau) .

Night") and the concise camerawork of Ki Jin Kim. I also can't say enough about the moving soundtrack. I feel the best scores are the ones you don't notice while watching a film — they're in the background, enhancing the mood of the action. It's that kind of magic composer Jay Wadley created here.

Kathy (Chau) and her young son Cody (Jaye) arrive in a small town in Upstate New York. Kathy's older sister has recently passed away and they're on a mission to clean up her house and put it on the market. Her sister was 12 years her senior and she really didn't know her at all.

Were they ever in for a shock. When they walk in the door for the first time, they're overwhelmed by a house filled to the rafters with junk. To say her sibling was a packrat is putting it mildly. It's such a mess, they're forced to sleep on the screened-in porch.

It's fairly obvious that Cody's a special kid. He's incredibly shy and you wonder if he has any friends back home. He spends a great deal of time playing video games and is a bit awkward



when a couple of the neighbor children invite him to play with them. He's especially awkward when the woman next door asks him to spend the day with her two ruffian grandkids. To no one's surprise, their play-date doesn't end well.

Then, just when you think he's going to hang out by himself all day, he meets his neighbor on the other side of the house. Del (Dennehy) is a quiet, elderly widower and a Korean War veteran. While trying to turn on the garden hose, Del instructs him to turn the spigot the other way. And that's the subtle beginning of a sweet, cross-generational relationship. Early in the film, we see Del waiting for one of his buddies to to give him a lift to the local VFW hall for an afternoon of bingo. When he fails to show, Kathy and Cody end up taking him.

Del has a grand old time with his pals at the hall. You can sense that if it wasn't for these afternoons out, he most likely wouldn't have any interactions with anyone at all. But meeting Cody slowly transforms him. The two of them share an easy relationship. They're both introverts and they spend a good deal of time together in silence. They

go to the town library where Del does some research on his daughter. And they're perfectly comfortable just sitting on Del's front porch, reading.

As the film progresses, Del opens up about his wife and his relationship with his daughter who lives in Seattle. We also learn more about Kathy's life and the fact that she and her sister were estranged. It's this gradual process of revelations that make this movie such a joy to watch. It's so refreshing to see people who exude kindness and take care of each other. Near the end of the movie, we're treated to a soliloquy by Del, where he philosophizes not only about his life, but life in general. It's a speech from the heart that you can't help but feel is actually from Mr. Dennehy and not the character talking about his own life. What a wonderful swansong from this underrated actor.

As I mentioned early on, this is not an action packed, shoot-em-up Marvel Comic film. If you're not into subtlety, and dialogue-driven movies, you might want to give this one a pass. However, if you're in the mood for a sweet, heartfelt drama, you definitely want to put this wonderful movie in your queue.

and "Bunker Hill." With 185 films to his credit, it will certainly take you a while to work through his massive oeuvre.

Currently streaming for free on Kanopy and Hoopla (with your library card), and Tubi. Also on Pluto, Prime and to rent on YouTube, Fandango, and Amazon.

Note to parents: The movie is not rated but I'd give it a PG-13 for a few cuss words.

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 buy it!

If you're not familiar with Brian Dennehy and would like to see more of his films, here are a few of his more popular titles: "First Blood," "Silverado," "Cocoon," "Righteous Kill,"

If you have any movie suggestions, feel free to email me at: [dominmark@yahoo.com](mailto:dominmark@yahoo.com).

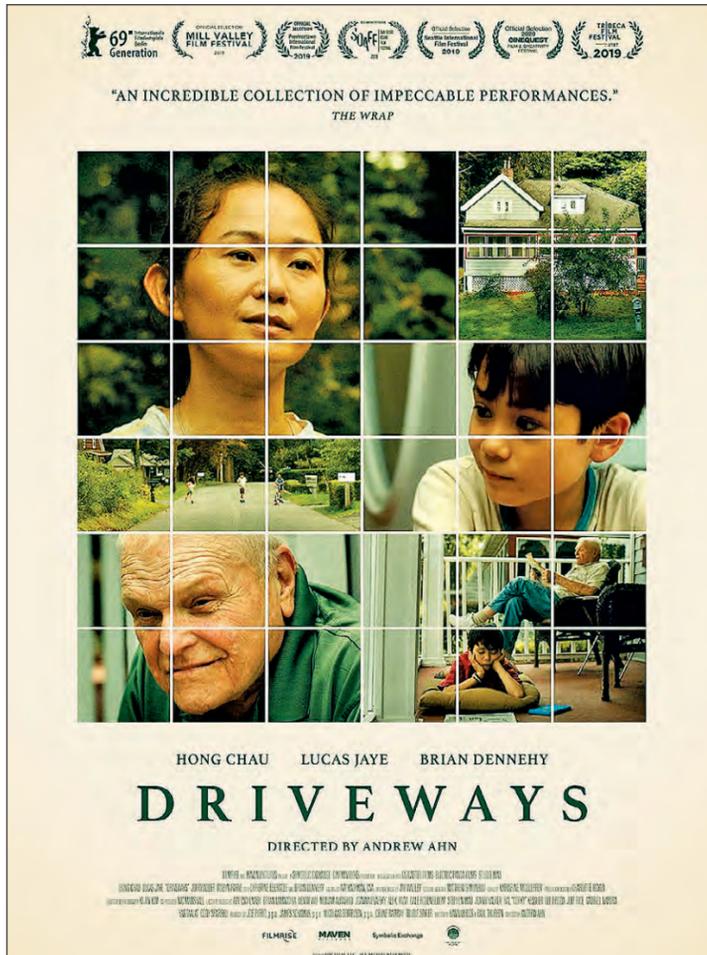
Also, if you're looking for more recommendations, be sure to check out "Cocoon," my blog: [moviejunkie-mark.blogspot.com](http://moviejunkie-mark.blogspot.com).



Getting ready for the garage sale.



Kathy (Chau) and Cody (Jaye).



Movie poster.



Del and Cody hanging out together.



Celebrating Cody's ninth birthday.



Cody (Lucas Jaye) and Del (Brian Dennehy) at the library.

# Weekly Challenge

## UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

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

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

### Previous puzzle solution

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

11/13 DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★☆

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## Contract Bridge

### THE NUMBERS GAME

North dealer.  
North-South vulnerable.

<b>NORTH</b>		<b>EAST</b>	
♠ 2		♠ QJ 10 9 8 7 6	
♥ A K 9 5		♥ —	
♦ A K 10 8 7 2		♦ Q 4	
♣ K Q		♣ 7 6 4 2	
<b>WEST</b>		<b>SOUTH</b>	
♠ 5 3		♠ A K 4	
♥ J 10 8 6 4 3		♥ Q 7 2	
♦ 6 5		♦ J 9 3	
♣ 10 9 5		♣ A J 8 3	

The bidding:  
North East South West  
1♦ 3♠ 3 NT Pass  
4♦ Pass 4♠ Pass  
5♥ Pass 6♣ Pass  
7♦ Pass 7 NT  
Opening lead — five of spades.

Let's say you're South and end up in seven notrump after East's preemptive three spade bid left your side less space in which to bid. Your final bid is based on the theory that it's usually better to play in seven notrump than seven of a suit when both are feasible contracts, as notrump sometimes allows you to delay the play of a key suit while safely exploring the distri-

bution of other suits.

This deal provides an example. If North plays in seven diamonds, he is immediately faced with the problem of whether to take a finesse in the suit or cash the A-K and hope the queen falls. He might easily go wrong because East apparently has seven spades and therefore is more likely to have a singleton diamond than a doubleton.

But in seven notrump, there's no question about how to proceed. You win the spade lead with the king and cash the ace of spades, ace of diamonds and K-Q of clubs. When you next play the ace of hearts and East shows out, you now know much more about East's hand than you did at trick one. Most importantly, you know that East started with seven spades and no hearts.

Continuing with your exploratory moves, you next play the king of hearts and a low heart to your queen. When you then cash the A-J of clubs and East follows suit to both, all your worries melt away. East started with seven spades, no hearts, four clubs and therefore two diamonds. So, you lead your jack of diamonds to the king, felling East's queen, and the grand slam is home.

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by Steve Becker

## Royal Stars Weekly Horoscopes

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

Happy Birthday for Thursday, November 13, 2025:

You are strong-willed, insightful and well-meaning. You are also perceptive about the world around you. This is a year of service for you, perhaps service to family. Take care of yourself so you can be a help and support to others. Perhaps it's time for personal makeover.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19)

Be patient with others this morning, because it's easy to be irritable or fly off the handle. There is no benefit for you in doing this. Fortunately, as this day unfolds, relations with others, particularly co-workers, medical helpers and issues related to your pet, will be warm and supportive. Tonight: Think healthy.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20)

Despite tension in the early morning, this is a marvelous day to socialize. Enjoy the company of spouses, partners and close friends. Financial investments are favored. In fact, this is a great day to clear up old business regarding finances, taxes and debt. Tonight: Schmooze!

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20)

Be patient with partners and close friends this morning to avoid arguments or saying something that you might later regret. (So easy to do.) Fortunately, later in the day, relations with family members are great! In fact, this is a great time to tweak your digs or entertain family and friends. Tonight: Relax.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22)

Work-related arguments might occur this morning, because grievances, disputes and feelings of irritability will arise all too easily. However, later in the day, you're happier! You'll enjoy social outings, fun activities with kids and appreciating the arts. Tonight: Discussions.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22)

Old flames are back in your world in person, or in your thoughts and dreams. This could trigger some irritability within you. Meanwhile, this morning, parents need to be patient with their kids. Later in the day, you might make purchases that benefit home and family. Tonight: Check your belongings.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

In the early morning, the Moon is in your sign at odds with fiery Mars, which could make you irritable and impatient. Stay chill. This is a temporary dark cloud on your horizon. Later in the day, you'll enjoy happy relations with others, including romance. Tonight: You're in charge.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Be patient in the early morning if you feel disgruntled with others. You will gain no ground by mouthing off. Keep your cool. Later in the day, you'll feel pleased and perhaps surprised about a purchase or something to do with your money. It's all good. Tonight: Enjoy solitude.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Avoid money squabbles or disputes about possessions in the early morning. Venus is in your sign now, along with the Sun, and you can afford to take the high road. Later in the day, relations with friends and groups are warm and friendly. Tonight: Be friendly..

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Don't give in to irritable feelings when talking to parents and bosses in the early morning. (This includes the police.) You will do yourself no favor. Instead, be patient, because later in the day, the tables are turned, and your relations with authority figures are warm and supportive. Tonight: You're noticed.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Avoid controversial discussions in the early morning, especially about politics, religion and racial issues. They will be nasty. Later in the day, plans to travel or explore opportunities in publishing, the media, medicine and the law will delight you. Tonight: Learn and explore.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Don't take the bait when talking to friends and groups this morning. Maintain your cool. Later in the day, your relations with authority figures are so positive that you might get a financial advantage or gain money or practical support. Ka-ching! Tonight: Check your finances.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20)

Resist the impulse to quarrel with spouses, partners and friends in the early morning. Use common sense and patience. Ironically, later in the day, feelings of love and friendship are strong, and you will appreciate those who are closest to you. In fact, you'll be light and cheerful! Tonight: Listen.

**BORN TODAY**

Actress, TV personality Whoopi Goldberg (1955), TV host Jimmy Kimmel (1967), actor Gerard Butler (1969).

## Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg November 13, 2025

<b>ACROSS</b>	<b>48</b> *Credit option for wealthy clients	<b>8</b> Springfield-to-Boston dir.	<b>36</b> Vehicle that may be suspended
<b>1</b> Navigation tech	<b>52</b> Sleep condition	<b>9</b> "Tubular!"	<b>37</b> With some reservations
<b>4</b> Gleam	<b>54</b> Slang word after "jam" or "strategy"	<b>10</b> Davy Crockett's last stand	<b>38</b> Mom's mom
<b>9</b> Aggressive poker bet	<b>55</b> ___ de	<b>11</b> "It'd be my pleasure"	<b>39</b> Seasoned vet
<b>14</b> "That feels amazing"	<b>57</b> Chris who was on "Saturday Night Live"	<b>12</b> Hydroplane?	<b>40</b> Survive (on)
<b>15</b> Judge in the MLB	<b>58</b> Less friendly	<b>13</b> Djibouti neighbor	<b>46</b> Like some short plays
<b>16</b> Birch relative	<b>60</b> Support for a basket ... or what combines with either word in each starred clue's answer?	<b>18</b> "They crushed us!"	<b>47</b> Alter, as boundaries
<b>17</b> *Answer to "Who's the fairest of them all?"	<b>62</b> Tamale topping	<b>24</b> Birds-and-bees discussion, colloquially	<b>49</b> Magnus Carlsen's game
<b>19</b> ___ Lama	<b>63</b> Yellow-brown shade	<b>26</b> Formations of geese	<b>50</b> Get in contact with
<b>20</b> Cover with asphalt	<b>64</b> Pet that purrs	<b>27</b> Win-and-place bet	<b>51</b> Russian cottage
<b>21</b> Doofus	<b>65</b> Romantic meeting	<b>28</b> Tax-sheltered investment option	<b>53</b> Expand on
<b>22</b> Shed one's skin	<b>66</b> Tibetan capital	<b>30</b> Low on the pH scale	<b>56</b> Hawaiian instruments, for short
<b>23</b> Extract metal from	<b>67</b> Rare bill	<b>34</b> James Bond's studio	<b>59</b> Tattletale
<b>25</b> *Not click on, say			<b>60</b> Landlocked nation in South America: Abbr.
<b>29</b> Hawaiian hello (or goodbye)			<b>61</b> Bikini top
<b>31</b> Prefix with "skeleton"			
<b>32</b> First lady?			
<b>33</b> "Just a ___!"			
<b>34</b> Carnivore's diet			
<b>35</b> Steeped beverage			
<b>36</b> *Not attending class			
<b>40</b> ___ Antonio			
<b>41</b> First gentleman?			
<b>42</b> Up to, briefly			
<b>43</b> Purple yam used in Filipino cuisine			
<b>44</b> ___-Manuel Miranda			
<b>45</b> Passion			

### PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

A	T	O	M	R	E	A	D	S	C	A	S	A
D	E	V	O	A	G	N	E	W	L	S	A	T
D	E	E	R	C	O	N	V	A	L	E	S	C
D	R	A	P	E	S	I	M	A	I	R	A	
F	L	A	W	G	L	I	M	P	S	E	S	
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11/6 Solution  
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### 11/13 Quadruple-Double by Joshua Dobrow

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# THURSDAY COMICS



# THURSDAY COMICS



Charles M. Schulz

Peanuts

**"A Guide to Running"**

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**Chapter One**

www.snoopy.com

**How to run like a rabbit.**

**Hop Hop Hop Hop Hop Hop Hop**

7/11/25

**Bizarro** Dan Piraro and Wayno

**Andy Capp**

Reg Smythe

**Wayno** 11-17-25

I only do signatures. If you want an inscription, you'll have to meet the ghostwriter.

**MEET THE AUTHOR**

RIZARRO.COM © 2025 RIZARRO STUDIOS

9-29

GUESS WHAT, CHALKIE. I WAS IN THE JOB CENTRE EARLIER, LOOKING FOR WORK, WHEN MICK JAGGER AND RONNIE WOOD WALKED PAST THE DOOR

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I DON'T BELIEVE THAT FOR A MINUTE, ANDY

YOU 'LOOKING FOR WORK'

GOLDSMITH & GARNETT

**Flying McCoys** Glenn McCoy

**B.C.**

Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni

She cauldron of confetti only worked once against the invaders.

HAHA!! HA!!

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IS THAT ANY BETTER?

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**Beetle Bailey**

Greg, Brian, Neal and Mort Walker

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WHAMOND OH, POOH!

I GOT IN 10,000 STEPS TODAY!

GREG & MORT WALKER

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WHY NOT?

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Mike Peters

**The Lockhorns** Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner

PSST... LET'S GET OUT OF HERE. I THINK THIS IS A SALAD BAR

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**TO DO**

Hoest & Reiner

www.thelockhorns.com

**Crankshaft**

Tom Batiuk and Dan Davis

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

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YOU CAN'T HIDE FROM LIFE.

ON THE CONTRARY...

THESE DAYS, HIDING IS THE ONLY WAY TO GO.

BATIUK & DAVIS

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**Carpe Diem**

Niklas Eriksson

CRIPES, HE'S OFF AGAIN. THE ONE ABOUT HOW HE MARCHED WITH HANNIBAL AND FROZE HIS TRUNK OFF IN THE ALPS...

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**Wumo**

Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler

"I'D TELL YOU WHAT I DID IN SCHOOL, BUT I THINK IT'D BE LESS PAINFUL IF YOU JUST READ THE NOTE."

... don't turn around ... don't turn around ...

WOW! Lady Gaga, a biblically correct angel and a singing dog! We'll never see that again!

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Concert security is the world's most demanding job

# THURSDAY COMICS

Garfield

Jim Davis



Hagar The Horrible

(Dik Browne & Chris Browne Original Creators) Bob Webber Jr. and Gary Hallgren

Close To Home

John McPherson



Wizard of Id

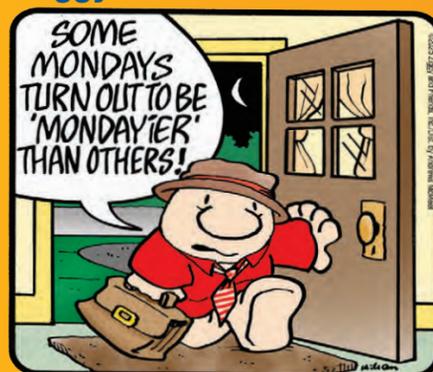
Created by Brant Parker and Johnny Hart. Currently by Mason Mastroianni



"This isn't what I had in mind when you said you were going to canonize me."

Ziggy

Tom Wilson



Blondie

Chris and Dean Young



Marmaduke

Paul & Brad Anderson



"I think he's barking at a picture of a squirrel in that magazine."

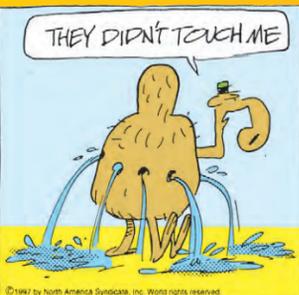
Over The Hedge

Michael Fry and T. Lewis



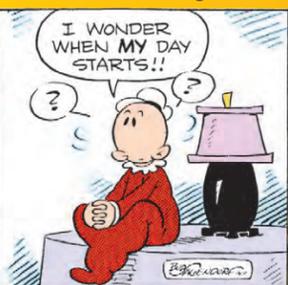
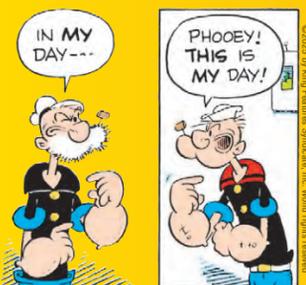
Crock

Created by Bill Rechin and Brant Parker



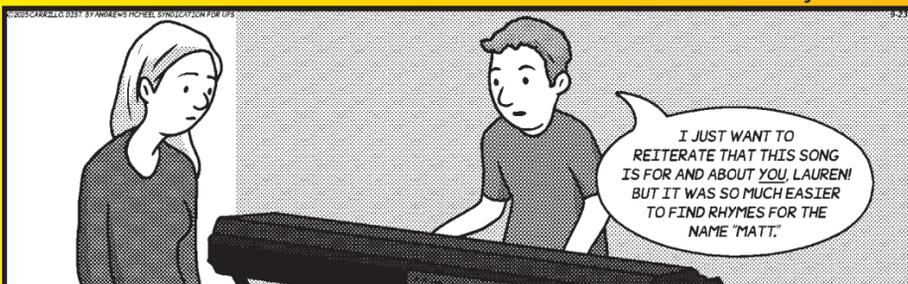
Popeye

Bud Sagendorf



F Minus

Tony Carrilo



Family Circus

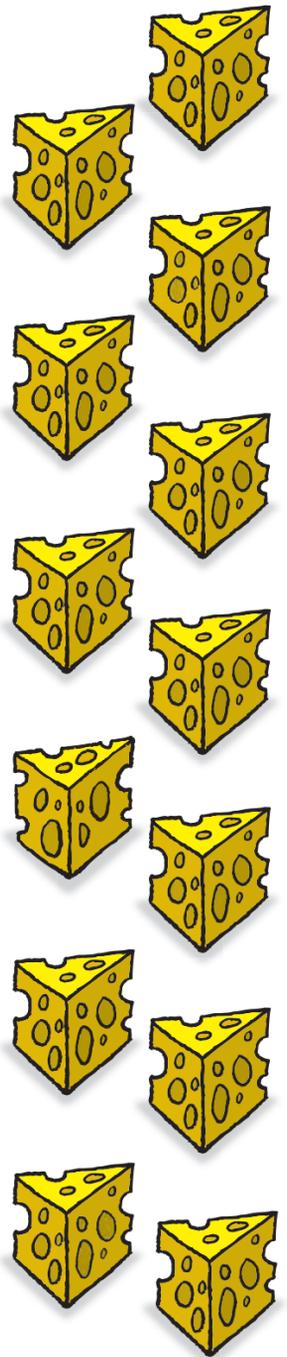
Bill and Jeff Keane



"Just so you know, if you're too sick to go to school, Mommy makes you stay sick all day."



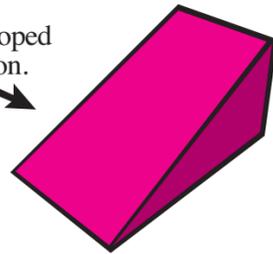
Have someone time you to see how quickly you can find the wedge of cheese that's different from all the others. Switch places and time the other person. Who was fastest at finding the cheese?



## WONDER WEDGE wonders ... "What in the world would we do without a wedge?"

An inclined plane is a sloped surface like this illustration.

Wedges are made up of inclined planes that make our work much easier.



### Wedge to the Rescue

The sun was out. The classroom was getting warmer and warmer. Wonder Wedge looked around and saw his friends sweltering. One at a time the kids got up and tried to open the door. But, each time the door slammed shut. How could they keep the door open?

Wonder Wedge came to the rescue! He showed the kids two pieces of wood. Which one would work best to keep the door open?

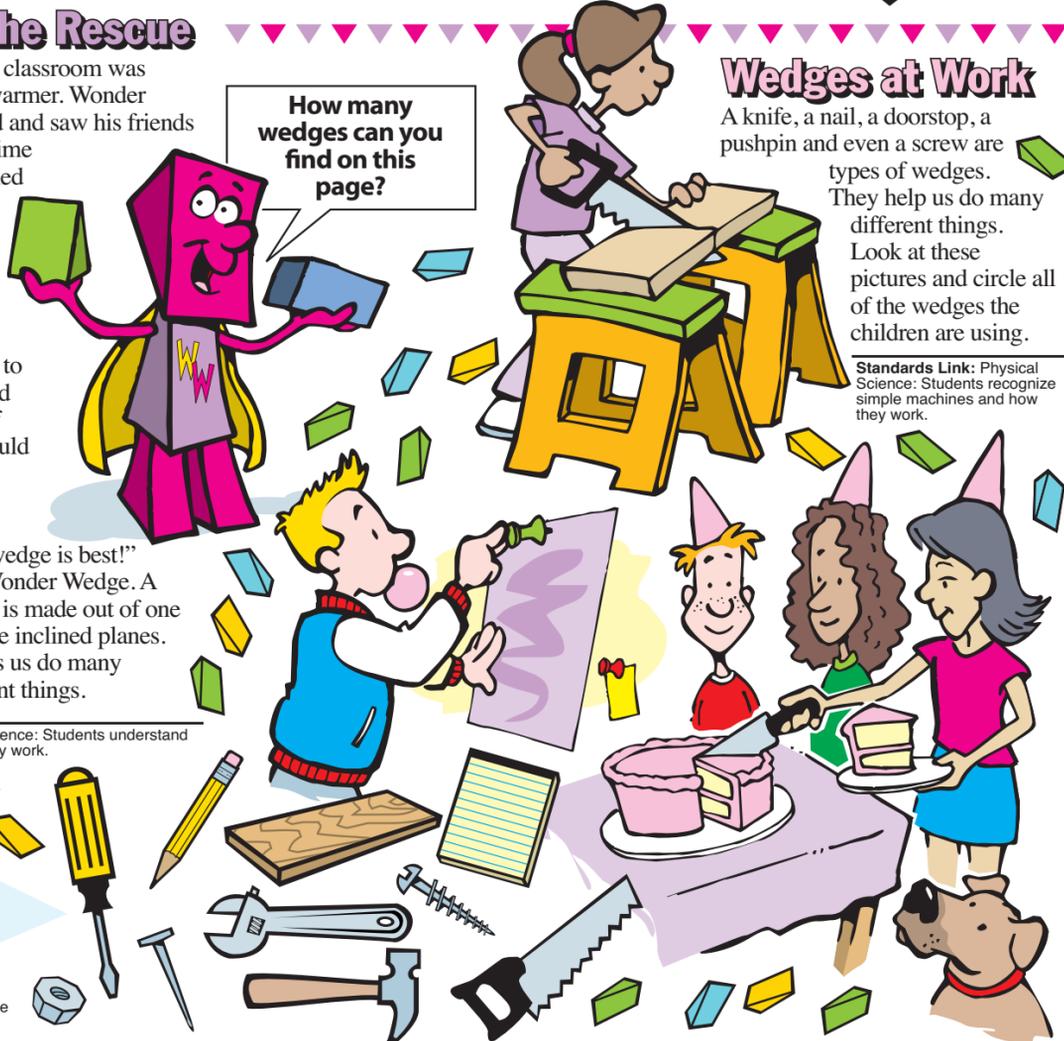
"The wedge is best!" says Wonder Wedge. A wedge is made out of one or more inclined planes. It helps us do many different things.

**Standards Link:** Physical Science: Students understand simple machines and how they work.

### Working Together

Draw a line to match the tools that work together.

**Standards Link:** Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.



How many wedges can you find on this page?

### Wedges at Work

A knife, a nail, a doorstop, a pushpin and even a screw are types of wedges. They help us do many different things. Look at these pictures and circle all of the wedges the children are using.

**Standards Link:** Physical Science: Students recognize simple machines and how they work.

### How is a screw like a wedge?

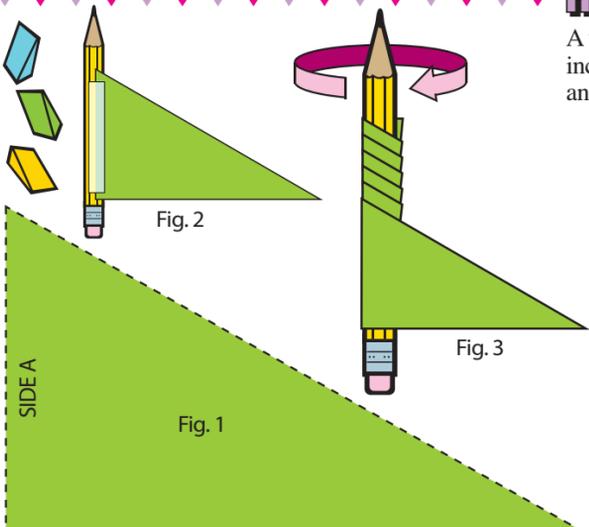
A wedge and a screw are both made with an inclined plane. To see how a screw is made from an inclined plane, try the following experiment:

1. Cut out the triangle-shaped wedge pictured here. (Fig. 1)
2. Tape side A to a pencil. (Fig. 2)
3. Roll the triangle around your pencil. Tape the tip of the triangle to the pencil. (Fig. 3)
4. What has happened to the slanted line of the triangle? This slanted line is also called an **inclined plane**.

### Extra! Extra! W-to-W Dot-to-Dot

Select one page of the newspaper. Find and circle all of the Ws that you can. Draw lines to connect the Ws to make a dot-to-dot design. Color your design.

**Standards Link:** Reading Comprehension: Follow written directions.

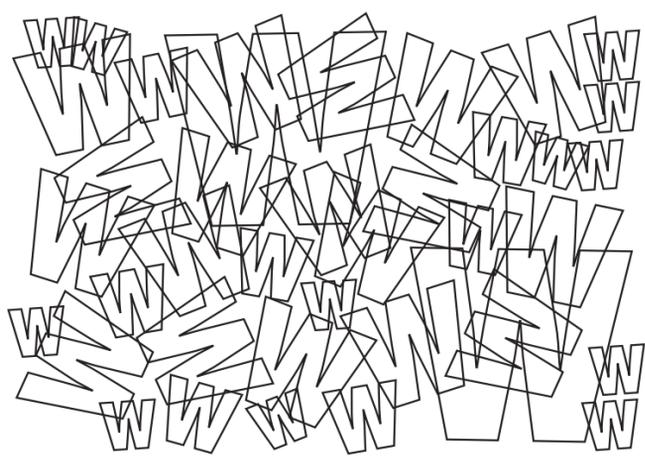


**Standards Link:** Reading Comprehension: Follow multiple-step written directions.

### Kid Scoop Puzzler

#### Wild & Wacky Puzzle

WOW! How many Ws are here?



**Standards Link:** Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

### Double Double Word Search

- WEDGE
- WONDER
- SCREW
- WORKING
- WARMER
- WHEEL
- WITHOUT
- WOULD
- WOOD
- WACKY
- WILD
- WOW
- WORLD
- DRAW
- SHOWED

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



**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:

#### INCLINE

The noun **incline** means a surface or line that slants.

The **incline** of the trail made hiking to the top of the hill a challenge.

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

### FROM THE LESSON LIBRARY

#### Machine Search

Look through today's paper for tools and simple machines that help make work easier. Find a picture of each of these simple machines: lever, wheel and axle, pulley, screw, wedge and inclined plane.

**Standards Link:** Research: Students use the newspaper to locate information.



What scientific instrument do you use to serve tiny portions of ice cream?

ANSWER: A microscop.

### Write On!

#### Write Words Wonderfully

Write an alliteration: a sentence where every, or nearly every, word starts with the same letter. Example: *Agitated alligators ate the apples anxiously.*

## Your Neighborhood

It's what's most important to you, to your kids, to your family. It's easy to stay on top of what is happening around you with the

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## Blue Devils strike gold

South girls swim & dive continues remarkable run with 25th straight MAC Red crown

By Meg Leonard  
 Guest Writer

Host team Grosse Pointe South extended its reign over the MAC Red at the girls varsity swim and dive conference championships last weekend, seizing the program's 25th consecutive league crown and shattering multiple pool and school records.

Call it a complete team performance from a program that knows how to set the gold standard.

"There's not any secret sauce (to this success); it's just the work you put in it," said South head coach John Fodell. "You build the team's confidence of believing they belong (at a championship level). And most importantly, you make them believe in themselves."

Fodell also is head coach for the Blue Devils boys swim and dive program, which has won 27



PHOTO BY JESSICA BRYAN

Teammates from Grosse Pointe South girls varsity swim and dive express an enthusiasm unknown to mankind after capturing the program's 25th consecutive MAC Red title Saturday, Nov. 8.

consecutive conference championships.

In the five-team conference meet at the Boll Natatorium Nov. 7 and 8, host team South ran away with the title, scor-

ing a whopping 640 points, followed by hometown rival Grosse Pointe North, which finished with 367 points.

Dakota (294), Eisenhower (289) and

Fraser (234) high schools finished third, fourth and fifth, respectively.

The excitement that crescendoed Saturday afternoon with South's

25th straight crowning began with a preliminary diving round Thursday, Nov. 6, at L'Anse Creuse North. Blue Devil Ava Gerhard emerged as top seed

heading into Saturday's final, which moved west down I-94 to South.

Embracing home pool advantage, Blue Devils

See SWIM, page 4D

### ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

## Stellar senior season cements Holowinski's South tennis legacy

By Mike Adzima  
 Sports Reporter

With four years on the Grosse Pointe South varsity boys tennis team coming to an end this fall, Matthew Holowinski has plenty to be proud of during his time at South. His senior season, which concluded with an appearance at the Division 2 state finals in late October after his best campaign yet, was the culmination of a tennis career that began many years before he became a Blue Devil.

"I started when I was really young just playing drills with a



COURTESY PHOTO

bunch of random other kids," Holowinski said. "... Some of my friends and I would play a lot, like every day, with our coach, Mr. Prather, and that got me into tournaments and stuff. I just wanted to keep getting better."

He did get better over the years, so much so that Holowinski was named Division 2

Mr. Tennis by the Michigan High School Tennis Coaches Association this fall.

The honor came after his 23-9 record for the 2025 season, along with a regional championship and being named MAC Red Division MVP.

Holowinski did it all while being arguably in the biggest spot as South's No. 1 singles player. It was a role he claimed first as a sophomore and held for three seasons, using his position to grow as a leader both on and off the court each season.

"I started in No. 3 doubles, but I kept working hard and made my way up," he said. "... I definitely enjoyed it. I enjoyed being at the top of the team and having people think of me as a leader. It's really fun leading the team and getting the spirit going."

Along with fellow seniors Brendan

Grosse Pointe News

**ATHLETE OF THE WEEK**

**Matthew Holowinski**

School: Grosse Pointe South  
 Sport: Tennis

Sponsored by Ray Laethem Buick GMC

him being in one of the team's top leadership positions. He never wanted anyone to feel like they were alone on the court.

"We cheer each other on when we're playing to get the whole team going and more confident," Holowinski said. "We get help from our coaches after every game or two if we're having trouble, so it's pretty important just

having the team there." Beyond all of the wins and accolades Holowinski added to his resume this fall, it was that camaraderie that made his senior season stand out. He got to share time on and off the court with teammates who have been with him since he was a freshman and even before that. Getting to experience one last run with them that culminated in a regional championship and a top-10 finish at the state finals only made his final season with his friends and teammates even sweeter.

"All of the other seniors are people I knew when I was young and just kept on playing with," he said. "This was definitely my favorite tennis season so far because I was friends with so many people on

### Game, Set, Matthew

- 23-9 record in 2025 for South boys tennis
- Named Div. 2 Mr. Tennis by MHSTeCA
- Regional champion and MAC Red MVP

See ATHLETE, page 2D

**TECH TIPS**

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# South football comes out flat in playoff loss to Lakeview

By Mike Adzima  
Sports Reporter

It was hardly a secret going into Grosse Pointe South varsity football's playoff game Saturday, Nov. 8, against Lakeview that the Blue Devils were eager to get another shot at the Huskies. Lakeview spoiled South's homecoming night and its chance at an outright MAC White Division title with a shocking last-second win Oct. 11. Saturday's district championship playoff game gave the Blue Devils the chance to avenge that loss, but

instead, Lakeview came to the boulevard and stunned South again by putting on a dominant performance in a 24-7 win.

"It was exactly the game that Lakeview wanted to dictate," South football head coach Chad Hepner said about the loss. "... In that type of game, when we have the ball, we have to score because (Lakeview) just sucked the life out of the game and ran the clock. When we didn't make the most of our opportunities early in the game, we kind of fell into their

game plan and we couldn't get out. They had a good game plan for us on both sides of the ball and we were going to need to play some of our best football to beat them and we just didn't."

That very much was the story of the game. Lakeview was able to control the time of possession and pace of play, and South's offense struggled to make the most of the opportunities it did have.

With Lakeview dictating much of the pace, the first half of Saturday's game seemed



A gang of South defenders tackle the Lakeview ball carrier during a game where the Huskies leaned heavily on the rushing attack.



Wes Roberts reaches the ball over the pylon to score South's only touchdown of the game in a 24-7 loss to Lakeview Saturday, Nov. 8.

PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

ting the score at 10-0 in favor of the Huskies going into the break.

Brennen Johnson scored the only points of the third quarter with a rushing touchdown for Lakeview, making it a three-possession game at 17-0. Time dwindled for the Blue Devils to make a comeback after that. It was not until almost halfway through the fourth quarter that South was able to get on the board for the first time, as junior quarterback Sam Rouleau found Wes Roberts in the end zone.

The Blue Devils attempted an onside kick after the touchdown, but Lakeview recovered. The Huskies continued to run the ball and bleed the clock, scoring a final touchdown with just over two minutes left to make the score 24-7. South got the ball back, but it was too late for a miracle as the game and the season came to an end.

Rouleau completed 12 passes for 175 yards with a touchdown and an interception. South's typically strong rushing attack was stifled, as Charlie Michelotti was

the leading rusher with only 29 yards. On defense, senior AJ Zieleniewski had 12 tackles, including a tackle for loss.

Zielewniewski is just one of the several senior leaders who helped South achieve success this season and in recent years. The seniors on this year's team suited up in the blue and gold for the final time Saturday, but their legacy with the program will not soon be forgotten, given how much they changed the culture around South football.

"This group, they were part of a 10-win team as juniors and a nine-win team as seniors," Hepner said. "They've experienced a lot of winning and a lot of success and I think they helped establish that as the expectation here at Grosse Pointe South."

South finished the season with a 9-2 record, with both losses against Lakeview. The team won a share of the MAC White Division title, finishing atop the division for a fourth straight year.

## GROSSE POINTE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

### DISTRICT-WIDE FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS MASONRY RESTORATION AND REPAIR INDEFINITE SCOPE / INDEFINITE QUANTITY

The Board of Education of the Grosse Pointe Public School System, Wayne County, Michigan, will receive sealed bids for the district-wide Masonry Restoration and Repair based on an Indefinite Scope / Indefinite Quantity basis for a base term of one (1) year with an option for four (4) additional one-year term extensions.

Specifications and Bid Forms will be available to Trade Contractors beginning **Tuesday, November 18, 2025** by contacting the office of the Architect, Ehresman Architects, via email at [architects@ehresmanarchitects.com](mailto:architects@ehresmanarchitects.com). The Architect will issue the requesting company(s) electronic (.pdf) files of the Contract Documents. The cost of document reproduction will be the responsibility of the requesting party.

Bid documents will also be available for examination (no purchase) at the following locations:

- Ehresman Architects
- Grosse Pointe Public School System

A Pre-Bid meeting will not be conducted for this project. It is the contractor's responsibility to review and become familiar with the job site, conditions, etc. prior to submitting its bid to the district. Contact the Executive Director of Buildings & Grounds, Mr. Ben Matteson at (313) 432-3082 to arrange any site visits to review the project conditions.

Sealed bids will be due **Thursday, December 11, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. (local time)** at the Administration Offices of the Grosse Pointe Public School System, 20601 Morningside Drive, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236, at which time and place the bids will be opened and publicly read aloud. The public opening will only identify the submitting party and verification that all required forms have been submitted. Individual unit prices will not be read. Results of the unit prices and the apparent lowest responsible bidder(s) will be made available when they are recorded and tabulated based on a sample scenario and quantity.

The School Board will not consider, accept, or open a bid received after the date and time specified for bid submission in this advertisement for bid.

A Bid Security is not required for this project.

The bid shall be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the Owner(s) or any employee of the bidder and any member of the Board of Education of the School District or the Superintendent of the School District. The Board of Education shall not accept a bid that does not include this sworn and notarized familial relationship disclosure statement.

The bid shall be accompanied by a sworn and notarized Affidavit of Compliance - Iran Economic Sanctions Act representing and warranting that the Contractor (including its officers, directors and employees) is not an "Iran linked business" within the meaning of the Iran Economic Sanctions Act, Michigan Public Act No. 517 of 2012.

Grosse Pointe Public School System's Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any and all Bid Proposals, either in whole or in part, to waive any informalities or irregularities therein, or to award the contract to other than the contractor(s) submitting the best financial Bid Proposal (low bidder), in its sole and absolute discretion.

This project will not be funded by federal or state monies

Please direct questions to:  
• Joe Cangemi, Senior Project Manager at (248) 244-9710 (ext. 106) or [joe@ehresmanarchitects.com](mailto:joe@ehresmanarchitects.com)  
• Marc Chamberlain, Senior Architect/Partner at (248) 244-9710 (ext. 105) or [marc@ehresmanarchitects.com](mailto:marc@ehresmanarchitects.com)

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Valarie St. John, Secretary (Grosse Pointe Public School System)

Published: GPN, 11/13/2025

to fly by in the blink of an eye. The Huskies struck first late in the first quarter with a touchdown run by senior quarterback Gavin McKee. The lead was extended by three in the final seconds before halftime, with Lakeview making a field goal, put-

## ATHLETE: Continued from page 1D

the team and grew up with them."

Holowinski still has plenty of time to enjoy his senior year off the court with graduation months away. As he looks to the future, he hopes to attend Michigan State University next year with the possibility of continuing his tennis career with the club team.

No matter what the future holds, Holowinski's legacy with the Blue Devils' tennis program is secure and those at the top of the program know his leadership and accomplishments will not soon be forgotten.

"When the moment got big, Matthew got bigger," South boys tennis coach Brian Kean said. "His run as regional champion and Division 2 Mr. Tennis is the story of a senior who showed what it means to compete. Matthew's game is the rare blend of discipline, grit and fearlessness. He earned every title this season and left a legacy that will push South for years."

*'When the moment got big, Matthew got bigger.'*

BRIAN KEAN, GP SOUTH BOYS TENNIS COACH



COURTESY PHOTO

Holowinski lifts his regional championship trophy which he earned Oct. 8 while helping the Blue Devils to a team regional title win.

# South volleyball continues district dominance

By Mike Adzima  
Sports Reporter

Winning district championships has become the standard for Grosse Pointe South varsity volleyball for the better part of the past decade, with a streak of titles going back to 2017. However, each time the Blue Devils lift the trophy, it still feels special. When the team celebrated another Division 1 district title Friday, Nov. 7, after defeating Detroit Renaissance 3-0, the feeling among the team was that this district triumph was particularly special.

“Other than (2022), this was probably the hardest we had to work for a district championship,” South volleyball coach Janeil DiVita said following the win. “I’m really proud of the girls because they stayed so consistent and everybody contributed that was on the court and did their job. They believed in it and it felt so special.”

Part of that special feeling was that last Friday’s district champi-

onship was shared by three seniors, Gabby DiVita, Sydney Hoffman and Alex Lupo, who have been with South’s varsity team since their freshman year. That freshman season found them in a similar scenario as the team was in this year, having lost to rival Grosse Pointe North in the regular season before avenging that loss in the district tournament.

South’s road to the district title had to go through the Norsemen as the teams met Wednesday, Nov. 5, in the district semifinal. The Blue Devils again were able to rebound from their regular season loss to North, beating the Norsemen 3-1 in last week’s playoff matchup.

The Blue Devils took the first set 25-16 before North battled hard in the next set to win 26-24 and even the match. South bounced back with a 25-13 victory in the third set and closed out the victory by taking the fourth set 25-9.

Gabby DiVita had 37 kills for South in the



PHOTOS BY MIKE ADZIMA

**Grosse Pointe South volleyball defeated Detroit Renaissance 3-0 Friday, Nov. 7, to win the district championship, continuing a streak of district titles that dates back to 2017.**

rivalry win and fellow senior Hoffman had nine, along with four

blocks. Senior Lucy Edwards made some big contributions with 53 assists.

“That’s such a big rivalry game and everyone knows it, so both teams show up extra for that game,” Janeil DiVita said. “... I think the girls proved to themselves (against North) that they are that team and they can beat anyone.”

Riding high off the momentum from beating North in the semifinal, South could not overlook its next test in the district final last Friday. The Blue Devils

may have earned a 3-0 sweep over Renaissance, but the Phoenix pushed South to the brink every chance they got. South won three close sets 25-20, 25-21 and 25-20.

“(Renaissance) was nobody to mess around with,” Coach DiVita said. “They’re very well coached and very athletic. Their setter pushed a great tempo ball and they have great attackers and great ball control on serve-serve. I think it helped a lot that we played the type of game we did on Wednesday and had that

belief and energy.”

Edwards once again led the team with 35 assists. Gabby DiVita had 26 kills and three aces while serving, and sophomore Anna Groustra tallied 14 digs. South advanced to the Division 1 regional round of the postseason, where it faced Bloomfield Hills Tuesday, Nov. 11, after press time. The regional championship match is scheduled for 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 13, hosted by Marian High School in Bloomfield Hills.



**South senior Ava McMillin steps up to serve during the district championship match against Renaissance Friday, Nov. 7.**



**Grosse Pointe North’s Leah Burney (No. 16) and Rose Parker (No. 12) guard the net in the Norsemen’s district semifinal match against Grosse Pointe South Wednesday, Nov. 5.**

## GROSSE POINTE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

### DISTRICT-WIDE FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS ROOFING REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT INDEFINITE SCOPE / INDEFINITE QUANTITY

The Board of Education of the Grosse Pointe Public School System, Wayne County, Michigan, will receive sealed bids for the district-wide Roofing Repair and Replacement based on an Indefinite Scope / Indefinite Quantity basis for a base term of one (1) year with an option for four (4) additional one-year term extensions.

Specifications and Bid Forms will be available to Trade Contractors beginning **Tuesday, November 18, 2025** by contacting the office of the Architect, Ehresman Architects, via email at [architects@ehresmanarchitects.com](mailto:architects@ehresmanarchitects.com). The Architect will issue the requesting company(s) electronic (.pdf) files of the Contract Documents. The cost of document reproduction will be the responsibility of the requesting party.

Bid documents will also be available for examination (no purchase) at the following locations:

- Ehresman Architects
- Grosse Pointe Public School System

A Pre-Bid meeting will not be conducted for this project. It is the contractor’s responsibility to review and become familiar with the job site, conditions, etc. prior to submitting its bid to the district. Contact the Executive Director of Buildings & Grounds, Mr. Ben Matteson at (313) 432-3082 to arrange any site visits to review the project conditions.

Sealed bids will be due **Thursday, December 11, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. (local time)** at the Administration Offices of the Grosse Pointe Public School System, 20601 Morningside Drive, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236, at which time and place the bids will be opened and publicly read aloud. The public opening will only identify the submitting party and verification that all required forms have been submitted. Individual unit prices will not be read. Results of the unit prices and the apparent lowest responsible bidder(s) will be made available when they are recorded and tabulated based on a sample scenario and quantity.

The School Board will not consider, accept, or open a bid received after the date and time specified for bid submission in this advertisement for bid.

A Bid Security is not required for this project.

The bid shall be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the Owner(s) or any employee of the bidder and any member of the Board of Education of the School District or the Superintendent of the School District. The Board of Education shall not accept a bid that does not include this sworn and notarized familial relationship disclosure statement.

The bid shall be accompanied by a sworn and notarized Affidavit of Compliance - Iran Economic Sanctions Act representing and warranting that the Contractor (including its officers, directors and employees) is not an “Iran linked business” within the meaning of the Iran Economic Sanctions Act, Michigan Public Act No. 517 of 2012.

Grosse Pointe Public School System’s Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any and all Bid Proposals, either in whole or in part, to waive any informalities or irregularities therein, or to award the contract to other than the contractor(s) submitting the best financial Bid Proposal (low bidder), in its sole and absolute discretion.

This project will not be funded by federal or state monies.

Please direct questions to:

- Joe Cangemi, Senior Project Manager at (248) 244-9710 (ext. 106) or [joe@ehresmanarchitects.com](mailto:joe@ehresmanarchitects.com)
- Marc Chamberlin, Senior Architect/Partner at (248) 244-9710 (ext. 105) or [marc@ehresmanarchitects.com](mailto:marc@ehresmanarchitects.com).

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Valarie St. John, Secretary (Grosse Pointe Public School System)

Published: GPN, 11/13/2025

4D | SPORTS

SWIM:

Continued from page 1D

swimmers sliced their way through the water Friday night and broke long-held school and pool records — an uncommon feat in preliminaries.

Immediate energy pumped up the full house, thanks to South's 200 medley relay of Mischa Eng, Nicole McEnroe, Caroline Bryan and Whitney Handwork, who kicked things off by taking down the event's school record in 1:45.44.

Ali DeLoof, Meg Brooks, Gabby DeLoof and Catie DeLoof held the previous record since 2011. The DeLoof sisters later swam at the University of Michigan and currently swim professionally. They are uniformly considered among Grosse Pointe's "royal families" of swimming.

down, that will be something," Fodell said.

That "something" happened frequently last weekend with the rewriting of several records. Handwork broke her own school record Friday in the 50 freestyle, as she also tacked on the pool record in 23.48.

Caroline Bryan then soared her way to the school and pool record in the 100 butterfly in 54.14. Bryan's time placed her third overall nationally and earned her All-American status, which officially will be granted next summer.

Beyond the remarkable records, South had four new state qualifiers, while two athletes added to their state tickets.

New cuts came from freshman Sarah Joyce in the 100 backstroke; sophomore Marielle Macuga in the 100 free-



PHOTO BY JESSICA BRYAN

Not satisfied by breaking Grosse Pointe South's girls 200 medley relay record Friday, Nov. 7, from left, Blue Devils Nicole McEnroe, Mischa Eng, Caroline Bryan and Whitney Handwork smashed their own time less than a day later in 1:44.77, setting new school and pool records in the event at the MAC Red championship Saturday, Nov. 8.

*'You build the team's confidence of believing they belong (at a championship level).*

*And most importantly, you make them believe in themselves.'*

JOHN FODELL, GP SOUTH GIRLS VARSITY SWIMMING HEAD COACH

"Over time, swimming gets faster and you think if those (previous records) ever come

style; sophomore Avery Stevenson in the 500 freestyle and senior Betsy Ropke in the 100

back. Senior Lorelei Carr added the 100 butterfly to her state list, while sophomore Natalie Warnick grabbed a spot in the 100 backstroke.

With Friday's prelim round performance seemingly too difficult to top, South proved it was in it to win it early and often Saturday afternoon.

Not satisfied with Friday night's school record, the 200 medley team of Eng, McEnroe,

Caroline Bryan and Handwork raced their way to both the school and pool records, smashing their prelim time and clocking a 1:44.77 to win the event.

With the day holding enough room for one more record-breaking performance, South's 400 freestyle relay team of Handwork, Quinn Ryan, Heidi Bryan and Caroline Bryan teamed up to take down the pool record in 3:28.79.

The Blue Devils went

on to win every event at the final, save for the 500 free. Dakota's Ella Threlkeld won the distance event in 5:15.09.

Gerhard also won diving for South with 333.10 points.

Fodell earned MAC Red Coach of the Year honors, voted upon by conference coaches, while Caroline Bryan won the MAC Red Swimmer of the Meet.

South's state team currently stands at 16 athletes. Swimmers had

one last opportunity to earn a state qualifying time at the "Last Chance" meet, which took place Tuesday after press time.

The team also may qualify more divers to the state team after next week's diving regionals.

South enters the state final as Division 2's top-ranked team. The championship takes place Friday, Nov. 21, and Saturday, Nov. 22, at Eastern Michigan University.

# CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

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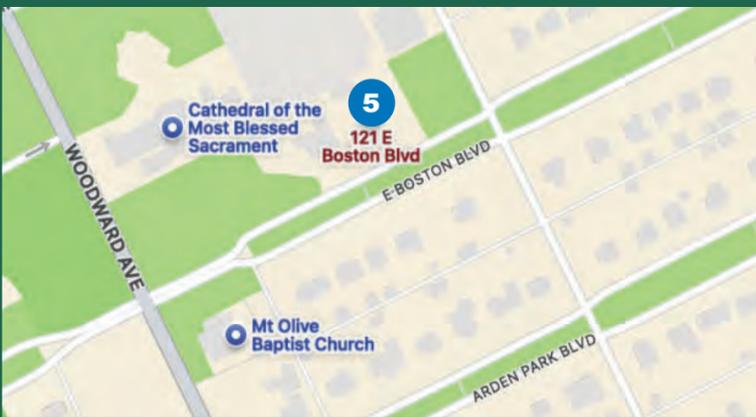
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## Grosse Pointe News Yard & Estate Sale Map



**THIS WEEK**

1. 745 Lincoln Rd., GPC
2. 340 Kercheval Ave., GPF
3. 801 Park Lane, GPP
4. 15230 Windmill Pointe Dr., GPP
5. 121 East Boston Blvd., Detroit

○ = YARD SALE    ● = ESTATE SALE

See Classifieds for more details

**6D | SPORTS**

# Liggett volleyball wins big, claims district title

The University Liggett School varsity volleyball team made things look easy on its run to a Division 3 district championship victory last week. The Knights won both matches in the district tournament 3-0 to bring home the trophy Saturday, Nov. 8. Liggett won its semifinal match over Clintondale last Friday, Nov. 7, by scores of 25-5, 25-12 and 25-6. In the district final the next day, the Knights handled Mount Clemens with ease, winning 25-7, 25-5 and 25-8. The Knights faced Plymouth Christian Academy in the regional semifinal after press time Tuesday, Nov. 11. The regional championship is scheduled for 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 13, at Plymouth Christian Academy.



PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY LIGGETT ATHLETICS



PHOTO COURTESY OF BRIAN ARNOLD

**CITY OF HARPER WOODS  
WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN  
SYNOPSIS: REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
NOVEMBER 3, 2025**

The regular City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Valerie Kindle at 7:00 P.M.  
**ROLL CALL:** All Councilpersons were present

**MOTIONS PASSED**

- 1) To receive, approve and file the minutes of the regular City Council meeting held October 20, 2025 and furthermore receive and file the minutes of the Beautification Commission meeting held on June 9 and August 27, 2025.
- 2) To open the Public Hearing on the 2026 Budget.
- 3) to close the Public Hearing.
- 4) That the agenda of the regular City Council meeting having been acted upon and with no further business, the meeting is hereby adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

**RESOLUTIONS PASSED**

- 1) (1) approve the Accounts Payable/Payroll Vendor listing for Check Numbers 133637 through 133754 in the amount of \$1,109,176.49 as submitted by the City Manager and Finance Director, and further, authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the listing. (2) approve payment to Simplified Business Solutions in the amount of \$6,199.09 for the email hosting, security and backups of our computer system for the month of September/October and for IT support services for all departments. (3) approve payment to WCA Assessing in the amount of \$6,703.33 for the contractual assessing services to be performed during the month of November 2025. (4) approve payment to Intrado Life and Safety Solutions Corporation in the amount of \$12,595.00 for the renewal of an extended maintenance plan for the 911 dispatch call-taking console. (5) approve payment to Turf and Timber LLC in the amount of \$23,900.00 for the removal of eight dead and downed trees/limbs, eight stump removals, and for the trimming of 27 trees. (6) approve payment in the amount of \$18,250.00 to Guardian Sewers for their assistance with two water main breaks and replacement of several stop boxes.
- 2) to adopt the Tax Levy Resolution set forth on page 1 of the budget document hereby establishing the following tax rate for 2026.
 

General	18.5270
PA 359	.1678
Refuse	2.3635
Milk River Drain	10.2500
Library	1.7752
Active Adult Comm.	<u>0.3441</u>
Total	33.4276
- 3) to approve the Budget Adoption and Appropriation Resolution found on Page 2 of the budget document, thereby adopting the 2026 Budget as presented.
- 4) to, in accordance with Milk River Intercounty Drain Assessments, Chapter 21, 1956 PA 40, as amended, and its obligations under the Michigan Drain Code, the City of Harper Woods is mandated to levy 10.25 mills on all taxable properties in the City to fund the Milk River Intercounty Drain Assessments on its tax bills dated December 1, 2025.
- 5) to approve payment to Premiere Group Associates LLC in the amount of \$28,749.33 for Progress Payment No. 2 on the Roscommon Pocket Park project, #180-329.
- 6) to approve payment to Hannah Associates in the amount of \$44,416.55 for design development services in conjunction with the Community Center Project.
- 7) to approve the transfer of \$84,105.54 for Miscellaneous City Services, \$12,365.00 for Special Pickups and \$3017.00 for Meter Replacements (total of \$99,487.54) to the 2025 Winter Tax Roll as proposed and submitted by the Treasurer.

Valerie Kindle, Mayor

Leslie M. Frank, City Clerk

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The Grosse Pointe Red Barons freshman football team hoists the MYFCC Super Bowl trophy after defeating the Southeast Ferndale Eagles 7-0 in the championship game Saturday, Nov. 8.

# Red Barons freshmen go back-to-back

The Grosse Pointe Red Barons freshman football team won its second consecutive Michigan Youth Football and Cheer Conference Super Bowl championship Saturday, Nov. 8. The Red Barons defeated the Southeast Ferndale Eagles 7-0 in a low-scoring battle to claim their back-to-back titles. "This is a very special group of kids that we knew had a real shot," Red Barons freshman football coach Brian Arnold said. "They just kept believing in themselves, and it all just came to fruition at the end of the season." The game's only touchdown was scored on a run by Drew Krall.

The defense did its part to shut out the Eagles, continuing a string of shutouts for the Red Barons that included wins over two undefeated teams earlier in the playoffs. "We were able to play really good defense, but our offense also did a great job of having long, sustained drives that kept the other team off the field," said Arnold. The freshman team was one of two Red Barons squads to reach the Super Bowl. The varsity team lost its championship matchup 44-24 against the Rochester Raiders. Julian Wade had a pair of touchdown runs in the loss.

— Mike Adzima