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# Vietnam Veterans Day lunch is Friday

**GROSSE POINTE FARMS** — On March 29, 1973, the last United States combat troops departed the Republic of Vietnam.

Though the national day of observance falls on a Sunday this year, it will be acknowledged by The War Memorial with its annual Vietnam Veterans Day Welcome Home Luncheon 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, March 27.

Veterans and their families are invited to an afternoon lunch to commemorate their bravery and sacrifice during the Vietnam War.

This year's keynote speaker is retired Maj.

Gen. Darren L. Werner, who is president of SAPA Transmission and former commanding general of the U.S. Army Tank Automotive and Armaments Command (TACOM).

The Wayne County Veteran Services mobile unit also will be on hand to provide one-on-one guidance and start the process for any needed emergency financial assistance for wartime service members.

The event also will include the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 154 with the Presentation of the

See **VETERANS**, page 3A



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

## March is Reading Month

Grosse Pointe North High School football players, from left, sophomore Luke Bruveris, junior Nate Grey, sophomore Ben Savich and freshman A'jan Smith, visited Erin Ranieri's first grade classroom at Monteith Elementary School March 19. The teens read "Franklin Plays the Game" to students in celebration of March is Reading Month. Find more photos of guest readers on page 9A.

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See Section C

## \$6M is only part of rec plan

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE PARK** — If the financial definition of a boat is a hole in the water into which its owner throws money, then what is a municipal swimming pool?

Current property owners are scheduled to find out.

Already shouldering years of delayed water and sewer infrastructure investment totaling millions of dollars, residents now face the prospect of being tapped for more than \$6,030,000 in recreation system repairs and upgrades.

More than \$1.6 million of that total is for the swimming pool at Windmill Pointe Park, something Councilman Tom Caulfield, former liaison to the recreation commission, started

See **PLAN**, page 2A

Donna Rabaut is the new court administrator for the Grosse Pointe Farms Municipal Court.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

## Farms appoints next court administrator

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE FARMS** — Just prior to being appointed the new Farms' court administrator, Donna Rabaut was honored before city council in early March, with an employee spotlight in recognition of the value she's already brought to the city as a court clerk the

last nine years.

"She's a major reason why the municipal court operates so smoothly and remains customer service-focused despite its challenges in terms of dockets, things of that nature," Mayor John Gillooly said. "Her patience, her kindness and her exceptional abil-

See **COURT**, page 2A

## GPPSS facing 1st Amendment lawsuit

By Ted O'Neil  
Associate Editor

**THE GROSSE POINTES** — A civil rights lawsuit filed in federal court this week claims the Grosse Pointe Public School System violated a parent's First and 14th Amendment rights by banning him from school property.

Attorneys representing Gary Shane Pruitt filed the suit Monday, March 23, in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan.

Pruitt, of Grosse Pointe Woods, wants GPPSS to rescind a "no trespass" order issued against him Oct. 21, 2024, that bars him from all school property. The suit also alleges the district has "shamed" Pruitt by posting his picture in the office at Parcels Middle School.

According to a chronology in the complaint, Pruitt attended a back-to-school night at Parcels in early September 2024, and "observed many rainbow/transgender pride

flags" on display. After contacting Jason Wesley — who at the time was principal at Parcels — Pruitt was told to contact Deputy Superintendent Roy Bishop. As earlier reported, Bishop is slated to become GPPSS superintendent later this year, following the retirement of Superintendent Andrea Tuttle.

The suit claims Bishop told Pruitt, "that nothing was likely to change and was further instructed he could contact the school board."

He reached out via email to Trustee Valarie St. John Sept. 16, 2024, who responded, in part, "... if you are concerned that your child is seeing the colors of the rainbow, I would suggest sending them with tinted sunglasses so they aren't subjected to the full spectrum."

On Sept. 30, 2024, with permission from school officials, Pruitt visited

See **LAWSUIT**, page 9A

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Pointer of INTEREST

See story, page 4A

Diana Muccioli

Home: Grosse Pointe Woods

Former Norseman caps

off swim career at NCAA

championships

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# Woods getting ready to tee off

By Ted O'Neil  
Associate Editor

**GROSSE POINTE WOODS** — Lake Front Park is about to get a second golf-related feature.

In addition to a nine-hole mini golf course installed in 2019 with funds raised by the Grosse Pointe Woods Foundation, city council at its meeting Monday, March 16, approved spending \$23,528 on an indoor golf simulator made by Ace Indoor Golf of Toledo, Ohio.

“It will take four to six weeks to install,” said Owen Gafa, direc-

tor of parks and recreation. “We should be up and running not too long after.”

The simulator isn’t meant just for driving practice. Users can play an entire 18-hole course. Cost will be \$25 per hour for groups of up to six people.

“The cost is for the entire group, not per person,” Gafa said. “We estimate it will pay for itself in about a year.”

Gafa said he thinks the feature will draw plenty of use, especially in light of the recent popularity of TGL — Tomorrow’s Golf League — on ESPN, in which teams of three

professional golfers compete against each other in a high-tech simulator. It will be open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., the same as the activities building.

Trevor Faust, president of Ace Indoor Golf, said he’s seeing more municipalities purchase simulators.

“Private clubs and indoor golf centers have had them for years, but more cities have been buying them lately,” he said. “The technology is at a point where simulators are much better than 15 or 20 years ago. They aren’t a novelty like they used to be. If

you’re a five handicap on the course, you’ll be a five handicap in the simulator.”

Gafa said he requested the money during last year’s budget preparation after talking with John Salter, park supervisor.

“We were discussing what new amenities we could add and wanted something that was easy and low maintenance,” he added. “Another park employee who’s part of a golf league in the summer suggested it and said he thought it would get a lot of use.”

Gafa said the city saved money by preparing the room that will house the simulator.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ACE INDOOR GOLF

This is an example of what the simulator Grosse Pointe Woods purchased will look like.

## COURT:

Continued from page 1A

ity to listen make her a trusted point of contact for anyone seeking help with court matters either in this city or beyond.

“Grosse Pointe Farms is extremely fortunate, Ms. Rabaut, to have you as part of its team.”

Rabaut has a juris doctorate from Wayne State University Law School, is a former English as a Second Language teacher and is fluent in Spanish, which has served as a useful advantage to the Farms court.

She became a notary public in 2018; earned court recorder certification in January 2019; and in 2020, took on the city’s in-house mediation for civil matters.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

**Donna Rabaut with Farms Municipal Judge Charles Berschback.**

hear that Donna has agreed to take over the job as court administrator,” Farms Judge Charles Berschback said. “... She has the perfect personality and ability to not only be kind and responsible to the people that come to the window, but also to be firm when necessary. I’ve seen that every day when I’m here in court, so I’m just really looking forward to working with her in a new capacity.”

With the appointment effective Wednesday, April 1, Rabaut will take over for Sue Thomas, who is retiring after eight

years with the city.

“As a new judge coming in four years ago, I couldn’t have asked for a better team (than) Ms. Thomas and Donna working together,” Berschback said. “Sue Thomas has decades of experience and has helped all of us in the court office to understand our responsibilities, our obligations to the public and the administration of justice.”

Gillooly said the city is grateful for her service and wishes Thomas nothing but the best going forward.

“It’s a bit subjective,” he said. “If a group of friends are hanging out chatting between shots it might take a little longer, but 18 holes is doable in an hour.”

Faust added the simulator has features that

can help speed up play. “You can set it to a maximum of two putts per green, for example,” he said. “Or you can set it so anything, say 3 or 6 or 10 feet from the hole is a gimme.”

# City approves addition to former bank on Jefferson

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**CITY OF GROSSE POINTE** — City planners said the Jefferson Chase Bank building’s new owner was pleasantly collaborative in partnering with the city on several iterations of plans to make his proposal of a sizable addition to the historic building more palpable.

The result was a far cry from when the planners in January recommended rejection of a use variance for the project on the basis it failed to meet a single qualification for approval. A use variance is required because the building is an unallowed, but grandfathered-in commercial use in a residential district.

The initial application was tabled and returned before the city’s zoning board of appeals — which triples as the city council and planning commission — Monday, March 16, at which point city planners were comfortable recommending approval.

With the zoning board of appeals ultimately following suit and approving the amended use variance application 6-0, with Dr. Seth Krupp absent, Pointers can expect to see the

construction of a 2,920-square-foot, half-sized indoor basketball court adjacent to the building, which is now an office.

“To create a modern, sophisticated private office that’s attractive to highly compensated people working long hours, it’s necessary to provide unique amenities,” owner Michael Aubrey said.

Compromises he made to the initial plans include eliminating the curb cut onto Rivard, reducing the size of the parking lot to 20 spaces, adding screening along the property line and incorporating more residential character in the addition’s facade.

“We find that with these improvements, the proposal is now compatible with the scale and historic use of the existing building and represents orderly development,” City planner Laura Mangan said.

ZBA members also noted, should they have chosen not to approve the addition, it would be within the property owner’s legal rights to tear down the historic building, construct a house up to 10 feet taller and add in a recreational use such as a gym, which is by right in a residential district.

## PLAN:

Continued from page 1A

warning administrators about more than two years ago.

Maintenance and repair shortcomings typify the recreation system, according to an analysis by consulting engineers retained to come up with a five-year plan to put things right.

All but a few amenities among the city’s two municipal parks — mostly incidental features such as the Lindell Lodge meeting space and ice-skating warming hut at Patterson Park — need repair or improvement beyond routine.

“The Lindell Lodge is in great shape,” said Michael Hindelang, chairman of the recre-

ation commission. “Everything else has something past the end of its useful life or, in the case of the harbor, everything’s past its useful life.”

Hindelang was referring to a 116-page assessment of the city’s recreation facilities commissioned to OHM Advisors, the city’s engineering consultants.

“Surpassing the estimated service life doesn’t imply failure, but identifies systems that warrant monitoring

and planning for reinvestment,” according to the assessment.

Nevertheless, commissioners were concerned this month to learn the scope of OHM’s recommendations, such as:

- ◆ the Windmill Pointe Park swimming pool needs \$1,655,000 in short- and long-term care,
- ◆ a new roof and environmental-control equipment is needed on the Lavins Activity Center,
- ◆ the Tompkins Center needs windows and better environmental equipment,
- ◆ the Patterson maintenance garage needs a new roof and
- ◆ almost everything is wearing out on the Patterson boardwalk.

Adding to the commissioners’ chagrin was learning the \$6 million overall figure didn’t address all infrastructure work, such as environmental systems and roof replacements.

“Where do you sit with all that stuff?” the Commissioner James Ceuninck asked

Recreation Director Chad Craig.

“That’s a great question,” Hindelang said.

“We have a preliminary assessment of that stuff,” Craig answered. “Putting numbers to fix that is outside the scope of this project.”

Hindelang wants Craig to provide HVAC and similar cost estimates so commissioners can draft the outlook using actual capital maintenance needs.

“To James’ point,” Hindelang said, “the \$6 million is on top of the to-keep-the-lights-on number.”

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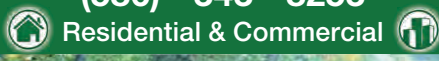
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# Resident honored during Farms PS awards

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE FARMS** — Megan Beskange had just dropped off her daughter at The War Memorial for summer camp and was headed up Lakeshore to work at The Grosse Pointe Academy at 8:15 a.m. last Aug. 4, when a red Kia cut across a turn-around in front of her and drove directly into the lake.

“Nobody was driving by at the time other than me,” Beskange said. “There were no bikers. There was one walker, but she had earbuds in. There was no one and that gives me chills. I guess I was at the right place at the right time.”

The Shores resident’s swift action in calling 911 and remaining on the scene to provide direction enabled officers to quickly spot the victim, who was floating face down in the water 50 yards from the vehicle, which was resting nose-first in the lake.

Lt. Wes Kipke, Sgt. Will Madsen and Officer Jon Ross leapt into Lake St. Clair without hesitation, reaching the woman within four minutes of the initial 911 call.

Though she was not breathing and had no pulse when they reached shore, Detective Lt. Antonino Trupiano and Sgt. Derek Lazarski performed CPR until she suddenly regained consciousness.

Also credited for their roles in the successful rescue are Officer Joe Maurer — who initially jumped into the lake to



**Megan Beskange, holding her community service award, shakes hands with Mayor John Gillooly and City Manager Shane Reeside.**

check the car before the woman was spotted — Deputy Director Andy Rogers, Detective Roger Wierszewski, Detective Keith Colombo, officers Jason Newberg, Jim LaBeau, Lila Ostrowski, Jack Maxwell and fire specialists Larry Stocking and Ray Krause.

“All of these individuals played a part in the response, search, rescue and resuscitation of a thankful victim in her perilous time of need,” Public Safety Director John Hutchins said. “We commend all involved for a collective job well done.”

Beskange, now secretary to the assistant principals at Grosse Pointe South High School, in March stood among a row of lieutenants, ser-

geants and officers being presented with life-saving awards and department citations, as she too was recognized with a community service



**Public Safety Director John Hutchins announces citations, life-saving awards and a community service award for the successful rescue of a woman who drove her car into Lake St. Clair last August. Pictured from left are officers Jack Maxwell and Lila Ostrowski, Sgts. Derek Lazarski and Will Madsen, officers Joe Maurer and Jon Ross, Detective Lt. Antonino Trupiano, Lt. Wes Kipke and Shores resident Megan Beskange.**



**Dispatcher Halee Adams and her 2-year-old daughter, Shia, are congratulated by councilman and former public safety director Dan Jensen. Also pictured are councilmembers Sierra Donaven and Neil Sroka.**

award for her actions.

“I felt really honored,” she said. “Obviously, I feel like I had a very little part compared to the officers that came on scene and risked their life jumping in and helping her.”

Beskange from her experience also carries forward an important message.

“Be sure to call,” she said. “Don’t ever think somebody else saw it. Make sure you call if you see an emergency.”

Several additional groups of Farms officers received accolades for their heroic efforts in 2025, during the annual public safety awards ceremony Monday, March 9.

Officers Paul Reygaert, Thom Dionne, Ross and Ostrowski earned a citation for their actions in December, when a woman called dispatch to report her vulnerable elderly sister likely was involved in an unfolding Bitcoin scam.

Officers used OnStar to

locate the woman at a Chase Bank in Harper Woods, where they quickly caught up with her.

She explained she was attempting to pay someone from Apple Support after receiving a pop-up on her iPad saying her accounts had been compromised. The message further claimed she needed to secure her money at the bank by depositing it into a Bitcoin account.

Officers successfully canceled the transaction with Bitcoin just before it was finalized.

“The quick thinking of all officers involved saved the elderly resident from being defrauded of \$15,000,” Hutchins said. “We commend their timely and well-coordinated efforts.”

Lazarski, dispatcher Theresa Sanocki and officers Newberg, Charity Vanover, Madsen, Jason LaDuke and Maurer also received a citation for the arrest of two juvenile suspects who in July fled officers

See AWARDS, page 4A

## Ice rink options aren’t free

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE PARK** — If the artificially frozen municipal ice-skating rink were a hospital patient, it would have spent the last couple years in critical care with its IV drip running dry.

“The system utilizes R-22 [Freon] refrigerant which is no longer commonly available,” according to a report by consulting engineers assigned to evaluate recreation system assets and amenities.

Time has been expiring on the rink at Patterson Park for a while.

“Those supplies are limited,” said Eric Dryer, a planner with the consultant, OHM Advisors. “Every year there’s less and less. They get more

and more expensive.”

Also, any holes in the ozone layer over Patterson can be blamed on the ice rink.

*‘The price tag on ice skating is eye-opening. We have to look at what it really costs compared to natural ice ...’*

JAMES CEUNINCK  
Grosse Pointe Park Parks and Rec Commissioner

“Because R-22 depletes the ozone layer ... in 2020, R-22 will no longer be produced or imported,” according to the Environmental Protection Agency. “After 2020, only recovered, recycled or

reclaimed supplies of R-22 will be available.”

“Given rising costs to maintain and operate the refrigeration system, the

city elected to forego mechanical cooling for the 2025-2026 season,” OHM’s report continued.

The consultant’s analysis to operate the refrigeration system reached \$55,000 annually.

“The price tag on ice skating is eye-opening,” said James Ceuninck, a member of the recreation commission. “We have to look at what it really costs compared to natural ice, like we did this year.”

Recreation Director Chad Craig separated operating expenses in two general categories: \$40,000 in utility costs to operate the refrigerator system; and \$15,000 per year for staffing and equipment, including an ice-resurfacing machine often referred to as “the Zamboni.”

Yet, Zamboni costs are uncertain given Craig’s description of whether it works:

“That extra \$15,000 is put in there depending

upon if there are repairs to the Zamboni, a Freon leak or things like that. It could, give or take, depending upon how serious it is, but with the review from our city mechanic on the Zamboni, it’s nothing to write home about. But it’s got a great engine and everything. It’s functional. It gets the

job done. Everything on it works the way it should. That’s the issue with it not running for quite a while.”

“Do you have the numbers (of skaters using the rink) for when (the Zamboni) was operating well?” Heather Hurley, a recreation commissioner,

See RINK, page 5A

## VETERANS:

Continued from page 1A

Colors; the playing of taps; a rifle volley; and a pinning ceremony for any Vietnam veterans who would like to be pinned at the end of the program.

Reservations — free for veterans; \$22 for guests and the public — are required and may be made at warmemorial.org/events/vietnam-veteran-luncheon2026.

In consideration of those observing Lent, the lunch will feature a vegetarian pasta option.

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4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

Woods native ends swim career on national stage

By Mike Adzima  
Staff Writer

When she reflects on the beginning of her journey to the NCAA Division II women’s swimming and diving national championships, Grosse Pointe Woods native Diana Muccioli is amazed with how far she has come.

“I tried out for the Woods Warriors when I was 5, but I couldn’t make it across the pool so they wouldn’t let me on the team,” she said. “... The next summer, I came back and tried

again. I barely made it across the pool, so they let me on the team under the condition that I take swim lessons at the same time.”

Muccioli’s journey started with the Woods Warriors before joining the Grosse Pointe Gators club team and eventually swimming at Grosse Pointe North High School. She was a team captain of the Norsemen and earned All-MAC league honors three straight seasons before graduating in 2022, and continuing her career at Wayne State University.

It was at North where Muccioli found her calling as a distance swimmer. One attempt at swimming the mile was all it took to know her strength.

“The week before the pandemic started was when I swam my first mile,” Muccioli said. “I missed the state cut by one second. In a mile, one second is like nothing. ... I was training, knowing I could possibly make the state cut. I showed up to the meet and ended up winning and missed the state cut barely.”

Fast forward a few years and Muccioli is competing among some of the best distance swimmers in the country. She placed second in the 1,650-meter freestyle at the 2026 Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference championships, earning Second Team All-Conference honors.

Those results helped her qualify for this year’s NCAA Division II championships. It was a stage she wasn’t sure she would ever reach, but became the perfect culmination of years of hard

work.

“My coaches were very confident,” Muccioli said. “I was thinking that I wouldn’t believe it until it was on paper. Waiting for the qualifications was the most stressful part. We had to wait even longer than usual, but I found out I made it and it felt like all my hard work for the last 15 years had paid off.”

Muccioli competed in three events at the national championships in Evansville, Ind. She finished 17th in the 1,650 freestyle, 18th in the 1,000 freestyle and 28th in the 500 freestyle.

No matter the results, it was always going to be the opportunity of a lifetime. Muccioli will graduate from Wayne State this spring with degrees in industrial design and photography. As she prepares for the future, including potentially



Former Grosse Pointe North swimmer Diana Muccioli represented Wayne State University at the 2026 NCAA Division II Women’s Swimming and Diving national championships.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Muccioli received Second Team All-Conference honors for finishing second in the 1650-meter freestyle at the 2026 GLIAC Championships.

AWARDS:

Continued from page 3A

in a red Hyundai stolen from Taylor.

After driving erratically, the suspects bailed out of the car and ran near homes on Hillcrest and the city’s DPW facility.

Officers secured the vehicle and, with the help of a Michigan State Police K-9, located the suspects hiding on top of a generator on the DPW’s property.

“They were subsequently ordered to the ground and arrested without incident,” Hutchins said.

Dispatcher Halee Adams was honored with a departmental commendation for coordinating efforts while remaining calm and effective under stress when, in June, she received a call from the Detroit/Wayne Mental Health Authority regarding an 18-year-old male who was armed with a firearm and threatening suicide at a Grosse Pointe library.



Officer Charity Vanover, Sgts. Derek Lazarski and Will Madsen and Officer Joe Maurer are recognized for the apprehension of two juvenile suspects who fled officers in a car stolen from Taylor.

As the caller did not have a description of the subject, she located his driver’s license photo, provided officers with a description and kept the caller on the line for 15 minutes as efforts were made to locate him.

After 15 minutes, the caller then stated the suicidal subject was at the Grosse Pointe Park library, where Park officers were able to locate him and recover the firearm.

“Dispatcher Adams is commended for her dis-

patching skills while assisting a citizen in distress and preventing a possible tragedy,” Hutchins said.

The director’s unit award was presented to Kipke, Lt. Tim Harris, officers Reygaert, Vanover and Brandon Coats, Fire Specialist Amber Williams and Sanocki for coming to the aid of an elderly resident with Parkinson’s disease in October.

The woman’s driver called 911 to report that while out running

errands, she asked if she could dip her feet in the water and pray. She was dropped off near Moross and Lakeshore, where the driver eventually lost sight of her.

While simultaneously coordinating a drone search, officers on foot located the woman laying face down in the sand on the Pier Park beach.

Though she was alert and talking, the woman also was shaking and becoming hypothermic as medics responded to the scene.



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Public Safety Director John Hutchins recognizes officers for preventing a Bitcoin scam in progress. From left are officers Jon Ross, Lila Ostrowski and Paul Reygaert.

Officers used a paddleboard to remove her from the wet sand and wrapped her in their fire coats to provide warmth until backup arrived with blankets and a backboard.

They then used a park golf cart to transport the woman to a waiting ambulance.

“The officers, dispatcher and fire specialists are commended for their quick, orderly and compassionate response to a vulnerable resident in distress,” Hutchins said.

Lt. Vincent Finn, Lazarski and Officer Mark Laquere earned a life-saving award for their response to a September 911 call from a Kerby resident reporting that her 71-year-old father was unresponsive and not breathing.

Prior to MedStar’s arrival, officers provided CPR and delivered AED shocks, restoring the man’s heart rhythm.

Ultimately, his life was saved.

“These officers are recognized for their well-coordinated efforts and professionalism during a life-and-death emergency,” Hutchins said.



## HOLY WEEK & EASTER 2026 AT ST. AMBROSE PARISH

**SATURDAY, MARCH 28**  
Palm Saturday Mass - 4:00 p.m.  
Detroit Concert Choir: - 7:30 p.m.

**SUNDAY, MARCH 29**  
Palm Sunday Mass - 8:30 a.m.  
Procession with palms and Mass - 11:15 a.m.  
Assemble at Merit Academy for this procession.

**THURSDAY, APRIL 2 — HOLY THURSDAY**  
Mass of the Lord’s Supper - 7:00 p.m.  
Private adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the church until midnight.

**FRIDAY, APRIL 3 — GOOD FRIDAY**  
Liturgy of the Lord’s Passion and Death - 1:30 p.m.  
Lenten Dinner in The ARK at St. Ambrose - 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 4 — HOLY SATURDAY**  
Blessing of Easter Food - 12:00 noon  
THE GREAT EASTER VIGIL MASS - 8:00 p.m.

**SUNDAY, APRIL 5 — EASTER SUNDAY**  
Easter Mass - 8:30 a.m.  
Easter Mass - 11:15 a.m.

St. Ambrose Catholic Church is located at 15020 Hampton Grosse Pointe Park  
one block north of Jefferson and one block east of Alter Rd.  
(313) 822-2814 • stambrose@comcast.net • stambrosechurch.net

### Grosse Pointe News

USPS 230-400

PUBLISHED EVERY  
THURSDAY BY  
WEEKLY BUGLE, LLC

16980 KERCHEVAL AVE.  
GROSSE POINTE, MI 48230  
PHONE: (313) 882-6900

PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID at Detroit, Michigan and additional mailing offices.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: \$49.50 per year via mail in the Metro area, \$70 outside.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Grosse Pointe News, 16980 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe, MI 48230.

The deadline for news copy is 3 p.m. Monday.

Advertising proof deadline is 5:00 p.m. Friday.

CORRECTIONS AND ADJUSTMENTS: Responsibility for display and classified advertising errors is limited to either cancellation of the charge for or a rerun of the portion in error. Notification must be given in time for correction in the following issue. We assume no responsibility of the same after the first insertion.

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Grosse Pointe Farms

Immediate regret

While an officer was parked in front of a Mack gas station at 12:11 a.m. Wednesday, March 18 — after closing time, but while it was still unlocked — a 30-year-old Detroit man entered the business, was refused service and proceeded to steal an item, then exited, noticed the officer and chucked his contraband back inside the store.

The man took off running after the officer was flagged down by the gas station attendant and attempted to question him.

He ultimately was arrested for resisting an officer and carrying a concealed knife, which fell to the ground during the chase.

Drug dealer

A 36-year-old Farms man who is suspected of selling drugs out of his gray Ford Raptor was pulled over near Kerby and Ridge 10:22 a.m. Wednesday, March 18, and arrested for cocaine possession. Also found in his vehicle were a variety of prescription medications and pill bottles.

Enjoying the view

After stopping on Lakeshore and activating her hazard lights to take

a picture of the sky at 9:40 a.m. Thursday, March 19, a 76-year-old Farms woman was arrested for an expired driver’s license and license plate.

Making matters worse

A 66-year-old Royal Oak woman at 8 p.m. Thursday, March 19, escalated a routine traffic stop for a suspended driver’s license to the point of resisting and obstructing police when she refused to cooperate and continually yelled at officers instead of answering standard questions.

When life gives you lemons

An 80-year-old Farms woman crashed into a utility pole at Kercheval and Fisher at 6 p.m. Saturday, March 21, as a result of actively drinking Mike’s Hard Lemonade as she drove. She was arrested for operating under the influence of alcohol and transported to a local hospital for an arm fracture and hip pain.

— Laurel Kraus  
Report information about these and other crimes to Grosse Pointe Farms Public Safety,

(313) 885-2100.

City of Grosse Pointe

Checkmate

The third of three suspects — a juvenile female from Detroit — was arrested last week for the theft of \$1,700 worth of goods from Lululemon in early March.

The first two suspects turned themselves in the week prior.

eBay fraud

A Grosse Pointe woman mailed her Van Cleef necklace to eBay last week to be authenticated for sale, but it never made it to the intended recipient.

Instead it was delivered to an address in Ohio, where it was recovered.

A fraud investigation is ongoing.

Grocery thief

A 39-year-old Detroit man was arrested as he fled from a Kercheval grocery store with \$180 worth of stolen items at 7:45 a.m. Thursday, March 19.

Chronic thief

A 32-year-old Detroit

man last week was arrested for a theft that occurred at a shop on Fisher in early March. He is wanted by other departments for similar crimes.

Finders keepers

When a man left his cellphone unattended for a few minutes in a local emergency room at 1:05 p.m. Thursday, March 19, surveillance footage captured a woman taking the phone and leaving.

Another victim dropped their phone inside a store in The Village at 11:30 a.m. Friday, March 20, after which an unknown person took it. It last pinged at a vacant house in Detroit.

Repeat offenders

Officers stopped two suspects in the act of stealing \$450 worth of items from a Kercheval grocery store at 11:45 a.m. Sunday, March 22.

An investigation is ongoing as the 50-year-old Detroit man and 53-year-old Detroit woman have stolen many times from area Kroger stores.

— Laurel Kraus  
Report information about these and other crimes to the City of

Grosse Pointe Public Safety, (313) 886-3200.

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 Woods

Nice try

A resident in the 2200 block of Stanhope reported around 2 a.m. Saturday, March 21, someone attempted to steal his Ford F-150 that was parked in front of another vehicle in his driveway. The truck was unlocked with the key fob inside.

The owner told officers he heard noises and looked outside to see someone running away. The suspect tried to steal the truck by driving around the other vehicle, but struck a fence and the neighbor’s tree.

The key fob is now missing.

Missing GPS

A resident in the 2300 block of Stanhope reported around 6:45 p.m. Saturday, March 21, she has security footage of three people approaching and entering her parked vehicle. A GPS is missing.

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

Grosse Pointe Park

Wrong way

A man driving a vehicle going the wrong way on Whittier, a one-way road, was pulled over at the intersection of Jefferson and investigated at 12:30 a.m. Friday, March 20.

Police arrested the man, 51, of Detroit, for disregarding a suspended operator’s license.

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

‘I Voted’ contest resumes

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

**THE GROSSE POINTES** — Fans of the 2024 presidential election “I voted” sticker craze are invited to compete in the midterms eight months from now.

“The Michigan Department of State is excited to share we are bringing back the ‘I Voted’ sticker contest for all Michiganders to get involved and get excited about the Midterm Election,” according to a state notice.

Contestants have until 5 p.m. Friday, May 1, to submit entries on a form downloadable from michigan.gov/ivoted sticker.

“Designs must include the phrase, ‘I voted,’ and be nonpartisan in

nature,” according to the rules.

During the 2024 election, voters received stickers at polling places. “Several people said they came just for the stickers,” Kim Tocco, a Park resident working at a polling station, said at the time.

There were nine winning stickers last time. One has retained status as a pop culture collectible, an image by Farms middle school student Jane Hynous of a howling werewolf ripping off his shirt while standing in front of an American flag.

“It was hit,” said Bridgette Bowdler, Park city clerk. “The werewolf was the special one. Everybody really liked those.”

Around 25 werewolf

stickers still are being advertised on eBay for \$2.75 to \$200.

“We need to advertise (the contest) for kids to get involved or our local artists to get involved,” Bowdler said.

Entries can be submitted in three categories: elementary and middle school, high school and general. Contestants must be at least 13 years old and can submit only one design.

“Finalists will be selected via online voting throughout the month of June,” according to the rules.

“We plan to have the final designs distributed to each county clerk in September for final distribution to the local clerks,” according to a notice sent to clerks throughout the state. “If

you receive them in time, we encourage you to include the new stickers in the absentee voter ballot mailings.”

RINK:

Continued from page 3A

asked Craig during a meeting this month.

“For skating usage, I’d have to go back,” Craig answered. “It would take a little time, but I can tell you, probably most likely, numbers from 2017 to ’18 to ’19 compared to the last four or five years, which is probably significantly different.”

Dryer presented three scenarios for rink operations.

He said, “We could decommission it (the cooling system), use it (the rink when) the (air) temperature is cool enough to freeze the ice.”

Eliminating the refrigerating component wouldn’t be free.

“Efforts would be made to remove the old equipment and recover costs through resale,” according to the OHM assess-

ment. “This would likely require costs for decommissioning as well as minor asbestos abatement for existing vintage piping.”

The second scenario is a new refrigeration system estimated to cost \$800,000.

“The city would replace the existing system with a fully new refrigeration utilizing ammonia gas in lieu of Freon,” the report continued.

With this option, one thing leads to another, according to the report:

“As a result of the gas, the unit would need to be located outdoors and would likely be placed on the south side of the carriage house. Based on the anticipated noise from the unit, a building or structure capable of dampening and shrouding sound would be necessary.”

Option three splits the difference at less than

half the cost.

“The third scenario is replacing and refurbishing existing equipment with newer, used condensers,” Dryer said. “Those are between \$200,000 and \$300,000 depending if they’re refurbished” or new.

Skating at Patterson last winter was hampered by a lack of man-generated ice, rough ice due to Zamboni inconsistencies and also periods of warm weather.

“This was a trial-and-error season,” Craig said. “There were a decent amount of times where we had a stretch of six or seven days when the ice wasn’t great (and) weather conditions for ice wasn’t great.”

There’s always next year.

“If next year is this kind of winter,” Craig said, “I can get a whole lot more skating than we had this year.”

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POINTES OF VIEW

GROSSE POINTE FIELDS / GROSSE POINTE PARK / GROSSE POINTE SHORES / GROSSE POINTE WOODS

Grosse Pointe News

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY WEEKLY BUGLE, LLC  
16980 KERCHEVAL AVE., GROSSE POINTE, MI 48230  
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OUR VIEW

What’s for dinner?

A recent survey by Advance America — a consumer lender — that came across our desk recently caught our attention. A poll of just over 3,000 Michiganders (we suspect people who say ‘Michiganian’ are not really from here) found the top restaurants families like to turn to to celebrate payday. It also asked questions about reasons for dining out, spending habits and routines.

- The top three restaurant choices were:
- ◆ Carlyle Grill in Ann Arbor,
  - ◆ The Old Goat in Grand Rapids and
  - ◆ Vinsetta Garage in Berkley.

That prompted us to take a long look at their respective menus. All we could do was look, since the boss would not approve expensing actual visits to do some taste testing. Each offered things like soups, salads, burgers, steaks, chicken, pasta and pizza.

You can get that and so, so much more from the dozens of wonderful restaurants all across the Pointes, not to mention bakeries, bars, specialty shops and even a couple of grocery stores that also offer ready-to-eat fare. Hopefully you got a chance, or chances, to enjoy the more than two dozen establishments that took part in Grosse Pointe Restaurant Week earlier this month.

Some two-thirds, 67 percent, of those polled by Advance America said they plan ahead for a meal out to mark payday and celebrate another week of hard work. Almost half, 49 percent, even said they stick to a routine and always go to the same restaurant.

That prompted us to do our own reader poll (below right) and absolutely ZERO respondents said payday was their “why” behind dining out. But 74 percent said their main reason is not wanting to cook.

That reminds us of the old joke where one spouse asks the other, “What’s for dinner?” and the answer is, “Reservations.”

Another 15 percent of our respondents said a special occasion was their reason to dine out and 11 percent said family time.

We also wanted to know readers’ preferences for their favorite night to dine out (below left). Unsurprisingly, 80 percent said Friday or Saturday. Could be date night or just not having to get up early the next morning. Another 15 percent said Wednesday or Thursday, probably for a nice midweek break. Another 3 percent said Sunday, which makes sense because there is plenty of time to fire up the grill, toss something in the crockpot or just go casual. Only 2



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Pure Grosse Pointe

On a much-needed sunshine-filled day, the colorful kayaks at Grosse Pointe Woods Lake Front Park sit waiting for temperatures to rise before being loaded in to the lake, which currently has a dangerous and painfully cold water temperature of 34 degrees Fahrenheit.

GUEST VIEW By Jeffrey D. Brasie

Sunday is National Vietnam War Veterans Day

It was February 1970 and Nick (representative of two people the author knew) was preparing to graduate from Grosse Pointe South High School.

He was thinking about whether he wanted to attend one of the region’s colleges, work at an automotive plant or join the Navy to obtain a skill.

His draft number from the national lottery of Dec. 1, 1969, was 101.

Early in June, just after lunch, his mother went to the mailbox and returned with a bundle of mail. Under the rubber band holding the stack was a brown envelope addressed to Nick from the federal government. For a few seconds, he held it in his left hand, then



tore open the flap. It was an order to report for induction at Detroit’s Fort Wayne military induction center Thursday, July 23, 1970.

His future was decided for him.

His family drove him to Fort Wayne in southwest Detroit that July morning. He embraced and kissed his parents at the front gate. His 11-year-old sister stood with a blank look on her face, tears running down her cheeks. She recalled seeing news of the Vietnam War on the news the previous evening.

Nick leaned down to Rebecca and told her, “I’ll be OK. I’ll write to you as frequently as I can.” The embrace was short. The tears lasted for hours.

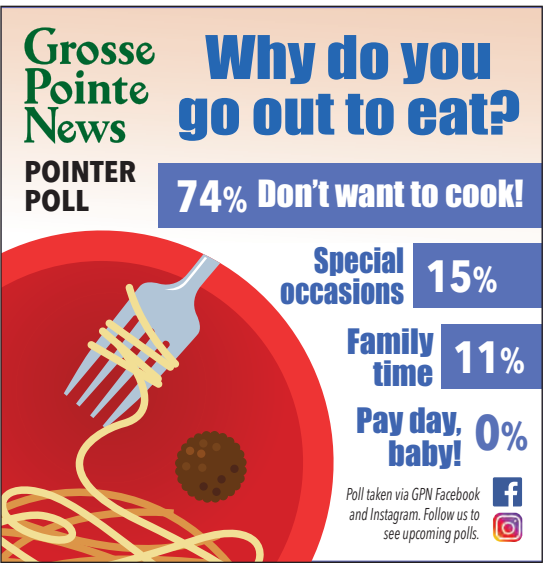
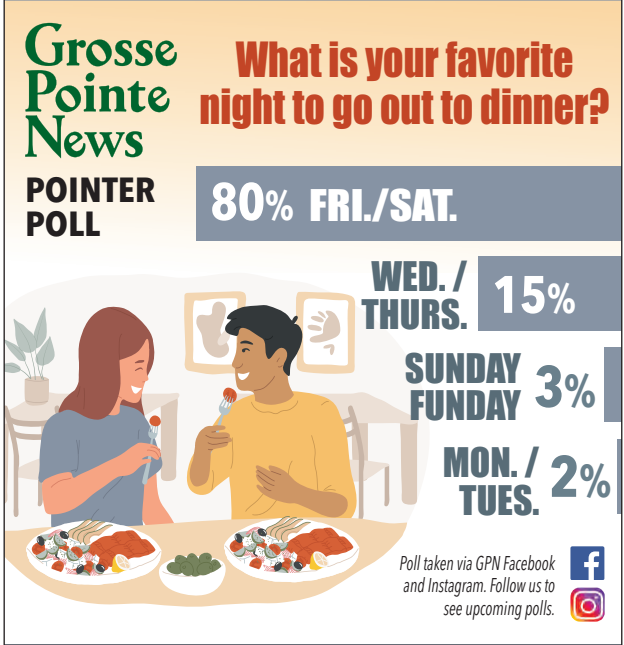
After joining hundreds of other inductees for a physical, written profile and lifting his right hand vowing to support the U.S. Constitution, he and they boarded buses headed for basic training at Fort Dix, New Jersey.

It was a grueling eight weeks where he was surrounded by recruits mostly from the East Coast and Midwest.

After training, he returned home for 10 days. On day 11, Nick departed Detroit Metropolitan Airport for Seattle. There, he received a 10-day field infantry orientation before boarding a Boeing 707 jet enroute to Vietnam.

Upon arrival, Nick underwent five days of additional training and was assigned to

See GUEST, page 7A



LETTERS

The Grosse Pointe News welcomes letters to the editor. All letters should be typed and signed with the writer’s full name and local address, as well as a daytime telephone number for verification or questions. Letters longer than 300 words may be edited for length. All letters may be edited for content. We reserve the right to refuse any letter. The deadline for letters is 3 p.m. Monday. Letters may be submitted via email to editor@grossepointenews.com or by filling out the letters form on our website, grossepointenews.com.

Beautiful celebration

To the Editor:

To celebrate the 100th anniversary of St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church, Pastor Andrew Kowalczyk invited the combined talents of the Warren Symphony Orchestra and Oakland Choral Society and the Macomb Chamber Choir together with four gifted soloists to perform Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart’s “Requiem in D” in the church on Sunday, March 22.

It was a magnificent and unforgettable experience. Thank you to Fr. Kowalczyk and to all the participants in the concert. A very happy 100th anniversary to St. Clare of Montefalco Church.

PATRICIA HAYS  
Grosse Pointe Farms

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| GROSSE POINTE 7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| March 26 – April 1                   |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |
| THU                                  | FRI                | SAT                | SUN                | MON                | TUE                | WED                |
|                                      |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |
| 69°<br>30°                           | 41°<br>25°         | 48°<br>31°         | 56°<br>37°         | 60°<br>56°         | 65°<br>59°         | 65°<br>62°         |
| Chance<br>T-Storms                   | Mostly<br>Cloudy   | Partly<br>Cloudy   | Partly<br>Cloudy   | Partly<br>Cloudy   | Cloudy             | Chance<br>of Rain  |
| 50%                                  | 0%                 | 0%                 | 0%                 | 10%                | 30%                | 40%                |
| SUNRISE<br>7:24 am                   | SUNRISE<br>7:23 am | SUNRISE<br>7:21 am | SUNRISE<br>7:19 am | SUNRISE<br>7:17 am | SUNRISE<br>7:16 am | SUNRISE<br>7:14 am |
| SUNSET<br>7:51 pm                    | SUNSET<br>7:52 pm  | SUNSET<br>7:53 pm  | SUNSET<br>7:54 pm  | SUNSET<br>7:55 pm  | SUNSET<br>7:57 pm  | SUNSET<br>7:58 pm  |

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



I SAY By Renee Landuyt

# Women’s rights are human rights



March is Women’s History Month. You might not think there is a lot to that, but you’d be wrong. Women had and still have a lot to do in making this world a better and more interesting place. It is a month dedicated to honoring the achievements, sacrifices and contributions of women throughout history. For instance, there’s pioneering female scientist Maria Mitchell, who discovered comets in the night sky; Maria Merian, who studied insect metamorphosis and Mary

Anning, who uncovered fossils. A few inventions created by women are important ones that make everyday life easier and safer. Margaret Wilcox invented the car heater and Anna Connelly created the fire escape. The life raft was invented by Maria Beasely, the modern electric refrigerator was invented by Florence Parpart and windshield wipers were developed by Mary Anderson. Jackie Cochran was the first woman to break the sound barrier in flight. Marie Curie, the groundbreaking physicist and chemist, discovered radioactivity. During World War I, Curie developed mobile radiograph units and drove them herself to the front lines, enabling surgeons to use X-rays to locate shrapnel in soldiers’ bodies. She was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize and the first

to win a second Nobel Prize. Malala Yousafzai is someone who inspires us to have courage. She was shot three times when she was 15 years old while riding a bus home after taking a school exam. A Taliban gunman boarded the bus and asked “Who is Malala?” then shot her because she was advocating for the right of girls to be educated. She survived and went through extensive surgeries and continues to advocate for education as a fundamental right for girls. At the age of 17, Malala is the youngest to win a Nobel Peace Prize. Sojourner Truth, who escaped slavery in New York in 1826, was a civil rights leader and a well-known crusader for human rights. Harriet Tubman, freedom seeker, suffragist and escaped slave, is said to be the most well-known “con-

ductor” of the Underground Railroad, making numerous trips to the South to rescue slaves, risking her own life to help people to freedom. Many women helped slaves through the Underground Railroad by hiding people in secret rooms, raising money to keep the network going and providing clothing and food to those who needed it. Enslaved women created coded messages in quilts that hung out of windows as a way to help slaves navigate their escape. For instance, a log cabin meant “safe house,” a monkey wrench meant “prepare tools,” a bear’s paw meant “follow the mountain trails,” flying geese meant “head North” and a wagon wheel meant “pack belongings.” Ada Lovelace, known as the first computer programmer, realized computers could do more than

just calculations, predicting they could compose music and create art. When composing the first algorithm, she saw that computers could manipulate symbols and perform tasks other than math if correctly programmed. In 1980, the U.S. Department of Defense named the computer language, Ada, after her. Leaders in the women’s movement include Betty Friedan and Gloria Steinem. Bella Abzug, a lawyer and social activist, along with Emily Card, a financial expert, and Ruth Bader Ginsburg, future Supreme Court justice, helped create the Equal Credit Opportunity Act of 1974, which gave women a clear legal right to obtain a credit card in their own name. Prior to this act, a woman who was married could only get one in her husband’s name. If a woman was single, her income was discounted

up to 50 percent and she had to have a male co-signer such as a father or brother. Jeannette Rankin was the first woman in U.S. history to be elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1916, which made this remarkable since women weren’t allowed to vote until the 19th Amendment passed in 1920. And speaking of the 19th Amendment, let’s hear it for Elizabeth Cady Stanton and all the hard work of woman suffragettes. These are women who have helped paved the way. These are some of the women we have to thank for helping us gain freedom in many areas of our lives. Together we can continue to make life better. As Mother Teresa said, “I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples.”

## YESTERDAY’S HEADLINES

**1951**  
*75 years ago this week*  
**WORK PROGRESSES ON ADDITION:** Despite the long, dreary winter, construction work has been going forward to the addition which will make Kerby School more than twice its present size. The addition, which is costing \$514,492, will contain a gymnasium, as well as more classrooms and spe-

cial rooms. **MAY SLASH TAXES ON BIG HOMES:** A proposal to reduce assessments on “mansion type” properties in the five Pointes is being considered by the various boards of review. If adopted, the proposal would cut \$2,580,370 off the total assessment rolls of the municipalities. **COUNTY ABANDONS KERCHEVAL AVENUE:** The Park and the City of Grosse Pointe have both been informed by the

Wayne County Road Commission that as of April 1 it will relinquish all jurisdiction over Kercheval Avenue as far east as Fisher Road. The Farms has always maintained that portion of Kercheval which lies within its limits, but the county has maintained the portions in the Park and City. **1976**  
*50 years ago this week*

**GUEST:**  
*Continued from page 6A*

a forward infantry unit. The war, the jungle and the unknown laid before him and the 38 others in his platoon. The unit was led by a first lieutenant with six months of combat experience. On Jan. 15, 1971, there was a knock on his parents’ Grosse Pointe Park front door. An Army captain and sergeant stood on the porch. The sobs and tears continued for days and years. His remains would arrive back in Michigan within 10 days. This is one of the many similar stories behind this controversial war. Nearly 2.8 million uniformed American men and women served in Vietnam. It is estimated there are

more than 171,000 living Vietnam veterans in Michigan. The Great Lakes State falls within the top dozen states with Vietnam veterans. The Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., lists 58,318 names inscribed on two black granite walls, each measuring 246 feet long and 10 feet high at their apex. I know two of the names. This Sunday, March 29, is National Vietnam Veterans Day. Established in 2012, this day offers a time to reflect and honor Vietnam-era veterans. Hand salute fellow “Nam vets.” *Jeffrey D. Brasie is a retired health care CEO and a Vietnam-era veteran who served in the U.S. Navy and U.S. Naval Reserve and was on the public affairs staff of the Secretary of the Navy. He grew up in Alpena and resides in Grosse Pointe Woods.*

**P-J MOVIE NEEDS HELP TO SURVIVE:** Unless a near miracle occurs, the Punch and Judy Theater could star in a real life version of “The Last Picture Show.” Due to economic setbacks and fierce competition from newer, bigger theaters, the movie house at 21 Kercheval Avenue may soon be forced to close its doors for good. **SCHOOL ELECTION MONDAY:** Board of Education trustees were taken by surprise last week when Superintendent of Schools Dr. James A. Adams, 40, announced he will take over as head of the Winston-Salem, N.C., school district this July 1. The announcement, coming less than two weeks before a 27.1 millage proposal goes before Pointe voters, was made in a press conference in Winston-Salem on Thursday. **PRICE OF NEWS BEING RAISED:** Effective with next week’s issue, the newsstand selling price of the Grosse Pointe News will be 20 cents per copy. Continually rising production costs have necessitated this increase.

**S T A T E W I D E SPELLING BEES:** Not one, but two, local girls took top honors in recent state-level spelling bees. Rachael Kaminski, a seventh-grader at Our Lady Star of the Sea School, won the state Knights of Columbus Spelling Bee with the word “concessionaire.” Ruvani Fonseka, a seventh-grader at Parcels Middle School, took the top honors at the Scripps Howard Spelling Bee Regional Finals with the word “artesian.” **ZENS BREAKS TWO SCHOOL RECORDS:** University Liggett School senior Jeffrey Zens completed his high school swimming career with a pair of personal-best times and two school records. Zens achieved those milestones at the state Class B-C-D meet at Eastern Michigan University. He finished 10th in the 100-yard freestyle with a time of 49.52. He finished 14th in the 50 free-style with a time of 22.32, also a career-best and school record.

Pharmacy in Grosse Pointe Woods would earn that designation. And in honor of its 50th anniversary as a Grosse Pointe Woods business, the city council honored its owner, Sheldon Weisberg, with an official proclamation citing him for exemplary service to the city. **BROCK GETS HONOR:** Liggett is naming its new turf field hockey and girls lacrosse field after one of the school’s legendary coaches, Muriel E. Brock. A formal dedication ceremony will be held at 4 p.m. May 14 during Alumni Weekend. Lisa Black, class of 1977, honed her defensive stick handling skills in field hockey and lacrosse under the watchful guidance of Brock, the former coach and athletic director. The Knights played a formidable defense in the late ’70s, a testament to Brock’s coaching her players on how to cover the field and control the ball. **WOW GETS IT IN WRITING:** Municipal officials anticipate offering Wide Open West a contract this month to outfit the city with infrastructure and provide more entertainment and Internet options for residents. “The community wanted realistic competition with Comcast,” said Ted Kedzierski, mayor of Grosse Pointe Shores.

**People from the Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods listed on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial**

City of Grosse Pointe — Murphy, Vincent Francis (Army/SP4)  
Grosse Pointe Farms — Dion, Thomas James (Army/PFC)  
Grosse Pointe Farms — Hayes, Neil Burgess Jr. (Army/1LT)  
Grosse Pointe Farms — Odenweller, Peter Edward (Army/1LT)  
Grosse Pointe Farms — Young, James Bruce (Air Force/A1C)  
Grosse Pointe Park — Miculs, Janis (Army/SP5)  
Grosse Pointe Woods — Martin, Jerry Lewis (Army/1LT)  
Grosse Pointe Woods — Myers, John Maurice (Navy/HN)  
Grosse Pointe Woods — Shoaps, Kenneth Duane (Army/SGT)  
Harper Woods — Andersen, Barry Frank (Marine/PFC)  
Harper Woods — Cromie, Michael John (Army/PFC)  
Harper Woods — Mannerow, Paul David (Marine/LCPL)  
Harper Woods — Schultz, John Joseph Jr. (Marine/PFC)  
Harper Woods — Wiar, Joseph Clerman Jr. (Marine/PFC)

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# Shores crime stats show two areas of concern

By Ted O'Neil  
Associate Editor

**GROSSE POINTE SHORES** — Overall calls for service and citations issued by the public safety department in 2025 were down compared to the year before, although two statistical categories did see increases.

Road patrol responded to 2,234 incidents last year, a 16.5 percent decrease from 2024, while total citations

issued were 867, down from 1,480 the previous year.

Among Part I crimes — considered by the FBI to be among the most serious offenses — larcenies increased between 2024 and 2025, from one to 12, while automobile thefts stayed the same at four.

Owners left key fobs in unlocked vehicles in all four vehicle thefts.

“We’re not blaming it on them, but that num-

ber is alarming for us because we don’t want anyone’s car to get stolen,” Public Safety Director Ken Werenski said while presenting the 2025 annual report at city council’s March meeting. “But in the big picture, that crime went up.”

The larceny cases were the main reason Part I crimes overall increased from six to 18.

Part II crimes, considered less serious,

increased from 69 to 73, including identity theft, which went up 41 percent, from 12 to 17.

“We’re always telling people to be careful about giving out personal information like account numbers,” Werenski said.

Drunken driving arrests fell from 22 to 19, and sexual offenses went from one in 2024 to none in 2025.

Fire runs remained the same at 182, including

calls for mutual aid to other cities, car accidents, downed power lines and two house fires.

There were 195 ambulance runs, an increase of 10, resulting in 126 transports.

Werenski said the national standard for ambulance runs is to be on scene within eight minutes. The Shores averaged just over four minutes in 2025.

Of the 126 transports,

116 involved people aged 70 and older.

“When I look at what happened last year, my response is positive,” Werenski said. “Do we need to improve? Absolutely. One of the advantages we have, whether an event is minor or major, we get to look at it in real time. We can slow down, look at it in real time and correct things right away so we’re ready for the next event.”

# Some rec assets are expendable

By Brad Lindberg  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE PARK** — Mid-tier amenities of the parks and recreation system, so-categorized by their relatively low usage and cost to maintain or renovate, are candidates for both replacement and elimination.

Consider the gazebo at Patterson Park.

Its wooden roof, allowed to rot under a tangle of untended, overgrown vines shading a base of cracked concrete and fallen decorative tiles, stands in graceless disregard of benefactors who, during the 1980s, donated the structure as a place of peaceful reflection in memory of a deceased relative.

“The gazebo is an eyesore and should be addressed,” said Howard Bouton, a member of the recreation commission.

Consulting engineers retained by the city estimate it would cost between \$10,000 and \$56,000 to fix or reconstruct the gazebo.

“Not being that expensive, it should be addressed,” Bouton said.

On the other hand, shunning the structure might not be missed among Patterson’s more popular features, mainly the lakeside boardwalk and splash pad; or the overall system’s headliners, such as the swimming pool and movie theaters at Windmill Pointe Park.

“Do we want to spend

\$60,000 on the gazebo?” Recreation Director Chad Craig asked.

He asked the question in a rhetorical tone.

“You’re talking about limited usage,” he said.

“Demolition cost is something we should know, too,” said Michael Hindelang, commission chairman.

“Not having (the gazebo) at all is not going to be free,” Bouton said.

The discussion rounded out the consultant’s presentation to the commission this month of an initial assessment of conditions and costs to repair park system assets.

“This is very helpful to us,” Eric Dryer, a planner with OHM Advisors, told commissioners.

OHM won a \$30,000 municipal contract to help city representatives come up with a five-year master plan for the department of parks and recreation.

“We will be able to use (commissioners’ comments) in our next step,” Dryer said. “Ultimately, we’re going to recommend a budgeting strategy for you guys to make decisions.”

He anticipates concluding the process in 2 ½ months.

Another lesser light in the recreation system is the putting green, installed nearly 20 years ago at Patterson. Craig said earlier this year the deteriorating artificial turf hasn’t been maintained because no one

trained him or his staff how to do so.

Dryer’s team estimated baseline maintenance of the facility will cost \$3,000 and be limited to incidental things, such as cleaning the turf and replacing the putting green’s cups and flags.

“A full restoration is about \$95,000,” Dryer said. “That includes new chipping greens, new putting cups, Astroturf, the whole across the gamut.”

“Is that one you could break (into stages), or is it more efficient to do it all together?” Hindelang asked.

“You want to do everything together,” Dryer said.

Commissioners need to know the usage level of park amenities before ranking them for renovation or removal.

“What is the level of

participation of the putting green?” Commissioner Roger Basse asked Craig.

“It’s a great question,” Craig said. “I don’t have a great answer, but I would say you’re typically going to see ... 10 to 20 people per week.”

OHM is administering a survey of the community about recreation system preferences, needs and shortcomings.

“I don’t want to say anything is expendable over a different amenity or asset, especially as I’m supposed to be representing the entire community,” said Councilman Patrick Gleason, liaison to the commission. “I feel that would be premature without having relevant data available. We need feedback from the survey. We’ll have a community engagement session.



COURTESY PHOTO

# On a roll

Jamie Ding, a 2009 Grosse Pointe North High School graduate, is shown here with “Jeopardy!” host Ken Jennings. As of press time, Ding had won seven consecutive games and \$195,203. Ding earned a degree in molecular biology from Princeton University and currently is a law school student at Seton Hall University. The Grosse Pointe News plans to interview Ding when his run is over and he is able to talk about his experience, per show rules.

# Hospital shooting case delayed

**GROSSE POINTE WOODS** — A probable cause conference scheduled Wednesday, March 18, involving a shooting at Henry Ford St. John Hospital early this month, has been delayed to give defense attorneys more time to familiarize themselves with the case.

A 17-year-old Detroit male is facing several felony charges stemming from the incident in the parking lot at the hospital March 5.

According to a press release from Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy, Trejion Sanders is charged with assault with intent to murder, assault with intent to do great bodily harm, carrying a concealed weapon, felonious assault and use of a firearm in the commission of a felony. He is being charged as an adult.

The new date for the conference is 11 a.m. Wednesday, April 8, before Municipal Judge Theodore Metry, with a preliminary hearing to be held Wednesday, April 29, at a time to be

determined.

Officers responded to a report of shots fired shortly before midnight Thursday, March 5, in the parking lot along Mack at the hospital. They found Sanders had been shot by a security guard as he and three other suspects were attempting to steal a vehicle.

Worthy said the guard first tried to deploy his TASER but it did not take effect. The release also said Sanders fired a handgun at the security officer, a 31-year-old Eastpointe man, but missed. The officer returned fire, striking the defendant in the leg. Sanders underwent surgery at the hospital and was moved to the Wayne County Juvenile Detention Center.

He was arraigned by Metry Friday, March 13, and given a \$250,000 cash/surety bond. Metry amended the bond at the prosecutor’s request that Sanders not be on hospital property except for emergency needs.

—Ted O'Neil

# Chipping starts

**GROSSE POINTE PARK** — Curbside wood chipping starts next week, a sure sign of spring.

“The city pickup service will collect branches ranging from 1 to 4 inches in diameter,” according to a municipal notice.

“The chipper operates

twice per month on your designated trash day during the first and third week of each month.”

Chipping dates this season are:

- ◆ March 30,
- ◆ April 13,
- ◆ May 4 and 18,
- ◆ June 1 and 15,

- ◆ July 6 and 20,
- ◆ Aug. 3 and 17,
- ◆ Sept. 14 and 21,
- ◆ Oct. 5 and 19 and
- ◆ Nov. 2 and 16.

“Priority Waste will continue weekly yard waste collection on your designated trash day, accepting mall sticks (under 1 inch) and grass in the appropriate bags or clearly marked bins,” according to the notice.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF DENNIS HYDUK

# Mission trip

Grosse Pointe Sunrise Rotary Past President Sandra Cobb, right, stands with Sunrise club member Wayne Manchester at Ford House Feb. 3. Manchester updated attendees on his recent mission trip to Guatemala with International Samaritan, a nonprofit dedicated to breaking the cycle of poverty for families living in and around garbage dumps worldwide through education, healthcare and community development. Grosse Pointe Sunrise Rotary welcomes residents to join its Tuesday morning breakfast meetings. Email dennis.rotary1591@gmail.com.





PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

At the Harper Woods City Council meeting Monday, March 16, eight of the 14 Botmasterz team members attended. Pictured front row, from left, are Harper Woods Mayor Valerie Kindle, Cinder Gurskey, Eliana Romero, London Bradford-Harper and Mia Melhem. Pictured back row, from left, are Isabella Chaptini, Carson Chapman, Allie Betcher, Aria Burrascano and coach Sherry Betcher.

## Botmasterz honored in HW

The Botmasterz, Grosse Pointe’s all-girls high school robotics team, recently was honored by the Harper Woods City Council, in recognition of their service and leadership in the community.

The team earned an official proclamation due to several volunteer projects in Harper Woods, including:

- ◆ building and installing a Free Little Pantry for a local homeowner, to help neighbors access food and essential items;
- ◆ wrapping holiday gifts with Mayor Valerie Kindle for the Goodfellows program, to support families during the holiday season; and
- ◆ organizing and sorting donations at the Harper Woods Food Pantry, helping ensure supplies are efficiently distributed to residents in need.

The Botmasterz is the only all-girls FIRST Robotics Competition team in Michigan that is not based at an all-girls school. The team is made up of students from Grosse Pointe public schools with the goal of expanding opportunities for girls in STEM, engineering, and robotics.

Recently, the team competed at a FIRST Robotics Competition event at Wayne State University. After two days of intense qualification matches, the Botmasterz were selected as the first pick of Alliance 2. Their alliance advanced through the playoff rounds and ultimately finished as event finalists, earning second place overall in a field of 40 teams.

The team, coached by Sherry Betcher, also received the Autonomous Award, which recognizes a robot that demonstrates exceptional performance during the autonomous portion of the match — when robots operate entirely on pre-programmed instructions without driver control. The award highlights the team’s strong programming and engineering skills, as its robot consistently completed complex tasks on its own at the start of each match.

The strong finish reflects the team’s dedication throughout the season designing, building, programming and improving their robot while continuing to make a positive impact in their community, Betcher said.

## Reading is FUN-damental

March is designated as National Reading Month in honor of Dr. Seuss’s birthday, March 2. It is celebrated in Grosse Pointe elementary schools and this month, students had special guests visit and read to them. This is a month to encourage daily reading habits, boost literacy skills and develop a love of reading.

— Renee Landuyt



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Devin Scillian, retired Channel 4 news anchor, visited Maire Elementary School March 10 to read his book, “Memoirs of a Goldfish,” to Anne Marie Smihal’s kindergarteners and Michelle Hunwick’s first graders. He shared other children’s books he has written while speaking about the joy of reading, writing and storytelling. He also spent time answering students’ questions.



COURTESY PHOTO

Sen. Kevin Hertel visited Angie Kuczewski’s magnet class at Monteith Elementary School March 16. He shared insights about his role representing Michigan’s 12th Senate District, including the Grosse Pointe communities and Harper Woods. The senator read a book about voting and answered questions from students.

## LAWSUIT:

Continued from page 1A

Parcels after students had been dismissed and filmed a one-minute video of the flags in question, along with a voiceover. He ended up posting the video to the “Grosse Pointe Public Schools Concerned Parents” Facebook page Oct. 14, 2024.

The suit says Pruitt’s voiceover was, “his constitutionally protected speech and political opinion.”

Wesley in an Oct. 15, 2024, email to Parcels families said, “The video did not contain any threatening content; rather it was political in nature, as expressed by a parent.”

Wesley also wrote, “We value your input and

want to ensure that all voices are heard.”

The video may be viewed at [tinyurl.com/5n7z2726](https://tinyurl.com/5n7z2726).

The suit alleges Pruitt, “suffered mental anguish, damage to his reputation, and suffered adverse consequences socially, educationally, and vocationally in an amount to be proven at trial.”

Pruitt is asking the court to:

- ◆ issue preliminary and permanent injunctions immediately rescinding the “no trespass” order, enjoining any future enforcement of said order, and allow him to attend school events and activities;

- ◆ remove his photograph and all defamatory statements regarding him from school property;
- ◆ award compensatory and punitive damages;

- ◆ award attorney fees and
- ◆ grant such other and further relief as is just and appropriate.

“The district prioritizes the safety and welfare of its students and staff and enforces board policies governing access to school buildings,” Tuttle said in a release. “The district is likewise committed to upholding constitutional rights and

does not restrict access based on protected speech. Consistent with these obligations, unauthorized entry into classrooms constitutes a violation of board policies and may warrant enforcement action to ensure the safety and security of all individuals on school property.”

The full complaint may be read at [tinyurl.com/35y2ucn7](https://tinyurl.com/35y2ucn7).



## The Good News

Join us as we walk through Holy Week together at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church!

Sunday, March 29 — Palm Sunday

9\* and 11 am: Worship Service (childcare available)

Thursday, April 2 — Maundy Thursday

7 pm: A Simple Supper & Scripture

Friday, April 3 — Good Friday

7\* pm: Tenebrae Service

Sunday, April 5 — Easter Sunday

6:45 am: Sunrise Service outside on Trinity Terrace

9\* and 11 am: Worship Service (childcare available)

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\*If you can’t join us in-person, tune in to our livestream services at [bit.ly/GPMCLivestream](https://bit.ly/GPMCLivestream).

## Grosse Pointe News

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## GPAA hosts ‘Bloody Work’ Lecture looks at outbreak of American Revolutionary War

By Jody McVeigh  
*Editor*

This winter’s Your Old Mansion series, presented by the Grosse Pointe Artists Association, pays homage to the country’s 250th anniversary through history-themed lectures by curators with the William L. Clements Library at the University of Michigan.

Lecture-goers so far have learned about the cataloguing of 19th and early 20th century Native American photographs; the heartwarming ways people have expressed their love through the centuries; and the various iterations of Michigan maps throughout the state’s history. The series culminates with a manuscript-driven look at the outbreak of the American Revolutionary War.

“Bloody Work: Lexington and Concord 1775,” presented by Clements Library Curator of Manuscripts Cheney Schopieray, takes place at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 29, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

“Bloody Work,” which opened at the Clements Library April 18, 2025, and ran through September, “was an exhibit to commemorate the outbreak of military hostilities at the beginning of the American Revolutionary War, which began the morning of April 19, 1775,” Schopieray said. “What the exhibit intended to do was utilize materials from the Clements Library, as well as a few items that are held by a private collector, to walk through the days of April 18 and 19, and the aftermath of that initial conflict.

“Being the 250th anniversary of the American Revolutionary War, ultimately leading to the founding of our country, the timing is appropriate,” he added.

Schopieray noted that the Clements Library was particularly well-suited for the exhibition as it houses the papers of Gen. Thomas Gage, who served as commander-in-chief of the British Army in North America and, concurrently, provincial governor of Massachusetts.

“He’s the one who ordered the troops to march west from Boston to seize military stores at Concord, the military action that was waylaid at Lexington,” Schopieray said. “Shots were fired

and the American Revolutionary War began in earnest.

“The original draft orders in Thomas Gage’s hand are here at the library and are perhaps the most-seen manuscript in the manuscripts division,” he continued. “The materials that surround it tell the story in a way that, since Thomas Gage was the highest-level administrator in the American colonies ... his papers provide the source material for the events leading up to and following that pivotal event.”

Schopieray spent around five months selecting handwritten manuscripts for the exhibition and transcribing each of them twice — a direct transcription of how the words appear on the page and a second “reading” copy, “because the original text doesn’t have punctuation that makes sense, or there’s a place where the reader might not recognize they need to pause,” he said. “It brings that world to life in a way that few other resources can do, getting inside the head of the people that wrote them.”

Also included in the exhibit were pieces on loan to the library from private collector Dr. Gary Milan, in memory of Joyce Klinger.

“There’s a letter from John Hancock where he’s writing and his concerns are about getting a trunk that belongs to his fiancée out of Boston — and also a purple dress,” Schopieray said. “These sort of towering figures in the imagination, people like John Hancock and others, you see in these moments they’re just human beings trying to make their way and accomplish everyday tasks. ... That everyday life aspect sometimes gets lost when thinking about these grand events. I tried to utilize materials like those borrowed from Dr. Milan to really bring that experience of the everyday to the exhibit.

“A sailor sitting in the harbor in Boston on April 18, the day of the order ... he doesn’t know exactly what’s going to happen next; he’s not privy to the orders,” he added. “So a letter from him gives a perspective of just an everyday sailor. Those are some of the voices I try to pull out of what was happening around that time.”

Schopieray’s presentation not only will introduce and provide a summary of the events leading up to the engagements at Lexington and Concord, but he’ll also delve into the physical details of items from the exhibit.

“I’m very pleased with

this opportunity because I’m going to focus a bit more on the physical features of the manuscripts,” he said. “... The ink, the handwriting, the materiality of these handwritten materials is something that I like to share and this gives a great opportunity to talk about places where words have been misidentified because of hastily scribbled letters or ink smears, places where the physical life of the material, being transported on horseback from areas around Boston to New Hampshire, are revealed through the physical wear and history of the materiality itself.”

He’ll also discuss the creation of the exhibit itself and how he chose the materials.

“I’m a curator of manuscripts, so I handle and work with written materials, which are often a real challenge in exhibition settings,” he said. “I’ve sat and watched people gloss over exhibit cases full of text, not only because they can’t read the original handwriting, but also, even if they’re transcribed, it’s a great deal to tackle while they’re standing there. So how do we do that in a way that’s still accessible?”

For example, he said, students from the University of Michigan School of Music Theatre and Dance did readings of the manuscripts to help breathe life into the text.

Schopieray said he hopes his lecture offers a more personal view of

what one may already know about the American Revolutionary War.

“The battles of Lexington and Concord are something that are often thought of as more spur-of-the-moment than it actually was,” he said. “Tensions in and around Boston were very high for a period of time. It was like a tinder box just waiting for something to happen. Even the order that Gen. Thomas Gage gave to Lt. Francis Smith, that order was more or less expected. The Sons of Liberty and other groups were just waiting for something like it to happen. They had communication networks set up, so all the tension that was there existed for some time. It’s less of a surprise event than sometimes thought of in popular imagination.”

Schopieray said it was a challenge selecting materials for the exhibition, because of the wealth of material available at the Clements Library. He plans to discuss some of the pieces he didn’t include in “Bloody Work” during his lecture.

“There were so many that were left out,” he said, “that I may add them to the online exhibit at some point. We have handwritten copies of the deposition that was taken after the events that happened, on the colonists’ side of things. They tried to secure depositions that assure the public and others that they didn’t fire first and give an account of what happened.”

Though “Bloody Work” no longer is exhibited at the Clements Library, it is accessible online and slowly being expanded to include additional text.

“The reason that manuscripts in particular are so extraordinary to me is ... it’s about as close as you can get to the thoughts and the person themselves,” he said. “For example, you sit down and look at the words on the page, how they formed their letters, and you know what type of ink, what type of pen they’re using, so you can visualize that in a way that puts you closer to being right next to them at a desk. You can see where the page gets smudged when they were writing too quickly and tried to ‘erase’ the ink by wiping it with their thumb or a finger. You can see where they didn’t have a desk to write on so you see where the letters become jagged and strange because they’re writing on a pock-marked surface. There’s something about that writing, even outside the text ... there’s something about seeing that writing on the page that can really put you there.”

A Q&A session will follow the lecture.

“Bloody Work” is the fourth Your Old Mansion lecture. A bonus lecture takes place Sunday, April 12.

Tickets are \$35 for GPAA members, \$40 for nonmembers. Presenters donate their time, so all proceeds support Grosse Pointe Artist Association programming, including Tuesday Night Out for Veterans, A Morning Out and Promising Artists.

Register for the lecture online at [grossepointeartcenter.org](http://grossepointeartcenter.org).



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHENEY SCHOPIERAY

Curator Cheney Schopieray sits with materials he considered for the “Bloody Work” exhibit.



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# 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.

## Susanne McMaster Fruehauf

Susanne “Susie” McMaster Fruehauf, 95, of Grosse Pointe Farms and North Palm Beach, Fla., passed away peacefully Saturday, March 7, 2026, surrounded by her family and devoted caregivers.

Susie was born July 29, 1930, in West Lafayette, Ind., to Helen and David H. McMaster. She graduated from New Trier High School in Winnetka, Ill., as valedictorian. She later attended the University of Colorado Boulder and Katharine Gibbs College in Boston.

Susie married Harvey “Bud” Charles Fruehauf Jr., in 1954. Together, they traveled the world and had wonderful adventures for 67 years. They built their family and life in Grosse Pointe Farms before retiring to Lost Tree Village in North Palm Beach.

Susie learned to fly airplanes as a young woman and eventually competed in an air race to Cuba with her sister-in-law, Ann Fruehauf. She was a co-pilot for her husband for many years. She was a sustaining member of the Junior League of Detroit, an advocate for the League of Women Voters, a supporter of the Detroit Institute of Arts and a member of Planned Parenthood. Susie also was a member of the Country Club of Detroit and Grosse Pointe Yacht Club. In Florida, she was a member of Lost Tree Club and the Everglades

Club.

Susie was an avid knitter and donated hundreds of hand-knit baby blankets for swaddling newborns in Indiantown, Fla. While in Lost Tree, she regularly attended Lost Tree Chapel, where she organized art exhibits and book reports and generally contributed in any way she could. She was an inaugural member of the Lost Tree Dog Show and created the poster art for many years. She also was an editor of the Lost Tree Cookbook. Susie loved the beach and the ocean. She was board chair for the Friends of MacArthur Beach State Park and an avid supporter of sea turtle protection. She also wrote and published the children’s book, “Sudi: the Little Black and White Striped Zebra.”

Most of all, Susie was an artist. She created beauty in her paintings, knitting and decorating. She added a touch of elegance to everything she did.

Susanne was predeceased by her husband, Harvey “Bud” Charles Fruehauf Jr.; sister, Mary Louise Reeves; niece, Linda Pettit; and grandson, Richard Michael Ryan Jr. She is survived by her children, Julie Mariouw, Martha Fruehauf and Lisa Prast (Albert); grandchildren, Elaine Stranahan, Gus Stranahan, Jeff Ryan, Caroline Ryan, Andrew Ryan, Matthew Prast and Thomas Prast (Tori Nassberg); as well as many nieces, nephews,

extended family and friends.

The family extends a special thanks to Susie’s wonderful caregivers. Susie will be remembered by her loved ones for her love of life and her family, as well as her artist’s eye, wicked sense of humor, stubbornness, afternoon glass of wine and love of dog kisses.

## Roger Allan Jacklyn

Roger Allan Jacklyn, 79, died Monday, Feb. 23, 2026, at home in Richmond, with his loving wife, Carol, by his side.

Roger was born Oct. 30, 1946, in Detroit, to Joseph and Virginia (nee Dolan) Jacklyn. He served in the U.S. Navy Reserve and was honorably discharged March 24, 1973. He then received an associate degree from Macomb Community College and began a career in sales and marketing. He thoroughly enjoyed interacting with his clients for more than 30 years.

Roger never hesitated to assist anyone who asked for his help, whether it was a family member, friend or someone from his church community. St. Clare of Montefalco Parish was home to his faith family for almost 50 years.

Roger coached his sons’ Little League games for years and always was there to help his sons wherever and whenever he could. In



Susanne Fruehauf



Roger Allan Jacklyn



Samuel A. Beckius

addition to raising his own sons, Roger was proud to have been a foster father to many teen girls for 10 years through Catholic Social Services. He had many loving relationships and friendships that survived decades.

Golf was Roger’s passion. He always felt lucky to meet the guys for the Wednesday Night League at Belle River Golf Course. Since moving, he golfed every chance that the weather permitted, often meeting up with friends from the Wednesday Night League.

Roger is survived by his loving wife, Carol, who was his best friend for more than 57 years. They shared a love of church and many of their volunteer activities centered around their faith. He was blessed with family who were like best friends and best friends who were like family. Roger was a loving husband, father, grandfather, godfather and uncle. He also was a devoted son. The laughter and antics of the near-monthly get-togethers with his cousins were always a highlight for him. For all the challenges life offered, Roger still felt truly blessed.

A funeral Mass was held at St. Clare of Montefalco Parish.

In lieu of flowers,

memorial donations may be made to the Midwest Augustinians, 10161 S. Longwood, Chicago, IL 60643, midwestaugustinians.org/donate; or the Michaelite Fathers, 2751 Sunningdale W., London, ON, Canada, N6H 5L2, bit.ly/4dFqvXQ.

Arrangements entrusted to Chas. Verheyden Inc.

## Samuel A. Beckius

United States Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Samuel Albert Beckius, 29, died Monday, March 9, 2026.

Sam lived a life of adventure. He traveled abroad and learned a second language. He loved the outdoors and embraced it through running, biking, hiking and sailing. He had the heart of a poet and found his voice in his writing and music. His room was filled with books and plants and his garage with classic cars in mid-repair.

He loved and was loved by his family, friends, the animals of the Dubuque Humane Society and everyone who knew him. He possessed the deepest wells of empathy and will be missed by all who knew him.

Sam is survived by his parents, Reginald and Treva Beckius; brothers, John Beckius (Saralyn) and Aaron Beckius;

grandfather, Everett Beckius; grandmother, Carolyn Johnston; and his aunts, uncles and cousins. He was predeceased by his grandmother, Janet Beckius; and grandfather, William R. Johnston.

Visitation will be held 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday, March 28, until an 11 a.m. funeral service at Grandview Methodist Church in Dubuque, Iowa, with Rev. Tom Shinkle officiating. A luncheon will follow the service. Interment will be held at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, March 29, at Highland Public Cemetery in Highland, Wis. The service will be live-streamed by the church at grandviewdubuque.org.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Marquette County Sheriff’s Office Search and Rescue Team, 236 W. Baraga, Marquette, MI 49855; or the Brain and Behavior Research Foundation, 747 Third, 33rd Floor, New York, NY 10017, bit.ly/4dzjF6g.

Arrangements entrusted to Canale-Tonella Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

Share a memory at canalefuneral.com.

The family asked that anyone struggling with depression or mental illness connect with people who will support them by calling or texting 988 anytime.



## Ford House hosts Community Appreciation Day April 11

Ford House recently announced the return of its annual Community Appreciation Day — a free event welcoming everyone to explore the National Historic Landmark — Saturday, April 11.

Last year, more than 2,200 first-time visitors discovered the estate during Community Appreciation Day. Ford House once again is opening its gates at no cost to anyone who has ever wanted to see what lies beyond them.

Visitors this spring also will notice active work underway along the estate’s Lake St. Clair shoreline. Ford House is in the process of completing the nationally significant Lower Lake St. Clair Habitat Restoration Project, a partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, funded through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. Heavy equipment and earthmoving are visible as the project restores native

shoreline habitat.

Community Appreciation Day is Ford House’s way of expressing gratitude to the community it has called home for nearly a century. Beyond the shoreline restoration, visitors can explore the majestic grounds and gardens, take a self-paced tour of the Main Residence, visit The Shop to discover unique gifts and explore the exhibitions in the Visitor Center, including “The Ford Family Story” and the latest exhibition, “Wish You Were Here: Unpacking Ford Family Travel.”

Guests also are invited to make a day of it at The Continental at Ford House, the estate’s full-service restaurant overlooking the grounds. Dining at The Continental is not included in the free admission, but Community Appreciation Day is a perfect oppor-

See COMMUNITY, page 6B

## AREA ACTIVITIES

### Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

◆ 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Friday, March 27, Recreation Authority of Roseville & Eastpointe, 18185 Sycamore, Roseville.

◆ 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 1, St. Clair Shores City Hall, 27600 Jefferson, St. Clair Shores.

◆ 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday, April 7, Our Lady of Hope Catholic Church, 28300 Rockwood, St. Clair Shores.

◆ 12:45 to 5:45 p.m. Wednesday, April 8, Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, April 12, St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 21620 Greater Mack, St. Clair Shores.

Register at redcross blood.org.

### The War Memorial

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

◆ Vietnam Veterans Day Welcome Home Luncheon, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, March 27. The event is free for veterans, \$22 for the public.

◆ Vet-to-Vet, 6 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 8.

◆ War Memorial

History Tour, 10 to 11:30 a.m. Thursday, April 9.

◆ Silent Book Club, 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, April 14.

### POST Detroit

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

◆ Code as Craft Meet-Up, 4 to 6 p.m. Friday, March 27.

◆ Hand Lettering Workshop: Intro to Brush Pens, noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 28. Cost is \$55.

◆ Art as Talisman Workshop: Intention Painting with Shug, 3 to 6 p.m. Saturday, March 28. Cost is \$75.

◆ Knitting Workshop: Intermediate Level Intro to Color Work, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sunday, March 29. Cost is \$50.

◆ Beginner Sewing Workshop: French Seam Tote Bag, 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, March 29. Cost is \$75.

◆ Crochet Workshop: Think Spring Flowers, 3 to 6 p.m. Sunday, March 29. Cost is \$80.

### Ford House

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

◆ Storytime: “I Want My Hat Back,” 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays in March.

◆ Sensory-Friendly

Photos with the Easter Bunny, 10 to 10:30 a.m. Saturday, March 28. Cost is \$25 for members up to age 17; \$35 for the public up to age 17.

◆ Photos with the Easter Bunny, 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 28. Cost is \$25 for members up to age 17; \$35 for the public up to age 17.

◆ Easter Brunch, 9 to 10:30 a.m. Sunday, April 5. Seating is sold by tables of four or six; costs vary.

◆ Storytime: “If You Come to Earth,” 10:30 to 11 a.m. Tuesday, April 7.

◆ Community Appreciation Day, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, April 11.

◆ Lecture: Know Your Trees, 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday, April 16. Admission is \$12 for Friends, \$15 for the public.

For tickets and information, visit fordhouse.org.

### Onstage

The Paxton/Spangler Band will perform 7 to 10 p.m. Saturday, March 28, at Marge’s Bar, 15300 Mack, Grosse Pointe Park. The band plays a mix of jazz, swing, soul and “crooner stuff.” Visit margesbar.com for more information.

Planet D Nonet will perform at 4 p.m. Sunday, March 29, at the Cadieux Cafe, 4300 Cadieux, Detroit. For information, email info@cadieuxcafe.com.

See EVENTS, page 6B



# Finishing touches tie up Loose Ends

## Park knitter takes on blanket project

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

Ten hours is all Trina Bresser Matous has left on the double-sided knitted blanket on which she's been working.

Once she's finished knitting — and adorning it with tassels — she'll pack it up and hand it off to someone she barely knows.

Bresser Matous is a finisher, the name given to those who take on textile projects for people who can't complete them. She was matched with Kate Schuch through Loose Ends, a nonprofit that serves exactly that purpose — to pair unfinished textile projects with those who are happy to make the final knots, weaves or stitches.

Loose Ends began in 2022, when two knitters realized they both had been asked by friends to complete unfinished projects. They had an idea to pair other willing crafters with incomplete undertakings.

Today the worldwide organization includes more than 5,000 projects that have been completed by more than 37,000 registered finishers who are skilled in more than 30 handwork crafts.

Bresser Matous — whose mother taught her to knit as a child and who has been knitting regularly since her 20s — volunteered herself as a finisher at the recommendation of her husband.

"I've knit sweaters for my family, matching sweaters for my husband and I," she said. "Lately I've been knitting prayer shawls if someone's lost a loved one or is dealing with cancer or another illness. ... I'm always ready for another project."

She signed up when Loose Ends was just taking off, but with a 1:12 project-to-finisher ratio,



PHOTO BY JODY MCVEIGH

Trina Bresser Matous nears the completion of her first Loose Ends project: a double-sided knit blanket the late Carolyn Kaczmarek began, but didn't finish.

it's taken some time to get her first match.

"For a long time, I didn't get anything," she said. "I started losing interest, because nothing came. Then in January, I got an email asking if I was willing to work on a project."

"My sister, Carolyn Kaczmarek died early on Thanksgiving morning after a very long illness," said Schuch, a St. Clair Shores resident. "Carol spent the last five years of her life in bed, with short stints in a wheelchair. Her room was a chaos of medical equip-

ment and storage boxes for her yarn, tote bags with her unfinished projects and an iPad to stream her favorite TV shows.

"After her death, I told her sons that I would handle her extensive yarn stash because I didn't want them to dump it at the curb," she continued. "Sorting and organizing her yarn was an important part of grieving for my sister."

Before she died, Kaczmarek asked Schuch to remember her, a promise Schuch kept as she sorted through skein

after skein of yarn.

"Her friends and caregivers came to my home and picked out yarn for their own projects," she recalled. "I only asked that they think of Carol while they worked her yarn."

"In January, I packed a blanket she was working on into a giant tote bag and brought it to The Knotted Needle and said simply, 'I need help,'" Schuch continued. "I knit, but not at the skill level for this project. This was the only thing her son wanted back. I pulled out the unfinished blan-



A portion of Kaczmarek's yarn stash. Sorting and organizing it was an important part of Kate Schuch's grieving process.

PHOTO COURTESY OF KATE SCHUCH

ket Carol was knitting for her son and The Knotted Needle folks went to a laptop and pulled up the Loose Ends website. I went home and submitted an application to Loose Ends."

Schuch quickly heard back from the nonprofit, which accepted the project and set about finding a volunteer to finish it.

"I cried," she said. "Amazingly, I got an email within a week and then shared a phone call with Trina Bresser Matous. She came to my home to pick up the project and met me."

"I felt more than a little anxious giving this precious project to someone I didn't know," she continued, "but as she was saying goodbye, Trina mentioned a neighbor's name, asked if I knew her. I took this as a sign to comfort me to accept this blessing. Thank you, Trina."

Bresser Matous has reached out to Schuch a few times with questions as she works on the blanket.

"It seemed like her sister made mistakes on the last row she did and I didn't want to undo something she had done, so I called to ask if I

should leave it or fix it," she said. "She said her sister would want it fixed, so I fixed it."

Though she corrected the mistake, Bresser Matous pointed out that all Loose Ends projects include a mark where finishers take over the work, so recipients can see which parts were created by their loved ones and where the finishers picked up the project.

More projects like Kaczmarek's blanket are sought by Loose Ends, which has far more finishers ready to take on the work than it has unfinished projects.

Incomplete fiber art or textile pieces don't necessarily have to come from someone who has died; perhaps arthritis has left a crafter unable to complete a needlepoint project, or dementia has caused a lifelong crocheter to lose the beloved skill. Any fiber arts projects are welcome, from weaving and quilting to mending and rug-making.

Whether enlisting as a finisher or submitting a project, both simply involve visiting looseends.org and answer-

See ENDS, page 6B

## Detroit Concert Choir concert is March 28

The Detroit Concert Choir presents "Sketches of the Morning Sky" at 3 p.m. Saturday, March 28, at St. Ambrose Catholic Church, 15020 Hampton, Grosse Pointe Park.

Under the artistic direction of Michael A. Mitchell, the concert will feature choral and orchestral works, highlighted by a performance of "Sunrise Mass" by Ola Gjeilo, with the Michigan Sinfonietta.

Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$20 for seniors, \$15 for students. Tickets are available through Eventbrite, at detroitconcertchoir.org, by calling (313) 882-0118 or at the door one hour before the performance. For more information, visit detroitconcertchoir.org

## Spring ballet classes hosted at War Memorial

Longtime ballet instructor Suzanne Hawkins will teach Spring Adult Ballet Technique Tuesday mornings, April 7 to June 2, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Intermediate level classes, designed for those who have ballet experience, take place 10 to 11:15 a.m. and cost \$25 per class.

Ballet Encore classes

take place 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Cost is \$199 for nine weeks.

"This class is designed for someone who may have danced as a child or teen and would like to get back to it," Hawkins said of Ballet Encore. "We review basic steps and techniques."

For more information, email shawkins248@comcast.net or visit suzannehawkinsballetworkshop.com.

# Worship Service

**Christ the King Lutheran Church and Preschool**  
Mack at Lochmoor • 884-5090  
www.christthekinggp.org

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

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

**Solomon Spangler, Pastor**  
*Making New Disciples - Building Stronger Ones*

**Celebrate Easter**

**AT CROSSPOINTE**

**GOOD FRIDAY**  
7:00PM

**EASTER SUNDAY**  
8:30AM | 10:00AM | 11:30AM

**CROSSPOINTE CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
21236 MACK • GROSSE POINTE WOODS • 48236  
**YOURC3.ORG • 313.881.3343**

**Grosse Pointe Congregational Church**  
(United Church of Christ)  
**Worship Sunday at 10:00 am**  
**Rev. Richard Yeager-Stiver**  
*An Open & Affirming Church*  
240 Chalfonte G.P. Farms  
313-884-3075 • www.gpccong.org  
WE HAVE AN ARTS MINISTRY

**St. Matthew Catholic Church**  
*Harper at Whittier*  
**Holy Week Liturgies**

Palm Sunday Masses,  
Saturday, March 28, 4:30 pm and  
Sunday, March 29, 10:00 am

Monday, March 30, 7:00 pm ~ Lenten Penance Service  
Holy Thursday, April 2, 7:30 pm ~ Mass  
9:00 to 10:30 pm ~ Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
Good Friday, April 3, noon ~ Stations of the Cross  
1:30 pm ~ Celebration of the Lord's Passion  
Holy Saturday, April 4, 9:00 pm ~ Easter Vigil Mass  
Easter Sunday, April 5, 10:00 am  
~ Mass of the Resurrection ~



4B | BEAUTIFUL BEGINNINGS



Above, from left, Stuart, Wesley and Molly Bristol are riding high at the adorable birthday celebration.



Birthday baby Wesley, above, enjoys the festivities amid the wonderful decor, tasty food and loving faces.

WILD WILD WES

Yee-hah! Saddle up for a first birthday like no other

By Olivia Monette  
Special Writer

Wesley Bristol’s first birthday was celebrated in true “Wild Wild Wes” fashion on Oct. 4, 2025, when more than 40 friends and family gathered at the home of Wesley’s parents, Molly and Stuart Bristol, of Grosse Pointe.

The afternoon felt like stepping into a tiny western town made just for a 1-year-old cowboy.

Guests arrived to a lively backyard full of laughter, country-themed décor and thoughtful touches that made the celebration feel both personal and playful.

One of the standout elements of the day was the custom barn door backdrop, handcrafted from scratch by Wesley’s paternal grandpa, Neil Bristol. Armed with nothing but a TikTok video and some power tools, he created a picture-perfect statement piece that quickly became the heart of the party. The barn door was such a hit that it was repurposed the following weekend for Grosse Pointe South’s homecoming dance, which happened to share a similar western theme, giving it a second life in the community.

Kids had endless entertainment with a bounce house, coloring station and plenty of accessories to complete the cowboy transformation, including bandanas and hats for all the little wranglers. Adults enjoyed the “watering hole” bar while grazing from a curated selection of snacks on the “pasture” table, followed by a hearty dinner from Slows BBQ.

Between the great food, themed fun and warm company, the celebration captured everything a first birthday should be — joyful, memorable and filled with people who adore Wesley.



Little cowpokes got to grab a cowboy hat and bandana to wear at the party, above.



The birthday boy poses with some very special guests, right. Grandfather, Neil Bristol, holds baby Wesley while grandmother, Kim Bristol is back in the saddle.







The adorable party sign, left, welcomes guests.



Below, cute balloon horses and letters spell out the guest of honor's age.



A beautiful handmade barn door decoration, above, serves as backdrop for photos, along with a real saddle!



“The Watering Hole,” above, featured beverages and refreshments for the adult guests. Blue and taupe gingham tablecloths provided color and style.



“The Grazing Pasture,” above, served up yummy vittles for hungry guests. The main course was catered by Slow’s BBQ in Detroit.



A “WANTED” poster is part of the cute decor, above.



Little Wesley, above right, seems to approve of his smash cake as grandmother, Pam Stelma, above left, lovingly looks on.



All the guests were invited to participate in writing a time capsule message for Wesley to read on his 18th birthday. They could record a written wish, give some sage advice or offer a prediction. How we’d love to be there when these futuristic notes are opened!





313 Reserve a sold-out success

The Junior League of Detroit hosted its signature 313 Reserve fundraising event March 13, at the Roostertail, bringing together community leaders, supporters and guests for an evening of elevated experiences and meaningful impact.

The sold-out event featured curated wine, bourbon and cigar tastings, creating an atmosphere of connection and celebration in support of JLD’s mission to advance women’s leadership and strengthen communities throughout Detroit.

The evening was highlighted by remarks from Honorary Chairman Robert Porcher, former Detroit Lions standout, who spoke about the importance of investing in organizations that create opportunity and lasting impact. JLD President Sandra Davis also addressed guests, sharing the league’s continued commitment to community programs, scholarships and leadership development initiatives.

“313 Reserve was more than an event; it was a reflection of what is possible when a community comes together with purpose,” Davis said. “We are incredibly grateful for the support that made this evening so special.”

Guests enjoyed a dynamic program that included a curated raffle featuring unique items from local businesses and artisans. Following the main event, VIP guests were invited to an exclusive afterglow at Flyleaf, where they enjoyed a selection of wines and desserts in an intimate setting.

The event was made possible through the leadership of chairwoman Shelia Minetola, co-chairs Joya Harris-Sherron and Kelly Bayer, and committee members Cindi Cook and Taylor Browne, along with the support of sponsors, volunteers and community partners.

For more information about the Junior League of Detroit, visit [detroit.jl.org/](http://detroit.jl.org/).

Steves to speak at No Kings rally

Travel journalist and public television host Rick Steves will speak at the No Kings rally 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 28. Organized by Eastside Indivisible Alliance and the Grosse Pointe/Harper Woods Democracy Coalition, the event takes place at Mack and Cadieux, on the Detroit and Grosse Pointe border.

Steves, best known for his long-running PBS travel series and his outspoken advocacy for engaged citizenship, has consistently used his platform to remind

Americans that democracy is not guaranteed; it must be actively protected and practiced. His address will be a call to civic action rooted in perspective, humor and heartfelt patriotism.

The No Kings rally is part of a broader national movement calling for democratic accountability and opposition to executive overreach. It is designed to be peaceful, inclusive and family-friendly.

For more information, contact Bob Alltop at (313) 354-1378 or [boballtop@yahoo.com](mailto:boballtop@yahoo.com).

ENDS:

Continued from page 3B

ing a few questions.

Finishers are asked about the type of crafts they’re willing to do, as well as their level of experience. They are invited, but not required, to share photos of their work.

Upon receiving a project submission, Loose Ends considers geography, craft, skill level and other preferences before making a match.

“There’s no obligation (as a finisher),” Bresser Matous said. “If the timing is not good, you can say no. If you say yes, there’s no timeline to get it done.

“... Being able to do this, to finish something

that would have just been left in a box, is meaningful to me,” she added. “The son, in this case, will have something to remember his mom by. ... I think it’s such an honor to be able to finish something for someone. It’s been a blessing for me.

“I also think it’s important for people to know there is someplace to get a project finished,” she added.

For more information about Loose Ends, to register as a finisher or contribute a project, visit [looseends.org](http://looseends.org).

“I love seeing an idea start small and grow,” Bresser Matous said. “Loose Ends is a great organization and fills a need in a time of grief and sorrow.”

MiCGA speaks to Optimist Club

Kate Hude, executive director of the Michigan Charitable Gaming Association, or MiCGA, spoke to the Lakeshore Optimist Club of Grosse Pointe to provide an update on how qualified non-profit charitable organizations can raise funds through gaming events including raffles, bingo, charity game tickets and millionaire parties. She also gave an overview of proposed legislative changes regarding charitable gaming in Michigan. MiCGA is a non-profit trade association serving as the voice of the charitable gaming industry in Michigan.

Hude described the process charities must follow to be qualified by the state through the Michigan Lottery Bureau; Charitable Gaming Division, which oversees raffles, bingo and charity game tickets; or the Michigan Gaming Control Board, which is specific to charity poker or millionaire party events.

Charities in Michigan earn mil-



COURTESY PHOTO

Lakeshore Optimist Club President Steve Licari and MiCGA Executive Director Kate Hude.

lions annually through charitable gaming fundraisers. This money is used to further their charitable

missions, resulting in a variety of much-needed services for countless individuals.

The Lakeshore Optimist Club has participated in millionaire parties and raffles throughout the years to raise funds to support local programs specifically targeted to youth in the community. Examples include Macomb Foster Closet, The Family Center, Goodfellows, Full Circle Foundation, Detroit Horse Power, Kids on the Go, Maggie’s Wigs 4 Kids and the Gearheads robotics team.

For more information about charitable gaming, visit [micga.org](http://micga.org)

The Lakeshore Optimist Club meets the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 7:30 a.m. All are welcome to attend, listen to interesting speakers and see what the club is about. Visit [gpointmists.com](http://gpointmists.com) for locations, dates and times each month or follow the club on Facebook.

EVENTS:

Continued from page 2B

Library

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

- ◆ GPPL Friends \$5 Bag Sale, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 28, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.
- ◆ Reader Dog, 11 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 28, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Community Game Meet-up, noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 28, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.
- ◆ Spring Break Drop-In Craft and Games, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday, March 30, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.
- ◆ Michigan Science Center presents Adventures in Fire, 2 to 3 p.m. Monday, March 30, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.
- ◆ Michigan Science Center presents Adventures in Fire, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Monday, March 30, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.
- ◆ Storytime Shuffle with Miss Mo, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 31, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.
- ◆ Storytime Shuffle with Miss Mo, 11 a.m. to noon Tuesday, March 31, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe

- Park.
- ◆ Winter Reading Olympics Craft, 4 to 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 31, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.
- ◆ Heritage Collection Building: Boxes in the Attic — Explore Your Collection, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 31, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.
- ◆ Baby Time, 9:30 to 10 a.m. Wednesday, April 1, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.
- ◆ Storytime, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Wednesday, April 1, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.
- ◆ Spring Break Family Movie, 1 to 3 p.m. Wednesday, April 1, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.
- ◆ Gettin’ Crafty with Miss Mo, 4 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 1, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.
- ◆ Teen Anime & Mango Club, 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, April 1, at Woods, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.
- ◆ Baby Time, 9:30 to 10 a.m. Thursday, April 2, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.
- ◆ Storytime, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Thursday, April 2, at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Theatre presents “Matilda,” 2 to 3 p.m. Thursday, April 2, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe

- Park.
- ◆ Poetry Jam and Mini Workshop, 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, April 2, at Ewald, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

The Helm

The Helm at the Boll Life Center, 158 Ridge, Grosse Pointe Farms, offers a variety of classes and programs. For more information, call (313) 882-9600.

- ◆ Art Journaling for Seniors, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Tuesdays, March 31 to May 5, with instructor Elizabeth Russano.
- ◆ A Matter of Balance, 1:15 to 3:15 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, April 6 to 29.
- ◆ The movie “Soul on Fire,” is shown at noon Friday, April 10. Cost is \$4 and includes snacks.
- ◆ Out to Lunch Bunch, noon to 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 14. The gang is going to Waves in St. Clair Shores.
- ◆ Spanish for Beginners, 4 to 5:30 p.m. Tuesdays, April 14 to June 2. Cost is \$40 for the series.
- ◆ Continuing Spanish, 6 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays, April 14 to June 2. Cost is \$40 for the series.
- ◆ Lunch & Learn: Live Well with Dr. Gupta, noon to 1 p.m. Wednesday, April 15. Cost is \$10.
- ◆ Spring Serenade, with the Detroit Opera, 1 to 2 p.m. Wednesday, April 22. Cost is \$20.
- ◆ Electronic Device Tutoring, noon to 3 p.m. of the first and third Fridays of each month.
- ◆ Conversational French for Beginners,

- 9:30 to 11 a.m. Tuesdays and noon to 1:30 p.m. Fridays, beginning Jan. 20.
- ◆ Conversational French for Intermediates, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays and 1:30 to 3 p.m. Fridays, beginning Jan. 20.
- ◆ Young Onset Parkinson’s Support Group, 4:45 to 6:15 p.m. the second Monday of each month, with facilitator Angela Ferrara.
- ◆ Low Vision Support Group, 10 to 11:30 a.m. the third Monday of each month.
- ◆ Blood Pressure Screening, 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. the third Thursday of each month with Mary Jo Fresard of Sunrise Senior Living.
- ◆ Alzheimer’s Caregivers Support Group, 5 to 6:30 p.m. the third Thursday of each month, with Carolyn Van Dorn of Nursing Unlimited.
- ◆ Living On, hosted by Hospice of Michigan, 10 to 11 a.m. the first and third Fridays of the month.
- ◆ Share for Dementia, by appointment only, with care consultants LaTonya Connally and Deb Sloss.

Rotary

The Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe hosts its next meeting at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 1, at Village Grille, 16930 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe. The speaker is Ed Gotfredson, president of the Moross Greenway Project. Email [grossepointerotary@gmail.com](mailto:grossepointerotary@gmail.com).

COMMUNITY:

Continued from page 2B



tunity to experience the restaurant and explore the spring menu. Reservations are recommended and may be made at [fordhouse.org/continental](http://fordhouse.org/continental).

“For many people, Community Appreciation Day is their very first time setting foot on this historic estate and that is exactly why this event matters so much to me,” said Mark J. Heppner, president and CEO of Ford House. “Eleanor and Edsel Ford built something truly extraordinary here and their legacy of generosity, beauty and love for this community deserves to be experienced by everyone. This is our invitation to anyone who has ever driven past and wondered what is beyond the gates. This is the day to come see for yourself.”

Admission to Community Appreciation Day is free, but registration is recommended to ensure a seamless experience for all guests. Visitors can choose either a free House & Grounds Pass, which grants admission to the property and a self-paced exploration of the Main Residence, or a free Grounds Pass for those who want to enjoy the grounds and gardens. For more information and to register, visit [fordhouse.org/events/community-appreciation-day/](http://fordhouse.org/events/community-appreciation-day/).

# Village Grille

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St. Paul on the Lake Principal Tina Forsythe addresses auction attendees.

## Around the auction

St. Paul on the Lake Catholic School hosted its 39th auction, “Anchored in Faith,” March 14, at Ford House. The event included hors d’oeuvres, dinner and silent and live auctions. Funds raised allow St. Paul to provide a rich, well-rounded Catholic education to students while keeping tuition within reach for families who send their children to St. Paul. Veronica McAtee and Donielle Hudson were this year’s co-chairs. McAtee’s parents, Bill and Rosanne Jamieson, served as honorary chairs of the event, which was created by Rosanne Jamieson, along with Karen Beil and Linda Brennan, in 1988.



Left, Therese Schueneman and Clare Duross were all smiles during the event. Below, Rosanne Jamieson, auction founder, and Deacon Bill Jamieson served as honorary chairs.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHRISTINE HATHAWAY



Zena and Dr. Jimmy Haouilou were among attendees.

Enjoying the event, from left, are Arthur and Donielle Hudson, Ford House CEO Mark Heppner and Veronica and John McAtee. Donielle Hudson and Veronica McAtee co-chaired the event.



25 YEARS OF EMPOWERING FAMILIES & ENRICHING LIVES

ASK THE EXPERTS By Marla Ruhana, LMSW

## 5 ways to get mentally, socially fit this spring

Social isolation has been named a public health crisis. A multitude of reasons have contributed to this and technology is one of the most significant factors.

Social engagement is imperative as we age. Our social circles can change over our lifespan — if we relocate, if we have children, as children grow and as we age. The way we make new friends and keep in contact with people who are important to us evolves over time as well.

The Global Council on Brain Health, in collaboration with AARP, developed evidence-based recommendations to support brain health and social interaction:

- ◆ Maintain social connections: Actively build and sustain relationships with friends, family and neighbors to support brain health.
- ◆ Stay mentally active: Engage in activities such as learning new skills, playing instruments or volunteering.
- ◆ Combine social and physical activity: Participate in group activities that also include physical movement, which offers a compound benefit for cognitive function.
- ◆ Use technology wisely: Use digital tools and video chat platforms to stay connected.
- ◆ Prioritize regular communication: Make a habit of calling, emailing or visiting with others to avoid loneliness and maintain mental sharpness.

Some specific things you can try

include:

- ◆ Challenge friends and family to play online games with you instead of playing against the computer or strangers.
- ◆ Use your phone to call or FaceTime instead of texting.
- ◆ Check out free and low-cost opportunities to learn and connect through The Family Center, the Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods libraries, The War Memorial, The Neighborhood Club and The Helm.

You don’t need to be an extrovert. Did you know there are silent book clubs and open house “crafternoons” where people come together to work on creative projects like needlepoint or drawing?

Spring is a perfect time to start something new — join a garden club, sign up for an exercise class or find a volunteer opportunity through Share Detroit. If you don’t know where to start or don’t want to go solo, ask a friend or neighbor to go with you. With awareness and a little bit of effort, you can establish the connections that are so vital to your health.

Marla Ruhana, LMSW, is a seasoned psychotherapist serving the community for more than 30 years. Visit [marla.ruhana.com](http://marla.ruhana.com) or [beachglassescapes.com](http://beachglassescapes.com) or call (586) 801-4701.

The Family Center provides free programs and resources that help build happier, healthier families. Learn more at [familycenterhelps.org](http://familycenterhelps.org).

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GROSSE POINTE

Gabby



POINTING YOU IN  
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# Cheering on your child: A fine line between support and family embarrassment

**Dear Gabby:** My family claims I am “embarrassing” at my children’s sporting events.

I do not yell at referees or cause scenes. I simply cheer enthusiastically, occasionally remind the coach of obvious strategic oversights and once brought a small cowbell to a playoff game.

Is spirited support now considered a crime? — Proud in the Park

**Dear Proud:** In youth sports there is a delicate line between supportive parent and obnoxious fan. The cowbell, I’m afraid, may have crossed it.

Teenagers live in a permanent state of mild embarrassment about their parents. If you sat silently with a polite golf clap, they would still claim you were humiliating them.

The real test is simple: If the opposing team’s parents know your name or turn around to stare at you more than a few times, it may be time to dial it back.

But don’t stop cheering entirely. Years from now your kids won’t remember the score, but they will remember that someone in the stands believed they were worth ringing a bell for — just maybe use a slightly quieter bell.

— Gabby

*We love problem-solving and giving advice! Please send us your questions & problems to [advice@grossepointe-news.com](mailto:advice@grossepointe-news.com).*



# A coffee shop connection worth exploring?

**DEAR ANNIE:** I’m writing with a small story that left me with a surprisingly big question.

Every morning before work, I stop by the same little coffee shop down the street. I started going there because it was convenient, but over time it’s become something more than that. The barista remembers my order, the regulars nod hello, and there’s an older man who always sits by the window reading the newspaper like it’s still 1985. It’s a quiet, ordinary ritual — but somehow it makes the start of my day feel steadier.

A few months ago, I started noticing a young woman who comes in around the same time I do. At first, we just did the polite half-smile you give strangers who share the same routine. Then one morning, she held the door for me, and we ended up chatting for maybe 30 seconds about how cold it was. Since then, we’ve had a handful of tiny conversations — nothing dramatic. Just small moments about books, dogs and how the cafe plays the same three songs every morning.

Here’s the thing: Those little interactions have started to become one of the best parts of my day. Not because I’m necessarily looking for romance or anything life-changing, but because it’s nice to feel that quiet sense of connection with someone who used to be a stranger.

Lately, I’ve been wondering whether I should suggest continuing the conversation sometime — maybe a walk, or another coffee that isn’t rushed before work. Part of me thinks it could be the start of a meaningful friendship

(or, who knows, something more). Another part of me worries that maybe the beauty of it is exactly what it already is: two people sharing small, kind moments in an otherwise busy world.

So my question is this: When a simple everyday connection starts to feel special, is it better to gently explore where it might go, or to appreciate the sweetness of the moment and leave it just as it is? — Wondering About the Next Chapter.

**DEAR NEXT CHAPTER:**



## Dear Annie

by Annie Lane

Some of life’s sweetest moments begin exactly the way you describe: with small, ordinary encounters that slowly brighten our days. The fact that you’re enjoying this connection already says something lovely about both of you.

There’s no harm in gently opening the door a little wider. A simple invitation for another coffee or a short walk keeps things light and friendly. If she’s interested, you may discover a meaningful new friendship — or more. If not, you can still return to enjoying those pleasant morning exchanges.

Sometimes the next chapter of a story starts with nothing more than a kind hello and a little courage.

See ANNIE, page 7C

# Boating and patio dining at Mike’s on the Water

Oh, March, how you love to mess with our minds. Hopefully by time this is published, the lamb portion has arrived and the lion has made his exit, because patio season is almost upon us.

We are a community — especially our boaters — that loves its patio dining season. You can’t talk boating and patios without talking about a Nautical Mile summer hotspot: Mike’s on the Water.

Owner Mike LeFevre has been in the restaurant business virtually his entire life, from washing dishes in 1968 at Club Lido, to working for his brothers from 1979 to 1981, at The Flying Machine. There he handled “all faces of the kitchen,” before running the front of the house while bartending and hosting.

In 1982, LeFevre decided to venture out with another brother and they pur-

chased Club Lido, renaming it Lido on the Lake (now Zef’s Dockside Bar & Kitchen). Lido’s was an Eastside favorite for many successful years (My first Holy Communion family dinner was there). Its popularity grew after they added the first local rooftop in 1983, called The Crow’s Nest. They remained there until January 1990.

From 1990 to 1994, LeFevre stayed in the restaurant and bar consulting business. Then, Jack’s Waterfront launched along the same stretch of the Nautical Mile. LeFevre owned and operated Jack’s until 2004, when he created his namesake waterfront location, Mike’s on the Water, at 24600 Jefferson, nestled within Michigan Harbor Marina. It previously was a bathhouse for marina guests, an oil change/mechanic shop and a canvas shop for

making cushions and sails.

“I saw it in October of 2010,” he said. “A lot of visions needed to go into this project. When I ventured through the building, I said immediately, ‘East Coast/Key West burger bar.’”

LeFevre told his landlord he only wanted a small section of the 8,000-square-foot thumbprint. Mike’s on the Water opened May 25, 2011, with just the main bar area and an enclosed patio space with a total of 130 seats. Since then, LeFevre has used all of the square footage as renovations and additions have been made almost every year since, including a small outside deck seating 44 with a small bar area, as well as a floating dock for small WaveRunners and Jet Skis.

With 28 boat wells available, Mike’s can accommodate vessels up to 50 feet along the marina’s south wall. The docks are part of his lease and assistance with docking is available weekends and holidays.

That said, 2014 brought a deck expansion, adding 125 seats and a bar that now seats 22.

“That really put Mike’s on the map,” LeFevre said.

In 2015, the kitchen expanded, but the craziest addition of all came in 2017-18: Another rooftop space, The Lookout, added 50 to 60 seats with a great view of the water.

LeFevre wasn’t satisfied with just a bar with a view; there had to be food. However, when staff attempted to bring burgers from the main kitchen to the rooftop, “the burger buns were literally blowing off the trays,” he said, not to mention the stress on the main kitchen.

A customer jokingly suggested, “Why not putting a food truck up there?” An actual food truck? On a roof? LeFevre went to the city and they laughed at him.

“I said this will get approved and it sure did,” he said.

Using a 15-ton crane to lift the truck, while hosting a fundraiser with a huge crowd present to witness the event, Mike’s on the Water did the unthinkable: successfully parking a food truck on the roof so it could serve burgers, tacos, sand-



## Food Gossip

by Nina Taormina

wiches and lobster rolls.

About those lobster rolls. In 2013, LeFevre decided to add them to his menu after witnessing the craze at a restaurant on Long Island: Everyone was line for lobster rolls. He knew nobody was serving them locally and, with a push from a local news article, Mike’s sold 1,300 that season. He started keeping count every season thereafter.

“There’s been years that we’ve sold as many as 16,000 to 18,000 in the season,” he said. “We now are approaching 125,000 lobster rolls, so that is a good thing.”

Made with fresh knuckle and claw meat, the classic New England-style lobster rolls have since been featured on local news food segments and people travel from all over the state to enjoy.

I asked about his other menu favorites, too: “Pretzel bites that we serve with cheese and honey mustard,” he said, “and yellow belly lake perch that we sell thousands of. We sell a lot of whitefish as well.”

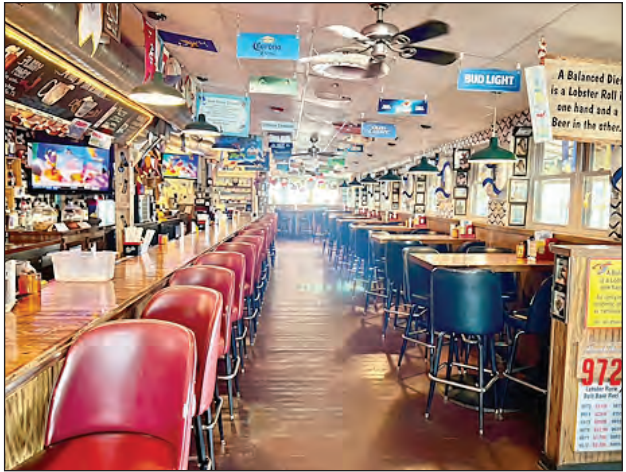
His personal favorite is the lake perch: “We lightly panko bread crumb it and fry. It melts in your mouth.”

Mike’s also has quite a burger menu. Aside from the classic, “We also make a mahi burger, a salmon burger and a tuna burger, fresh hand-made daily,” he said. “We sell a lot of burgers.”

See FOOD, page 7C



Mike’s 2010 and 2025.



Inside bar area.



Clockwise from top left, lobster roll, perch, clam chowder and stuffed cheeseburger.



# We Tried It!

by Anna Lizer



I am on a full mission right now to make after-school snacking easier and healthier for my kids. I was getting tired of hearing “There’s nothing to eat in this house” five minutes after unpacking groceries. It finally clicked

that they do want the fruit and healthy snacks I buy. They just want it washed, cut up and ready to go. I bought this set of Winproper 5-Pack Fruit Storage Containers from Amazon, hoping a little prep would

solve the problem and so far it actually has. The set comes with five sizes, which makes it surprisingly versatile. I use the larger ones for grapes, strawberries and chopped melon; the medium for mixed fruit

or cut vegetables; and the smaller ones for quick single-serve snacks. Having different sizes means I can prep a lot at once without wasting space in the fridge. What makes them especially useful is the double-layer design with removable colanders inside. I can rinse everything directly in the container, let it drain and then store it without transferring anything. The airflow keeps produce from sitting in moisture and I have noticed it stays fresh noticeably longer. Berries that normally would get soft after a day or two are still good later in the week.

They also are genuinely practical for everyday use. The containers are made from BPA-free polypropylene, feel sturdy without being heavy and seal tightly with locking clips and a silicone gasket so nothing leaks or smells up the fridge. They stack neatly, which helps keep the refrigerator from turning into chaos by midweek. I even have used them for dry snacks, pasta salad and leftovers. The biggest difference, though, is how easy they are for my kids to grab. They open the fridge, see everything ready to go and help themselves — no questions, no complaints, no standing around hoping something better appears. We went through more berries this week than we

have in months, which feels like a win. These containers are simple, practical and actually get used, which is really all I want from anything in my kitchen right now. My kids love how easy they are and I love that they are reaching for something fresh instead of packaged snacks. I’d call that a success. Available for about \$24 on Amazon <https://amzn.to/4d8tnwi> Definitely worth five out of five alligators. We LOVE testing out new things! Tell us about your favorite item or something you want us to try for you! Drop us a line at [media@grossepointe-news.com](mailto:media@grossepointe-news.com).



5 Out Of 5

# Asparagus tart for Easter brunch

## Courtesy of Mombeau’s Table

Last week, I focused on Easter dinner with a beautiful lamb stew. This time, I turned my attention to Easter brunch. I wanted something that highlights the best of spring, something colorful, simple to prepare and full of flavor. An asparagus tart felt like the perfect choice. I’ve shared an asparagus tart before, but this version is a bit lighter and more balanced. I incorporated plenty of leeks and swapped the mascarpone for ricotta, which still

brings a creamy texture but is much lighter. The result is a tart that feels fresh yet satisfying. This tart is also wonderfully versatile as it’s equally delicious served at room temperature and easy enough to enjoy with your hands. First you prebake the phyllo then add the toppings. I added my asparagus raw so that it didn’t become stringy. If you buy thicker asparagus, slice them in half lengthwise. The short time in the oven makes them tender

while still maintaining their bright green color. My favorite part about this tart is the subtle floral taste of the lemon zest that is stirred into the ricotta mixture. It’s not overpowering but just enough for you to take pause after each bite to notice it. Add this colorful spring-inspired tart to your Easter brunch menu and then sit back and savor all of the praise. You deserve it! Cheers, Mombeau

### Asparagus and Leek Tart

- 1 sheet puff pastry, room temperature
- 2 leeks, washed and sliced
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 tbsp each butter and olive oil
- ½ cup whole milk ricotta
- ¼ cup grated parmesan
- Zest of one lemon
- 2 tbsp parsley, chopped
- 1 bunch of asparagus, washed and trimmed
- 3-4 slices prosciutto
- 1 egg

Preheat your oven to 400 degrees. Unroll the sheet of puff pastry and roll out into a rectangle measuring about 9x16 inches. You can use the trimmed asparagus spears to figure out how wide you want the tart. You’ll want about a half-inch border around the edges. Use a knife to lightly trace a border around the edge of the pastry, about a half-inch in. It’s ok to cut all the way through.. This helps the edges puff up. Then use a fork to poke holes all over the center so it stays flat. Place the dough on a parchment paper lined baking sheet. In a small bowl mix the egg with a splash of water and



PHOTO BY KAREN FERGUSON

brush the egg wash all over the pastry. Bake for 10 minutes. Remove from the oven and set aside. While the pastry bakes, start on the leeks. Melt the butter and olive oil in a pan over medium-low heat. Add in the leeks and garlic along with a big pinch of salt and black pepper. Sauté them until soft, stirring occasionally so they don’t brown too much. This takes about 10 minutes. Once soft, turn the heat off and set aside.

In a bowl, mix together the ricotta, parmesan, parsley and lemon zest. Spread the mixture evenly over the phyllo crust, leaving the edges uncovered. Add the leeks in an even layer. Arrange the asparagus spears on top, all facing the same direction. Lay the prosciutto over everything, then drizzle with olive oil. Bake at 400 degrees for another 10 minutes. Slice into 12 pieces and serve either warm or at room temperature.



## Natural wine

For decades, there has been an underground wine trend in this country that has been fostered by some faulty assumptions about today’s commercial wines. I would call this the “Natural Wine Movement,” but the word “movement” implies it is widespread. Fortunately, it isn’t. To me, the topic is promoted by people who are more emotional than factual. I got the idea to write about it because a woman I had never met asserted, during a dinner party, that most of today’s U.S. wines were made by people with evil intent. She said the only “safe” wine was “natural” wine. She said additives made wine harmful. I replied, as politely as possible, that she was circulating fake news. I avoided calling her a kook. After she alleged that natural wines were more healthful than “non-natural” wines, I asked her to define the term. And she admitted that there was no widely agreed-upon definition. Even advocates of natural wine admit that. Probably the most widely held notion by people who support natural wine is that it must not contain any sulfites. Or that to be natural, wine may not

have any sulfites that are added. Many wines are made with no SO2. Some are sound. But unless a winemaker knows how to do it, many wines made without added sulfites will display odd aromas or tastes that scientists define as spoilage. Sulfur dioxide has been widely used for more than 2000 years to prevent spoilage. Indeed, today’s best wines are based on sound scientific principles that natural wine proponents might despise. And even wines that have no sulfites added still contain them! Sulfites are naturally occurring by-products of fermentation, posing a dilemma for natural wine advocates. It’s true that sulfites can be harmful to some people — technically. But almost all reactions to SO2 only occur in extremely rare circumstances, which rarely occur with wine. Sulfur reactions from wine are so rare that scientists do not consider them to be an issue. Natural wine supporters often say they prefer wines made with minimal intervention. They often say that the U.S. government permits dozens of additives to be used in wine. This is true. But what natural wine proponents don’t say is that almost no wineries use harmful additives.

And that virtually every additive has a purpose — to make wine that is spoilage-free. In addition, almost all legal wine additives are catalytic agents, which help wine to be sound and tasty. And almost all such agents end up being filtered out of the wine before it is bottled. If any additive remains, it is in such amounts that it is harmless. I am not a chemist, so I avoid specifics. But I recall my first year investigating wine thoroughly, about 1973. In the next decade, about 30 percent of the wines I tasted were spoiled in one way or another. I am now in my 52nd year of formally evaluating wine. Of the commercial, non-natural wines I have evaluated in the last decade, about 1 percent are spoiled. But of the natural wines I’ve evaluated, roughly 20 percent have some sort of technical flaw. Those who adhere to their beliefs in natural wines argue that they are better for humans. Scientists who are experts in this field might disagree. All wine drunk in moderation has some healthful benefits and some drawbacks. In the five decades I have consumed wine daily, I’d guess that I am about \$1,500 poorer because I was willing to try “natural” wines. No wine of the week. To find out more about Sonoma County resident Dan Berger, visit the Creators Syndicate webpage at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com). COPYRIGHT 2025 CREATORS.COM.

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PHOTO BY JILL CAVANAUGH

# Easter in bloom!

By Olivia Monette  
*Special Writer*

Easter in Grosse Pointe always feels like a true welcome to spring. Tables fill with flowers, kids wake up buzzing with excitement and families gather for brunch after a long stretch of winter. This year, local shops are making it easy to celebrate with thoughtfully curated baskets for children and simple ways to create a beautiful holiday table at home.

Your Easter table does not need to be elaborate to feel special. It's the perfect opportunity to pull out a full set of your grandma's china — or simply mix and match pieces of your everyday service with a few special additions.

We've created a charming tablescape that pairs classic pink transferware with soft florals and vintage silver for a look that feels timeless and inviting. Vintage flower-print linens make for a homey yet elegant table that everyone will be comfortable around. Textured glassware and scalloped plates and silverware bring depth and softness, creating a setting that encourages guests to linger over coffee and conversation.

For the centerpieces: A bouquet of creamy roses edged in blush pink to anchor the table, while tall tapers add light and height. Pulled together, its the perfect homage to spring; warm, bright and familiar. It is the kind of table that turns a simple brunch into a moment that lasts forever.

Set the table for a colorful and cozy Easter brunch, top. Treat yourself or a loved one to a delightful Herend collectible bunny and you've got instant holiday decor. The Eggstravagant Rabbit, right, or Blossom Bunny, far right, add charm and sweetness to your home. Find Herend figurines at The League Shop, 16847 Kercheval Ave. Grosse Pointe. Call (313) 882-6880 or visit [theleagueshop.com](http://theleagueshop.com) for more information.



COURTESY PHOTOS



# The bunny’s best baskets

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### TODDLER BASKET AGES 1.5-4

Your little ones will think this adorable basket is just ducky! Imagine their surprise when they wake up to the excitement of their very own toy basket!



### GIRL BASKET, AGES 4-7

Sugar and spice and everything nice! Little girls will adore this cute basket, left. Filled with bunnies and treasures little hands can explore and enjoy, it's all the pretty Easter toys she wants most.



### BOY BASKET, AGES 5-10

Score big points with your little guy on Easter with this action-themed basket, right. You'll make their day with assorted boy's toys — all packaged in a cool basketball net basket!



### OUTDOOR BASKET, AGES 4-8

For the child who always wants to spend the day outdoors, this nature-themed basket, left, will spark their interest in the natural world and help them deepen their love for all the earth's creatures.



### GARDEN BASKET, AGES 3-8

So much cuteness! This sweet little basket, below, is a budding young gardener's dream come true. How fun for them to watch things grow and learn appreciation for the earth.



COURTESY PHOTOS

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## Color, create, and WIN!

Families can also join the fun with our annual Easter coloring page. Kids are invited to color and submit their artwork to [media@grossepointenews.com](mailto:media@grossepointenews.com) for a chance to win one of five NeeDoh Dippin' Dazzler Eggs, the sensory toys that have been sold out in many places this season.



Entries will be judged on creativity and color, and five winners will each receive one of these coveted prizes. It is a simple way to add excitement to the holiday and give kids a reason to show off their artistic skills.

Enter now!

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
AGE \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
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6C | LIFE & LEISURE



PHOTOS COURTESY OF 2AM, PINKY PROMISE AND SONS OF RIGOR FILMS.  
Left, Eliza Scanlen as Jem and Lewis Pullman as Owen in the 2023 movie “The Starling Girl,” written and directed by Laurel Parmet.

MOVIE REVIEW  
“The Starling Girl”  
2023 - Rated R  
1 hr 57 min  
★★★★☆

I’ve heard this movie described as a horror flick without the monsters, which I think is a fair assessment. It’s a coming-of-age drama about an intelligent young girl growing up in an oppressive, fundamentalist Christian community in rural Kentucky. As an agnostic, I can’t imagine what it would be like growing up in an environment like this. Fundamentalism in any religion, be it Islam, Judaism, or Christianity is hard for me to wrap my head around. “The Starling Girl” is the feature debut for

prayers, 17-year-old Jem Starling (Scanlen) goes to the Holy Grace Church for Sunday service. Following the service, she participates in an interpretive dance routine with several other girls in front of the parish. (Actually, I thought this was a bit risqué for a fundamentalist Christian congregation.) Then, a parishioner approaches Jem and her mother Heidi (Wrenn Schmidt) and reprimands her for the sheer audacity of wearing a white top that allowed Jem’s bra to be visible. The horror! Jem is so upset, she runs outside and breaks down in tears. There she runs into the youth pastor Owen (Pullman) having a smoke. He makes her promise not to tell on him

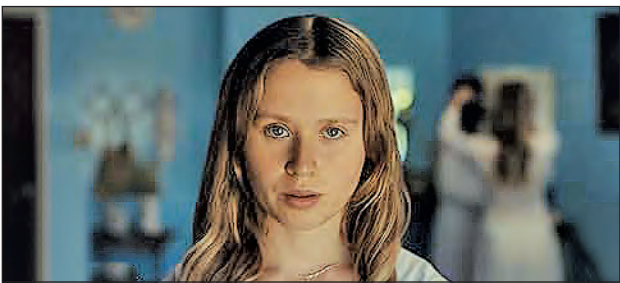
The implication being it bordered on sinful. That’s one of the principle themes explored in the movie. The world according to fundamen-



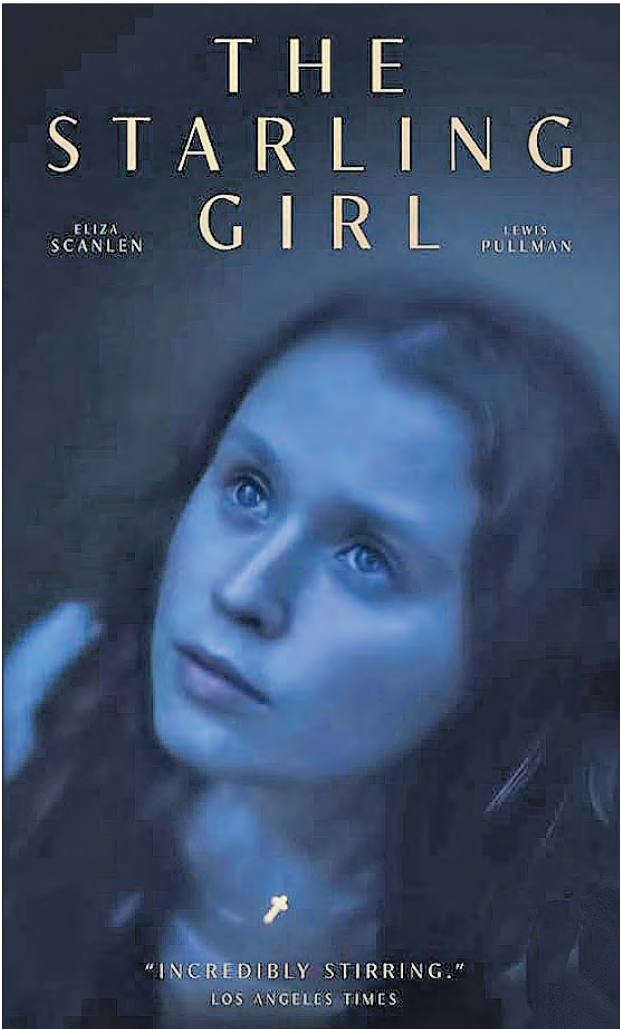
Prayer time.



Pastor Taylor conducting Sunday service.



Eliza Scanlen as Jem Starling.



Movie poster for “The Starling Girl.”



Jem at church.

# Movie Junkie Mark

by Mark Domin

“Life is too short to watch mediocre movies”



Owen played by Lewis Pullman.

talists is divided between good and evil. There’s simply no gray area. The problem becomes, just who determines what’s good and what’s evil? And who gave the person that power? It’s this dilemma that’s at the core of the relationship between Jem and Owen. It soon becomes apparent that the two are attracted to each other. Owen is in a loveless marriage and is naturally drawn to this much younger girl. They convince themselves that the Lord has decided they should be together and

ment like this. She has a creative streak in her that’s just waiting to burst out. But how can she escape the grips of her family and the close-knit religious community? Will she be able to overcome the fear of leaving it all behind? And how does Owen ultimately fit into that future? You’ll just have to check out this lovely film and find out for yourself. Currently streaming for free on Hoopla and Kanopy (with your library card), Netflix, Tubi, and Plex. And to rent on Prime Video, Apple TV, YouTube, and Fandango. Note to parents: Not sure why it’s rated “R.” Maybe because of the adultery theme and a brief, tastefully done sex scene. I’d be inclined to rate it “PG-13,” but obviously it’s your call.



Jem leads the dance practice.

Laurel Parmet, who wrote and directed it. I liked the fact that it didn’t get too heavy handed. In a story like this, it could easily become clichéd, but she avoided that and delivered a beautifully nuanced script. The camera work by Brian Lannin had a natural feel to it and the fine editing by Sam Levy is also worth mentioning. But a good deal of the credit as to why this is such an impressive film is due to its stars. Eliza Scanlen, who’s known for her remarkable performance in Greta Gerwig’s “Little Women” shines throughout the movie. Lewis Pullman (“Top Gun: Maverick,” “Lessons in Chemistry”) was equally noteworthy and the chemistry between the two was palpable. Two rising stars to look out for. Right from the beginning, you sense you’re in for a memorable outing. After saying her morning

and the two share their little secrets together. Owen, the son of Pastor Taylor (Kyle Secor), has recently returned from a mission in Puerto Rico and naturally Jem is instantly drawn to him. He’s a handsome man about twice her age, but that doesn’t stop her from coming on to him. And vice versa. There’s another telling scene that indicates what an oppressive atmosphere Jem is being raised in. She ends up taking over the duties of leading the church’s dance troop. Before the first practice, the pastor’s wife asks if she can observe them. At one point in the routine Jem has choreographed, she steps ahead of the rest of the girls and performs a couple gestures on her own. She’s stopped and is told that it was inappropriate because she’d be the focus of attention and all the girls should be equals in the eyes of the Lord.



An awkward moment between Ben (Austin Abrams) and Jem.



Helping with the laundry.

there’s absolutely nothing wrong with their relationship. So when they finally become physically intimate, it seems perfectly natural and justifiable. To further complicate matters, Jem’s parents Heidi and Paul (Jimmi Simpson) have decided an arranged marriage for her is in order. So they make arrangements for the pastor’s younger son Ben (Austin Abrams) to start courting her. To say it’s an awkward relationship is putting it mildly. Ben is extremely bashful and when he tries to strike up a conversation with Jem, he blurts out the details of how he witnessed some chickens pooping. It’s almost comical and you can feel the kid’s pain. You also sense things aren’t going to go as smoothly as the parents have planned. As I mentioned in the beginning, the film has a dark, oppressive feel to it. You know that Jem can’t last long in an environ-

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 have any movie suggestions, feel free to email me at: dominmark@yahoo.com. Also, if you’re looking for more recommendations, be sure to check out my blog: moviejunkie.mark.blogspot.com.



Jem’s dad Paul (Jimmi Simpson).



# ANNIE: Kids’ privilege has distorted their perspective

Continued from page 2C

**DEAR ANNIE:** My spouse and I chose to raise our kids in a neighborhood with excellent schools and a strong sense of community. The downside is that it’s also a very affluent area, and many of the families around us are far wealthier than we are. We work hard and live comfortably enough, but we can’t provide the kinds of luxuries that some of our children’s friends take for granted — brand-name clothes, international vacations, new cars at 16 and the latest electronics.

Lately, our kids have started acting embarrassed about what we can’t afford. They complain that their friends have nicer things and sometimes act as if we’re failing them because we can’t keep up with the spending around us. It’s painful, because we’ve always tried to emphasize gratitude, responsibility and living within our means. We also worry that they’re losing sight of how fortunate they actually are.

I don’t want to dismiss their feelings, but I also don’t want to raise kids who think love and success are measured by material things. How can we help them develop a healthier perspective when they’re surrounded by so much wealth and comparison every day? — Feeling Outmatched

**DEAR FEELING OUTMATCHED:** Comparison is powerful, especially for kids surrounded by wealth. What your children are experiencing isn’t unusual — but it doesn’t mean you’ve done anything wrong. As Theodore Roosevelt wisely said, “Comparison is the thief of joy.” Remind your kids (and yourself) that measuring life against others’ possessions only steals happiness.

Keep talking openly about your family’s values and the reasons behind your financial choices. Emphasize that character, kindness and responsibility matter far more than status symbols. Over time, those lessons tend to stick, even if they roll their eyes now.

And remember, many parents with far more money would gladly trade it for the kind of perspective you’re giving your children.

**DEAR ANNIE:** I’m a competitive athlete, and my life revolves around training, staying active and maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

I’ve recently fallen for a woman, and we have a lot in common — similar senses of humor, shared values, and she’s incredibly kind. But there’s a problem: She’s not into physical activity at all. She doesn’t enjoy walking around the block, hiking or participating in the outdoor activities that are a big part of my life. Even casual things like biking on weekends feel like a chore for her.

I really like her, but I worry that our lifestyles are too different to be compatible long-term. I don’t want to pressure her into activities she dislikes, but I also can’t imagine giving up the physical side of my life that I love and rely on.

Is it possible to build a

lasting relationship when your passions and daily habits are so different, or is this a sign that we’re not meant for each other? — Caught Between Heart and Sweat

**DEAR HEART AND SWEET:** It’s possible to make it work, but it requires compromise and respect. Celebrate the activities you love without making her feel guilty, and find small ways to share experiences she enjoys. A lasting relationship doesn’t require identical lifestyles, but both partners need to honor each other’s passions. If your core values align and you communicate openly, differences in activity levels can be managed rather than a dealbreaker.

**DEAR ANNIE:** My otherwise extremely well-mannered husband, “Ted,” has developed an unspeakably disgusting habit, and I need help addressing it.

The backstory: About a year ago, there was an accident involving Ted, his brother and a couple of our nephews, which

resulted in Ted losing five visible teeth. Our dentist removed the broken teeth and installed partial dentures.

Ted has a very low pain tolerance and has had a difficult time adjusting to them. As a longtime denture wearer, I’ve told him that it takes time and that he needs to ask the dentist to adjust the partials if the discomfort is intolerable. We’ve looked at dental implants, but they’re very expensive, and we are retired and on a fixed income.

Now to the problem: Ted wears his partial dentures every time we go out, but the moment they become uncomfortable, he takes them out, with no regard for his surroundings. He’s removed his teeth at concerts, movies, church, ball games, restaurants, friends’ homes and family gatherings. He doesn’t leave the room; he just removes them in front of anyone and everyone.

I’m so mortified by this that I’m starting to be reluctant to appear in public with him. The last couple of times he’s suggested going out for

lunch or dinner, I’ve made excuses.

I’m stumped on how to approach this. If I mention it casually, our history suggests that he’ll make an effort, but it will be short-lived. If I make a big deal about it (which it is, to me), he’s liable to get very upset and defensive. Please help me find a workable approach. — Grossed-Out Spouse

**DEAR GROSSED-OUT SPOUSE:** Ted’s discomfort is real, but it still doesn’t justify removing his teeth in the middle of a restaurant.

Don’t hint. Tell him kindly but plainly that it embarrasses you and affects your willingness to go out together. Suggest a simple rule that takes his comfort into account: If he needs a break from the dentures, he steps into the restroom or outside.

If you say it clearly, odds are you’ll only have to say it once.

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

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## FOOD:

Continued from page 2C

All burgers are served with seasoned chips. I also hear they offer a cheese-stuffed burger on Mondays.

Mike’s also is known for its clam chowder and, my favorite, lobster bisque soup, as well as delicious salads like Green Goddess and its Maurice, which draws a following too. Every year new items are added and some oldies are removed.



White Fish Dip & Pretzel bites.

“When we take things off the menu for this upcoming season, some people get mad at me, but we always add something better,” he said.

LeFevre said some of this year’s new additions include mozzarella squares with marinara, sautéed walleye and shrimp-on-askewer salad with lime vinaigrette, just to name a few.

For those looking for

something sweet, Mike’s has you covered in the best way. Wally’s Frozen Custard has taken over the original ice cream truck that’s been parked out front since 2015. They’ll be serving up frozen custard Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend, Thursdays through Sundays.

Bar life is a big part of Mike’s as well, especially during peak summer months. With a full-service bar and multiple top-shelf liquors and beers, they also offer summer classics like traditional rum runners, strawberry daiquiris and pina colodas. They also have a slush machine for frozen cocktails and mocktails are available as well. Among the specialties are “Peggy’s Punch,” honoring a longstanding employee of more than 25 years, as well as his personal lager and wine.

“Mike’s lager is a special-made lager from Griffin Claw Brewery in Birmingham,” he said. “And Mike’s house wine is made out in California at Free Run Winery, with my head on the bottle. ...



Views of the rooftop food truck.

Mike’s lager comes in a can also with a cartoon sketch of me.” How fun is that?

I asked what makes Mike’s stand out from the rest?

“Cool, comfortable, casual and cozy is what I trademarked,” he said, “and that’s how you’ll feel when you come into Mike’s.”

The walls are covered with pictures of guests’ boats that were given to him over the years, as well as pictures from events and parties hosted there.

“The outside deck even has the beard wall,” LeFevre added. “We took pictures of anybody that came in with a good-sized beard, but we ran out of space in 2024.”

LeFevre has been blessed with many longtime employees, some of whom have been with him for decades. Shout outs to Barb, Larry, Will and Steve off the top of his head.

“A lot of people have been with me a long time,” he said. “A great business must have great staff.”

Charity is a huge part of LeFevre’s life. In 1965, when



Rooftop and lower patio deck views.

LeFevre’s newborn sister, Susan, came home from the hospital, his father held her in one arm and a plush stuffed Snoopy in the other. Young Michael grabbed Snoopy and made it his own, kicking off a lifelong love of the Peanuts character.



The Snoopy Museum.

His Snoopy collection has continued over the years so much that he acquired the nickname “Uncle Snoopy,” along with more than 16,000 Snoopy-related pieces. Fondly, he and his sister also called each other “Snoop.” He managed to keep them organized at his home and in October 2023, his post-COVID renovation was a 3,000-square-foot, two-story Snoopy Museum, located inside the banquet space at Mike’s.

“I do it all for charity,” he said. “It’s open to the public the days that we are open. People go in there and put money in the charity boxes. Each month is a different charity and we will start off this season on April 1, with iCare of Michigan, which helps out people in need with unexpected expenses.”

He built the museum to honor his sister, who passed away from breast cancer at age 47. He has one of the largest collections of Snoopy memorabilia in America and has been featured in local and national news outlets, including MTV and CNN.



Wall of beards.

“I trademarked, ‘It’s not what you have. It’s what you give.’”

LeFevre has given a lot. As of December 2025, more than \$68,000 has been raised for local charities. That said, Mike’s loves hosting private events in this space, year-round. It’s an amazing location for kids’ birthdays, school events, showers or grad parties.

Mike’s kicks off the 2026 season April 1, and, after last year’s successful Easter Brunch, will host it again this year. Reservations are required, with multiple seatings from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. The buffet-style brunch

includes more than 16 items, including all the brunch favorites. Call (586) 872-2630 for reservations. Cost is \$29.95 per adult, \$14.95 per child, free for ages 5 and younger. And don’t forget to let the kiddos pick a treasure out of Mike’s treasure chest on the way out.

“Our treasure chest has always been a big hit,” LeFevre said, adding that they go through hundreds of toys per season.

Also make sure to check out the new decks and boardwalks that were added last year, along with new flooring and tile throughout the bar area for the 2026 season. LeFevre wasn’t kidding when he said they’ve done renovations every year since he opened.

The front of the building reads, “If you build it, they will come. But you better be good when they come.” This community thinks you’re pretty darn good, Mike LeFevre. Looking forward to patio season out there.

\* Fun Fact: The rooftop food truck belonged to the carpenter who originally built Mike’s in 2011. He came back to visit and his truck was for sale. LeFevre told him immediately he would buy it because, “that’s the truck that built this restaurant.”

Follow along on social media for this season’s current hours and specials.

Facebook: Mike’s on the Water

Instagram: @mikesonthewater

Stay tuned. Stay hungry.

GROSSE POINTE THEATRE PRESENTS

ROALD DAHL'S

# Matilda

THE MUSICAL

APRIL 10-26, 2026

PARCELLS MIDDLE SCHOOL

[gpt.org/matilda](http://gpt.org/matilda)





GROSSE POINTE THEATRE

RODGERS + HAMMERSTEIN'S

# Cinderella

JUNE 5-21, 2026

[gpt.org/cinderella](http://gpt.org/cinderella)



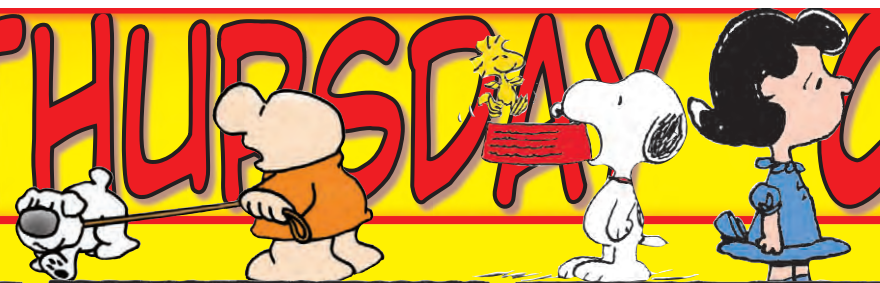




# Grosse Pointe News

Peanuts

# THURSDAY COMICS



Charles M. Schulz



HERE'S THE WORLD WAR I FLYING ACE DOWN BEHIND ENEMY LINES WEARING ONE OF HIS FAMOUS DISGUISES



"C MINUS"?!!



I WORK ALL NIGHT ON A PAPER, AND ALL I GET IS A "C MINUS"!

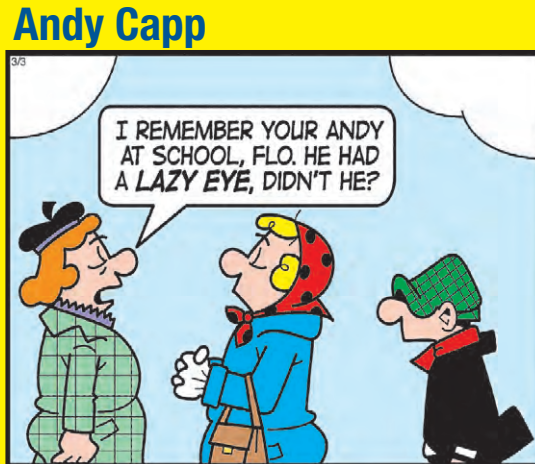


Hey, cool! You also fantasize that you're a popular athletic individual by wearing a facsimile of an item of his clothing!

Yeah! I worship him because his corporate employer bears the name of the city where I happen to live!



I REMEMBER YOUR ANDY AT SCHOOL, FLO. HE HAD A LAZY EYE, DIDN'T HE?



HOW'S HE NOW?

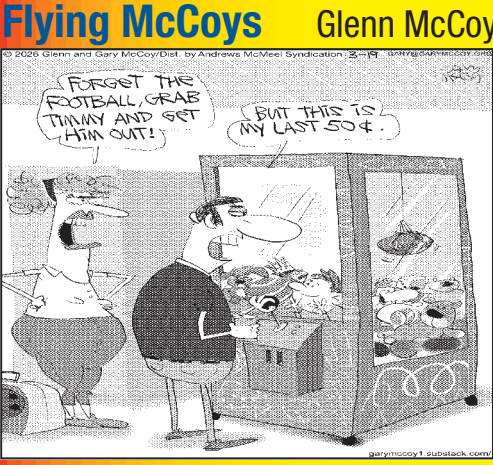


THESE DAYS, IT'S NOT JUST THE EYE



FORGET THE FOOTBALL, GRAB TIMMY AND GET HIM OUT!

BUT THIS IS MY LAST SO F.

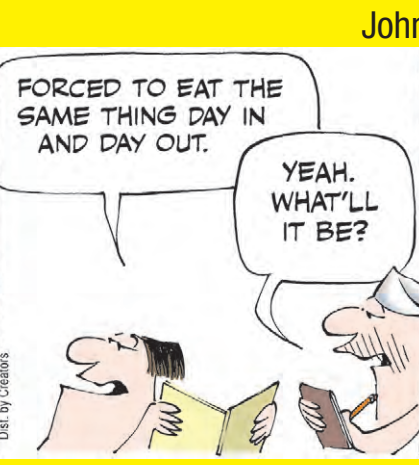


I FEEL SORRY FOR DOGS...



FORCED TO EAT THE SAME THING DAY IN AND DAY OUT.

YEAH. WHAT'LL IT BE?



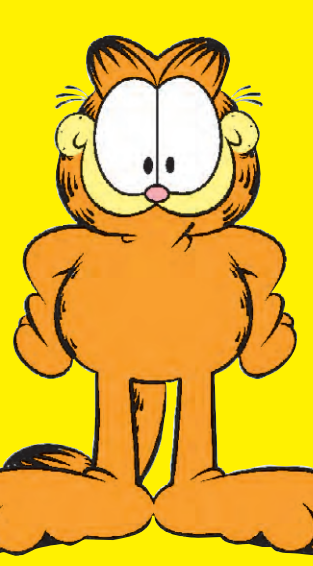
THE USUAL.



WHATEVER HAPPENS, I KNOW MY GRANDPA WILL BE LOOKING DOWN ON ME!

MAY YOUR GRANDPA REST IN PEACE

OH, HE'S NOT DEAD. HE'S JUST VERY JUDGY



CHOMP! SLURP! GULP!



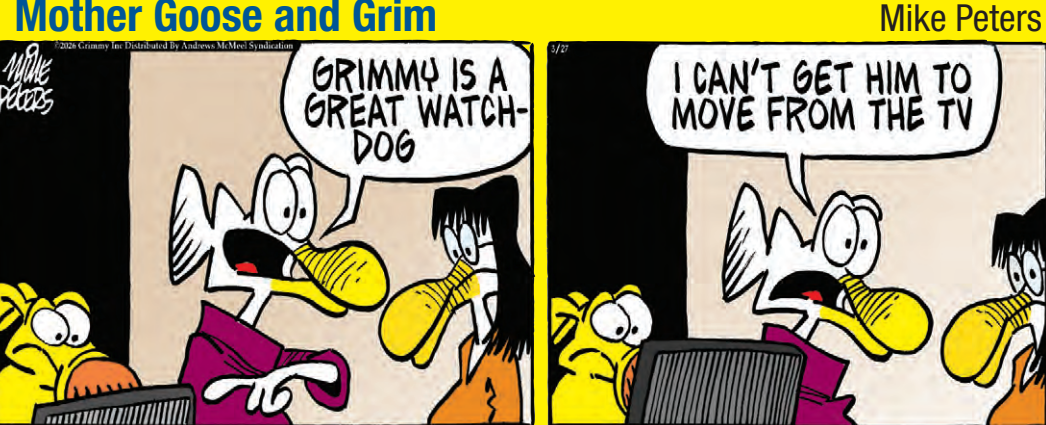
IS IT POSSIBLE FOR YOU TO BE ANY MORE ANNOYING?!

I COULD TAKE UP THE BAGPIPES

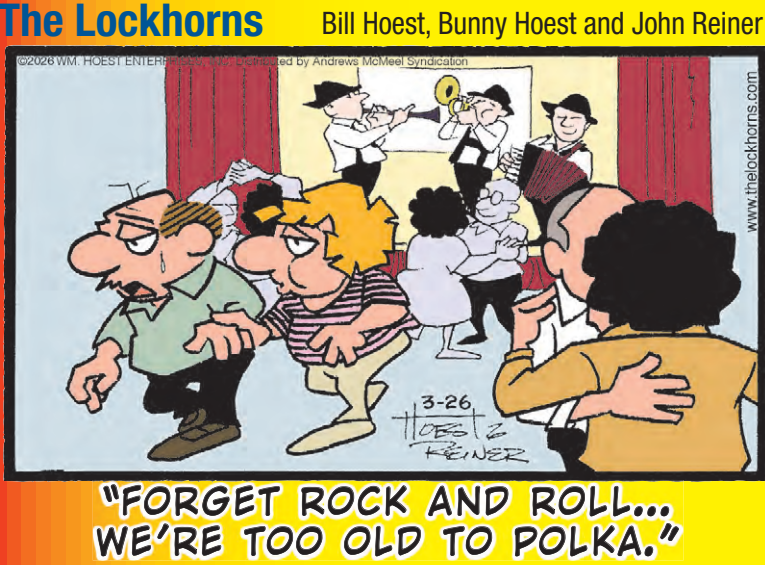


GRIMMY IS A GREAT WATCH-DOG

I CAN'T GET HIM TO MOVE FROM THE TV



"FORGET ROCK AND ROLL... WE'RE TOO OLD TO POLKA."

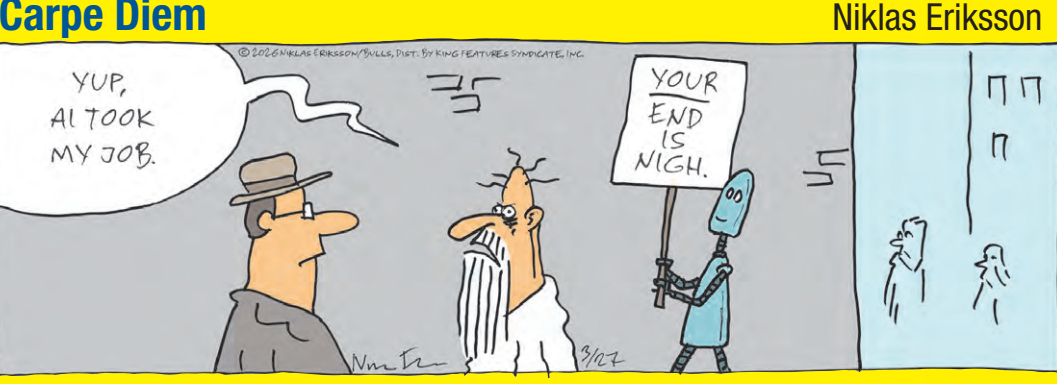


"DO YOU HAVE ANY OTHER PIGGY BANKS? THESE ALL SEEM TO BE EMPTY!"



YUP, AL TOOK MY JOB.

YOUR END IS NIGH.



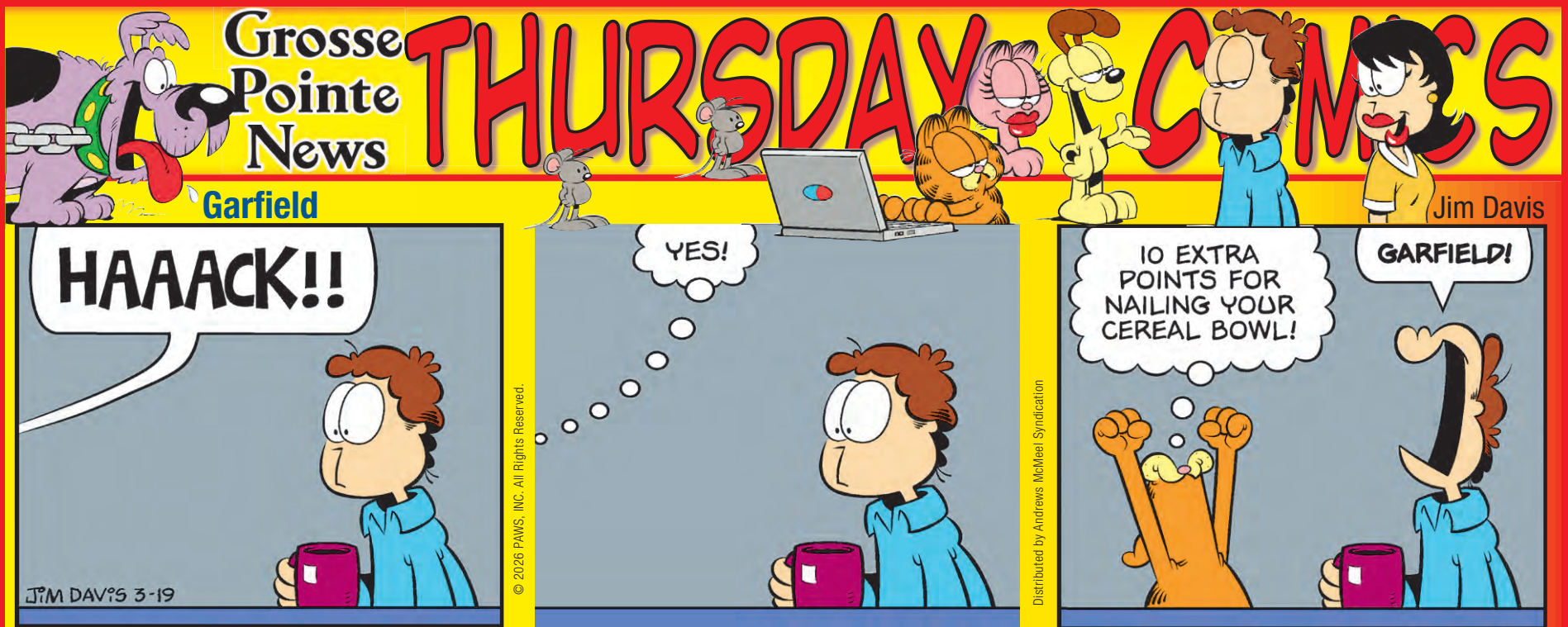
Yeah, I hit him with his deck, but he played "Last Christmas" after Christmas!

Sounds like self-defense ...

DJ RONNIE







**Grosse Pointe News** **THURSDAY COMICS**

Garfield Jim Davis

HAAACK!!

YES!

10 EXTRA POINTS FOR NAILING YOUR CEREAL BOWL!

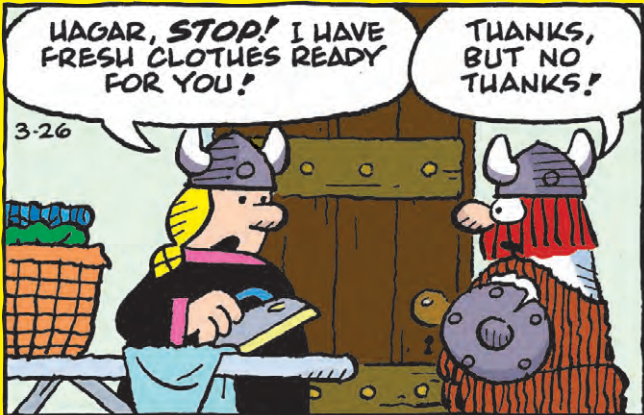
GARFIELD!

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Hagar The Horrible (Dik Browne & Chris Browne Original Creators) Bob Webber Jr. and Gary Hallgren

Close To Home John McPherson



HAGAR, STOP! I HAVE FRESH CLOTHES READY FOR YOU!

THANKS, BUT NO THANKS!

I ALREADY FILLED ALL MY POCKETS WITH SNACKS!

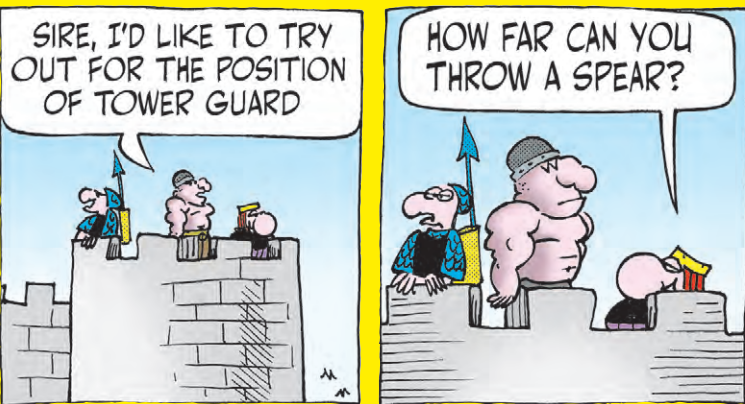
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AHA!

The Keller's new Memory-Foam mattress confirmed Barry's suspicion that Sheila was having an affair with the mailman.

Wizard of Id Created by Brant Parker and Johnny Hart. Currently by Mason Mastroianni



SIRE, I'D LIKE TO TRY OUT FOR THE POSITION OF TOWER GUARD

HOW FAR CAN YOU THROW A SPEAR?



YOU'RE HIRED

Blondie Chris and Dean Young



I GOT AN A+++ WITH HONORS ON MY HISTORICAL BIO REPORT, DAD!

WOW! CONGRATS, SON!



WHO DID YOU WRITE ABOUT?

SOMEONE WE KNOW WELL...



JUAN SUENO, INVENTOR OF THE SNOOZE ALARM!

I'M SO PROUD!

Over The Hedge Michael Fry and T. Lewis

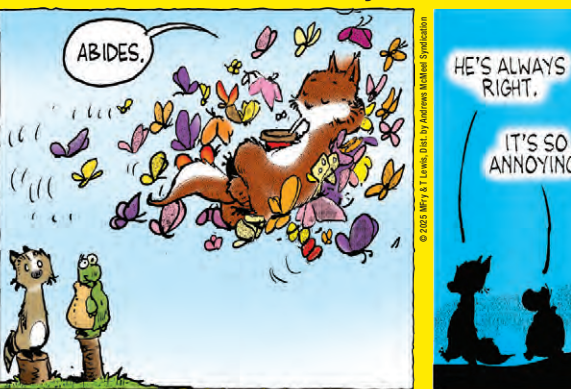


SPRING ROCKS!

NO, SPRING RULES!



ROCKS!! RULES!!



ABIDES.

HE'S ALWAYS RIGHT. IT'S SO ANNOYING

Crock Created by Bill Rechin and Brant Parker



I HEAR THE CAIRO RAT IS HAVING A BIG SALE ON SECRETS

HE'S HERE NOW



WHERE CAN I FIND HIM?

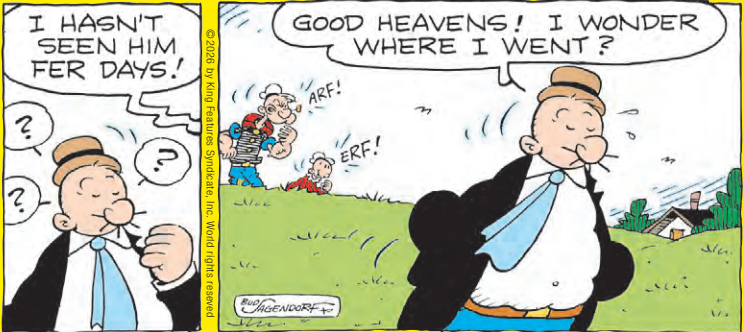
SEE THAT TABLE OVER THERE HAVING THE BLUE-LIGHT SPECIAL?

Popeye Bud Sagendorf



IT SURE IS NICE NOT TO HAVE WIMPY HANGIN' AROUN!

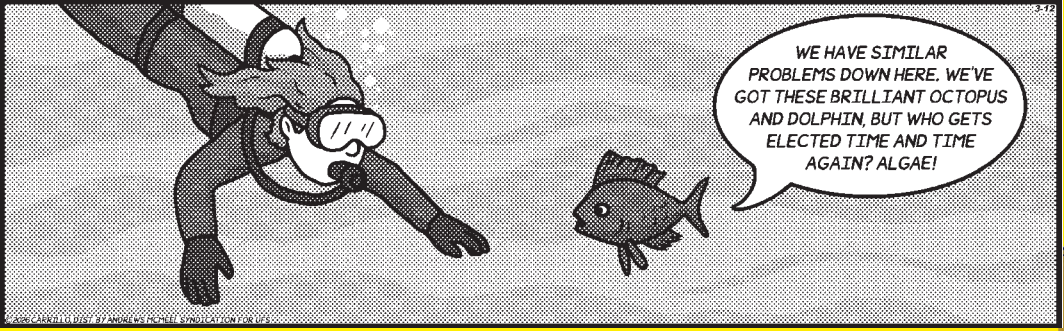
YEAH!



I HASN'T SEEN HIM FER DAYS!

GOOD HEAVENS! I WONDER WHERE I WENT?

F Minus Tony Carrillo



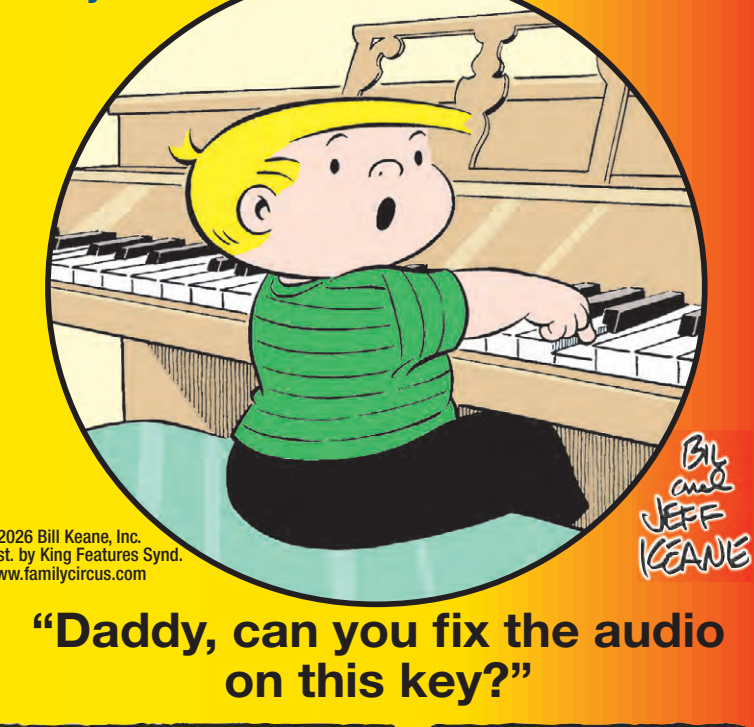
WE HAVE SIMILAR PROBLEMS DOWN HERE. WE'VE GOT THESE BRILLIANT OCTOPUS AND DOLPHIN, BUT WHO GETS ELECTED TIME AND TIME AGAIN? ALGAE!

Marmaduke Paul & Brad Anderson



I know Mom told me to do my home-work. You don't have to gaurd me."

Family Circus Bill and Jeff Keane



Daddy, can you fix the audio on this key?

Family Circus Bill and Jeff Keane



SIR SLAY-A-LOT? IS THAT YOU?

YEP! CAN'T WIN 'EM ALL!



Weekly Challenge

UNIVERSAL  
Sudoku Puzzle

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

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

Previous puzzle solution

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

3/26

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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3/19 Solution

Pointe Word Search

Find the words on the left in the puzzle below.

ARTEMIS  
ASTRONAUT  
EARTH  
JUPITER  
LUNAR  
MARS  
MOON  
ROCKET  
SPACE  
SUN  
VENUS

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



**Moon Alert:** There are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions today. The Moon is in CANCER.

**Happy Birthday for Thursday, March 26, 2026:** You are easygoing and quick-thinking. People admire your straightforward and clear-sighted practicality. Enjoy socializing with others. Your creativity and desire for life are at a pinnacle. Let your guard down and loosen up a bit. Old friends might reappear in your world.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19)  
You can make excellent home improvements today because you're enthusiastic and people are willing to get on board with your plans. They can't resist your impulse to think big. Plus, of course, enthusiasm is contagious! Tonight: Relax.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20)  
Today you feel warm-hearted and kind to others. In fact, you may sense that whatever you give today is exactly what you will receive back in return, especially in terms of kindness, friendship and nurturing support. Tonight: An explanation..

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20)  
Look for ways to boost your income today, because this is possible. This, coupled with your personal drive and ability to impress authority figures, is a sure-fire combination for success. Tonight: Check your belongings.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22)  
Today the Moon is in your sign lined up with lucky Jupiter, which amplifies your success when dealing with members of the general public or working with large groups of people. Seek the highest good. Tonight: You're strong.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22)  
Travel and a chance to do something different beckons. Or some of you might be attracted to someone unusual or different. Meanwhile, you might choose to work alone or behind the scenes to negotiate financial matters or solidify support for yourself. Tonight: Enjoy solitude.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)  
This is a popular day for you! Accept the responsibility that might be thrust on you by groups and organizations. Your ability to deal with others is excellent today. Tonight: Be friendly.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)  
You make a great impression on everyone today because they see you as positive, energetic and generous. This is why others will follow your lead. Use this power to do something good. Tonight: You're noticed.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)  
If you can travel today this will thrill you. If you can't travel, perhaps you can make travel plans. Or, alternatively, you can travel through film, conversation with someone and study. Tonight: Learn something.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)  
It looks like you have the practical and financial support to make improvements at home today. Certainly, you will want to do something, because increased chaos and activity on the homefront are a challenge. Tonight: Check your finances.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)  
This is an excellent day to reach out to others or work in conjunction with spouses, partners and close friends. Any kind of group energy will benefit you (as well as everyone else). Let enthusiasm and generosity inspire others and guide your decisions. Tonight: Listen to others.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)  
Work-related travel is likely for many of you today. This is also a solid day to discuss money, earnings and cash flow. With the Sun and Venus in your House of Communications, you will walk your talk! Tonight: Work..

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20)  
This is a fun-loving, playful day. Accept invitations to schmooze and party, as well as enjoy sports events and fun activities with kids. Accept any opportunity that comes your way to express your creative talents! Tonight: Schmooze!

**BORN TODAY**  
Actress Keira Knightley (1985), singer-songwriter Steven Tyler (1948), comedian, actor, writer Martin Short (1950).

Contract Bridge

THE RIGHT ROAD TO FOLLOW

East dealer.  
East-West vulnerable.

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

The bidding:  
East South West North  
Pass 1 NT Pass 3 NT  
Opening lead — nine of diamonds.

It is axiomatic to say that making the contract is declarer's first consideration, but applying this principle on every deal is more easily said than done.  
Consider this case where East won the opening diamond lead with the ace and returned a diamond, won by dummy's queen. Declarer then led the queen of clubs, and when East showed out, South could no longer make the contract.  
West took the queen with the king

and played a third round of diamonds to establish his suit, and South could do no better than take eight tricks to finish down one.  
It is easy to dismiss the outcome by saying that declarer was extremely unlucky that the clubs were divided 4-0 — the only distribution that could defeat him. Nevertheless, the fact remains that South's failure to make the contract was a violation — albeit unintentional — of the principle stated above.  
Declarer's goal from the start should be to make sure he scores four club tricks. If he does that, he is home free and clear. Since there is no problem if the opposing clubs are divided 2-2 or 3-1, South should shape his play to cater to the possibility of either opponent having all four clubs.  
Accordingly, he should win the diamond return with the king at trick two and lead a low club toward dummy at trick three. In the actual case, West cannot score more than one club trick, whether he takes the king immediately or later.  
The same is true if East is the player with four clubs. He also cannot stop declarer from scoring four club tricks no matter how he defends. The safety play thus guarantees the contract regardless of how the opposing clubs are divided.

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by Steve Becker

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg March 26, 2026

ACROSS

1 Part of a process  
5 First name in 2024 politics  
11 Salom, say  
14 Remove the rind from  
15 Tranquil  
16 Emptied one's hand first, in Uno  
17 What to say if you're on fire? (In this answer, note letters 2-5)  
19 "Please, dig in!"  
20 Emotionally demanding  
21 Nickname that rhymes with "Ray"  
22 Word after "yard" or "garage"  
23 Space mission launch site (... letters 3-7)  
27 Yogurt addition  
29 Battering  
30 Prime Video option  
31 Variety of M&Ms  
34 Tactic in a war of attrition  
38 Hoppy brew  
39 Made exhausted (... letters 2-5)  
41 Straight pretzel shape  
42 Sabin vaccine target  
44 Front page filler  
45 Lily pad visitor

46 Male swan  
48 Sea otter's snack  
50 "Creature" that might "attack" a child (... letters 5-9)  
55 Exclusively  
56 Ax thrower's asset  
57 Hajj destination  
60 Kerfuffle  
61 Exclusive information, and a theme hint  
64 Sermon topic  
65 Attacked by mosquitoes  
66 Undo's menu  
67 Shirt fired from a cannon  
68 \_\_\_ with (teased)  
69 Remote locations?

DOWN

1 Swivel  
2 Control, as frizzy hair  
3 Waterway not supported by Jefferson or Madison  
4 Necklace dangler  
5 Metric speed meas.  
6 The "A" of 38-Across  
7 "Zoom-Zoom" automaker  
8 Squirrel's nut  
9 Like the equation y = 3x - 20  
10 Suffix with "Gator"  
11 Trigger a bleep

12 Stuffed "bear" sold in an Australia airport  
13 Big name in chips  
18 Feature of htis clue  
22 Frozen Four game  
24 Muppet who refers to himself in the third person  
25 Terrier type  
26 Boundless  
27 Tennis racket hold  
28 Seized auto  
32 Formerly known as  
33 Early  
34 caucussoer  
35 404 Not Found, for one  
36 "Continue ..."  
37 Border  
39 Cashmere or angora  
40 Common PC ports

43 Like Brussels sprouts, to many kids  
45 Swindled  
47 \_\_\_ Babies  
49 PIN requesters  
50 A "ting, ting, ting" may signal its start  
51 Like Sundance films  
52 Personal copy?  
53 Waterfall sprays  
54 Fails to mention  
58 Makeshift screwdriver  
59 Many NYC homes  
61 Pioneer in chess engines  
62 Poor grade  
63 This clue's position

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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

3/19 Solution

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3/26

Ice Cream Sandwich by Charlie Dean

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |    | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |    | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 |    |    |    |    | 15 |    |    |    |    |    |    | 16 |    |    |
| 17 |    |    |    |    | 18 |    |    |    |    |    |    | 19 |    |    |
| 20 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 21 |    |    | 22 |    |    |    |
|    |    |    | 23 |    |    | 24 | 25 |    |    | 26 |    |    |    |    |
| 27 | 28 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 29 |    |    |    |    |    |
| 30 |    |    |    |    | 31 |    | 32 | 33 |    | 34 |    | 35 | 36 | 37 |
| 38 |    |    |    | 39 |    |    |    |    | 40 |    | 41 |    |    |    |
| 42 |    |    | 43 |    |    | 44 |    |    |    |    | 45 |    |    |    |
|    |    |    | 46 |    | 47 |    |    | 48 |    | 49 |    |    |    |    |
| 50 | 51 | 52 |    |    |    | 53 | 54 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 55 |    |    |    |    | 56 |    |    |    |    | 57 |    |    | 58 | 59 |
| 60 |    |    |    |    | 61 |    |    |    | 62 | 63 |    |    |    |    |
| 64 |    |    |    |    | 65 |    |    |    |    |    | 66 |    |    |    |
| 67 |    |    |    |    | 68 |    |    |    |    |    | 69 |    |    |    |



# SPORTS



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2-6D SPRING SPORTS PREVIEWS | 4-5D CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

## Winter athletes end season with honors

By Mike Adzima  
Sports Reporter

Another winter sports season officially has concluded across the state of Michigan. As the high school sports world gets ready to move things back outside for the warmer spring weather, some outstanding athletes from Grosse Pointe South, Grosse Pointe North and University Liggett School have been recognized in their respective sports for their performances during the winter season.

The Liggett varsity boys ice hockey team had one of its most suc-

cessful seasons in over a decade this winter, making its long-awaited return to the Division 3 state final four. In recognition of their efforts, five Knights were named to the All-State list by the Michigan High School Hockey Coaches Association.

Senior forward Nick Gould was named First Team All-State in Division 3. Fellow senior and forward Griffin Marchal received Second Team All-State honors, as did senior goalie Luc Valiot. Senior defenseman Ryan Cordaro was an All-State honorable mention,

while Owen Delisle was named Second Team All-Freshman for the state.

North also had one player recognized with All-State honors. Junior forward Charlie Mueller received a Second Team All-State nod in Division 3.

Several skaters from the Pointes also received honors in girls hockey from the Michigan High School Girls Hockey League to end the season. From South, which finished the season as Division 1 state runner-up, forward Ruby Lenhard and defenseman Audrey Reynolds

both were recognized as First Team All-State. Sydney Eickhorst and Charlie Harr from South also were named Second Team All-State.

Liggett's girls hockey team also had some players receive honors in Division 1. Defenseman Kate Ricci was First Team All-State, while forwards Stella Smiatacz and Avery Welsh, as well as goalie Madeline Hexter, were named Second Team All-State. Defenseman Ava Shock for the Knights made the state's All-Freshman team.

The Norsemen had their share of players on the Division 2 All-State lists. Twila Shappy-Behn was First Team All-State, while Paige Thomas received a Second Team All-State nod. Ava Villani was an honorable mention and Mia Wilhelm earned a spot on the All-Freshman team.

Swimmers representing the Blue Devils, Norsemen and Knights finished with All-State times after the conclusion of the winter boys swim and dive season. From South, sophomore Brady Bond was All-State twice in Division 2, finishing fourth in the 50-yard freestyle (21.27) and fourth in the 100 freestyle (46.56).

The Norsemen had several swimmers finish with All-State status in Division 3. Junior Tyler



PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY LIGGETT ATHLETICS

**University Liggett senior swimmer Brendan Beland finished the season with a pair of All-State times in Division 3 in the 50 free and 100 butterfly.**

Collins finished eighth in the 100 butterfly (53.80) for All-State honors. Brady Winbigler got All-State recognition for his eighth-place finish in the 500 freestyle (4:52.54) and was an honorable mention for All-State by finishing 13th in the 200 IM. Senior James Gusmano was All-State in the 100 breaststroke by finishing in seventh (1:00.29). He also came in ninth in the 50 free-

style, enough for an All-State honorable mention.

Gusmano, Collins, Thomas Kezhaya and Paul Stephens were All-State in the 200 freestyle relay by finishing in eighth (1:30.07).

Liggett's Brendan Beland finished with a pair of All-State times in Division 3. Beland was fourth in the 50 freestyle (21.46) and fourth in the 100 butterfly (51.24).



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

**Grosse Pointe South senior Ruby Lenhard earned First Team All-State recognition in Division 1 from the Michigan Girls High School Hockey League.**

### ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

## Lezotte brings high hopes into senior baseball season at South

By Mike Adzima  
Sports Reporter

Baseball players at Grosse Pointe South

know the standard of success to which the program holds itself. Players develop the right kind of attitude to meet those

expectations and one of them who will be leading the way this spring is senior shortstop Dane Lezotte.

Lezotte is one of a few players returning to the starting lineup from last year's South team that reached a Division 1 state final four. While there may be some turnover in the lineup this spring, the expectations for the Blue Devils remain the same and Lezotte knows that well.

"I just want to be the best team player I can be," he said. "I want to win a state championship. That's been a goal

of mine for a while. Our coach always says that there's no rebuilding stage for our team; the goal is always to win a championship no matter who we have. At the end of the day, I want to reach great personal goals, but it means so much more to me to win a state championship."

If Lezotte continues to perform at or above the level he did in 2025, then a state championship could very well be in the cards for the Blue Devils. Last season, he led the team with a .400 batting average with 46 hits and 36 RBIs. He was as solid



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

**Dane Lezotte steps into the batter's box for South during the 2025 Division 1 state semifinal.**

Grosse Pointe News



**Dane Lezotte**  
School: Grosse Pointe South  
Sport: Baseball

Sponsored by Shana Sine Cameron  
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**Dominant Dane**

- .400 BA and led South baseball with 46 hits & 36 RBIs in 2025
- Named 2025 Division 1 Second Team All-State
- Signed to play Division I college baseball at Cornell University

defensively as he was at the plate, finishing with a .956 fielding percentage at shortstop while also earning five wins and a 2.019 ERA in his pitching appearances.

All of that helped earn Lezotte Second Team

All-State recognition in Division 1 to end last season. Of course, the goal is for him to do even better this year and his off-season focus on strength and conditioning should

See *ATHLETE*, page 6D

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## 2D | SPORTS

# 2026 **Spring Sports Previews** ▶▶

## Blue Devils girls track counting on depth for success in 2026

By Mike Adzima  
*Sports Reporter*

The Grosse Pointe South varsity girls track and field program set a high bar for success in 2025. The Blue Devils went undefeated in MAC league competition, won a Division regional title and had 13 athletes qualify for the state championships. South knows it might be difficult to reach the same level of success again this spring, but has a large group of athletes who are growing more confident that they can reach the same level and possibly go beyond.

The Blue Devils enter the 2026 season with a large roster of 75 girls. Some have big shoes to fill this spring with five of the top 10 point-earners from last year's team now graduated. While South will look for some athletes to step up in crucial positions, it wants to remain focused on everything being a full team effort.

"Our 2026 team is loaded with youth, experience, talent and leadership," South girls track and field head coach Steve Zaranek said. "We have a balance that is hard to find on most teams. With so many events to cover,

depth is a crucial element to our success and is something we strive for and achieve each year. This year should be no exception. We're not a team filled with superstars. We will be a team that covers all events with solid effort and continual improvement."

South has some key leaders from last season returning to the roster. One of them is senior Morgan Duff, who qualified for the state finals in long jump last spring. Sophomore Evie Baer also returns and is expected to be one of the team's top sprinters yet again. Junior Ciara Pongratz also is back as the team's top hurdler and high jumper.

The Blue Devils look to have strong depth in sprints, led by athletes like Ryan Wright, Daphne Spies, Karissa Jelinski, Aria Burrascano and Sabine Stackhouse. Rylee Piornack, Macey and freshmen Eleanor Pilsner and Lydia Thomason-Redus will be looked to for depth in the distance events.

The team once again has hopes of winning a MAC championship and regional title, as well as success in the Wayne County championships.



PHOTO COURTESY OF STEVE ZARANEK

Four seniors will serve as captains for South girls track and field this spring. From left, Abby Macey, Leila Oskui, Morgan Duff and Maddie Maks.

and many of the strong invitationals it has scheduled throughout the year. The Blue Devils know who some of their top leaders are, but also could see athletes step up in surprising ways throughout the

spring. No matter what, the goal of consistency and striving to get better every day is always there for South.

“Our primary goals remain the same year after year,” Zaranek said: “Be the best team.

in terms of readiness and preparation, wherever we go. Work hard every day to constantly improve and be the best of supportive teammates. These are goals our team can achieve and these goals are the

most significant.”  
The Blue Devils began the season after press time Wednesday, March 25, with a meet against Warren Mott. South is back in action Tuesday, April 7, hosting Eisenhower.

# North girls lacrosse sees program unity as strength in 2026

By Mike Adzima  
*Sports Reporter*

Having a bigger lineup to begin a new season is something the Grosse Pointe North varsity girls lacrosse team is embracing this spring. The Norsemen do not have a JV team this year, instead

having players from all different grades and skill levels making up the varsity team.

Some might think being without a JV team could be a weakness, but North's girls lacrosse program hopes it ends up being a strength by allowing the squad's vet-

eran leaders to guide younger players in their development more directly.

"We're very unified," North girls lacrosse head coach Emily Turnbull said. "... Everybody's on the same page. We're all doing the same thing. In the games, that can be

really beneficial. The upperclassmen are going to help the younger, less experienced players learn the game and they'll be able to transition a lot quicker because they're playing with girls who have more experience." 

Some of the veterans who will be leading from the front for the Norsemen include seniors Lexi Dobbs, Joelle Latta and Kate Kasuba.  While those seniors are expected to help set the tone, the Norsemen also are confident some strong underclassmen this year can help build a foundation for the future.

couple of players who highlight what North sees as a strong sophomore class. The team also is looking for contributions right away from freshman attack Elizabeth Northey.



answer on the defensive side, but the team is focused on playing to its strengths to go beyond the eight wins North achieved last year.

“We have a younger defense, so our goal is to really take possession of the ball,” Turnbull said. “Our most experienced players are in the mid-field and attacking end, so just taking control there, we know where our strengths are.”

The Norsemen started the season after press time Wednesday, March 25, with an away game against West Bloomfield. The team returns from a break for its next game Wednesday, April 8, going on the road to face Lakeview.

**CITY OF HARPER WOODS  
WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN  
SYNOPSIS: REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MARCH 16, 2026**

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 March 6, 2026. 2) To schedule a public hearing on April 20, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of receiving public comment on the continuation of a Special Assessment District and further to schedule a second public hearing on May 4, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing the effect of the Special Assessment on the tax roll, and further that the City Clerk publish a notice of these in accordance with City Charter requirements.
- 3) To schedule an appeal hearing on April 20, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of receiving public comment on the revocation of the business license at 19306 Kelly Road - Fly Social LLC and further that the City Clerk publish a notice of this in accordance with City Charter requirements.
- 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 9:29 p.m.

## RESOLUTIONS PASSED

- 1) (1) approve the Accounts Payable/Payroll Vendor listing for Check Numbers 134570 through 134663 in the amount of \$1,605,203.67 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 Nu Appearance Maintenance, Inc. in the amount of \$5,855.00 for contractual plowing and salting in various areas of the City, including City Hall, the annexes, Library and the Parks. (3) approve payment in the amount of \$20,655.44 to Guardian Sewers for their assistance with 4 water main breaks and replacement of 6 stop boxes. (4) approve payment to SAFEbuilt, LLC in the amount of \$29,475.72 for the contractual building department services performed during the month of February 2026. (5) approve payment to Doxim, Inc. in the amount of \$7,312.31 for the printing, folding and mailing of the monthly water bills for Districts 1, 2 and 3.
- 2) To adopt the resolution authorizing the Publication of the Notice of Intent to Issue Revenue Bonds for the Water and Sewer System - Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF Project).
- 3) to approve the appointment of Philip Cavanagh to the position of Deputy City Manager for the City of Harper Woods effective upon a mutually agreed upon employment agreement.

**Valerie Kindle, Mayor**

**Leslie M. Frank, City Clerk**

Published: GPN, March 26, 2026



# Board of Zoning Appeals NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

|               |                        |           |
|---------------|------------------------|-----------|
| 90 Kerby Road | Monday, April 13, 2026 | 7:00 p.m. |
|---------------|------------------------|-----------|

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE CITY OF GROSSE POINTE FARMS Board of Zoning Appeals** will hold a Public Hearing on 4/13/2026 at 7:00 p.m. at the Grosse Pointe Farms City Hall located at 90 Kerby Rd. to consider an application from the owner of the property located at 123 Muir Rd, which is located in the R-1 One-Family Residential District. The applicant requests the required approval of the following dimensional variance in order to proceed with the plans.

- Approval of a dimensional variance to permit an addition/structural alteration to a legal non-conforming house as required by Sec. 1502(10) of the zoning ordinance.

All interested citizens are requested to attend the Hearings. Public comments will be received during the Public Hearing, orally. If you are unable to be present at the Public Hearing, please submit your written comments to the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 90 Kerby Road, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236 or through the [www.grossepointefarms.org/publiccomment](http://www.grossepointefarms.org/publiccomment), by 12:00 p.m. the date of the hearing. For detailed instructions on how to observe or participate in the meeting please contact the City Clerk office at (313) 885-6600 or visit the City website.

For further information regarding the application please contact Matthew Baka, Public Services Director, at (313) 885-4285. Plans are available at City Hall for review.

Published: Grosse Pointe News 3/26/2026



# 2026 Spring Sports Previews▶▶

## Veteran core looks to replicate hockey success with ULS boys lax

By Mike Adzima  
Sports Reporter

Few sports go hand-in-hand with each other as much as hockey and lacrosse seem to. The University Liggett School varsity boys lacrosse and hockey teams have enjoyed strong seasons in recent years and the same core that drives both teams returns to the field for Liggett lacrosse this spring, looking to match the level of success it recently achieved on the ice this winter.

“We’re bringing almost everybody back,” Liggett boys lacrosse coach Mike Costanzo said. “It should be a really strong team. They’ve been through a lot together. It’s a lot of hockey players, so they have a lot of chemistry from playing hockey and lacrosse together for so many years and hopefully that pays off for us in some big games.”

Fans who followed Liggett’s boys hockey team’s run to the Division 3 state final four this winter are sure to recognize many of the names on the lacrosse field for the Knights once again. Leading the attack are the team’s three highest scorers from last season: Luke Slanec, Nick Gould and Mac Costanzo.



PHOTOS BY MIKE ADZIMA

Following a First Team All-State hockey season in the winter, senior Nick Gould will be a leader of Liggett’s attack on the lacrosse field this season.

The midfield will be anchored by Landen Maltby and Griffin Marchal, along with All-State swimmer Brendan Beland. Johnny Secco returns to help lead the defense and Ryan Cordaro once again will start in net.

Much of the core of Liggett’s team is made up of veteran leaders

who know how to hold each other to a high standard. Having a group that is so familiar with each other from years of playing multiple sports together can make it easy for the Knights to hit the ground running this spring.

“They are responsible and accountable to one

another,” Costanzo said. “It’s one of the first years I’ve had where I know these guys are

going to take care of business and get the job done. Coaching won’t be quite as important as

in the past because there are a lot of leaders on this team, so they’re going to be able to ramp it up and be ready to play when it’s time.”

The Knights won 12 games last spring and reached the Division 2 regional final. Their sights are set on much of the same this season, hoping to become league champions and go further in the post-season. This group’s experiences together on the ice and field over the years give this season the expectation that it could be the culmination of some great careers at Liggett.

“The first goal is to win the Catholic League. ... I think they’re looking forward to maybe a deeper run in the play-offs this year, too,” Costanzo said. “For a lot of these guys, they’ve had a lot of success in hockey and lacrosse in the last few years and they’re ready to take the next step.”

The Knights start the new campaign Tuesday, March 31, going on the road to take on Shrine Catholic.



Landen Maltby returns as a key player in Liggett’s midfield this spring.



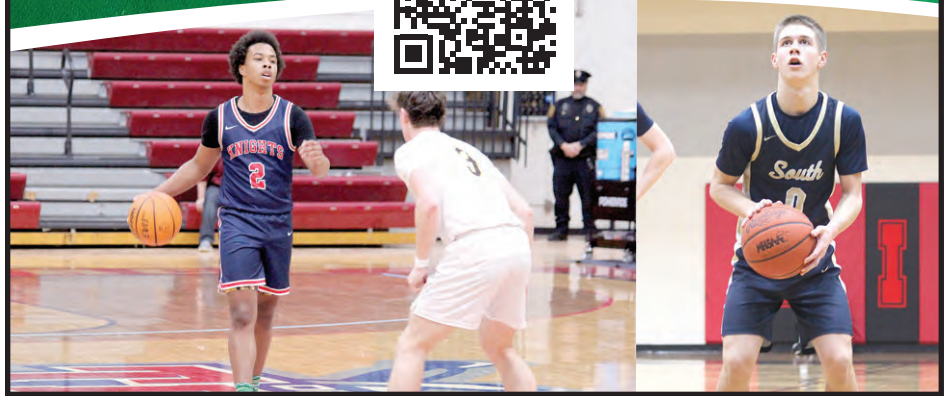
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The winter sports season is heating up. If you’re looking for a place to keep up with all the action, look no further than @GPNewssports on Instagram.

Our page is dedicated to providing fans around the Pointes and beyond with the latest news and features surrounding Grosse Pointe North, Grosse Pointe South and University Liggett sports.

Best of all, you can be part of the action too! Send your best sports photos and moments to our DMs for a chance to be featured on our page and in the sports section of the Grosse Pointe News. Follow us today!





City of **Grosse Pointe Woods**, Michigan

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Grosse Pointe Woods City Council, meeting as the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) under the provisions of Public Act 110 of 2006, MCL 125.3101 through 125.3702 as amended, and Grosse Pointe Woods City Code of 2022 Chapter 50, Article 7, Section 50-7.15, will consider a variance at 20195 Mack Avenue (Lola’s Taco Bar) in order to use a walk-up window for employee service. A variance is requested from Section 50-4.9.A.6: Retail Businesses. Specifically, the applicant is seeking relief from this Ordinance standard:

“Restaurants, lunchrooms and cafeterias and places for the sale of soft drinks, juices, ice cream and nonalcoholic liquors, but excluding drive-thru facilities and places or businesses providing dancing or entertainment and places where food or beverages are dispensed to or served in automobiles parking on private property adjacent to and in connection with such establishments or are dispensed or served from an outside counter.”

Please note, no drive-thru facility is proposed or permitted at this location.

The ZBA hearing is scheduled for Monday, April 13, 2026, at 7:00pm, at City Hall in the Council Chamber/Courtroom (20025 Mack Plaza Drive, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236). The application is available for inspection at the City Clerk’s office between 8:30am and 5:00pm Monday through Friday.

All interested persons are invited to attend and will be given the opportunity for public comment. The public may appear in person or be represented by counsel. Written comments will be received in the City Clerk’s Office at 20025 Mack Plaza Drive, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236, or at cityclerk@gpwmi.us up to close of business preceding the hearing. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services at the meeting should contact the Grosse Pointe Woods Clerk’s Office at (313) 343-2440 seven days prior to the meeting. The agenda and pertinent documents will be available at [www.gpwmi.us](http://www.gpwmi.us).

For additional project information, contact the Building and Planning Department at (313) 343-2426 or e-mail: [building@gpwmi.us](mailto:building@gpwmi.us).

Paul P. Antolin  
City Clerk

G.P.N.:3/26/26



4D | SPORTS

HITS & HIGHLIGHTS

Whether it's games, meets or matches, school winter sports in the Pointes are in full swing and the Grosse Pointe News is here to bring you all the action. Some of the week's biggest hits and highlights from include:

BULLDOGS WIN STATE TITLE

The 8U Detroit Bulldogs girls hockey team won the Michigan Amateur Hockey Association (MAHA) state championship Sunday, March 15. The Bulldogs went undefeated during the state tournament, winning six games and out-scoring opponents 32-2.

The Bulldogs' roster includes: Carmella Wilson, Adeline Lupinacci, Josephine Rheaume, Sloane McMillan, Klaire Hamolli, Mia Pesta, McKinley DeKeyser, Mika Swiatek, Raven Hobson, Vivian Stephens and Cara Anne Messacar. The team was coached by Danny DeKeyser, Brett McMillan, Tom Rheaume and John Wilson.



COURTESY PHOTO

POINTE AQUATICS SWIMMERS DOMINATE STATES

Swimmers from the Pointe Aquatics swim team finished the recent Michigan Swimming 10 & Under state championships with plenty of trophies. Pointe Aquatics had eight individual state championships by the end of the meet.

Caroline Newbold, Madeleine Gram, Shay Kaplan and Gigi Thibault made up the first-place 200 medley and 200 freestyle relay teams. Thibault also won the 50 butterfly, 100 butterfly and 100 backstroke. Kaplan finished first in the 200 free, 100 breaststroke, 200 IM and 50 and 100 free. Newbold also ended the meet with five podium finishes.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHARLIE THIBAUT

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See Classifieds for more details

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# New leadership hopes to maintain winning culture with ULS girls soccer

By Mike Adzima  
Sports Reporter

After finishing 2025 as the Division 4 state runner up, the University Liggett School varsity girls soccer team knows expectations for the program are high. The Knights have their sights set on another success-

ful season this spring, but will have to do so with some new faces in the lineup and a new coach at the helm. Taking over for longtime coach David Dwaihy this season is Jason Petrella. Petrella has a strong coaching background, including time on the boys varsity

soccer coaching staff at Grosse Pointe South and coaching the varsity girls soccer team at Cardinal Mooney from 2006 to 2018. “Being in Grosse Pointe and having a lot of my career at Cardinal Mooney, Liggett kind of lent itself well to my past experiences,” Petrella said about what drew him to Liggett. “It has a rich tradition of soccer. ... It worked out well and I coached with David (Dwaihy) before and know the program that he built. I know that there are shoes to fill, but everything in this program was built the right way.” Petrella’s team for his first season at Liggett will look a bit different than what fans saw last spring. The Knights return only a handful of seniors after having nine players from last year’s team graduate. However, the team is confident the veteran leaders it does have are more than capable of rallying everyone to work hard. This year’s captains will be Jazmin Diaz-Don and Giulia Cavallo. Both returning veterans from last year’s team, the Knights expect them to lead by example. With other spots on the team being filled by younger players, Liggett may



PHOTOS BY MIKE ADZIMA

Senior Jazmin Diaz-Don will serve as a team captain for Liggett girls soccer this spring.



Junior Aubrey Hermann during last year’s Division 4 state championship game.

have some work cut out for it. However, that is not deterring the team from setting goals for how this season can go both on and off the field. “I understand every team is different every year,” Petrella said. “I won’t know if I’m successful until 10 years after the season, when I talk to these girls and they have fond memories and they’re doing well in life. That’s how I know we had a good season. We still have goals right now, though. We want to win our league and go to a Catholic League final and prepare ourselves well to make a run in the state tournament.” The Knights begin the season at home Wednesday, April 8, hosting L’Anse Creuse North.

## ATHLETE:

Continued from page 1D

help. “I’ve never been the strongest guy on the field or the fastest guy on the field,” Lezotte said. “... Putting on weight increases your game a lot just being able to swing a bat faster and steal bases. That’s one thing I’ve been really focusing on this off-season, putting on weight and getting faster, and everything else will come naturally.” While getting stronger and faster might increase his production at the plate and in the field, Lezotte always remembers baseball is a team game. If he wants to reach his ultimate goal of winning a state championship, he cannot do it alone, no matter how well he hits or plays the

field. It is a good thing Lezotte is as much of a leader in the clubhouse as he is on the field. He learned a lot from the many seniors on last year’s South team who have since graduated, seeing from them how to lead and how to bring teammates together as friends. With Lezotte as one of its veteran leaders, he believes this year’s squad might be even more closely knit than the team last spring. “All the juniors and seniors now are really good friends,” he said. “We might have better team chemistry than we did last year and last year it was incredible.” The season for Lezotte and South begins April 6, with a game against Detroit Western. Lezotte is hoping the journey ends with another trip to the final four in East



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Lezotte celebrates with teammate Evan Bernard after scoring a run in the 2025 Division 1 regional final.

Lansing. No matter where it ends, the next major step in Lezotte’s career is set. Once he graduates from South, Lezotte will play Division I college baseball at Cornell University. Being able to play major college baseball at an Ivy League school will be a dream come true for Lezotte and another stop in his baseball journey for which South has prepared him well. “My goal my whole life was always to play Division I baseball and my other goal was to go to an Ivy League school,” Lezotte said. “I have a whiteboard in my room

with all my goals and that was one of my goals for the past few years. I was really excited when I talked with them. ... It’s a huge campus and the biggest Ivy League school. The facilities are insane for baseball and the guys are unbelievable. They’re great team players just like me. They’re really focused and driven and want to have a good time with the team.”

Grosse Pointe News

Do you know an outstanding high school athlete?

Nominate them for Athlete of the Week and put them in the running for Athlete of the Year.

To nominate a future Athlete of the Week, scan the QR code or visit our website.

[grossepointenews.com/athlete-of-the-week](https://grossepointenews.com/athlete-of-the-week)

City of Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan

PUBLIC NOTICE  
WEEDS, BRUSH AND GRASS

TO ALL OWNERS OR OCCUPANTS OF LAND IN THE CITY OF GROSSE POINTE WOODS:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that after May 1st of this year the provisions of Chapter 46, Vegetation, Article IV, Weeds, Brush and Grass will be enforced. This article requires the owner or occupant to cut, destroy or remove weeds, brush and grass that is six (6) inches high or more. In the case of noncompliance, the owner or occupant of the land shall be responsible for all costs incurred by the city in connection with such cutting or destruction plus a 30 percent administrative fee. If the charges are not paid within 30 days after billing, payment shall be deemed delinquent and shall be enforceable as a tax lien against the land.

Any person who violates any of the provisions of Article IV of Chapter 46 shall, in addition to the other obligations imposed thereby or by other applicable law, be responsible for a municipal civil infraction and subject to a civil fine.

Paul P. Antolin  
City Clerk

G.P.N.: 03/26/2026

Village of Grosse Pointe Shores,  
A Michigan City

795 Lake Shore Road  
Grosse Pointe Shores, MI 48236  
313-881-6565

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing will be held at 7 p.m., on Tuesday, April 21, 2026, before the Grosse Pointe Shores City Council sitting as the Zoning Board of Appeals, Council Chambers at 795 Lake Shore Rd.

The petitioner at 53 Blairmoor is requesting the following:

A variance request for rear pool setback

At the March 24, 2026, Planning Commission meeting, the Commission recommended to approve the petitioners' request.

Plans for the proposed project are available for your viewing at the Office of the City Clerk, 795 Lake Shore Road, during normal business hours Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Courtney Smith,  
City Clerk

Published: Grosse Pointe News: 3/26/26