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Grosse Pointe News

MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

VOL. 87, NO.18, 32 PAGES
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Your community newspaper since 1940

APRIL 30, 2026
GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

GPN is Newspaper of the Year for 5th year

Editorial, sales teams pull in 54 awards

THE GROSSE POINTES — For the fifth consecutive year, the Grosse Pointe News has earned the title of Newspaper of the Year, tops in its class among weekly newspapers across the state.

Additionally, the sales team placed second overall for Advertising Excellence.

The Michigan Press Association Better Newspaper awards were presented Thursday, April 23, in Lansing.

In open-class categories — open to all newspapers in Michigan regardless of circulation size or frequency of delivery — Staff Writer Brad Lindberg placed first for Best Headline with "Ambulance beef lacks meat."

For the second year in a row, Staff Writer Laurel Kraus won the MPA Public Service Award, this time for her piece, "Roll call: Project seeks community input," which asked the community to identify Grosse Pointers who died in military service, from the Civil War to present day, for a collaborative project between The War Memorial and author Lisa Lark.

"Winning Best Newspaper for the first few years was amazing because it was new and exciting," Publisher Anne Gryzenia said. "Now, I think our entire team — myself included — feels some heat to stay on top each and every year.

"I know everyone at this office puts in a heroic

See AWARDS, page 2A

A banner year

THE GROSSE POINTES — In recognition of the United States semiquincentennial, the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce is joining communities nationwide in marking America's 250th year by installing commemorative banners throughout the business districts. This initiative celebrates 250 years of American history while reinforcing the chamber's commitment to community identity and local pride.

"We're inviting community members, businesses and neighbors to help make this project possible," Chamber President Jennifer Boettcher said. "Your donation directly supports the purchase of these commemorative banners and helps us showcase the pride and unity of the Pointes."

With a fundraising goal of $30,000, Boettcher reported the chamber is already halfway there.

Donations are accepted by scanning the QR code or visiting grossepointechamber.com.

The chamber's celebration of the semiquincentennial doesn't stop with banners.

"In honor of America's 250th anniversary, this year's Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Parade will shine under the theme 'Stars, Stripes & Sleigh Bells,'" Boettcher said. "The chamber is blending patriotic pride with holiday magic to celebrate a milestone year for our nation and a beloved tradition in the Pointes."

For a list of additional upcoming events and programs, visit the chamber's online calendar at grossepointechamber.com.

For more information, email info@grossepointechamber.com.

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GPs seek central dispatch grant

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

THE GROSSE POINTES — Park representatives hope their congressman pulls another financial rabbit out of his hat.

They partnered with the other Pointes in requesting Congressman Shri Thanedar obtain a $5 million grant toward building a centralized public safety dispatching center.

Thanedar raised ambitions of Park officials two years ago by announcing the city's request for a $1,050,000 federal flood control grant was approved in the amount of $1,666,279 — nearly 70 percent more than expected.

"Currently, there are three dispatch centers in the Pointes, four when we include Harper Woods," said Jim Bostock, Park public safety director. "Centralized dispatch savings would come from consolidating personnel and having all the technology and infrastructure in one building, not three or four."

The grant request also was filed with Sens. Gary Peters and Elissa Slotkin.

"We are actively exploring the feasibility of a joint dispatch center to serve the five Grosse Pointe communities, with the potential inclusion of Harper Woods," said Shane Reeside, Farms manager. "This concept is being evaluated as a way to enhance service delivery and operational efficiency across our public safety agencies."

For decades the five Pointes and Harper Woods have pooled manpower and equipment in a mutual-aid agreement. In recent years, incremental dispatch consolidation occurred with the Woods handling calls for the Shores and the Park doing the same for the City. Grosse Pointe Farms and Harper Woods remain autonomous.

Reeside said, "There are several potential benefits to a centralized model, including improved real-time monitoring and coordination of public safety activity

See GRANT, page 3A

Mother's Day
Check out great gifts for Mom, plus our luxe Mother's Day salon pampering GIVEAWAY from *Wildflower & Company!*
See Section C

Trombly's fate decided?

By Ted O'Neil
Associate Editor

THE GROSSE POINTES — Trombly Elementary School, empty since the close of the 2019-20 school year, would house preschool classes on the first floor and a variety of options on the second floor under a plan discussed by the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education Monday, April 27.

The matter could be voted on as soon as next week at the board's meeting scheduled for 7 p.m. Monday, May 4, at Brownell Middle School.

Around $6 million from the $120 million bond approved last November is slated to be spent upgrading Trombly, in addition to $1.5 million the district already spent on new windows for the building.

"This is going to be an awesome building that can be converted to anything," Superintendent Andrea Tuttle said. "The restrooms are going to be redone and it will be fully air conditioned."

Tuttle added work can start sooner than normal since the building is unoccupied, whereas occupied buildings can only be worked on during the summer when classes are not in session.

Some of the options the board discussed for the second floor were career and technical education classes, before- and after-school care, robotics, offices for the district's new virtual school

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Classified ads 4D

Pointer of INTEREST

Angela Wyrembelski
Home: City of Grosse Pointe
Chief architect for Michigan Central Station

See story, page 4A

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Free bike tune-ups May 3

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Children grow. Adults shrink. Every so often, they need to raise or lower their bicycle seats accordingly.

"It's good to get the seat checked in spring," said Rick Teranes, an owner of Bike, Blades & Boards in the Park.

Teranes conducts free bike safety checks for Park residents 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, May 3, near the bike racks at Patterson Park.

"We'll have bike pumps to air up tires," Teranes said. "The biggest thing we see is people don't put air in their tires and oil on their chain often enough. That's something we'll help them with. We'll also check helmets, too, making sure helmets fit right."

May is National Bike Month. May 3 is National Ride a Bike Day.

"It's a sign of spring that more people are on bikes," Teranes said. "To start off at Patterson Park hopefully motivates people to ride to school and things like that."

Bike safety inspections are sponsored by the Grosse Pointe Park Foundation.

"We coordinated with our public safety department, our parks directors and volunteers," said Tom Caulfield, the city council's liaison to the foundation. "Grosse Pointe Park Public Safety will be there to license bikes."

Minor maintenance is part of safety inspections.

"We will have tools, so if there's anything of an imminent safety danger, we might be able to help somebody with that," Teranes said.

"The new candy shop, Sweet Pointe Candy, owned by (Park resident) David King, has agreed to hand out ice cream to kids," Caulfield said. "Zack Assaf from Fairfax Market is going to be handing out water and popsicles. It's an all-around for our residents to make sure they're riding safely."

Setting seat height

There are easy ways and a technical way to determine proper seat height.

The easy way begins by lowering the seat all the way. Then sit on it.

"Raise it until your heel can just keep contact with the pedal," Teranes said. "That way, when you put the ball of your foot on the pedal, where it should be, you'll have the right amount of bend to your knee. For kids, we usually go even simpler than that. When they're sitting on the seat, their heels are off the ground; they're kind of just on their toes."

The technical method is to set the seat height equal to the rider's inseam, measured in centimeters, multiplied by 0.883.

"That's if you want to get a little nerdy," Teranes said.

Caulfield said 120 bike safety lights provided by the League of Michigan Bicyclists will be handed out free.

"About 48 percent of bicyclist fatalities were reported in dark conditions, and Michigan law requires a white front bike light and red rear reflector, although a red light is preferred, for people riding after dark," according to the league's homepage, lmb.org.

"There'll be a raffle (for adults)," Caulfield said. "They're going to give some gift certificates from Bikes, Blades & Boards ($75); Fairfax Market ($50) and Sweet Pointe Candy ($25). It's an event for residents the foundation is putting on to build awareness."

Foundation

"The intent is to do a family-friendly event to increase awareness and recognition of the foundation and what it does," said Bob Bury, a foundation trustee.

"You are the foundation of our community, literally and figuratively," Mayor Michele Hodges told Bury.

The foundation, a privately funded, tax-exempt charity, was founded in 1984, with the mission of "enhancing the lives of residents of Grosse Pointe Park."

"Many amenities (given by the foundation) we all enjoy every day are probably taken for granted," Hodges said.

Examples of foundation projects are:

◆ At Windmill Pointe Park: The Tompkins Center, atrium, outdoor patio and grill; Dolores and Paul Lavins Activity Center, Meade Fitness Center, Betty and John Stevens Atrium, McKeever Lounge, Golden Gym, fountain and zero depth pool, Okulski Theater and the Carol C. Schaap Theater.

◆ At Patterson Park: George Helm boardwalk, Robert Hutton ice rink, Lindell Lodge and the outdoor Denner fireplace, splash pad, putting and chipping green, three pickleball courts and updated gatehouse.

◆ Elsewhere in the city: flowerpots, Kercheval Avenue lighting, "Sail of Two Cities" sculpture in front of city hall, A. Lena Carlile Public Safety Department Fitness Center and a vital element of the flood-fighting extreme emergency relief valve.

"That's a remarkable resume that our foundation has brought to us," Hodges said.

"We're going to do more social events to bring awareness, not only to people involved in the foundation now, but for upcoming new members to join," Caulfield said.

DIY bike fix-it class

Two classes in basic bicycle repair and maintenance are scheduled during May at The War Memorial.

Separate, individual sessions are 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Fridays, May 15 and 29. Each session costs $30.

Register at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, by calling (313) 881-7511 or visiting warmemorial.org. On the homepage, go to "Classes & Activities," choose "Adult Enrichment," then "View all," and scroll down to "Basic Bike Repair & Maintenance."

"In just two hours, you can learn the basics of bike maintenance from the knowledgeable staff at Bikes, Blades and Boards," according to a description. "Bring your bikes!"

"We've done this for about 15 years," said Rick Teranes, one of the store's owners.

He said the class is for people seeking more in-depth tips and experience about tuning up and fixing bikes.

— Brad Lindberg

AWARDS:

Continued from page 1A

effort to deliver the absolute best product and serve our community each and every week, so it's a great feeling to bring home the hardware, celebrate for a few days and then set new goals and an even higher bar," she continued. "I am immensely proud of everyone at the Grosse Pointe News and feel lucky to work with such a talented group day in and day out."

Additional editorial awards included:

Kraus

◆ Government/Political News — first place, "Theft ring brought to light with aid from GP" and honorable mention, "Harper Woods K-9 officer retires from service"

◆ Business News — first place, "The Campus Shop to close next week" and honorable mention, "Pointer founds, grows local food rescue nonprofit"

◆ Environment/Climate Change/Weather News — second place, "Raccoon distemper spreads in Pointes"

◆ Crime/Justice News — second place, "Chilean national sentenced for Provencal home invasion" and honorable mention, "Settlement encouraged ahead of Ridge Rd. trial"

Lindberg

◆ Best Sports Column — first place, "Softball is better than baseball"

◆ Spot News Story — honorable mention, "Colter gone too soon"

Editor Jody McVeigh

◆ Feature Story — first place, "True Grit" and second place, "Priest's 'last best friend' publishes book honoring longtime church leader"

◆ Best Columnist — first place, "Confessions of a shoe-aholic," "Keeping family traditions alive" and "One man's loss is another man's gain"

◆ News Enterprise Reporting — third place, "Staying strong" and "Cancer free!"

◆ Business News — third place, "Couple creating culinary dream with Pangea Global Kitchen"

Associate Editor Ted O'Neil

◆ Education/School News — first place, "GPPSS looks to implement parental rights policy" and second place, "Making a statement"

◆ News Enterprise Reporting — second place, "Park resident wants you to be gutless"

◆ Spot News Story — third place, "North student helps save woman from Lake St. Clair"

◆ Feature Story — third place, "North student helps save woman from Lake St. Clair"

◆ Crime/Justice News — third place, "Two found dead in Woods home"

Sports Reporter Mike Adzima

◆ Best Sports Column — third place, "Guest Pickers"

◆ Sports Feature — honorable mention, with Editorial Intern Meg Kelly, "Grosse Pointe Playmakers"

Photographer Renee Landuyt

◆ News Photo — first place, "Burn, baby, burn" and second place, "Beautiful reunion"

◆ Feature Photo — first place, "Mother nature's cold shoulder" and second place, "Pure Grosse Pointe"

Guest Writer Karen Ferguson

◆ Best Columnist — third place, "Mombeau's Table"

The Grosse Pointe News swept the Best Opinion category for its Our Views, "What is their end game?" "Wait a minute, a clinic?" and "Stay vigilant," as well as for Lindberg's I Say, "Tete-a-tete."

First- and second-place honors also were awarded in the Best Editorial category for "Stay vigilant" and "What is their end game?"

The GPN staff earned first place for Best Newspaper/Publication Design for its July 17 edition, while Best Page Design third-place honors were awarded to Gryzenia, graphic designer Donna Zetterlund and Strategy & Development Director Olivia Monette, for the Easter 2025 pages.

The staff also earned first place in the Special Section category for its Fall Style Guide, while its Wedding Guide earned honorable mention for Best Special Section.

Best Video Presentation first-place honors were given to interns Meg Kelly and Aaron Ihrie for The Nosh, while second- and third-place honors went to Monette for the Wedding Guide and Holiday Gift Guide, respectively.

The staff earned first-place honors for Best Digital Presentation in the Website & Social Media category.

On the sales side, the advertising team earned accolades in several categories.

The top three spots in Best Digital Ad were earned for The Nosh, Wedding Guide and Holiday Gift Guide, respectively, with honors going to Kelly, Ihrie and Monette.

Ken Ong and staff placed third in the Best Health/Fitness Ad for Laura Smigielski Counseling, while the staff placed second for Best In-House Circulation Ad for an audio circ promo.

Staff earned first-place honors in Best Ad Grouping for Racing for Kids and second-place honors in Home Furnishings for DuMouchelles Fine Arts & Antiques. It also placed third in Community Business Promotions for The Nosh, as well as second in Best Community Cause Marketing for Racing for Kids.

Graphic designer Mary Schlager and sales rep Julie Sutton placed first in Real Estate for Lux Partners Global, while Sutton and graphic designer John Pigott placed first for Sir Grout and third for Zeppelin Cleaning Services in the Home Services category.

"An award-winning advertising honor doesn't happen in a vacuum," Retail Advertising Manager Shelley Owens said. "It reflects our business and advertising partners who trust us with their marketing messages.It reflects a talented and creative team of graphic artists who bring those messages to life. Lastly, it reflects a dedicated and disciplined sales team with a customer-first mindset each and every week. We are proud and grateful for the recognition."

RENDERING COURTESY OF BOWERS AND ASSOCIATES

The left side of the image stretches toward Maumee, the right side toward Fisher.

Fresh Farms Market expanding to new building

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — William Moir Sr. opened Fresh Farms Market on Fisher in 1939.

When brothers Larry and Steve Najjar bought it from Moir's son in 1997, they did so with the intention of expanding.

Twenty-eight years later, that vision is becoming reality.

The City's planning commission — which doubles as city council — last Monday confidently approved a site plan brought forward by the owners to build a new, 20,000-square-foot Fresh Farms Market at the corner of Fisher and Maumee.

It will be built off the old Subway building — which today is used to store the market's stock — and stretch to right about where the current building begins.

Additionally, the parking lot alongside Maumee will remain and another parking lot will be paved where the current 6,000-square-foot Fresh Farms Market sits.

Construction — which could begin as soon as May or June and will take 12 to 16 months — will be coordinated to create the best possible continuity of service.

"The plan is once the new store is up and either completely ready to open or within a few weeks of opening, we take the old store down, the parking lot gets cleaned up and the new store opens," Larry Najjar said.

The purpose of an expansion, he added, is to take how the market already operates within the community and do that "more and better."

"People use this store in a unique way," Najjar said. "It's not so much just a grocery store as it is a destination for them to be able to grab lunch, a beverage, a breakfast sandwich, to grab groceries, a bottle of wine or beverages like a six pack of beer when they're going to the park. It kind of has a utilitarian function that we want to expand on."

Specifically, the store's produce, prepared foods, meat, seafood and pizza.

"What makes the Farms Market special is you can pop in and get something you need and make it quick and simple and go wherever you need to go," Najjar said. "So we want to take that functionality of the store and kind of blow it up a little bit and make it more and better."

In the same vein, the market will expand upon its function as a community gathering place by offering fresh smoothies, coffee and a juice bar. Plans also highlight extensive outdoor seating beneath canopies.

"Our commitment to the community is first and foremost and primary," Najjar expressed.

The brothers purchased the corner lot at Fisher and Maumee in 2012, and approached the city with initial site plans in 2016. At that time they were granted special land use approval for a grocery market more than 5,000 square feet, which remains in effect.

"The building they're proposing now is actually smaller in scale than it was back then," City Planner John Jackson said, "so we felt the special use was still appropriate and still effective."

Plans in 2016 did not move forward.

"When we were literally ready to dig the hole, the financing fell apart," Najjar said, "and so

See MARKET, page 5A

Paint The Village is next Thursday

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — Paint The Village — the reimagined version of the former Paint the Windows — returns from 3 to 7 p.m. Thursday, May 7, at the St. Clair and Kercheval plaza.

Rather than painting directly on windows, school-aged children in the Pointes will create their entries on specialty paper, which then will be displayed in the windows of local businesses throughout May.

"The theme this year is 'Imagine The Village,'" said Cindy Willcock, executive director of Main Street Grosse Pointe. "We want to encourage young artists to either imagine what The Village is, what they want it to be or what it used to be. (They can) get really creative with that."

Student artists are invited to create their vision of The Village, real or reimagined, spanning anything from their favorite places, the people who make the downtown district special or anything in between.

"The theme is intentionally simple and flexible so every student, from preschool through high school, can participate in a way that feels fun and personal," Willcock said in a release. "Realistic, abstract or fantastical — all interpretations are welcome."

Prizes will be awarded to the winners in each grade category.

In addition, all first-place winners' artwork will be reproduced onto banners that will be hung on streetpoles throughout The Village.

Registration is required — find the form at tinyurl.com/bdfcepzw — as is a $10 registration fee to cover each student's art kit.

The Week Ahead

MONDAY, MAY 4

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

TUESDAY, MAY 5

- Grosse Pointe Shores Finance and City Council joint meeting, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6

- Grosse Pointe Woods Community Tree Commission meeting, 7 p.m.
- Grosse Pointe Park Beautification Commission meeting, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, MAY 7

- Grosse Pointe Woods Retiree Health Care Trust Fund meeting, 6:15 p.m.
- Grosse Pointe Park TIFA meeting, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 8

- Grosse Pointe Woods Beautification Commission Flower Sale, 10 a.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 9

- Grosse Pointe Woods Beautification Commission Flower Sale, 8 a.m.
- Shred Day at Osius Park, 9 to 11:30 a.m.

GRANT:

Continued from page 1A

across all Grosse Pointe communities; the ability to invest in upgraded, state-of-the-art technology within a single facility, rather than making redundant capital investments across multiple centers; and potential cost savings and operational efficiencies associated with consolidating dispatch services under one roof."

"The grant amount is over $5 million, which would help us for build-out hard costs, soft costs and equipment purchases," said Nick Sizeland, Park city manager.

"Overall savings are significant when you look at consolidating these services into one," Bostock said. "We would maintain one record management system. All the software licensing would be cut by 33 percent. It reduces duplication by reducing the number of call transfers between cities and streamlines our mutual and automatic aid by having our call-takers and dispatch in the same locations."

Dispatch departments are outfitted with more equipment than just telephones.

"There is everything from next generation 911, to call-to-text dispatch, call recording, ongoing training and other technological advances," Bostock said. "In a central dispatch, all the technology-based systems, like license plate readers, would funnel into that same central location and act as a hub to get information out to our officers effectively."

"Instead of everybody buying the same equipment, let's all just put it into one basket," Sizeland said.

"If we keep things as they are, the costs are very concerning," Bostock said. "Consolidating and eliminating some redundancy where appropriate makes a lot of sense."

A location hasn't been decided.

"At this stage, the effort is exploratory," Reeside said. "We are focused on gathering data and assessing options, and potential grant funding, before moving forward. We are currently reviewing key data points, such as call volume and lockup usage, to better understand system demands and inform decision-making."

Central dispatch would be located in one of the Pointes.

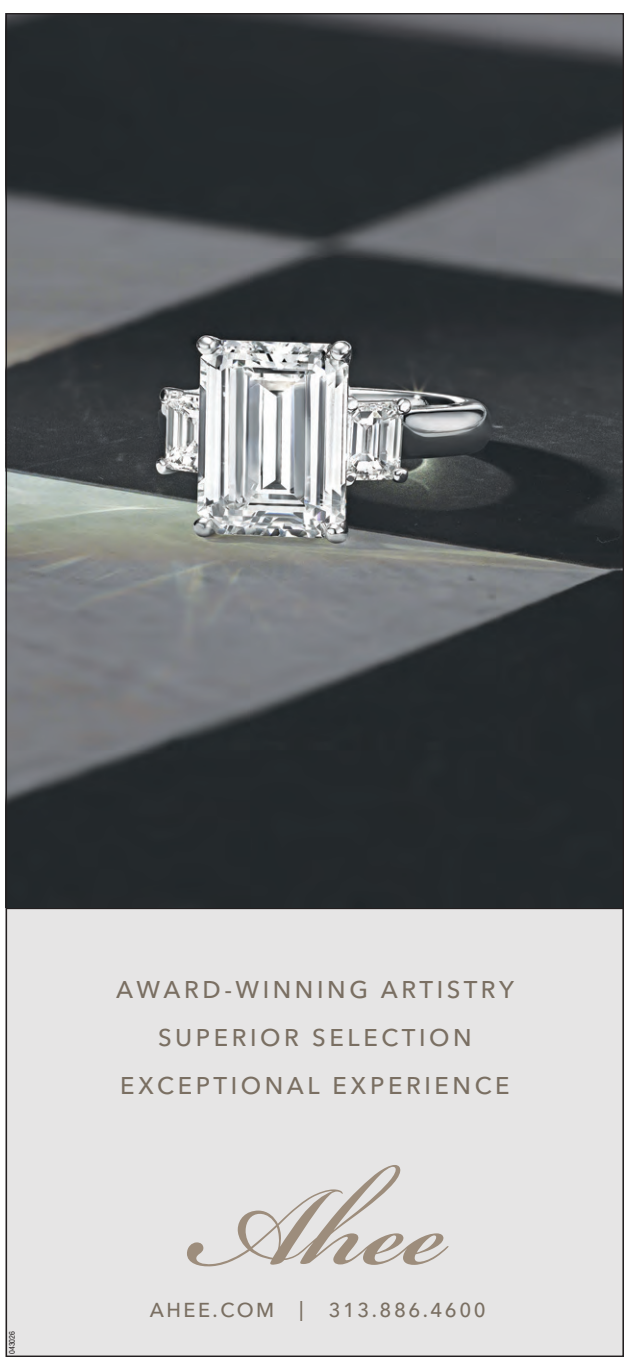
"Then, obviously," Sizeland said, "as part of this process, there's going to be a backup site, whether that's one of the ongoing Pointes or working with another entity for backup in case something happens."

Reeside said, "In addition to the possibility of constructing a new combined dispatch and lockup facility, we are also evaluating whether one of the existing public safety buildings could be retrofitted to accommodate a centralized operation."

One of the goals Park council members assigned Sizeland this year is seeking reduced capital expenses through shared municipal services.

It's been a topic of public conversation since before he was hired by the Park nearly 10 years ago.

"We're hopeful Congressman Thanedar will see this enhances services," Sizeland said. "It proves faster services for residents instead of duplicating all these equipment purchases. Let's just put it into one, whether that's in the Farms, Woods or wherever."



Pointer was chief architect for Michigan Central Station restoration

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

Whenever Angela Wyrembelski's young children are driven by Michigan Central Station, they tend to point it out as "mama's train station."

"They understand more so now," the City of Grosse Pointe resident said, "but when they were little, they just thought I worked on trains and stuff."

Though she may not be a train engineer, Wyrembelski's resume is nothing to scoff at.

She's associate principal at Quinn Evans; specializes in the preservation and sustainability of existing buildings; and was chief architect on Ford Motor Co.'s project to restore Michigan Central Station.

"I was on site with Ford before they even purchased the building," she recalls, "and then all the way through design, construction and closeout."

Six years of Wyrembelski's career span the 650,000-square-foot building that had been abandoned more than 30 years when Bill Ford committed to restoring it to its former glory.

"I think it's a very circular narrative that the rise of the automobile is really what led to the downturn of train ridership," Wyrembelski mused, "and then to have the automobile be the thing that saved the train station, it's a very kind of funny, roundabout thing."

With Quinn Evans as the lead architect on the project, Wyrembelski was in charge of leading significant portions of the building's preservation, including the exterior envelope and all the historic ground-floor spaces.

Angela Wyrembelski with her husband, Jim, and sons Tavi, Mica and Luca at Michigan Central Station.

COURTESY PHOTOS

Angela Wyrembelski, associate principal with Quinn Evans, was the chief architect on the restoration of Michigan Central Station.

In the same time period — from 2018 to the grand opening in 2024 — she was in charge of growing her family.

"I was coming off of maternity leave with my middle one right when the project started, so he was on a lot of the early meetings with me," she said. "He was an honorary team member for the longest time, because I just brought him with me whenever I could.

"And then my third son was born in 2021, right in the middle of the process."

It's no wonder her three little ones think she works on trains — the architect's current project is restoring the Buffalo Central Terminal in New York, which also was abandoned for about 40 years. The work is being funded by a nonprofit to turn the art deco-style 1920s station into a public event space and community hub.

One could say she found her niche.

It's a better niche than restoring abandoned mental asylums, which isn't quite the unfounded leap it sounds.

"I actually got to work on three different historic mental asylums that had all been abandoned and were being turned into something else," Wyrembelski said. "One in Vermont was being turned into an office complex for the state. One in Buffalo, N.Y., was turned into a hotel. And then one in D.C. is actually owned by the Department of Homeland Security."

This was during her tenure at a firm on the East Coast that specialized in preservation and sustainability. She worked there in the years just prior to moving to Grosse Pointe in 2015, drawn by the historic, architecturally rich neighborhoods and ideal area to raise her kids.

Wyrembelski was about the age her middle son is now when she caught the architecture bug — spending her carefree days building LEGOs and wooden blocks; moving furniture around her dollhouses and recreating different scenes; and influenced by her father building additions on their house and her godmother's many antique shops in Grand Rapids.

"I remember being 7 years old in second grade, saying that I wanted to be an architect," she said.

In adulthood, she looks to foster that same sense of inspiration in today's youth.

Wyrembelski has been a member of the Grosse Pointe Artists Association nearly since moving to Grosse Pointe and helped shepherd one of the organization's newer programs, which invites high school art students to submit their work to a young artists show in the spring.

She also is a leader with Scouting America and enjoys leading architecture programming for the scouts and local elementary schools.

Students in the past have learned to draw a building, understand flat designs compared to 3D and design their own bedrooms.

Young Fives, prompted to design a building, came away with pool houses and rollercoasters.

"I'm always trying to find ways to connect with the next generation of architects," Wyrembelski said.

Wyrembelski hard at work on her latest endeavor, restoration of the Buffalo Central Terminal in New York.

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City of Grosse Pointe

Bank fraud

Three withdrawals totaling $76,600 fraudulently were made from a Grosse Pointer's Bank of America checking account Monday, April 6. An investigation is ongoing.

Fool me once

A 50-year-old Detroit woman was arrested at 8 p.m. Tuesday, April 21, as she walked along Charlevoix with a basket of $280 worth of grocery items from a store in the 16000 of Kercheval.

She already had a warrant for retail fraud out of the City.

Skipped step

When a 40-year-old Detroit woman was stopped at Mack and Woodhall for a broken brake light at 1:25 p.m. Thursday, April 23, she was found to have never acquired a driver's license, for which she was cited.

Leaving problems behind

A 41-year-old Detroit man left his vehicle on Jefferson at 12:30 a.m. Monday, April 27, because it ran out of gas.

When a sergeant stopped him as he walked away, the man ultimately was arrested for being highly intoxicated.

— Laurel Kraus

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

See REPORTS, page 5A

REPORTS:

Continued from page 4A

Grosse Pointe Shores

Saturday surprise

A 39-year-old Sterling Heights man is facing charges of home invasion and attempted home invasion for two incidents Saturday, April 25, on Willow Tree Place.

A homeowner was sitting in his family room around 4 p.m. that day when he heard the door leading from the garage into the house open and close. He went to the kitchen, thinking his wife and daughter had returned home, where he spotted the suspect.

The suspect fled in a red Jeep Compass and turned into a driveway of a home in the 700 block of Lakeshore while being pursued by officers. Once out of his vehicle, officers had to use a Taser on him as he was resisting arrest.

While he was being processed at the police station, another homeowner on Willow Tree Lane arrived to report someone, which turned out to be the suspect, had attempted to enter his home earlier in the day while no one was home. He was notified by his doorbell camera and was able to scare off the suspect by using his cell phone to activate the home's alarm.

Public Safety Director Ken Werenski said the suspect is on parole from Georgia for the same crime there.

—Ted O'Neil

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

Grosse Pointe Woods

Something's fishy

Officers were called to a grocery store on Mack around 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 21, for a report of shoplifting.

A white female wearing a pink hat, black pants, black jacket and green shoes was seen putting several items in her purse before leaving without paying for them. Officers recovered the purse and items at a nearby business where the woman left it. She was last seen leaving in a U-Haul driven by a black male.

Recovered were nine salmon filets, a bottle of vitamins and a bottle of juice, with a total value of more than $150.

Partying all day

Officers were called to Allard and Harper around midnight Saturday, April 25, for a report of a woman slumped over the steering wheel in a vehicle.

A 38-year-old Ferndale woman was arrested for drunken driving after failing several field sobriety tests and registered 0.208 blood alcohol content on a Breathalyzer.

"I am buzzed," she told officers, according to the report. "I been partying all day."

—Ted O'Neil

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

Grosse Pointe Farms

Drunk & confused

A 44-year-old Detroit man was so intoxicated he could not figure out how to roll down his window when pulled over at 3:40 a.m. Tuesday, April 21, for swerving along Lakeshore.

Officers further had trouble deciphering his slurred speech, though he did reveal he had a gun in his jacket pocket, for which he has a valid permit.

A preliminary breath test found his blood alcohol content to be 0.286 percent.

He was arrested for a third offense of operating under the influence of alcohol, possession of a firearm while under the influence of alcohol and driving while license revoked.

Infotainment theft

The window was smashed and the infotainment system stolen from a Dodge Ram in the 200 block of Ridge between 8 p.m. Tuesday, April 21, and 8 a.m. the next morning.

Should've thought twice

A 36-year-old St. Clair Shores man pulled over for speeding on Moross at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 22, thought it was a good idea to escalate the situation to an arrest for obstructing police, when he refused to identify himself and continually swore at officers.

The man was found to have a valid driver's license and no warrants.

Uber courier

Officers attempted to catch the culprit of a phone scam in progress at 5:11 p.m. Wednesday, April 22, when they learned a courier was being sent to the 100 block of Lakeview to collect $12,000 from residents who had been told it was fraudulently deposited into their bank account and it had to be returned for the investigation.

When the red Chevrolet Impala pulled up, officers ordered the two occupants out of the car, though they turned out to be Uber drivers who were sent to retrieve the package and then deliver it to another address.

The scammer was on the phone with the Uber vehicle, heard the officers and immediately canceled the Uber request, meaning the driver could not tell officers where the destination address had been. Uber support was unwilling to assist in retrieving the location.

The residents already had handed over $14,500 via a different courier earlier in the day.

Quick thinking

A 28-year-old Detroit man was arrested for attempted larceny from an automobile at 7:10 a.m. Wednesday, April 22, when a resident in the 200 block of McKinley noticed him checking her car door handles.

She took video on her phone as evidence.

Drive-by

A 31-year-old Park woman sitting outside a Mack restaurant at 3 p.m. Thursday, April 23, was hit in the back with a water bead shot from a gel blaster as a white Buick Enclave drove past the establishment. The incident left a red welt on her skin.

— Laurel Kraus

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

Grosse Pointe Park

Fraud cases

Two residents last week reported fraud.

A man told police of paying a $600 deposit for a contractor to install a gas line in March. No work has been done. The contractor won't return calls.

A woman paid $17,150 to a shutter contractor before learning the contractor was fraudulent.

Steals Jeep

An unlocked 2021 Jeep with key fob in the cockpit was stolen while parked overnight Saturday, April 25, in the driveway of a house in the 500 block of Lakepointe.

Steals backpack

At 7 p.m. Saturday, April 25, an unknown woman exited the bathroom of Marge's Bar on Mack Avenue and snatched a backpack containing $150 cash and personal checks off the bar countertop.

She reportedly ran out, entered a dark Buick SUV and left the area.

Police described her as black, around 40 years old, 5 feet, 4 inches, 120 pounds, wearing a nylon jacket with orange stripe.

— Brad Lindberg

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

MARKET:

Continued from page 3A

everything kind of came tumbling down."

Then came COVID and the post-COVID staffing crisis.

"It took this long for us to recoup and all the stars kind of aligned, so to speak," Najjar said. "The couple pieces that didn't fall in place (in 2016) finally fell in place."

The building will feature bays of framed windows, divided by pilasters for the storefront design, and a prominent vestibule at the northeast corner.

Darker brick will contrast against white stone banding and black metal accents.

A mezzanine will house storage and administrative offices.

"We feel fortunate to have a community that supports us," Najjar said, "and we feel really fortunate to be able to finally get this opportunity to kick this new store off and go into the next generation."

The site plan was approved by the planning commission 6-0, with commissioner Chris Moyer absent, Monday, April 20.

5 FOR FIVE

(WINNER FIVE YEARS IN A ROW!)

Grosse Pointe News

2021 / 2022 / 2023 / 2024 / 2025

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POINTES OF VIEW

GROSSE POINTE FARMS I GROSSE POINTE PARK I GROSSE POINTE SHORES I GROSSE POINTE WOODS

Grosse Pointe News
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OUR VIEW

Do you want fries with that (ring)?

With spring in the air and warmer temperatures heading our way, couples all around the Pointes are checking things off their to-do lists, picking out flowers and sampling catering menus — among a host of other tasks — as they prepare for upcoming nuptials.

We have you covered on everything you need to know to make your special day perfect, but more on that later.

In order to get to the big day, couples generally get engaged and that usually starts with a proposal. Unless of course it is a spur-of-the-moment kind of thing in a Las Vegas chapel officiated by an Elvis impersonator. If that was you, let us know because it obviously would make for a cool story!

But back to the proposal. We could not help but chuckle at a recent press release that came across our desks. It just happened to be around lunchtime that particular day, which is probably why it caught our attention so quickly.

ACE.com, an online gaming site, polled 3,000 Michigan men and asked them which fast food chain they would pick, if finances dictated it, to pop the big question.

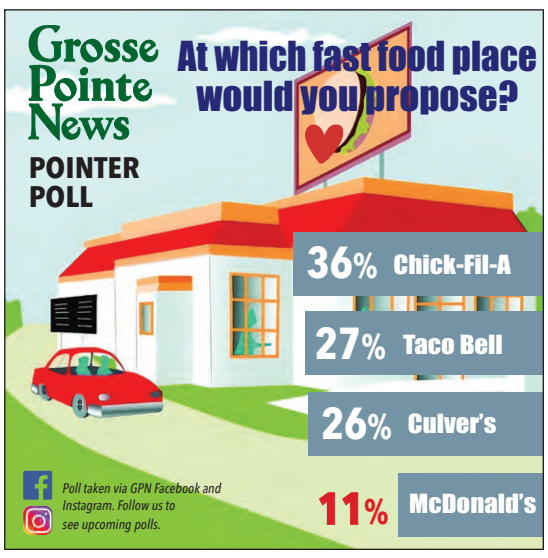
The winner? Chick-fil-A. Perfect timing, since we just got one last fall on the Detroit side of Mack near Rivard.

Second place was Dairy Queen. Guys, St. Clair Shores, Roseville and Eastpointe all have one. McDonald's came in third, which we also have on Mack, not too far from fourth place Taco Bell.

No. 5, Pizza Hut, surprised us a bit and also made us yearn for the awesome pizza and salad buffet lunch deals back when most Huts were sit-down joints. But fear not, some classic Pizza Huts exist in Michigan, with the closest being Sandusky and Bad Axe in the Thumb.

There also is one in Charlevoix, so the happy couple could work in the romance after a deep dish with a weekend getaway to the Perry Hotel or Bay View Inn, both part of the Cotton Collection, in nearby Petoskey, or The Earl right in Charlevoix. Fremont and Iron Mountain are the other options.

Burger King (St. Clair Shores), Wendy's (also on Mack), Sonic (Shelby Township), Popeyes (Eastpointe) and Subway (Mack again) round out the top 10.



But what would the better halves think? Of 100 women ACE.com asked, 44 percent said it would be funny but memorable. Another 24 percent said it would be romantic, but 22 percent called it unromantic and 4 percent deemed it desperate.

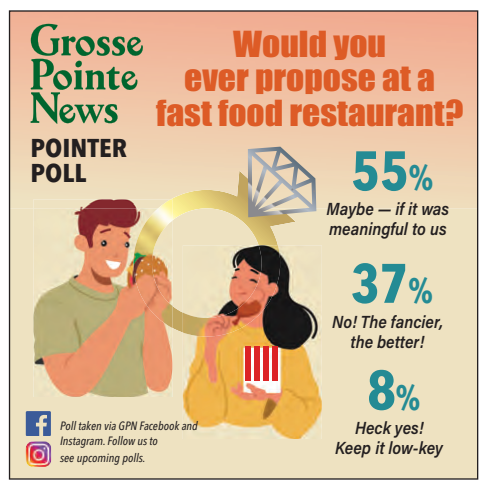
As for our readers (left), 36 percent of respondents agreed with the statewide sentiment that if you were going to propose at a fast food restaurant, it would be Chick-fil-A. That was followed by Taco Bell at 27 percent, Culver's 26 percent and McDonald's 11 percent.

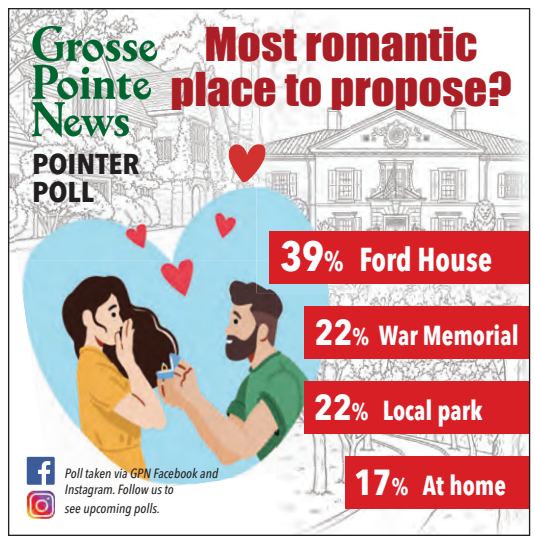
As for the question of would you propose at a fast food restaurant (right above), 55 percent of respondents said they would if the place had special meaning. To us, that sounds like maybe the location of a first date.

On the more traditional front, 39 percent of respondents (right below) said Ford House would be the most romantic location in the Pointes for a proposal. The War Memorial and a municipal park came in at 22 percent each, while 17 percent preferred somewhere private.

As for readers planning a wedding, be it later this year or next, be sure to pick up a copy of next week's Grosse Pointe News, which will include our annual Wedding Guide. It has everything you'll need for the big day, from rings to flowers to venues, plus a look back at the 2025 wedding of Pointers Zach and Odette Werenski. It was definitely a golden day before the gold medal.

Finally, be sure to see the dropdown menu under "Forms" at the top of our website to submit engagement and wedding announcements — and eventually birth announcements — for our monthly Beautiful Beginnings page.





Celebrating our fifth straight win!

MPA MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION

2021 · 2022 · 2023 · 2024 · 2025

MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

FROM THE PUBLISHER By Anne Gryzenia

A win for us is a win for you

High five to all of our loyal readers! We're thrilled to share that we've been named Michigan Press Association Newspaper of the Year in our class for the fifth straight year.

Your subscription helps power one of Michigan's top newspaper teams — and we don't take that support lightly. If you do not have a subscription, what better time than now to back our staff and their hard work. We will be running an extra special NOTY (newspaper of the year) sale to celebrate and invite you to subscribe.

In total, we won 54 separate awards for editorial and advertising content, in some cases sweeping the top three spots, such as in features, opinion and video presentation. On top of that, Brad Lindberg won for best headline and Laurel Kraus for public service, both of which are open categories. Take that, Detroit News!

Each year, we submit our very best work for judging, which is done by press associations in other states, knowing that continued success depends on constantly improving and innovating. With that in mind, we've been rolling out new ideas we hope you'll love.

One of them comes from a simple realization: While we may take hundreds of photos at an event, only one or two make it into print. Now, subscribers can see much more. Our new, online Photo Gallery section will feature more sports, school happenings, community events and more.

So when you spot Renee Landuyt out and about with her camera or Mike Adzima at a sporting event, don't be shy — strike a pose, then check out the gallery online at grossepointenews.com/photo-galleries and don't forget to keep your subscription up to date here: grossepointenews.com/subscribe.

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Ellie Carter

GROSSE POINTE 7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST April 30 – May 6 LOCAL 4 Expect More.

THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
56°	54°	56°	63°	62°	70°	70°
36°	35°	38°	43°	41°	46°	43°
Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Windy	Cloudy
10%	20%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%
SUNRISE 6:28 am SUNSET 8:30 pm	SUNRISE 6:27 am SUNSET 8:31 pm	SUNRISE 6:26 am SUNSET 8:32 pm	SUNRISE 6:24 am SUNSET 8:34 pm	SUNRISE 6:23 am SUNSET 8:35 pm	SUNRISE 6:22 am SUNSET 8:36 pm	SUNRISE 6:20 am SUNSET 8:37 pm

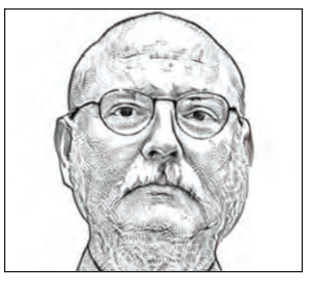
Weather data courtesy of Channel 4, WDIV Detroit • ClickOnDetroit.com

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.

I SAY By Ted O'Neil

Progress doesn't always mean growth



A friend of mine recently sent me an essay she found online she thought I would enjoy. Probably because I'm a bit curmudgeonly. My reputation precedes me.

It was written by a guy whose parents were coming to visit for an extended period of time, so rather than a hotel they opted for a short-term rental. The owner of the STR probably thought they were doing their customers a favor by making as much of the house as possible tech-based, but that wasn't the case.

The author explained that things like the thermostat, dishwasher, TV, security system and lights in the place were run by apps. Not only did his elderly parents not have the right kind of smartphone, but even he had issues trying to figure it all out. He said despite what some might consider to be upgrades, he actually considered it "primitive."

Now, I'm not a Luddite — at least not entirely — but I do kind of have a problem with Big Phone. By the way, that's a little journalism trick meant to demonize something. Big Oil, Big Pharma, etc. It probably stems from the character known as The Big Bad Wolf, who made several appearances in cautionary tales such as "The Three Little Pigs," "Little Red Riding Hood" and "The Boy Who Cried Wolf."

Karl Marx once wrote, "Religion is the opium of the masses" (although often misquoted as "opiate"), but today I think it would be more apropos to say apps are the opium of the masses. (Pun intended.)

Big Phone loves that there are so many apps to make sure we think for ourselves less and less. It's not just social media, either, although it has come under fire lately and even faces legal battles for what many believe is a negative impact on youth.

As mentioned above, it's thermostats, appliances, banking, groceries, dating, instant messaging, texting, fast food deals, ride sharing. The list goes on and on.

Speaking of thermostats, my dad ruled the round, gold one in the hallway of my childhood home. He could dial that red arrow within a tenth of a degree and could tell, even from the other side of the house, if anyone messed with it. My current thermostat is programmable, although not via an app, but I still prefer to operate it manually.

Businesses also love it when we sign up for their apps so they can constantly bombard us with ads via things like "push notifications." Not suggestions or recommendations or even friendly reminders, but PUSH notifications. It even sounds offputting.

Everywhere you look, people have their faces buried in their phones. It's so sad to see a couple — or worse yet a family with young children — enjoying a meal out and there's little or no human interaction at the table, just a bunch of thumbs flying furiously against screens.

Even though I might be a bit curmudgeonly, I don't mind people, at least in small doses. I resisted direct deposit for paychecks as long as possible because I enjoyed that occasional trip to the bank.

Speaking of human interaction, I read a theory recently that automatic garage door openers and small front porches on newer homes are to blame for an increasing lack of civility and connection between neighbors. People no longer have to manually open their garage door or sit on the porch enjoying nice evenings, thereby decreasing the amount of interaction with others.

I've also only ever ordered groceries for delivery once and that was because I was feeling under the weather. It was from Aldi, which is fairly close to my house. I've had to put them on my boycott list, however, since they decided to join the TV commercial bandwagon following the "SOOO funny to make the husband look totally incompetent" theme, but that's for another column.

Hospital shooting case moves to circuit court

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — The suspect in a shooting incident last month at Henry Ford St. John Hospital waived both his probable cause conference and preliminary exam while appearing via Zoom in municipal court Wednesday, April 22.

Trejion Sanders of Detroit was scheduled to be arraigned in Wayne County Circuit Court at 9 a.m. Wednesday, April 29.

Sanders' probable cause conference was delayed twice before he and his attorney notified Judge David Draper it and a preliminary exam that was scheduled for the same date were being waived. Draper, municipal judge in the City of Grosse Pointe, was filling in for Woods Municipal Judge Theodore Metry, who was out of town.

Sanders, 17, 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, he 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.

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.

See HOSPITAL, page 8A

Woods suspends social district efforts

By Ted O'Neil
Associate Editor

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — The city is pressing the brakes on its foray into the social district scene after less than two years.

"It just didn't take off," City Manager Sue Como said. "There was a lack of participation by business owners."

Council approved two districts, north and south of Vernier, at a meeting in early May 2024, that were to operate 1 to 10 p.m. Thursday through Sunday from May to October.

"This doesn't mean that it's going away forever," Como noted. "There are more places opening along Mack, such as Lola's Taco Bar, that said they'd be interested in being a part of it. We'll revisit it in the future."

The city provided shuttle service between the two districts, but Como said it went largely unused. Businesses on Mack that don't sell alcohol were allowed to post signs indicating people could bring their drinks inside to shop or browse.

Social districts became legal under Public Act 124 of 2020, as a way to help businesses struggling through the pandemic while allowing people to socially distance themselves. The districts are allowed in commercial areas with at least two qualified businesses that have a Class C liquor license and can serve open alcoholic beverages.

Drinks must be served in plastic cups no larger than 16 ounces and clearly marked with the business name and social district logo. Municipalities also must establish common areas where beverages can be consumed and put signage at the boundaries.

Beverages purchased at one permit-holder cannot be taken onto the premises of another permit holder and must be consumed in designated common areas. The law also requires participating businesses to get additional permitting from the Michigan Liquor Control Commission and the city.

Como said the spacing of establishments that could take part played a role.

"Part of the reason is we don't have a real condensed downtown area like other cities," she added.

The Village and The Hill, in the City and Farms, respectively, have social districts, as does the Park on portions of Kercheval and Charlevoix.

Councilwoman Vicki Granger said she had some concerns about the early start time and allowing operation on Sundays when the measure was approved. She suggested starting on a smaller scale, referencing neighboring St. Clair Shores, which holds its social district two Saturdays a month, May through October, at Nine Mile and Greater Mack.

HOSPITAL:

Continued from page 7A

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. The bond also says Sanders cannot have any contact with the security guard and cannot be on hospital property except for emergency needs.

—Ted O'Neil

Water and parking meters on tap

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Along with everyday municipal operations, administrators are seeking a new trash and recycling hauler.

Bids from prospective contractors were due for delivery to city hall Thursday, April 30.

"We are proposing a three-year contract with a three-year extension," said Nick Sizeland, city manager, in a report to city council.

In other matters:

◆ Residents should have received written notice recently about forthcoming water meter replacements.

"We have information regarding the vendor that will be doing the work and how they will contact and work with residents," Sizeland said. "More letters will come from the city and vendor afterwards as well."

New water meters are in stock at public works headquarters.

"The city is working on next steps with the contractor to prepare notices of the project," Sizeland said.

◆ Municipal parking pay stations behind Lakepointe and Maryland and Wayburn and Maryland are operational.

The parking fee is 50 cents per hour.

Enforcement hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

"Kercheval business personnel and tenants are eligible to purchase parking permits for the public lots off Kercheval," according to a report by Jim Bostock, director of public safety. "Permits are not for meter parking."

◆ Northland Securities beat six competitors to handle the city's sale of bonds to fund water and sewer system improvements.

"The interest rate on the bond is 3.92 percent," Sizeland said. "The high bid was 4.12."

Sale proceeds are expected in a couple weeks.

◆ A lease renewal application has been submitted to the state for Windmill Pointe Park marina bottom land.

"The lease renewal (is) for 25 years," Sizeland said.

— Brad Lindberg

Park man charged for child porn

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — A man being arraigned on more than two dozen felony counts of possessing and distributing child pornography attended court by video flat on his back in a hospital bed, which was fine by the prosecutor pressing the case.

"He's a danger to society," Wayne County Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Tina Ripley said of defendant Nelson Otto Ropke, 41, of the Park, Wednesday, April 22, in Park Municipal Court.

Judge John Parnell agreed.

"Bond will be set in the amount of $1 million cash surety; no 10 percent," Parnell said.

The ruling meant Ropke must post the entire amount, not just a sliver, to regain freedom before the next hearing.

Conditions of bond forbade Ropke from contacting anyone under age 18, his ex-wife and other alleged victims. He can't have devices outfitted with cameras, including cell phones, nor capable of internet usage. He must give up his passport. If able to post bond, he must wear a GPS tether to monitor his whereabouts.

Also when setting bond, Parnell was concerned that Ropke allegedly committed the felonies while on probation in Grosse Pointe Farms for operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated, second offense.

Ropke is reportedly frail of heart and morals, depending on whether his court-appointed lawyer, Andrew Moxie, or the prosecutor is talking.

"He's unemployed," Moxie testified, failing to win easier bond terms. "His housing situation is limited. Most recently, he was at a skilled nursing facility in Harper Woods. He seems to be having some severe heart conditions. Currently in the hospital."

Ripley described Ropke using a computer to distribute "photos and videos containing child sexually abusive images of prepubescent children," as stated in a news release from Maria Miller, communications director of the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office.

"This case is more than just him putting (them) online," Ripley said of the content. "He created it by putting faces of himself and family members on images of children engaging in sexual acts. He engaged with others online, receiving and distributing these images. He's doing more than just looking. He's actually creating them."

"There are many times in this job where we encounter alleged facts where you wonder how some people can sink to certain levels of depravity," said Prosecutor Kym Worthy in Miller's release. "This is one of those cases. There is really nothing left to say here."

Parnell entered a plea of not guilty on Ropke's behalf on 26 counts of possessing and distributing child sexually abusive material. Penalties range from four to 25 years in prison.

Everyone's due back in court 9 a.m. Wednesday, May 6, for a probable cause conference and 9 a.m. Wednesday, May 13, for preliminary examination.

During the prelim, prosecutors must establish probable cause that Ropke committed each of the offenses. If so, and unless Ropke changes his plea to guilty, the matter progresses to trial.

"He's accused of child sexually abusive material, not any kind of criminal sexual conduct," said Miller when contacted after the hearing. "I'm not going to get into the evidence. That will come out in court."

Ropke portrayed a pitiful image in the hospital bed, his head propped up and bearded face craned forward to look at a camera set slightly above the level of his outstretched legs.

During Parnell's contemplation of bond — he sort of soliloquized for the record: "When considering bond, it is the job of this court to consider the severity of the charges, the protection of the public during the pendency of this matter and your likelihood to return to court" and so on — Ropke stretched his arms into camera range, exposing wrists bound by black handcuffs.

Michigan State Police investigated the case and arrested Ropke Tuesday, April 21, at his residence in the Park.

Park police weren't involved. The case is a state action prosecuted by county authorities.

"Specialized units of the federal government and Michigan State Police handle cases like this," Park Detective Ryan Willmer said.

State officers didn't alert Park officers to the action.

"In a case like this they would want to keep it pretty close and not tip anybody off," Willmer said. "If there were a direct threat to the community, they most likely would have let us know."

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GPA auction May 9

The Grosse Pointe Academy will host its 2026 Action Auction at 5:30 p.m. Saturday, May 9, in the school's Tracy Fieldhouse, bringing together families, alumni and supporters for one of the school's most anticipated traditions.

Now in its 58th year, the auction remains a cornerstone community event. This year's theme, "Imagination Decides Everything," highlights the role creativity plays in the student experience.

"This evening reminds us why we chose this school and why we continue to invest our time, energy and hearts here," said auction chairs Vida and Timothy Swanson and Michelle and Max Wiener. "It is not simply a fundraiser; it is a celebration of a community that shows up for one another and, most importantly, for our children."

The evening will feature a strong lineup of live auction experiences, including a Seven Mile Beach stay in the Cayman Islands, a suite for 20 at the Fox Theatre, a Nashville experience at the Four Seasons and an Austrian ski escape in Arlberg. Additional highlights include a multi-destination glamping experience across iconic national parks and 18K yellow gold and diamond medallion earrings, donated by LaLonde Jewelers & Gemologists.

A central moment of the evening will be the paddle raise, supporting STEAM initiatives. This effort builds on the foundational STEM lab made possible by seed funds from the Soave-Provenzano family. It also introduces a new media and production center, which is made possible in part by a gift from the Benjamin & Christine Fischer Fund.

The expansion includes robotics and engineering kits, advanced fabrication and 3D printing tools, coding and digital design platforms and a dedicated makerspace for hands-on creation. The center will feature a professional news desk, podcast studio and video production suite, giving students the tools to design, build and communicate their ideas in meaningful, real-world ways.

"This isn't just about equipment or rooms. It's about giving our students the tools, space and confidence to grow," the chairs added. "When students have the freedom to imagine and create, they are better prepared for what comes next."

Head of School Tommy Adams underscored the broader impact of the event, noting that proceeds directly support faculty, programs and campus priorities.

"For more than five decades, the Action Auction has united our community in a shared commitment to our students and to the future we are building together," he said. "When imagination is protected, challenged and inspired, children do more than learn. They begin to shape the future."

See gpacademy.org/giving/action-auction for more information.

Liggett Knight co-chairs Neil and Ashley Plamp.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ULS

Liggett Knight raises a record $566,000

University Liggett School raised more than $566,000 at its annual auction, Liggett Knight, in support of academic initiatives, campus improvements, co-curricular programs and more.

Held April 24, at The War Memorial, this year's event featured live and silent auctions, a fishbowl raffle and a paddle raise that generated $288,375 to expand the school's Place-Based Learning programming.

ULS continues to grow its nationally recognized Place-Based Learning program through both community support and new funding. The school recently was awarded the 2026–27 NSDAR American Revolution Legacy Grant, which will support cross-divisional projects, including one in which 10th grade students transform research on Great Lakes–area figures from the American Revolution into children's books for lower school students, enriching learning across grade levels.

This work reflects the legacy of former Head of School Raymond P. Robbins, who championed experiential learn-

See KNIGHT, page 10A

St. Paul School presents 'Schoolhouse Rock Live! Jr.'

St. Paul Catholic School presents its upcoming production of "Schoolhouse Rock Live! Jr.," a nostalgic musical based on the iconic Saturday morning television segments that taught generations of children grammar, math, science, civics and American history through unforgettable songs.

Performances take place in St. Paul's gymnasium at 7 p.m. Friday, May 1, and Saturday, May 2. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are $5 and will be sold at the door only.

St. Paul's middle school students will take on the leading and principal roles, while third, fourth and fifth graders round out the ensemble. Together, they bring to life fan favorites about bills becoming laws, the magic of multiplication and more, all wrapped in the energy and heart of a live performance.

For more information, call (313) 885-3430.

TROMBLY:

Continued from page 1A

and community meeting spaces, such as for scout troops.

Around a dozen people spoke during public comment sessions in favor of opening Trombly as an elementary school again.

Results of a survey GPPSS commissioned last year showed 396 children birth to age 9 living in 227 houses in the Trombly catchment area. Based on data from Plante Moran, the survey estimated there would be 500 households that met the criteria, giving the survey a sampling error of plus or minus 4.9 points.

Of those 227 households, 48 percent said they had two children 9 or younger. Another 24 percent had one and 21 percent had three. Some 64 percent of those children were below kindergarten age, while 51 percent of them attended a private preschool. Among parents of children 4 and younger, 60 percent said they would eventually send their children to Defer Elementary School if Trombly was not an option by then.

Of those who said they would not, half said it was due to overcrowding issues. Another 28 percent said they preferred private or parochial schools. If Trombly were to reopen as a preschool, 86 percent of parents with children too young for kindergarten said they would send their children there, including all Trombly parents whose preschoolers currently attend Barnes Early Childhood Center.

Among children ages 5 to 9 in the Trombly catchment area, 20 percent attend either a private or parochial school or are homeschooled. Of those, 70 percent said they would choose Trombly if it reopened as an elementary school. Of parents with children attending Defer, 71 percent said they would switch to Trombly under the same scenario.

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University Liggett School

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From left, Randy Juip, Board of Trustees member Maureen Juip, Alana Conti and Raphael Zammit.

From left, Errol Service, Savarior Moss-Service, Niki Johnson and Bobby Johnson.

KNIGHT:

Continued from page 9A

ing and engagement beyond the classroom. Through this initiative, gifts made in his honor help sustain and expand these opportunities for ULS students. Robbins served as head of school from 1969-84.

In addition to helping ULS expand its Place-Based Learning program, the combined support from this year's Liggett Knight, the NSDAR American Revolution Legacy Grant and gifts to the Ray Robbins Circle of Leadership will ensure ULS can continue delivering the immersive educational experiences for which it is known.

ULS Director of Development and Alumni Engagement Cressie Boggs thanked 2026 Liggett Knight co-chairs Ashley and Neil Plamp for their leadership and vision, as well as the Liggett Knight committee and volunteers whose efforts made the evening possible.

From left, Head of School Paul Rossi, Michelle Rossi, Board of Trustees President Gretchen Knoell Higbie and Mark Higbie.

"We are incredibly grateful to our generous bidders, donors and sponsors for making this year's Liggett Knight such an unforgettable and inspiring evening," Boggs said. "The energy in the room and the spirit of giving on display truly reflect the strength and enthusiasm of our community."

Since its inception, Liggett Knight has raised more than $6.1 million to benefit school initiatives.

Popular live auction items included:

◆ a five-course private dinner party for 10, donated by Edibles Rex and Conner Park Florist;

◆ a Detroit VIP sports extravaganza, donated by Danielly and Nicholas Noecker;

◆ ChampionsGate Grandeur: a six-night luxury retreat for eight at the Omni Orlando, donated by Savarior Moss-Service and Errol Service;

◆ a David Yurman Zig Zag Stax diamond and gold cuff, donated by edmund t. AHEE Jewelers; and

◆ The Ultimate Hockeytown Takeover: a private VIP suite for 18, donated by PVS Chemicals Inc.

"We are continually amazed by the level of support and excitement surrounding Liggett Knight," Boggs said. "From sponsorships and ticket purchases to the many thoughtful auction contributions, our community's generosity has a lasting impact on our students and programs. This remarkable show of support helps ensure that Liggett continues to thrive and grow."

Liggett Knight is University Liggett School's premier fundraising event. Proceeds support technology upgrades, academic programming, facility enhancements, the arts, athletics and more.

COURTESY PHOTO

Bold Broncos

On Monday, April 20, Brownell Middle School students were "challenged" by Principal Rodger Hunwick and Assistant Principal Renee Bialke to put away all technology when they were home for a school day while teachers participated in professional development.

For an entire day these students committed themselves to not use or access a television, computer or cell phone from sunup to sundown.

The students who accepted the challenge and succeeded said they spent their time reading books, biking, shopping, playing cards, organizing their bedrooms, practicing music, working on puzzles, listening to the Tigers game on the radio, building LEGOs and going for ice cream.

The winners each received a Bronco Buck, which can be used to purchase items at the school store. They were, some of whom are pictured above, Jocelyn Peng, Claire Girdwood, Avalon Frey, Abby Schuster, Jack Stackpoole, Anna Runk, Sara Runk and Jack Scott.

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Storytellers explore grief, connection

'In the Wake of Life' immersive theater experience is May 4-5

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

The Detroit talent

X'ydee Alexander

Phil Elam

Jacquie Floyd

Tayler Jones

David Popa

Jeff Priskorn

Dwight Stackhouse

Nick Szczerba

Corey Kennard

Cellist Una O'Riordan

Playwright Elizabeth Coplan wrote "'Til Death" to process her own grief after a devastating loss. The show was performed off-Broadway in 2023, and led Coplan to a realization.

"People who attended the show, if they knew I wrote it, would say to me, 'I liked the play. Something happened to me just like that,' then they'd tell me their story," she said. "I realized how powerful it was to see a host of different stories, different voices. It gives us permission to share their experience in whatever way we'd like — drawing, painting, writing. Out of grief comes art."

Through her nonprofit, Grief Dialogues, Coplan brings "In the Wake of Life: An Immersive Experience," to The War Memorial the evenings of Monday, May 4, and Tuesday, May 5. Blending theater, poetry, music and personal storytelling, the one-hour immersive event invites audiences to move through the performance space, encountering intimate scenes and contributing to a communal installation honoring loved ones they have lost.

All attendees watch the opening performance, then select which plays or monologues they'd like to see before gathering again to watch the finale together.

"There's a certain amount of improv between shows," Coplan said. "Actors will be leading people from one place to another."

The production will be spread throughout The War Memorial.

"We like to do this in venues that are not traditional theater spaces that confine people to chairs," Coplan said. "We encourage people to sit on the stage. At The War Memorial, there will be lots of room to move.

"... There will be things happening throughout, different vignettes," she said. "There will be a grief counselor present and a quiet space for people to process. It's immersive, but attentive to the potential needs of audience viewers."

Attentive, she said, due to the nature of the performances.

"They depict scenarios around dying, death and grief, from the hysterical to gut-punch hard," Coplan said. "Being immersive is great, because if at any point you're not comfortable, you can walk away."

Anyone who needs time to regroup may sit in silence or listen to the soft sounds of Detroit Symphony Orchestra cellist Una O'Riordan, who will perform during the event.

O'Riordan isn't the only local artist who was hired for the experience.

"Whatever city we're in, we cast actors from that city," Coplan said. "We have plays by local playwrights or plays that are near and dear to the location. With Detroit, we reached out to Dwight Stackhouse, a legendary Detroit storyteller. He has a great story about his love of the city of Detroit and a great story about his love of his mother. He's combining them into one powerful piece."

"In the Wake of Life" premiered in New York and is making its way to Detroit, thanks to local support. The Rev. Corey Kennard, pastor of Amplify Christian Church and director of patient experience at Henry Ford St. John Hospital, extended the invitation to Coplan.

"He said he was seeing so many people not prepared to see their loved one die," she recalled. "They're suffering from the side effects of grief, from not being prepared for the loss.

"... It literally is for anybody," she added. "It's for the death curious, people who are grieving, people in healthcare, therapists. It helps therapists learn how to use art to get people to open up more readily. That's why I started this in the first place.

"Deaths in the family are profound," she continued, adding that in her own family, no one wanted to talk about a death until she wrote her play. "Then they wanted to talk about it. It's education that doesn't feel like education. It makes it OK to talk about this. People will self-select. That's why it's called 'In Wake of Life.' It's meant to be celebration of life."

Topics range from the tragedy of suicide to the humor of a newlywed buying his bride a burial plot for Valentine's Day. Coplan's own "Hospice: A Love Story" is among those to be performed.

"It's about the death of a mother and two sisters by her bedside who remember things very differently," she said. "One goes to confession and talks to a priest, the other talks to her therapist. There are dueling dialogues."

The play is a pared-down version of "'Til Death."

The production is directed by Tony-nominated and Emmy-winning director Dani Davis, who curated the script selection and helped craft the emotional arc of the immersive experience.

Local psychotherapist Marla Ruhana, LMSW, who has taught grief and loss coursework at Wayne State University, serves as community liaison.

"In the Wake of Life" is free to attend, though donations are accepted. The local event is sponsored by the International End of Life Doula Association and No Negative Energy, as well as an anonymous donor.

A VIP private event takes place Monday, May 4, while a public performance is slated Tuesday, May 5. Both events begin at 6:30 p.m.

Coplan asked anyone who would like to attend the VIP event sign up in advance by emailing social@griefdialogues.com.

"We want people who would like to see it to be there," she said. "We'll take your name and you're in."

Free tickets to the public performance may be found at donorbox.org/events/908412.

"To paraphrase Queen Elizabeth, you might be going through grief, but that means you loved," Coplan said. "You can't grieve unless you've loved."

COURTESY PHOTOS

Actor Jeremiah Porter was part of a New York City performance of "In the Wake of Life" at the Frank E. Campbell Funeral Home.

Actors Amber Walker and Izaak Vanderwende, left, and Clara Francesca and Jeffrey Grover, perform amidst audience members during an "In the Wake of Life" performance in New York City.

St. John Guild dinner is May 7

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Three individuals and one foundation will be honored at the 64th annual St. John Guild Strolling Dinner, which begins at 5 p.m. Thursday, May 7, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

"Every year the Guild honors several folks from the community who just are really standouts in a variety of categories," said David Tindall, who is co-chairing the dinner with Anthony Gianino. "This year we've got a great slate of honorees."

Earning accolades for its philanthropy is the Elizabeth Allen & Warren Sheldon Foundation, a longtime hospital donor.

Financial advisor Paul Treder will be presented the Lifetime Achievement Award.

"He is a former Guild president who dedicated a lot of time and effort to the Guild," Tindall said, "and he's a standout in his career, which is why he's being honored."

The Sister Verenice McQuade award will be presented to Denise Allen, "who has worked at the hospital for many years and has often been mentioned to us as somebody who goes above and beyond to help out," Tindall said.

Receiving Physician of the Year honors will be Dr. Richard Berri, chief of surgical oncology and director of the Hyperthermic Intraperitoneal Chemotherapy Program at Henry Ford St. John Hospital.

"Dr. Richard Berri is somebody who stands out as somebody who provides exceptional service, quality care, whose patients really love him," Tindall said. "These are all folks that we wanted to recognize this year and make sure that their contributions are known throughout the community, not just with their immediate patients."

Honorees are nominated by physicians and administrators at Henry Ford St. John Hospital, Guild President Mike Cytaki said.

"We usually get a decent-sized list in the beginning of the year to decide who's going to get honored," Cytaki explained. "We go through it and then it gets whittled down by a committee. ... It gets more difficult (to select honorees) every year."

Awards are only one portion of the annual event, which also features a strolling dinner, allowing guests to move around, mingle and network. Everyone who attends will be entered to win an assortment of door prizes, including the grand door prize — a Tag Heuer Special Edition Formula 1 Chronograph watch, donated by edmund t. AHEE Jewelers.

Additional prizes include a weeklong stay at a Marco Island vacation home, donated by the Bill family; lower-bowl Detroit Tigers tickets and autographed collectibles, donated by the Detroit Tigers; and a bourbon basket, courtesy of Woods Wholesale Wine.

"Once you're in, you're eligible to win," Tindall said. "It always adds a little layer of excitement to the night."

Though the evening promises excitement and fun, its purpose is to support a serious cause. Proceeds will fund a portable radiation barrier for Henry Ford St. John Hospital's cardiac catheterization lab.

"This was brought up to us as something that the hospital has really desperately wanted for years and has struggled to get funding for," Tindall said. "The reason why this is important is that today, when doing procedures in the cardiac cath lab, doctors and nurses are required to wear this lead vest to protect them from radiation. There are a lot of issues with that because it's not entirely efficient and it also actually causes a lot of injuries. These doctors are getting

See GUILD, page 6B

WEDDING

Fabry—Cosic

Madelyn Elizabeth Fabry and Ronaldo Cosic were married June 28, 2025, at Historic Trinity Lutheran Church, in a ceremony officiated by the Rev. D. Lee Andrzejewski. A reception followed at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club.

The bride is the daughter of David and Nancy Fabry of Grosse Pointe Park. The groom is the son of Ljiljana and the late Miro Cosic of Grand Rapids.

The bride wore a crepe A-line gown with a plunge neckline and carried a bouquet of wildflowers.

Her friends, Brooke Wiskur and Sara Kramer, served as co-matrons of honor. Bridesmaids were the bride's friends, Brenna Bromwell, Olivia Dietrich, Anna Carmody and Kitty Einwaechter.

The groom's brother, Leo Cosic, served as best man. Groomsmen were his friends, Connor Kuhlmann, Chris Kramer, Alek Stathakis and Chuck Bowers; his godfather, Andrej Tavic; his cousin, Franko Lovrinovic; and the bride's brothers, Andrew Fabry and Matthew Fabry.

The bride earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Education from Michigan State University and currently is an elementary school teacher in the Detroit Public Schools Community District.

Mr. and Mrs. Ronaldo Cosic

The groom majored in Biomedical Lab Diagnostics at MSU and currently is a territory manager with BD Peripheral Intervention.

The couple honeymooned at St. Lucia Sandals Resort. They live in Clawson, but plan to move to Grand Rapids in June.

BIRTH

Michael David Anthony Giorgio

Michael David Anthony Giorgio

Alexandria and Frank Giorgio of the City of Grosse Pointe announce the birth of their son, Michael David Anthony Giorgio, born Friday, Feb. 27, 2026.

Maternal grandparents are Dave and Christy Warren of Grosse Pointe Farms.

Paternal grandparents are Michael and Michelle Giorgio of Grosse Pointe Shores.

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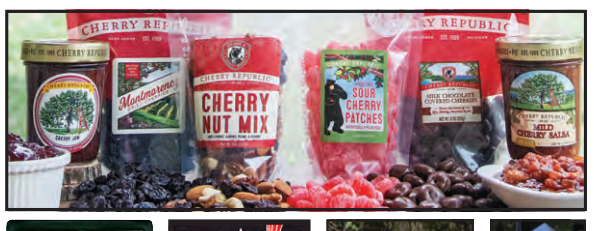

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Relic of first Millennial saint coming to St. Paul

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

St. Paul students are hosting a sneaker and blue jeans drive through May 3, in conjunction with the relic visit. Above, Matthew Johnson was chosen to put up the first poster on the donation box that will be decorated with sneakers. Right, Tessa Lepczyk tapes a decorated sneaker to the side of the donation box.

Plans to host a first-class relic at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church stemmed from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in 2022, when it was discussed that a renewal in the Catholic Church was needed.

St. Paul, along with other Catholic churches, embarked on a three-year national Eucharistic Revival, beginning with a year of discussions about what steps to take, followed by a year of hosting book and scriptural studies about the Eucharist.

The third year, which began in July 2024, kicked off with the National Eucharist Congress in Indianapolis.

"More than 50,000 Catholics and other people heard speakers, said prayers, had Mass, were inspired to grow in faith," said Anne Graves, recently retired evangelization coordinator for St. Paul on the Lake. "It was an incredible thing where we all came together under one roof. It was very inspirational."

Graves and other parishioners took that inspiration back to St. Paul and began "extending personal invitations to help bring people back to church," she said. "About that time, we asked each other what more can we do at St. Paul?"

Also around that time, Graves received an email from the Office of Sacred Worship at the Archdiocese of Detroit notifying her that two relics were available for parishes to host.

Emmie Thole makes sure all the sneakers have enough tape to secure them to the donation box before they take it to the church lobby.

"It was late spring, around Pentecost, and I thought I'd love to bring a relic to St. Paul and carry on the revival at our parish," Graves said.

Graves will see the project to fruition when a first-class relic of St. Carlo Acutis — a lock of hair — arrives at St. Paul. The church will host opportunities for veneration after each Mass from Friday, May 1, to Monday, May 11.

Monday through Friday, it will be available immediately following 6:30 and 8:15 a.m. Masses; Saturdays, it will be available immediately following 8:15 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Masses; Sundays, it will be available immediately following 7, 8:30 and 10 a.m. and noon Masses.

Additionally, the church will host open veneration from noon to 2 p.m. and 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 6, and Friday, May 8.

Veneration, Graves explained, is a way to honor a saint.

"One by one, you go up to the relic and touch a hand to it, perform a slight bow," she said. "We're asking that saint to intercede for us to God for specific things — something we've received, the way the Lord is working on our behalf, a healing, a situation in your marriage, to inspire us. If we're called to help in a certain area, we might ask the saint to help us in this area."

Graves requested the dates to host the relic so it would coincide with events at St. Paul School.

"It will be present for two Confirmation Masses for our eighth-grade students and for our students making their first Holy Communion," she said.

Student interest in the relic is high, as St. Carlo Acutis was just 15 when he died in 2006. He was canonized in 2025.

In planning to host the relic, St. Paul began educating about the saint — what he was about, what he stood for, why he became a saint, Graves said.

"He lived a very short life," she added. "He was the first Millennial saint. He served the poor. He built an internet gateway to explore Eucharistic miracles. He brought his mom and dad back to the faith; they had fallen away."

Acutis was interested in Catholicism from a young age, loved to pray the Rosary and attended daily Mass after making his First Communion at age 7.

"He fell in love with the Catholic faith and Eucharist," Graves said. "He used his gifts with computer skills to tell people about the Eucharist. He was a joyful young man.

"... We've not just invited our Family of Parishes, but we're hoping people from many parishes will come," she added. "It's for everyone, especially for young adults. People loved him. He was relatable and he was kind to people."

St. Paul has resources available to take home so those interested may learn more.

"All are invited to come learn more about St. Carlo and how he showed the world that we are all called in our own unique way to share God's love

See RELIC, page 6B

New to Medicare offered at The Helm

Some things can't be avoided. Turning 65 and signing up for Medicare is one such life milestone.

The Helm's free New to Medicare program explains required steps, as well as various drug and supplemental plan options to make a smooth transition to Medicare.

Medicare counselors will be at The Helm, 158 Ridge, Grosse Pointe Farms, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Thursday, May 7, to provide a comprehensive overview of Medicare, including coverage, costs, pros and cons of different optional plans and how to sign up.

The ideal time to take the class is three to six months before one turns 65.

The class is free, but space is limited, so reservations are a must.

The Helm also offers free, individual appointments throughout the year with Medicare counselors to explain options, choose the best plans and answer specific questions. Contact Tony Altovilla at taltovilla@helmlife.org or (313) 649-2110 to register for the New to Medicare program or schedule a one-on-one appointment with a Medicare counselor.

Student-led bake sale is Sunday

Sunday, May 3, Brownell Middle School students Allisa Bohl, Chinaza Ibekwe and Charlotte Koenig will host a bake sale after the worship service at Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church, 19950 Mack, at Torrey Road.

The service begins at 10:30 a.m., with coffee hour at 11:30 a.m.

Funds raised will help displaced and homeless people suffering through the wars in the Middle East. Women, children and the elderly are the most impacted in these conflicts. Governments focused on war provide little care for the innocent, whose homes, lives and families are destroyed.

All are welcome to drop in during coffee hour with a few dollars to purchase homemade baked goods.

Jefferson Ave. church building celebrates a century

Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church will commemorate the 100th anniversary of its building May 2 and 3, with a special Centennial Celebration Weekend. The milestone honors not only a century in its current space along East Jefferson Avenue, but also 172 years of continuous ministry in the city of Detroit.

The anniversary weekend will feature a series of events highlighting the church's musical and community legacy. Festivities begin at 4 p.m. Saturday, May 2, with an anniversary concert showcasing the church choir, past organists and guest musicians. The performance will celebrate the historic Skinner organ and Gillett and Johnson carillon — the oldest in Michigan. Both are central to the church's longstanding musical tradition.

The celebration continues at 10 a.m. Sunday, May 3, with an anniversary worship service that will include remarks from dignitaries, community leaders and supporters who have contributed to the church's impact across Detroit. A celebratory luncheon will follow.

"This anniversary is not just about honoring our building, but celebrating the people, music and ministry that have shaped our church and community over the past century," the Rev. Laura C. Kelsey said.

All members, former members and community friends are invited to attend the Centennial Celebration Weekend. The event will conclude with fellowship, refreshments and opportunities to share memories and stories that have defined the church's legacy.

Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church is located at 8625 E. Jefferson, Detroit.

May 6 GPGC program welcomes 'Plant Doctor'

"The Plant Doctor," Dr. David Roberts, will present during the Grosse Pointe Garden Center's program at 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 6, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

With more than four decades of experience in plant pathology, attendees will learn new ways to enhance the health of their Michigan landscapes.

Admission is free for Grosse Pointe Garden Center members, $10 for nonmembers. Advanced registration is required at gpgardencenter.org.

AREA ACTIVITIES

Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

◆ 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, April 30, Grosse Pointe Farms Pier Park, 350 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, May 5, First English Lutheran Church, 800 Vernier, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, May 11, Bethel Baptist Church, 24600 Little Mack, St. Clair Shores.

◆ Noon to 6 p.m. Thursday, May 14, Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church, 211 Moross, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Register at redcrossblood.org.

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.

◆ Health for Her at The Helm: Sexuality and Intimacy as We Age, 6 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 30. The program is presented in partnership with The Family Center.

◆ Out to Lunch Bunch, El Charro in Fraser, noon to 2:30 p.m. Thursday, May 7.

◆ New to Medicare, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Thursday, May 7.

◆ Mother's Day Luncheon & Movie, noon

See EVENTS, page 6B

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.

Elizabeth Pariano

Mary A. Gray

Margaret C. Johnson

Madeline Marian Kerby

Martha Gedman Peslar

Elizabeth Pariano

Elizabeth Helen (nee Wisgerhof) Pariano, 53, died Saturday, Dec. 6, 2025, at home in Philadelphia.

Elizabeth is survived by her sons, Joe, 21, and Nick, 22; husband, Anthony; parents, Mary and Max Wisgerhof; in-laws, Juanita and Len Pariano; and her aunts, including her much beloved Elizabeth Freidheim, as well as uncles and cousins.

Elizabeth was born Oct. 25, 1972, at Lying-in Hospital of the University of Chicago, where her parents worked. She was an only child. She lived her first three years in the Hyde Park neighborhood of Chicago in a university apartment. A close neighbor's toddler daughter, Oneyre, became Elizabeth's first friend.

Elizabeth then moved with her parents to Rochester, Minn., where she lived for three years and attended a Montessori preschool, where she had her first experiences with animals and trees, both of which would become her lifelong loves.

Elizabeth grew up in Grosse Pointe Farms. She attended The Grosse Pointe Academy and University Liggett School where she had many friends and experiences, including extended visits with her maternal and paternal grandparents, both from Illinois. She was prepared well for her next adventures, including at Washington University in St. Louis, where she majored in English literature, and at University College London, where she earned a master's degree in English literature with a focus on Mark Twain and Shakespeare. She established many lasting relationships during these years.

After graduation, she moved to Nashville and represented Norton and Co., and its academic publications. However, she was tempted to teach by those who taught her. She moved to Ann Arbor and attended the University of Michigan, where she obtained a master's degree in education, a teaching certificate and, later, an MBA.

Her next experience was defining: She gained a position teaching English literature at New Trier Township High School in Winnetka, Ill. There, she noted Anthony Pariano, a special teacher of English literature. The two were married and lived in Chicago. They soon became joyful parents of their first son, Nick. Having a family led them to move to Ann Arbor and settle in the Burns Park neighborhood. After the birth of their second son, Joe, Elizabeth began a career at the University of Michigan.

Elizabeth obtained a position at the University of Michigan College of Literature, Science, and The Arts (LSA). First, she was the undergraduate advising coordinator in the School of Romance Languages and Literature, then she was director of internship programs and director of alumni and employer engagement, working with Dean Andrew Martin during the development of the LSA Opportunity Hub.

Elizabeth and her family moved to Philadelphia when their son, Nick, then 14, was recruited to the Philadelphia Union Academy for Major League Soccer. Elizabeth continued her career with the University of Michigan as regional director of development, Mid-Atlantic states.

Elizabeth was loved. She had strength and wisdom and was open-hearted, patient and kind. She was intrepid. She thrived in the presence of her family, friends and colleagues.

Nick and Joe were her joy.

An informal gathering to celebrate Elizabeth's life will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 23, at the Michigan League, 911 N. University, Ann Arbor. All are welcome.

In lieu of memorial donations, Elizabeth's family suggests performing a specific act of kindness in her memory.

A full obituary and online guestbook may be viewed at the Cremation Society of Michigan website, cremationmichigan.com.

A memorial service for Mary will take place at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 16, at Trinity United Methodist Church, 18303 Common, Roseville. A luncheon will follow in the church hall.

Mary A. Gray

Mary A. (nee Kraley) Gray, 94, a resident of Grosse Pointe Woods for more than 64 years, passed away Saturday, March 14, 2026, at home with family by her side.

Mary was born May 14, 1931, in Lumberport, W.V., to Julia (nee Kraley) Lotz, now deceased. She graduated from Fairmont Senior High School in 1949.

She worked briefly after graduating before enlisting in the United States Armed Forces. Mary proudly served in the U.S. Army from 1950-54, and was stationed in Frankfurt, Germany, during the Korean War.

Mary met her husband, Gilbert, who also was serving in the Army. They married in Heidelberg, Germany, and built a loving life together that spanned 65 1/2 years, until his passing in 2019.

Mary was a loving and devoted wife, mother, sister, aunt, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend who will be forever in her loved ones' hearts.

Her family expressed sincere gratitude to the staff of Michigan Community VNA for their exceptional care and concern for Mary's well-being, especially to Mary's hospice nurse, Keira, and certified nursing assistant, Kenydra. The family will be forever grateful for the professional, dedicated, tender and dignified care they showed Mary.

Margaret C. Johnson

Grosse Pointe Woods resident Margaret C. Johnson (nee Wooten), 94, died Thursday, April 16, 2026, at Corewell Health Beaumont Grosse Pointe Hospital, with family at her side.

Margaret was born Dec. 11, 1931, in Detroit, and graduated from Southeastern High School. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in education from Wayne University. In 1952, Margaret wed Richard H. Johnson and their loving 58-year marriage continued until Richard's death in 2010.

Mrs. Johnson was a well-loved teacher who delighted in setting her young students up for success. Her 40-year teaching career was spent within the public school systems of Detroit and Grosse Pointe, the vast majority taking place at Poupard Elementary School, from which she retired in 1992.

Music played a significant role in Margaret's life. She was a gifted musician with an ethereal singing voice, singing countless solos and duets throughout her lifetime while serving as a chancel choir member at Jefferson Avenue Baptist Church, Grosse Pointe Congregational Church and Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church. She also sang for many years with the Grosse Pointe Community Chorus and was a longtime member of Tuesday Musicale of Detroit.

Throughout her decades of teaching and singing, Margaret cared deeply for others and made many lasting friendships.

She had a heart for animals, shown by her love for the family dogs and concern for wildlife. She supported many charitable causes, including the Michigan Humane Society.

Margaret and Dick wanted their children and grandchildren to experience the world through travel, taking them on trips to all 50 states and numerous countries. These travels provide a continuing wellspring of shared memories, which are recalled fondly with smiles and laughter.

Mrs. Johnson is survived by her beloved children, Julia Joachim (Gernot) of Livonia and Jeffrey Johnson (Joy) of Grosse Pointe Woods; cherished grandchildren, Bradley Johnson (Abigail), Sally Tuovila (Eric), Lauren Johnson and Geordan Garza (Barb); and adored great-grandchildren, Charlotte and Nathan Johnson, Case and Cameron Tuovila and Grace and Elijah Garza.

She also is survived by her brother, Ronald Wooten; sister, Flora Jean Carlyle; and many nieces and nephews and their families.

A memorial gathering will be held at a later date.

Donations in Margaret's memory may be made to the Michigan Humane Society, Attn: Philanthropy, 2937 E. Grand Blvd., Ste. 800, Detroit, MI 48202.

Arrangements entrusted to A.H. Peters Funeral Home, Grosse Pointe Woods.

Madeline Marian Kerby

Madeline Marian Kerby, 98, passed away Monday, April 13, 2026, surrounded by the love she gave so freely throughout her life. She was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and woman of deep faith.

Madeline graduated from St. Ambrose High School in Grosse Pointe Park in 1946. She built a life of warmth, generosity and an unshakable devotion to family and God.

Madeline married the love of her life, Paul Kerby, in 1948, beginning a partnership of 67 beautiful years. Together, they raised six children, hosted countless holidays and created cherished traditions that became the heartbeat of the Kerby family, from yearly apple-picking excursions and lively Kerby picnics at Lake Front Park in Grosse Pointe Woods to the beloved recipes of fried perch, barbecue chicken and Thanksgiving stuffing that filled their home with warmth and the smell of something wonderful. Madeline wore her wedding ring her entire life as a quiet symbol of the enduring love she carried for Paul long after his passing in 2015. In the years that followed, she carried on every tradition they had built together, refusing to let any of it fade.

Madeline worked for more than 20 years in the personnel department at J.L. Hudson Department Store in Harper Woods. The role suited her natural gift for connecting with people. Outside of work, she filled her days with activity and joy, playing cards and board games with family and friends, reading, riding bikes, playing ladder golf and walking with her beloved Eastland Walkers group. In one of her most remarkable achievements, Madeline bowled in a league well into her mid-90s.

Every grandchild and great-grandchild knew exactly where to find the cookie tin in her kitchen and it was always full. Madeline's homemade treats were famous across the family and beyond. She was forever headed to the post office to mail oatmeal raisin cookies or banana bread to out-of-town family and never missed a birthday or special occasion. But, as those who loved her understood, the greatest gift was never the cookies themselves; it was the love she baked into each one.

A devout Catholic, Madeline was a member of St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church for more than 70 years. She attended daily Mass and served her faith community in countless ways, including as a Sacristan, a Eucharistic minister to the homebound, a member of Rosary prayer groups and by organizing senior card clubs. She seldom left Mass without stopping at the prayer cove to light a candle and offer a special intention for someone she loved. Her family treasured her holy water blessings for new homes, new cars and safe travels — all small, sacred rituals that spoke volumes about the woman she was. Madeline had a deep living faith in Jesus Christ. She expressed it not in words alone but in every act of kindness, meal delivered or loaf of raisin bread left on a doorstep.

Madeline loved to sing and dance in the kitchen, at a party or wherever the music found her. There was no one she loved to dance with more than her daughter, Lynn. Her family takes comfort in the image of them together again, dancing in heaven.

Madeline was predeceased by her treasured husband, Paul R. Kerby; siblings, Henry Huvaere, Margaret Loeffler, Stella Kerby and Donald Huvaere; and adored daughter, Madelynn Carol Wiszowaty.

She is survived by her loving children, Paul H. Kerby (Antoinette), Brian Kerby (Diane), Steven Kerby (Candice), Cheryl Owsen and Kenneth Kerby (Andrea); son-in-law, Jerry Wiszowaty; 17 adored grandchildren; as well as 32 cherished great-grandchildren.

A memorial gathering, including a Rosary and memory sharing, will be held 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, May 3, at A.H. Peters Funeral Home, 20705 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods. Visitation will be held from 9:30 a.m. Monday, May 4, until a 10 a.m. funeral Mass at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 22412 Overlake, St. Clair Shores.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the St. Vincent de Paul Society, svdpdetroit.org/Donate; or the Solanus Casey Center, solanuscasey.org/help-us-serve/donate/.

Arrangements entrusted to A.H. Peters Funeral Home, Grosse Pointe Woods.

Share a memory at ahpeters.com.

Martha Gedman Peslar

Martha Gedman Peslar, 82, passed away Wednesday, April 8, 2026, at Terracina Senior Living in Naples, Fla. She was a former resident of Grosse Pointe Farms.

Martha was born July 3, 1943, in Washington, D.C., to William H. Mathews and Grace G. Mathews. She graduated from Grosse Pointe High School in 1961, and attended Wayne State University. She worked as a paralegal at Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP, and later as an office manager with the Judicial Tenure Commission in downtown Detroit.

She found joy in life's simple pleasures, spending time with the family, golfing, cooking, entertaining friends and pampering the many dogs she had over the years. She had a keen eye for decorating and a creative touch that she used to design beautiful silk flower arrangements.

Martha was predeceased by her parents; and beloved husband, Ronald M. Gedman. She is survived by her son, Steve Gedman (Kimber); grandchildren, Graham Gedman (Ava Bobbs) and Caroline Gedman; sister, Susan Schwallier; and special sister-in-law, Mary Ellen Devine.

Her family extends their sincere thanks and heartfelt appreciation to Jenice Campbell, Martha's longtime caregiver and dear friend.

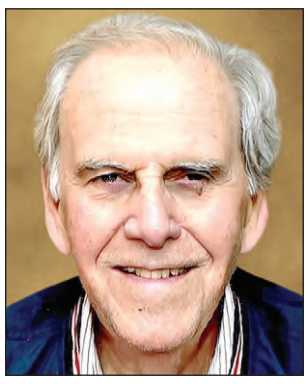
A celebration of life will be held at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, June 6, at Terracina Senior Living in Naples, Fla. She will be interred at Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Detroit.

Memorial donations may be made to the American Humane Society, 1400 16th NW, Ste. 360, Washington, DC 20036, bit.ly/4cvz6eT.

See OBITS, page 5B

OBITS:

Continued from page 4B

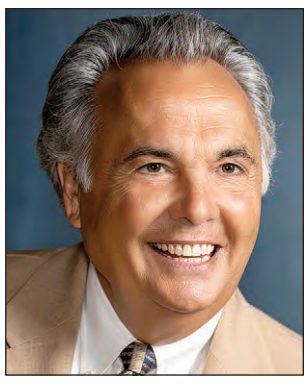


Dr. Edward Shine

Sally Ann Chown

Mary Elizabeth Jagger

Pauline McNeill



Patrick A. Villani Sr.

Dr. Edward Shine

Dr. Edward Shine, 82, passed away Tuesday, April 21, 2026, at home in Southbury, Conn. He was a former resident of the City of Grosse Pointe and Grosse Pointe Park.

Edward was born July 17, 1943, in New Haven, Conn., to Jeremiah and Mary Shine.

Edward graduated with bachelor's and master's degrees from Fairfield University in 1965 and 1967, respectively. He then graduated from John Charles Meditz College of Arts and Sciences at Fairfield University in 1971. He returned to school almost two decades later and earned a Doctor of Education degree from Columbia University in 1992. He was the principal at Grosse Pointe South High School and deputy superintendent for the Rye City School District in New York. Edward also was a member of Suburban School Superintendents, Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe, Phi Delta Kappa and the executive committee for the Greater Detroit Area Health Council. He also was involved with the Wayne County Association of School Administrators and served as president from 1993 to 1994.

Edward enjoyed reading, listening to music and spending time with his family, especially his six grandchildren.

Edward is survived by his wife, Madeline Shine; daughters, Christine Shine and Marykate Shine Springer (Dan); son, Brendan Shine (Mara); grandchildren, Joaquim Shine, Maddie Rangel, Danny Shine, Christopher Shine, Andrew Springer and Easton Shine; sisters, MaryAnn McDonald and Theresa Salafia; and brother, Jack Shine.

He was predeceased by his parents; and brothers, Jerry Shine, Dan Shine and Denis Shine.

A funeral service will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, April 30, at Carpino Funeral Home in Southbury, Conn. A funeral Mass will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, May 1, at Midd-South Catholic Parish in Southbury, Conn.

Memorial donations may be made to the American Parkinson Disease Association, P.O. Box 61420, Staten Island, NY 10306, bit.ly/48oL3k9.

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Sally Ann Chown

Sally Ann Chown, 88, of St. Clair Shores and formerly of Grosse Pointe Park, Farms and Woods, passed away peacefully and surrounded by her family Tuesday, April 21, 2026, from congestive heart failure.

Sally was born Nov. 24, 1937, in Detroit, to Charles and Dolores Strubank. She graduated from St. Ambrose High School and attended the University of Detroit Mercy. She worked at CKLW-FM radio station and Detroit Edison before meeting her husband of 64 years, Ray, in Port Austin. They married and lived in Grosse Pointe Park before moving to the Farms.

Once her three boys were older, she worked for the Grosse Pointe Public School System at Grosse Pointe South High School in the career resource center.

Sally was a former member of the Detroit Institute of Ophthalmology, Alter Society, Bon Secours Assistance League and Society of St. Vincent de Paul. She also was an active member of St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church for several decades. She and Ray never missed a family or sporting event. They traveled throughout the region for their sons' and grandchildren's baseball, football, swimming, track, skiing and wrestling events.

Sally and Ray traveled extensively and wintered in Florida for multiple decades. She enjoyed gardening, golf and spending time with family and friends.

Sally is survived by her sons, Kevin (Renee) and Robert (Jill); and grandchildren, Erica, Melinda, Nicholas and Andrew. She was predeceased by her son, Raymond; and husband, Ray.

Visitation will be held at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, May 2, until a 10 a.m. funeral Mass at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Memorial donations may be made to the Capuchin Franciscan Province of St. Joseph-Detroit, 1820 Mt. Elliot, Detroit, MI 48207, thecapuchins.org/donate; or St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236, stpaulonthelake.org/donate.

Arrangements entrusted to Chas. Verheyden Inc.

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Mary Elizabeth "Mary Beth" Jagger

Mary Elizabeth "Mary Beth" Jagger, 80, passed away peacefully Thursday, April 9, 2026.

Born April 1, 1946, to Paul and Arvella Bowlen, Mary Beth was raised in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. She married John Philip Jagger of Detroit, June 5, 1971, and soon after made her home in Grosse Pointe, where they built a beautiful life together. During 53 years of marriage, Mary Beth and John created a close-knit, loving family and a lifetime of cherished memories.

Mary Beth was deeply loved and widely known in her community for her generosity, warmth and vibrant presence. She was an active supporter of numerous charitable organizations and a dedicated member of the Grosse Pointe Junior League, Tau Beta Association and Grosse Pointe Farm and Garden Club.

She had a passion for beauty in all its forms, including interior design, fashion and the art of living well. She also had a spirited love of sports and natural competitiveness that brought her great joy. She was a longtime member of the Country Club of Detroit and an avid tennis and golf player who shared countless happy hours on the courts and course with dear friends.

Mary Beth's love of football, especially the Denver Broncos, was a defining part of her life. For nearly 40 years, she was closely connected to the Denver Broncos Football Club, traveling often with her husband, John — and frequently hosting friends from Grosse Pointe — for memorable weekends centered around the game she loved.

She is survived by her beloved children, Annie and John; and cherished grandchildren, Chloe, Jagger, Lexie, Lily, Jack, Kathryn and Thomas.

She was predeceased by her devoted husband, John; and daughter, Kathryn.

A funeral Mass will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, May 6, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to The Helm at the Boll Life Center, 158 Ridge, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236, helmlife.org/get-involved/donate/.

Arrangements entrusted to Chas. Verheyden, Inc.

Share a memory at verheyden.org.

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Pauline McNeill

Pauline Joyce McNeill, 92, passed away Friday, April 10, 2026. She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother and friend.

Pauline was born in Detroit and raised in Highland Park. Her family moved to Grosse Pointe Park shortly after her high school graduation. Pauline attended Western College for Women in Oxford, Ohio, for one year before transferring to Michigan State University, which she felt was a better fit. She earned bachelor's and master's degrees from MSU. She relished playing the MSU fight song at any opportunity, especially once her daughter became a student at the "other" rival, the University of Michigan.

Pauline taught third grade at Princeton Elementary School in St. Clair Shores for more than 10 years. In 1959, Pauline met Alex McNeill, who recently had emigrated from Falkirk, Scotland, to Detroit. The two were married in 1961, and lived in St. Clair Shores before moving to Grosse Pointe Woods and starting a family. Over the course of nearly 65 years of marriage, the couple had many adventures, including notable trips to Scotland, Japan and Hawaii, among others.

Pauline paused her teaching career to focus on raising her children. When she returned to teaching, Pauline was a sought-after substitute teacher in both the Grosse Pointe and St. Clair Shores public school systems for more than 20 years. She was very involved with the Women's Fellowship at Grosse Pointe Congregational Church, including the annual rummage sale and serving on the church board. She also loved being a member of the church's Knit Wits group. The church was the source of many of Pauline's closest friendships. Pauline also was active with the Bon Secours Assistance League for many years.

Pauline's pride and joy were her two grandsons. She cherished her role as Nana.

Pauline will be greatly missed by her devoted husband, Alex; daughter, Allison (Jim); son, Colin; and beloved grandsons, Colin and Ian. She was predeceased by her parents; and sister, Esther.

The family expresses their gratitude to the staff of Sunrise of Grosse Pointe Woods for their amazing care of Pauline the past few years.

A memorial service and inurnment will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 30, in the garden columbarium at Grosse Pointe Congregational Church, 240 Chalfonte, Grosse Pointe Farms. A gathering in the church lounge will immediately follow.

Memorial donations may be made to Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society, 20542 Harper, Harper Woods, MI 48225, gpaas.org/donate, to support Pauline's great love of cats; or the Garden Columbarium Fund at Grosse Pointe Congregational Church, 240 Chalfonte, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236, gpcong.org/give.

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Patrick Anthony Villani Sr.

Patrick Anthony Villani Sr., 89, passed away peacefully Monday, April 20, 2026.

Pat was born Aug. 21, 1936, in Detroit, to Italian immigrants. He carried with him a deep appreciation for hard work, discipline and lifelong learning. These values shaped his career and family.

From a young age, Pat showed a love of reading, science and music. He played the trumpet and excelled in his studies at St. Juliana Catholic School. He attended University of Detroit Jesuit High School and Academy before graduating from De La Salle Collegiate High School. He earned an undergraduate degree from Wayne State University in 1958, then completed his medical degree at Wayne State University School of Medicine in 1962, beginning a distinguished career in ophthalmology.

On April 19, 1954, at the Vanity Ballroom in Detroit, Pat met the love of his life, Angell DeMeglio. From that day forward, they were inseparable. The two were married Sept. 30, 1962, at Holy Family Church in Detroit, beginning a lifelong partnership rooted in love, devotion and shared purpose.

Pat and Angell began their family in a modest flat in Detroit, where they welcomed their first three children. In 1968, they moved to Grosse Pointe Woods, where they completed their family with baby No. 4.

Pat proudly served as a U.S. National Guard Army reservist while building a medical practice that became a cornerstone of the metro Detroit community. An "old school" physician in the best sense, he believed deeply in personal care, routinely making house calls, taking late-night phone calls and meeting patients at his office long after hours. In the operating room, he was known for playing opera — really loudly — bringing both precision and personality to his work. Fluent in Italian, he served many Italian-American families who might otherwise have struggled to access care. His office on Kelly Road in East Detroit became a trusted place for generations of patients.

Pat was a member of the American Board of Ophthalmology and served in many professional capacities throughout his career, including as chief of ophthalmology at St. John North Shores Hospital. He received numerous awards and acknowledgements for his volunteer work with organizations including the Italian American Cultural Center, PIME Missionaries Knights of Charity, Friends of the Opera of Michigan and Circolo de Medici. He also was a founding member of the Nothdurft Pediatric Endowment Fund, which supports specialized care for children. Always dedicated to advancing his field, Pat traveled to Bogotá, Colombia, in 1988, to learn a then-emerging procedure later known as LASIK.

Outside of medicine, Pat enjoyed golfing as a member of Lochmoor Club and staying active with regular workouts at the Detroit Athletic Club. During summer months, he spent countless hours boating on Lake St. Clair.

His greatest joy was his grandchildren. He was a constant presence at swim meets, soccer games and hockey rinks, often traveling long distances and proudly dressed in team spirit wear, cheering from the stands and holding handmade signs. He beamed with pride at every accomplishment, big or small.

A lifelong learner, Pat remained intellectually curious well into his later years. He was a voracious reader who could speak knowledgeably on subjects ranging from European history and World War II to philosophy, science and the Chinese dynasties. Even in his final months, he continued taking online courses in physics, religion, history, finance, music and, as all his grandchildren know, Stoicism. He was known to regularly quote Winston Churchill and George S. Patton, sharing wisdom with those around him.

Pat lived a full and meaningful life and leaves behind a legacy of compassion, intellect, discipline and a deep love for his family. He will be remembered by his loved ones not only for his skill as a physician, but for the countless lives he touched with his kindness, dedication and profound reflections on life, love and duty.

Pat is survived by his beloved wife, Angell; children, Patrice Asimakis (Bill), Patrick Jr. (Sara), Roy John (Anne) and Gina Buskirk (Christopher); grandchildren, Sara Chen (Demin), Billy Asimakis, Olivia Asimakis, Samantha Villani, Nicola Gahm (Matt), Natalia Asimakis, Christopher Buskirk Jr., Mirella Villani, Nicholas Asimakis, Gabriela Villani, Anna Buskirk, Angell Villani, Tessa Buskirk and Ava Villani; and many extended family members, friends and grateful patients.

Above all, Pat will be remembered by his loved ones as devoted husband, father and grandfather who placed family at the center of his life.

A private family service will be held. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to St. Jude's Children Research Hospital, 2000 Town Center, Ste. 1730, Southfield, MI 48075, bit.ly/3XuSSi0.

Arrangements entrusted to Wujek-Calcaterra & Sons Inc.

Literacy for Kids welcomes award-winning author

Literacy for Kids will bring Detroit native, award-winning author Alicia D. Williams to students across the city for two days of interactive literacy programming connecting storytelling with music, art and creative expression. In partnership with InsideOut Literary Arts, Detroit-based nonprofit Heritage Works, with additional support from the Detroit Public Library, the program is designed to engage students before, during and beyond the visit.

Thursday and Friday, May 7 and 8, Williams will present her newest picture book, "Nani and the Lion," to K–3 students at Hutchinson Elementary–Middle School and the Edward "Duke" Ellington Conservatory of Music & Art at Beckham Academy. Each visit is designed as a multi-sensory experience. Students will hear the story read by the author and experience it through live performance, reinforcing the connection between literacy and the arts.

Heritage Works will perform traditional African drumming, bringing rhythm and cultural context to the story while deepening student engagement.

In addition to the elementary school visits, Literacy for Kids is partnering with InsideOut Literary Arts to host a small-group session for middle school students participating in the National Book Foundation's BookUp program. This gathering will take place at the Detroit Public Library, where students reading "Mid-Air" will meet directly with Williams for a conversation about her work, writing process and journey as an author.

Each participating K–3 student in the program will receive an autographed copy of the featured book ahead of the visit, allowing time for classroom reading and discussion prior to the visit.

Literacy for Kids designs each program to support both student engagement and classroom learning through advance book distribution, classroom-ready lesson plans, author engagement and discussion and the integration of music, rhythm and visual storytelling. These elements work together to ensure the experience continues beyond the day of the visit and supports teachers in the classroom.

This project is funded in part by Michigan Humanities, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Michigan Arts and Culture Council.

Literacy for Kids is a Detroit-based nonprofit dedicated to connecting students with stories through author visits, book access and arts-integrated learning experiences. By bringing authors into schools and placing books directly into the hands of students, the organization helps foster a love of reading while supporting educators and classrooms across the city.

PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

St. Paul student Patrick Crane straightens out a decorated sneaker on the lower left front of the donation box. Sneakers and jeans will be collected through May 3.

RELIC:

Continued from page 3B

with one another," Graves said. "Through his love for Jesus and spending time with him, St. Carlo was able to hear his voice and not be distracted by all of the noise, which is a big problem in the world today. We want people to come and take this opportunity so that we can all help the world become a better place now and help us on our journey toward heaven."

Hosting the relic is a precursor to a revival planned by the Archdiocese of Detroit this July, which will take place at Huntington Place.

"We want to use this opportunity as a springboard to invite people to come," Graves said about the revival, "Arise from the Ashes." "We're expecting 7,000 people to gather. It's a day of prayer, healing and renewal, for strengthening the community."

Part of the revival includes a Eucharistic procession from Huntington Place to the Spirit of Detroit statue.

"It's a movement," Graves said. "I'm grateful to be a part of that."

For more information about events surrounding the St. Carlo Acutis relic, visit stpaulonthelake.org/st-carlo-acutis.

EVENTS:

Continued from page 3B

to 2:30 p.m. Friday, May 8. Cost is $25.

◆ Lunch & Learn: Vernor's Ginger Ale, noon to 1 p.m. Wednesday, May 13. Cost is $10.

◆ Yoga, 9 to 10 a.m. Mondays with Carol Guither; 9 to 10 a.m. Wednesdays with Darlene Lovelace; and 9 to 10 a.m. Fridays with Jessica Kodanko. Cost is $8 per class.

◆ Chair Yoga, 10:15 to 11:15 a.m. Mondays and Wednesdays with Carol Guither; and 10:15 to 11:15 a.m. Fridays with Jessica Kodanko. Cost is $8 per class.

◆ Active Fit, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Mondays and Wednesdays with Stacey Panduren. Cost is $8 per class.

◆ Enhance Fitness, 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays with Paul Clark; and 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays with Rosa Hunter.

◆ Tai Chi Beginner Class, 9 to 10 a.m. Thursdays with Susan Smith. Cost is $8 per class.

◆ Continuing Tai Chi, 9 to 10 a.m. Tuesdays with Susan Smith. Cost is $8 per class.

◆ Strength and Balance, 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays with Erika Page. Cost is $8 per class.

◆ Guided Meditation, 1 to 2 p.m. Thursdays with Jonathan Itchon. Cost is $8 per class.

◆ Restorative Yoga, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Thursdays, Jan. 22, Feb. 5 and 19, and March 5 and 19, with Allie Short. Cost is $8 per class.

Library

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

Central branch, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms

◆ Saturday Drop-in Storytime, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Saturday, May 9.

Ewald branch, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park

◆ Grosse Pointe Grows Presents: Chocolate-Inspired Seed To-Go Kit, all day Monday, May 4.

◆ Storytime Shuffle with Miss Mo, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, May 5.

◆ Storytime Shuffle with Miss Mo, 11 a.m. to noon Tuesday, May 5.

◆ Sensory Storytime, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Friday, May 8.

Woods branch, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods

◆ Pizza & Panic: A Teen Scary Movie Club, 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, April 30.

◆ Teen Anime & Manga Club, 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, May 6.

◆ Playtime Pop-ins, 10 a.m. to noon Thursday, May 7.

◆ College Savings Plans with Michigan Educational Trusts, 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday, May 7.

◆ Library Bigs & Littles, 10 to 11 a.m. Saturday, May 9.

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

◆ Middle School Dance: Under the Stars, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, April 30. Cost is $22 before April 27, $25 after.

◆ Grief Dialogues: In the Wake of Life, 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 5.

◆ Our Community Salutes, 6 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 5.

◆ VetConnect Seminar Series with Lisa Lark, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 7.

Chamber

The Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce hosts its next Building Your Business Boot Camp, "Dine & Design: Mastering Your Brand Kit," 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Friday, May 1, at the Neighborhood Club, 17150 Waterloo, City of Grosse Pointe. Tickets are $35 for chamber members, $45 for the public. Those who attend should have business Instagram or Facebook accounts, as well as a Canva account. Guests also are asked to bring their laptops. For information, call (313) 881-4722.

Giving

The Eastside Indivisible Alliance is hosting a giving drive 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Friday, May 1, in the parking lot of St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church, 1401 Whittier, Grosse Pointe Park. Donations of nonperishable food, toiletries, diapers, personal hygiene items, cleaning products and laundry products will go to immigrant families experiencing hardship. For more information, contact Dana at eialliancegp@gmail.com.

Ford House

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

◆ Science Saturdays: Eat Safe Fish, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Saturday, May 2. Costs vary.

◆ Storytime: "Hide and Seek Ladybugs," 10:30 to 11 a.m. Tuesdays in May.

◆ Drop-In Studio: Scented Sachet, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 9.

◆ Mother's Day Brunch, 9 to 10:30 a.m. and noon to 1:30 p.m. Sunday, May 10. Ticket prices vary.

For tickets and information, visit fordhouse.org.

POST Detroit

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

◆ Intro to Knitting: Beginner Level, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturday, May 2. Cost is $70.

◆ Ceramics: Dry Erase Memo Boards, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sunday, May 3. Cost is $80.

◆ Jewelry: Enameled Earrings + Pendants, 3 to 6 p.m. Sunday, May 3. Cost is $100.

◆ Drop-In Workshop: Charm Bracelets with Trice Clark, noon to 2 p.m. Sunday, May 3. Cost is $55.

◆ Basket Weaving: Spring Baskets, 2 to 6 p.m. Sunday, May 3. Cost is $85.

◆ Ceramics: Puff Pipes, 5:30 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, May 6. Cost is $75.

◆ Hapa Zone: Eco Printing on Fabric, 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, May 8. Cost is $65.

◆ Drop-In Workshop: Bead Bar Bracelets, 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, May 9. Cost is $65.

◆ Drop-In Workshop: Flower Crown Headbands, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, May 10. Cost is $20.

Chorus

The St. Clair Shores Community Chorus presents its spring performance, "Broadway Revival," at 3 p.m. Sunday, May 3, at Lake Shore High School, 22980 E. 13 Mile, St. Clair Shores. Tickets are $20 in advance, $22 at the door, for adults; $10 for children ages 4 to 12; and free ages 3 and younger. Visit scscommunitychorus.org.

Rotary

The Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe hosts its Scholarship Night event at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, the evening of Wednesday, May 6. Scholarships will be awarded to graduating seniors from Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South high schools. Email grossepointerotary@gmail.com.

Optimists

The Lakeshore Optimist Club welcomes Diane Charles, with Furniture Bank of Metro Detroit, to its meeting at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday, May 13, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Guests are welcome to hear the speaker and learn about the club.

GUILD:

Continued from page 2B

orthopedic issues in their neck and back as a result of wearing this heavy lead vest."

Another issue, he said, is finding adequate staffing for the lab because people are worried about radiation exposure. The portable radiation barrier will protect the staff, "and overall, we believe it'll improve the quality of care," Tindall added, "because we'll have a greater pool of staff who will want to work in this lab now because they don't have to wear this vest and they're more protected."

The Guild has operated as the hospital's fundraising arm as long as the hospital has existed, Tindall said. The dinner is one of its main ways to raise supportive funds.

"We're going to continue to provide quality medical equipment, quality services and things the staff need to provide that quality care for the community," Tindall added. "It's really a show of support and it gives you the opportunity to mingle and have some fun."

Opportunities for networking and meeting hospital personnel are other benefits of attending.

"We hear stories about people's interaction with the hospital staff and what great times they had," Cytaki said. "It's a great way to spread the word on the hospital and what great work they do."

Cytaki, who not only was born at the hospital, but was in the NICU for a considerable amount of time, said he joined the Guild to "give back to the hospital because of what they've done for my family — not just me immediately, but my whole family as well."

Tindall also was born there, as were his sons.

"We've seen and felt the quality of care firsthand," he said. "My grandparents, Peter and Connie Cracchiolo, taught my whole family the importance of philanthropy and giving back and supporting your community. They demonstrated that through extensive support for St. John Hospital over the years.

"… It's an honor to continue that family legacy of philanthropy and to be able to experience the quality of care that's provided. It's something that I'll be passionate about for as long as I'm around."

The Guild's second major fundraiser of the year, Cytaki noted, is a golf outing, set for Sept. 14, at Lochmoor Club.

The 64th annual Guild Strolling Dinner is sponsored by Eugenio Painting, RAM Construction, BeneFIK Insurance, edmund t. AHEE Jewelers and the Detroit Tigers. Additional sponsorship opportunities still are available.

Sponsorships and event tickets may be purchased online at stjohnguild.org.

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Run the Bubble 5K returns to Grosse Pointe

The Neighborhood Club's second annual Run the Bubble 5K run/walk takes place Sunday, May 17.

It's an event that's all about community spirit, said Kara Hardenbrook, marketing and development director.

"We can't think of a better way to celebrate with everyone than to host a 5K right in your backyard, promoting a healthy lifestyle and making participation easy for everyone," she said.

Registration begins at the Neighborhood Club, 17150 Waterloo, City of Grosse Pointe, at 7 a.m. The run/walk begins promptly at 8 a.m.

"Last year, participants ranged from infants in strollers receiving their first 5K medal to an 89-year-old woman whose husband rode next to her in his motorized chair during the race," Hardenbrook said. "At the end, he joked, 'I cheated,' which was very funny.

"This event is about community, allowing everyone to participate however they wish," she added. "It's just a fun, bubbly, happy event."

The entry fee, through Saturday, May 16, is $40. Registration the day of the event is $45.

Proceeds benefit the Neighborhood Club.

"This event takes many helping hands to put together and we are incredibly grateful to everyone," Hardenbrook said. "Each participant, volunteer, sponsor and donor of Run the Bubble 5K directly supports the Neighborhood Club's mission. As a fundraiser, this event helps us continue providing recreational activities for every age and ability. When you register, you invest in the health and wellness of the entire community."

Gold Level sponsors include Nauts, Dwaihy, Beach & Moran, PLLC, and Brian A. Fraser Foundation. Silver Level sponsors include Shana Sine Cameron of Sine & Monaghan Realtors and Sine & Monaghan Realtors

Bronze Level sponsors include Corewell Health, John F. Martin Photography and Rock CF. Community Supporters include Chris Cotzias of Real Estate One, Dr. Gregory Zotos, El's Boutique, Goyette Mechanical Co., Hansons Running Shop and @thecraftycop.

To register, volunteer or make a donation, visit neighborhoodclub.net/runthebubble5k or scan the QR code.

Participants turned out in force for last year's inaugural event.

All ages and abilities are welcome to participate.

Strollers are welcome at this community-building event.

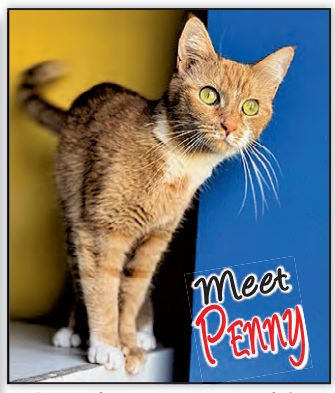
COURTESY PHOTOS

Participants receive a shirt, medal and race bib.

GROSSE POINTE ANIMAL ADOPTION SOCIETY
Animals Available for Adoption at gpaas.org

Male, 3 years old, Siberian Husky, Black & Silver, 50 lbs.

Next Open Houses
Saturday, May 2nd & May 16th.
10-Noon



Female, 2 years old, Shorthair, Orange Tabby with White.

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20542 Harper, Harper Woods (Lennon and Harper)
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The Groom Room has moved to a new, **bigger location** with **free parking and a fenced-in relief area for pets!**

We are excited to announce this move after 15 wonderful years serving the Pointes and beyond. I'm grateful for the amazing clients and all your continued support.

We welcome you to our new space! See you soon.

Sincerely,
Rachel D. Owner

15761 Mack Ave. Detroit (at Chatswarth)
(313)955-2880 • By appointment only

GROSSE POINTE Gabby

POINTING YOU IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION WITH REAL-LIFE ADVICE!

Address issues face-to-face, not on Facebook

Dear Gabby: It seems like everyone knows everyone else's business here — especially online.

Lately, I've raised awareness about what I see as a growing safety issue: kids in our neighborhood riding eBikes, scooters and regular bikes far too fast. I've witnessed near-misses, kids blowing through stop signs and groups weaving in and out of traffic. It's only a matter of time before someone gets hurt.

To make people aware, I've posted photos and short videos in our local Facebook group when I see this happening. I believe I'm helping keep everyone safe, but I've received a few private messages suggesting I'm being intrusive or "policing" other people's children.

Someone also threatened to sue me. I cannot for the life of me understand why these parents wouldn't want to know. — Trying to help in the Park

Dear Trying: There's no question you're noticing something real. Fast-moving bikes, scooters and eBikes — combined with youthful confidence and not-yet-fully-developed judgment — can create risky situations. Concern for children's safety is never misplaced.

Your method, however, deserves a tune-up.

Posting photos or videos of other people's children in a public forum — even without names — crosses a line for many families. In a community where everyone recognizes everyone, it can feel less like a safety alert and more like a public callout. That tends to generate defensiveness, not cooperation.

If you're genuinely concerned about a specific, dangerous situation, a quiet, direct conversation with a parent is more constructive than a community-wide broadcast. If everyone knows who everyone is, why the public shaming? You need to ask yourself what your real motivation is.

It may be time to ease off the neighborhood surveillance. Care about the kids, by all means. Just resist the urge to manage them — or their reputations — from your keyboard into the feeding frenzy of Facebook.

— Gabby

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

Dear Annie

by Annie Lane

To go or not to go

DEAR ANNIE: My dad is turning 73 next month, and my mom is throwing this big party for him. She is begging me to come, but my parents live across the country — a six-hour plane ride. I work full time and have two kids under five.

My family only takes a trip like this once or twice a year, and if I'm really honest with myself, I don't want to spend it on this family party.

At the same time, I know they'll be disappointed if I say no. I feel guilty but also spread thin. How do I decide? — Torn Daughter

DEAR TORN: There's no perfect answer, only the one you can live with. If you don't go, find another way to show up — call, FaceTime or Zoom to celebrate from afar or schedule another visit. If you do, don't bring any resentment.

Either way, choose it, and then move on.

DEAR ANNIE: I'm in a dilemma. I've had a friend for 45 years, and I've just realized how selfish he is. It's a one-way street with him.

He won't call me or make the effort to visit. I have, in the past, introduced him to friends of mine — some he's even gone on holiday with — but he's never returned the favor. He hasn't introduced me to his friends, nor has he asked me to accompany him on trips to see our mutual friend when I could've gone.

He's the last one to buy a round of drinks, if he buys one at all, though he's the richest among our friends by far. He'll mention he'd like to go on day trips with another mutual friend but never puts any effort into actually organizing them.

When I suggested we share the driving on one of these trips, he stormed off, even though he knows I tire easily and it was his idea to travel by car.

A mutual friend has suggested I simply go on day trips without him. It feels a bit sly, but if he does come along, I know I'll be the one making all the effort.

Should I talk to him, ignore him or play him at his own game? — Taken for a Ride

DEAR TAKEN FOR A RIDE: A decades-long friendship doesn't excuse this man's behavior. You deserve to invest your time and energy in people who return it.

You've already seen the pattern, and it's unlikely to change. A conversation might clear the air, but it probably won't transform him. Instead of playing games or quietly hoping he'll step up, shift your focus to the friends who already show up for you.

And go on those day trips. It isn't sly to live your life freely; you're simply choosing the people and things that fill your cup.

DEAR ANNIE: I have a friend I have known for years, and our sons have grown up playing lacrosse together. On the surface, we are both supportive sports moms who cheer from the sidelines, pack the snacks and talk about practices, tournaments and college hopes. But underneath it all, I have started to feel something painful that I can no longer ignore.

Whenever my son has a strong game, gets recognition from a coach or reaches some milestone, my friend never seems genuinely happy for him. She may smile and say the right words, but there is always something strained behind it.

See ANNIE, *page 7C*

Canal-side dining at Coriander Kitchen & Farm

Patio season is finally here! We've covered our local patio hot spots before, but this location is special — a whole experience inside and out, with a changing menu based on a farm-to-table scratch kitchen. Get your kayaks ready. It's time to enjoy some canal-side dining at Coriander Kitchen & Farm.

This female-owned and operated restaurant oasis sits quietly in a storied marina along the Detroit River, just outside of Grosse Pointe, at 14601 Riverside Blvd., in Detroit's Jefferson-Chalmers neighborhood. Chef Alison Heeres, farmer Gwen Meyer and Amy Haimerl, aka "Circus Manager Amy," who runs the day-to-day operations, pride themselves on their product, vision, values and love for a healthy lifestyle, environment and community.

"Our menus are seasonal and produce-driven, built around what we're growing and sourcing locally, alongside a few more familiar dockside classics," Amy explained.

A collaboration between Farmer Gwen and Chef Alison, the menu boasts a variety of flavorful dishes, with an emphasis on vegetarian-forward, vegan and gluten-free options. Their own farm is around an acre and an approximately five-minute drive from the restaurant. Each season, the partners start planning what crops they will grow. From herbs to tomatoes to edible flowers, Alison and Gwen inspire each other to grow and cook intentionally. They also team up with other local farmers for their meats and seafood, such as Fisheye Farms, Beaverland Farms and Orderup Organics.

"We take sustainability seriously, so we use very few animal proteins," Amy said. "When we do, we work with family farms that pasture their animals and are non-GMO, such as Jake's Country Meats, a centennial farmer on the west side of Michigan, or Morriane Park Farms, a multigenerational farm in center of the state."

The same ethos applies to fish and seafood.

"Our famous smoked fish dip uses Ma Cohen's whitefish and trout, which is from Sea Fare Foods, a family smokehouse in Eastern Market," she said. "Our grilled fish is based on what can be sustainably caught seasonally."

That explains why their menu is in a seasonal rotation: guaranteed freshness at its finest. With four menu categories, current options under "Snacks" are favorites like a basket of french fries, giant soft pretzel, smoked fish dip and fried mushrooms.

See CORIANDER, *page 7C*

PHOTOS COURTESY OF HEATHER SAUNDERS

Coriander Kitchen & Farm by day and night.

Food Gossip

by Nina Taormina

Mondays grilled cheese sandwiches.

We Tried It!

by Anna Lizer

Spring cleaning hacks that won't break your back — or the bank

This week at We Tried It, post-spring break, we decided to not spend any money (mostly because we are broke). To that end, we wanted to kill two birds with one stone and also get some housework done.

Out of all the tricks, hacks and shortcuts we tried, the following are the clear winners.

• The problem: We have all cleaned ceiling fan blades (hopefully). As you probably know, they are generally covered in a thick dust blanket. When you get up there to dust them, it inevitably rains down, multiplying the day's cleaning projects.

The solution: Get an old pillow case and slide it over the blade, then pull it back. The dust stays inside the pillowcase. Voila!

• The problem: Cleaning baseboards is a back-breaking and annoying job we tend to ignore until it's embarrassingly bad.

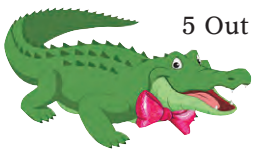
The solution: Wrap a microfiber cloth around a broom and swipe baseboards while standing. No kneeling, no back pain — and it saves a lot of time.

• The problem: So many weeds between driveway and patio cracks.

The solution: Try pouring boiling water over the cracks and watch the weeds disappear.

We give the above tricks five alligators and we wish you a satisfying and productive weekend of spring cleaning!

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.



5 Out Of 5

Roasted garlic and tomato pasta with Calabrian chili

Courtesy of Mombeau's Table

PHOTO BY KAREN FERGUSON

A friend dropped off a whole bag of the most beautiful purple garlic over the weekend and I knew right away I couldn't just let it sit unused on the counter. So I decided to roast it in the oven. It takes almost no effort, and it completely transforms the garlic into something soft, sweet and spreadable.

Roasted garlic is one of those ingredients that just makes everything better. You can spread it on sandwiches, mix it into dips, stir it into butter or fold it into mashed potatoes. It's also amazing on pizza, blended into sauces or even just smeared onto a piece of warm bread with a little olive oil and salt. If you have it on hand, you start finding ways to use it in just about everything.

So instead of doing something super basic with it, I decided to turn it into a pasta sauce. I roasted the garlic alongside some fresh tomatoes and some shallot to really build up that flavor, letting everything caramelize and get nice and rich. Then I blended it all together into a spicy pasta sauce with lots of fresh basil that's simple, but packed with flavor. This sauce was a perfect opportunity for me to use one of my favorite cooking ingredients, Calabrian chili paste. I get mine at Trader Joe's, but I've seen it at almost every other grocery store. I'm pleased to see the hype over it is catching on around town. This recipe uses two teaspoons and it gives it a nice kick. But I balance it out by adding cream to the sauce. If you like it more spicy, add three teaspoons.

I used a mix of different-sized tomatoes for this sauce, which really helps build flavor and texture. The smaller ones break down and caramelize a bit more, adding that rich, roasted depth. The larger tomatoes hold onto more of their juices, so you still get that saucy and fresh element. If you want more caramelization, use all grape tomatoes.

I paired the sauce with rigatoni and there wasn't one noodle left in the pot. My family devoured every single bit. Take some simple extra steps and turn a basic tomato sauce into something fantastic. It's absolutely worth it.

Cheers, Mombeau

Roasted Garlic and Tomato Pasta with Calabrian Chili

2 lbs of mixed tomatoes (grape, Campari or roma)

2 heads garlic

1 shallot

¼ cup olive oil

2 tsp Calabrian chili paste

1 cup half-and-half

½ cup grated Parmesan cheese

½ cup basil, torn

1 lb rigatoni pasta

Salt and pepper

Preheat your oven to 400 degrees. Halve the tomatoes and place them in a large baking dish with the olive oil. Add a hefty pinch of salt and pepper. Mix together so each tomato is coated. Spread them out into as much of an even layer as you can.

Cut the tops off the garlic heads so each clove is exposed. Place the garlic heads in the dish and peeled and halved shallot, cut side down. Roast the tomatoes and garlic for 35 to 45 minutes. The edges should be caramelized and a bit browned with some juices remaining.

Take out of the oven and let cool enough that you can handle the garlic. Squeeze out the cloves and discard the skins. Add everything from the baking dish into a blender along with the Calabrian chili paste and half and half. Make sure to get every brown bit. Blend on low speed if you want a coarser sauce. Taste for seasoning.

Bring a pot of salted water to a boil and add in the pasta. Cook until al °dente, about 10 minutes. Reserve a half cup of the pasta water. While the pasta cooks, pour the sauce into a large saute pan. You want to make sure the pan is big enough because you'll add the pasta to the pan when it's cooked. Bring the sauce to a low simmer and add in the fresh basil and parmesan. When the pasta is done cooking, drain and add to the sauce pan along with the half cup of reserved pasta water. Toss the pasta together with the sauce for just a couple minutes or until all of the extra liquid has been absorbed by the noodles. Finish with some extra torn basil over the top and a drizzle of olive oil.

Taste buddies! Sponsor Mombeau's Table in this highly-visible spot!
To reserve this space, call (313) 882-6900

Loire valley wines

Visiting France to learn about its wines frequently takes Americans to Burgundy or Bordeaux, the two most widely recognized and praised wine districts in all of Gaul.

And there's no question that both districts are producers of some of the world's greatest wines. But understanding even a sliver of either district is a complicated undertaking and best left not for a first visit.

One reason, primarily, is that the best wines from either of those two areas, as excellent as they are, usually are so expensive that they only appeal to people who already know quite a bit about what each wine is.

Which is why I usually suggest that people learning about French wines aim for more reasonably priced wines. Such as those from the Loire Valley, which runs from west to east and has much to recommend it, including breathtaking non-wine sites.

The Loire (luh-wahr) is a spectacular area that was favored by the French kings during the Renaissance. Many of their phenomenal "summer" castles remain and are open to the public. Included are such treasures as Chenonceau, Villandry, Rivau, Chambord and Brissac.

What surprised me most during one trip was seeing the size of the servants' quarters, which in some cases were as large as the castle.

Several castles are constructed on attractive, rustic woodland waterways that allowed the kings to fish, hunt and hike.

The entire Loire area includes numerous subdistricts, each with its own wine reputation. The most widely planted grape variety is chenin blanc; perhaps its most famous is sauvignon blanc, grown in the eastern areas of Pouilly-Fume and Sancerre.

On the western edge of the district, a delicate white wine called Muscadet (moose-kah-day). It is often referred to as the seafood wine. One of the most popular wines, made from chenin blanc, is Vouvray. Most chenin blancs are slightly sweet; Vouvray Sec is dry and can age for years.

The most popular red wine of the district is cabernet franc. It has very little to do with its progeny, cabernet sauvignon, a bigger, more

See WINE, *page 7C*

Celebrate Mom with unique ideas

By Olivia Monette
Special Writer

Mother's Day always comes around quickly, and finding something that feels just right can be harder than it should be. This collection brings together a mix of thoughtful, beautiful pieces and local favorites, all chosen with her in mind. Gifts she will-genuinely enjoy, without overthinking it.

There's something special about shopping local this time of year, stepping into your favorite shops and finding pieces with a story behind them. Mixed in are a few online finds that feel just as considered, making it easy to pull together something meaningful no matter how you shop.

If you're planning to entertain Mom at home, try a fresh and effortless Mother's Day table that will engage all of her senses. We've designed a table that is beautiful, inviting and easy to bring together. The blue and white floral tablecloth sets a classic, garden-inspired tone, while green cabbage plates add texture and a touch of charm that feels both elevated and relaxed.

At the center, a loose arrangement of tulips, ranunculus and hydrangea brings in soft color and a natural, just-picked feel. The mix of pale yellow, peach, and fresh green keeps the palette light and seasonal without feeling overdone.

Simple silver flatware and a soft candle glow complete the look, letting the details speak for themselves. Mix and match your own textured plates and linens or visit the leagueshop.com to freshen up your collection in time for Mother's Day.

You'll create a lovely table that feels thoughtful but not fussy — and just perfect for a gathering celebrating your one-of-a-kind Mom — one that is as gorgeous as it is comfortable — just like her!

Mom's garden table

This lush tablescape, above, will thrill moms with its relaxed elegance and sensory beauty. Full of textures, shapes and floral aromas, you'll touch all of her senses and delight her with your thoughtfulness, as you share a meal filled with special touches.

Mother's Day GIVEAWAY

ENTER TO WIN!

Wildflower & Company, a Grosse Pointe salon known for its wide range of beauty services, is celebrating Mother's Day with a special giveaway for one deserving local mom. The winner will receive a manicure, pedicure, and facial for a well-earned moment of relaxation and care. To nominate yourself or an amazing mom in your life, email media@grossepointenews.com and share why she deserves to win, or head to our Instagram or Facebook @grossepointenews to comment and tag someone special. The giveaway begins April 30 and runs through May 7, with the winner announced on May 8, 2026.

A

B

C

D

A) Quince cashmere wrap
This will be one of those pieces that ends up going everywhere with Mom. It's lightweight but warm, understated but elevated, and easy to throw over just about anything. She will wear it again and again, often long after Mother's Day. From *quince.com*.

B) Maison Parc flowers and gifts
Maison Parc feels like a one-stop shop for something truly special. The space is filled with fresh flowers, curated gifts, balloons and thoughtful extras that make it easy to put together something beautiful and personal. Order an arrangement, pop in for grab and go bouquet — or sign Mom up for an upcoming floral workshop!

C) Satin handbag
This modern and timeless bag is a beautiful way to accentuate Mom's style profile. Soft, thoughtfully crafted and quietly refined, it makes a perfect Mother's Day gift. By Hunting Season, find it at *Pearl*.

D) A mother's love
This Herend figurine is a little hop of happiness for Mom! Each piece is hand-painted with incredible detail, making it something she will display and cherish for years to come. Gold accents give it that signature Herend elegance, while still feeling light and whimsical. From *The League Shop*.

E) Crossbody chic
A go-to bag she'll use every day, this woven crossbody from *Savvy Chic Boutique* is equal parts stylish and practical. The checkered texture and warm neutral tones give it a fresh, spring feel, while the hands-free design makes it perfect for running errands, traveling, or weekend outings.

F) Warm Mom's heart — and coffee
For the mom who reheats her coffee more times than she'd like to admit, the Ember Mug 2 can be surprisingly life-changing. Designed to keep drinks at the exact temperature she prefers, it's a small upgrade that makes busy mornings, long carpool lines, and late-night emails feel just a little more civilized. From *ember.com*.

G) Village Palm spring bags
A fresh handbag is always a good idea for spring, and even better for Mother's Day. The Leena Top Handle Bag and Teighen Bow Wicker Bag are two standout styles at *Village Palm*, blending classic structure with light, seasonal textures.

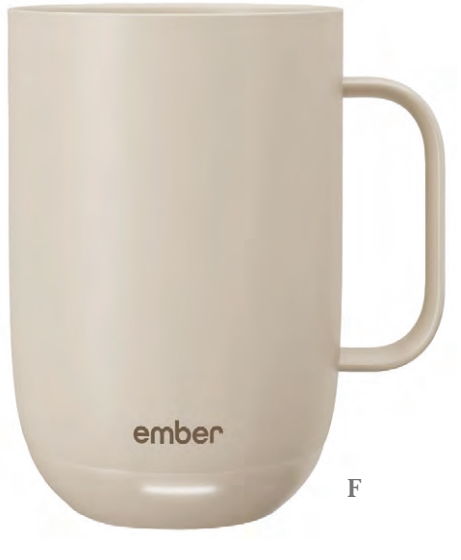
H) Heartfelt treasures
This lovely Waterford crystal ring holder is a simple, thoughtful Mother's Day gift she'll use every day. It is a small piece that feels special, perfect for holding her most-loved rings and reminding her of you each time she reaches for them. From *The League Shop*.

I) Here's looking at you
This clear acrylic frame on a clip is designed to hold a favorite photo (of you) right on Mom's car visor. It adds a small, personal touch to everyday drives and a sweet reminder of home she can carry with her wherever the day takes her. From *etsy.com*.

J) Kate McLeod Daily Stone
Part moisturizer, part ritual, the Kate McLeod Daily Stone feels more like a small luxury than a product. The solid balm melts into the skin on contact, turning a rushed morning into something slower and more intentional. It's the kind of gift that quietly encourages her to take a minute for herself, which might be the most thoughtful gesture of all. From *katemcleod.com*.

K) Walk on clouds
These are the socks Mom will immediately hide from everyone else in the house! Le Bon Shoppe's Cloud Socks are soft without feeling bulky and polished enough to wear with loafers. Cute *and* comfy. From *lebonshoppe.com*.

E



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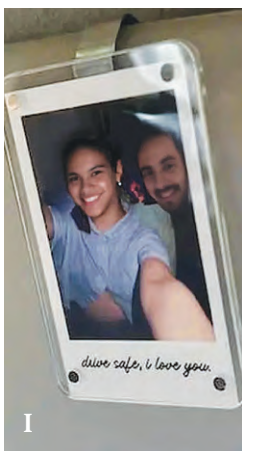


I

COURTESY PHOTOS

J

K

Where to buy

The League Shop
16847 Kercheval Ave., Grosse Pointe
(313) 882-6880 / theleagueshop.com
Instagram: @theleagueshopgp

Maison Parc
15154 Kercheval Ave., Grosse Pointe Park
(313) 499-8292 / maisonparc.com
Instagram: @shopmaisonparc

Pearl
74 Kercheval Ave., Grosse Pointe Farms
(313) 458-8719 / shoppearl.com
Instagram: @shoppearl.gp

Savvy Chic
16822 Kercheval Ave., Grosse Pointe
(313) 466-3388 / savvychicgp.com
Instagram: @savvychicgp

Village Palm
17131 Kercheval Ave., Grosse Pointe
(313) 882-PALM (7256) / shopvillagepalm.com
Instagram: @villagepalm

Movie Junkie Mark

by Mark Domin

"Life is too short to watch mediocre movies"

PHOTOS COURTESY OF BUTIMAR PRODUCTIONS, EXTRA A PRODUCTIONS AND BLUE MORNING PICTURES.

Left, Anaita Wali Zada as Donya and Jeremy Allen White as Daniel in the 2023 movie "Fremont," written by Carolina Cavalli and Babak Jalali and directed by Babak Jalali.

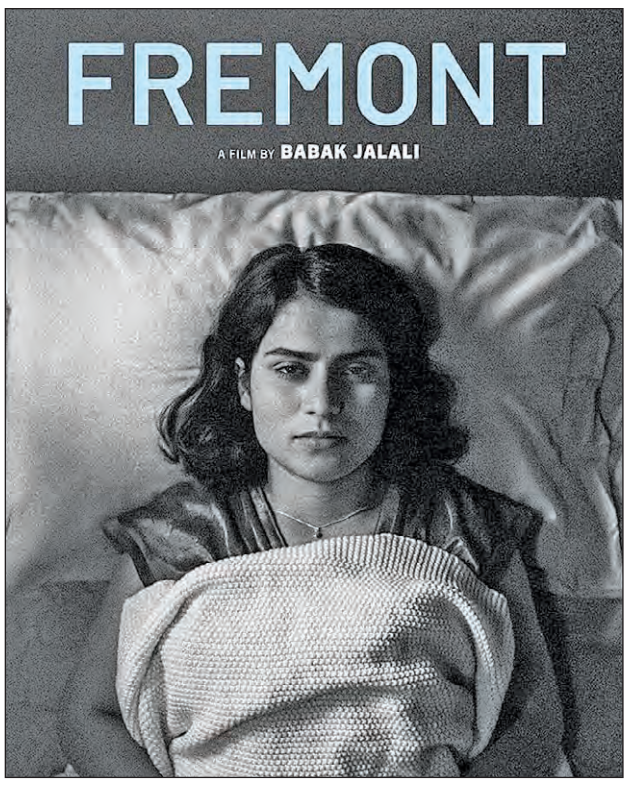
MOVIE REVIEW
"Fremont"
2023 - Not Rated
1 hr 23 min
★★★½☆

I can imagine emigrating to a foreign country, say Canada or England. But the idea of moving to the opposite side of the world and trying to assimilate in someplace like the Middle East is simply beyond me. I truly feel for people who are uprooted from their homelands and are forced to relocate. The overwhelming feeling of isolation and daily struggle must really take its toll.

This film tackles the topic with a heavy dose of empathy. "Fremont" is the most recent film for the Iranian-British director Babak Jalali, who's known for his films "Radio Dreams" and "Frontier Blues." He co-wrote it with Carolina Cavalli (writer/director of "Amanda") and what a remarkable and engaging movie it is. It's been compared to the early works of Jim Jarmusch and Aki Kaurismaki and I think that's a valid observation. There's a stark, deadpan quality to the storytelling and humor of the movie. I have to admit, it took a little time for me to get into it, but eventually I got caught up in the rhythm of the film.

The focus of the movie is Donya (Anaita Wali Zada), a 20-year-old Afghan woman who worked as a translator for the U.S. Army in her homeland. She's been relocated to The San Francisco Bay Area and resides in Fremont. Donya lives in an apartment building that's a haven for a number of other Afghan families. To escape the feeling of isolation, she works in San Francisco at a Chinese fortune cookie factory. It's not the most exciting job, but it gets her out of her environment.

Daniel played by Jeremy Allen White.



Movie poster.

Donya at the psychiatrist's office.

At first I thought the fact that it was shot in black and white was a little bit gimmicky, but as the film played out, the starkness of it made a great deal of sense. Actually, filming in color would have detracted from its power. The delivery from a few of the actors was a bit on the stilted side, but after a while it started to make me chuckle. I wouldn't say there were many laugh-out-loud moments in the movie, but the humor was definitely what one would define as deadpan.

Donya's life is about as dull as it gets. Every day she gets up and commutes to work. After a day folding fortune cookies she goes out to dine at the same lonely restaurant where she makes small talk with an older Afghan waiter while soap operas blare from the TV set. Then she goes home and struggles to get to sleep. An endless and mindless cycle that she's perfectly comfortable repeating. Sort of a "Groundhog Day" only in real life.

Then a couple things occur that change things up for her. She starts seeing a psychiatrist to get sleeping pills to help with her insomnia. Donya figures it would be as simple as asking for a prescription. But Dr. Anthony (Gregg Turkington ("Ant-Man") isn't your typical pill-pusher.

He's determined to do some digging and help her with whatever issues they can uncover together — he's convinced she's suffering from PTSD and that she's in denial. Turkington is very funny, again in a very subtle sort of way. He's not only off the wall with his observations, he's totally obsessed with the book "White Fang." He's prone to blurting out quotes from the novel, and at one of their sessions, he reads a long passage to Donya.

The second change in Donya's life occurs at work. One day the elderly woman who works with Donya and is responsible for writing the actual fortunes, collapses and dies at her keyboard. So the boss offers her the job, thinking she's just the perfect daydreamer to write fortunes. And she jumps at the opportunity. After she mentions it to Dr. Anthony, he takes it upon himself to compose a bunch of them for her. It's a pretty amusing session they have as a result.

It's at this point Donya does something totally out of character. She decides to write a fortune that has her name and phone number on it, with the remote chance that she might meet the man of her dreams this way. Well, I won't give anything away, but let's just say things don't work out as planned. I will tell you that she does end up meeting a handsome man named Daniel, played by Jeremy Allen White, famous for his role in the hit TV show "The Bear." It's a chance encounter that has you pulling for the mismatched couple.

Dr. Anthony (Gregg Turkington).

This is one of those films that will definitely have you thinking about it long after the credits roll. It's very slow moving and has a subtle, relaxed charm to it. It reminded me of a lot of the groundbreaking indie films from 20 or 25 years ago. I thought Zada did a wonderful job and I have a strong suspicion that we're going to see a lot more of her in the very near future. If you're in the mood for something a little bit different, don't miss this one.

Streaming for free on Kanopy and Hoopla (with your library card) and Tubi. Also on Hulu and Prime Video, and to rent on Apple TV, YouTube, Plex, Prime, and other streaming services.

Note to parents: The film is unrated but I didn't find anything objectionable in it and think it's fine for family viewing. Little kids would probably find it boring though.

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: moviejunkiemark.blogspot.com.

Donya works as her boss (Eddie Tang) looks on.

Anaita Wali Zada as Donya

CORIANDER:

Continued from page 2C

Chef Ali's favorite in this category is tinned sardines: spiced Nuri sardines, lemon-whipped cream cheese, seasonal accoutrements and Old Bay fried crackers. If you are a Nuri fan, you can take some home with you as it's available in their own market.

CSA flower bundles and paddle to table dinner.

The "Farm Stars" category offers great mix-and-match options, with most items serving two to three guests. A shareable Coriander Caesar salad perhaps? Or, the Beet and Blue, which is orange-marinated beets, celery, smoked whipped blue cheese, arugula and thyme-toasted pistachio on grilled toast. I hear that's amazing. The malfatti caught my eye: traditional Italian spinach and ricotta dumplings served in a light chicken broth with lemon and herbs. Those are just a few options.

"A Lil' More" offers the always popular French onion soup, butter chicken and grilled walleye that is only served evenings and weekends. "Canal Classics" round out the categories. This is where you'll find burgers, along with clam chowder and fish 'n' chips. I see why they call this part the classics.

Coriander offers year-round seating inside and in a covered greenhouse patio, which can be covered and enclosed or open-air and breezy depending on the weather. Canal-side seating normally enters the chat mid-April to October.

"We expand further with canal-side outdoor seating that features picnic tables that are available on a first-come, first-served basis and are not reservable because we cannot predict the weather," Amy said. "But our indoor dining room, bar and greenhouse patio do accept reservations."

Those picnic tables go fast, so keep your eye on the sky and plan accordingly if canal-side seating is your preference this summer.

Coriander's motto is "Start with Snacks. Share a few Farm Stars for the table. Add A Little More for something heartier. And there's always a burger when it's that kind of day!" Sounds good to me, but now I'm thirsty.

Coriander offers a great bar menu, with something for everyone. Fun cocktails like the fizzy Eastsider: cucumber-infused Hawthorne gin, mint-cucumber cordial. Their Manhattan, named the South Detroit, has Mayor Pingree rye, Cocchi sweet vermouth and El Guapo chicory pecan bitters. And you can't go wrong with a good old Farm Marg.

"We believe in local sourcing and we proudly serve all Michigan wines," Amy added.

The wine list has all of the classics, as does their beer list. Hoppy to sours, ambers to darks, light and crispy and a category that made me laugh: Canal Water, which includes Bud Light, Stroh's, Pabst Blue Ribbon, Michelob Ultra … you get the idea. They have ciders and seltzers, too, and offer a zero-proof menu with a variety of nonalcoholic drinks, as well as some fun mocktails.

Coriander is much more than just a restaurant. When you see the word "Experiences" on a restaurant website drop down, you know you are in for something special. An Equinox and Solstice Dinner Series? Yep. And it must be pretty special seeing as the spring equinox was completely sold out. Remaining events for the season are: Summer Solstice, Sunday, June 21; Fall Equinox, Tuesday, Sept. 22; and Winter Solstice Monday, Dec. 21. Events include a welcome drink, farm walk (weather permitting), dinner, dessert, coffee and sodas and gratuity. For $120 per person, these evenings sound like something to experience. You can make your reservations online at corianderkitchenandfarm.com. Their Flower & Herb CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) event is a great option and opportunity for all fresh flower lovers and those who enjoy cooking with flavors outside of the basics. It's a 20-week event, from June through October, during which you'll enjoy the freshest arrangements featuring (but not limited to) snapdragons, celosia, tulips, zinnia, ammi, larkspur and more. Fresh herbs also are on a 20-week cycle. The weekly menu varies, but you likely can expect chives, thyme, parsley, basil, cilantro, dill and more. This package is Chef Ali and Farmer Gwen's "love language," which makes sense. Think you might want a little bit of both? Farmer Gwen has you covered with a flower and herb bundle, but there are only 10 available, so jump on this one fast.

Tinned sardines, smoked fish dip, fish and chips.

South Detroit Manhattan and farm margs.

Falafel burger, beet and blue salad, giant pretzel with dips.

Twenty weeks of flowers costs $550. Twenty weeks of herbs costs $120. Get both for $600. Pick-ups are Thursdays at Coriander, with a CSA pause July 3 and Sept. 3, for the holiday weekends. Place your orders on the website under the Experiences category.

Speaking of Farmer Gwen, her annual garden transplant plant sale is May 2, 3, 9 and 10. Mark your calendars if you've got a green thumb. You definitely don't want to miss that window of planting.

Then, there's the ultimate experience Amy told me about. Attention kayakers and water sports enthusiasts who enjoy peaceful evenings on the water: "We also host paddle-to-table dinners with our neighbors, Detroit River Sports, in the summer," she said. "About one and a half hours including gear distribution, safety talk and boat loading. Guests take a kayak tour of the canals and then return to Coriander for a festive, family-style meal to celebrate."

Tickets go on sale soon. All the specifics are listed within the event on their website. It's definitely something worth checking out; kayaking experience is not required but helpful.

If you're looking for a unique location for a private event, look no further. Coriander Kitchen & Farm is known for hosting multiple events — showers, weddings, retirement parties, office gatherings, birthdays for all ages or intimate dinners for a small group of friends. Everything you need to know about planning an event can be found on the website.

"We have a low-key casual vibe — we like to call it 'drunk grandma' — that feels like a waterside hideaway right in the city," Amy said.

Ladies, I think you've nailed it.

For current hours, as they do pause mid-afternoon, find them on Facebook at Coriander Kitchen & Farm or Instagram: @coriander_det.

* Fun Fact: Mondays are meant for grilled cheese sandwiches at Coriander. These are not your basic grilled cheese sandwiches either. They're different every week so you gotta go back for more.

Stay tuned. Stay hungry.

DEAR ANNIE:

Continued from page 2C

Sometimes she quickly changes the subject back to her own son. Other times she points out how her son was overlooked, or she finds some subtle way to diminish my son's accomplishment. If my son scores three goals, suddenly the conversation becomes about how her son had an assist no one noticed. If my son is praised, she brings up how politics in sports are unfair.

I understand that all parents want the best for their children, and I know youth sports can bring out strong emotions. But this has started to hurt. I have truly rooted for her son and celebrated his successes, yet I walk away from conversations feeling as though my son's happiness is something she can barely tolerate.

It has made me question the friendship. I do not expect cartwheels every time my child does well, but I do think real friendship leaves room for joy when something good happens to the people you care about.

Am I being too sensitive, or is it fair to step back from someone who seems to view your child's success as a threat instead of something to celebrate? — Cheering With Caution.

DEAR CHEERING: You are not being too sensitive. One of the clearest signs of friendship is whether someone can smile when good fortune lands in your yard, not just their own.

Youth sports can bring out the best in kids and the worst in parents. What starts as cheering from the sidelines can turn into an Olympic event in comparison, scorekeeping and quiet resentment. Your friend may not even realize how transparent she has become, but a strained smile has a way of speaking louder than words.

You do not need to confront every cutting remark or backhanded compliment. Sometimes the wisest move is simply to stop bringing your good news to someone who insists on wearing dark glasses. Share less. Expect less. Protect your peace.

Be cordial, be kind and keep the focus where it belongs — on the boys, not the mothers keeping unofficial rankings in the bleachers. A real friend does not treat your son's success like bad news for her family.

Send your questions for Annie Lane to dear annie@creators.com.

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WINE:

Continued from page 3C

muscular wine. Cabernet franc is much less tannic and is completely dry.

As with most popular wine districts in France, a wine's name is often also the name of the district, so the area of Quincy (kan-see) is a light-bodied white and Chinon (shee-nohn) is a medium-weight red.

The town of Saumur (soh-muhr) is also home to several mushroom caves. Mushrooms were once grown commercially in Paris, but eventually moved to the Loire. Cave tours can often end up in a local cafe where mushrooms are featured. And where local wine is part of the repast.

The most delightful part of visiting the Loire over the years has been the ability to pop into tiny, family-owned wineries whose products are not distributed outside the district. The people are often remarkably friendly and always pleased to see visitors.

No wine of the week.

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

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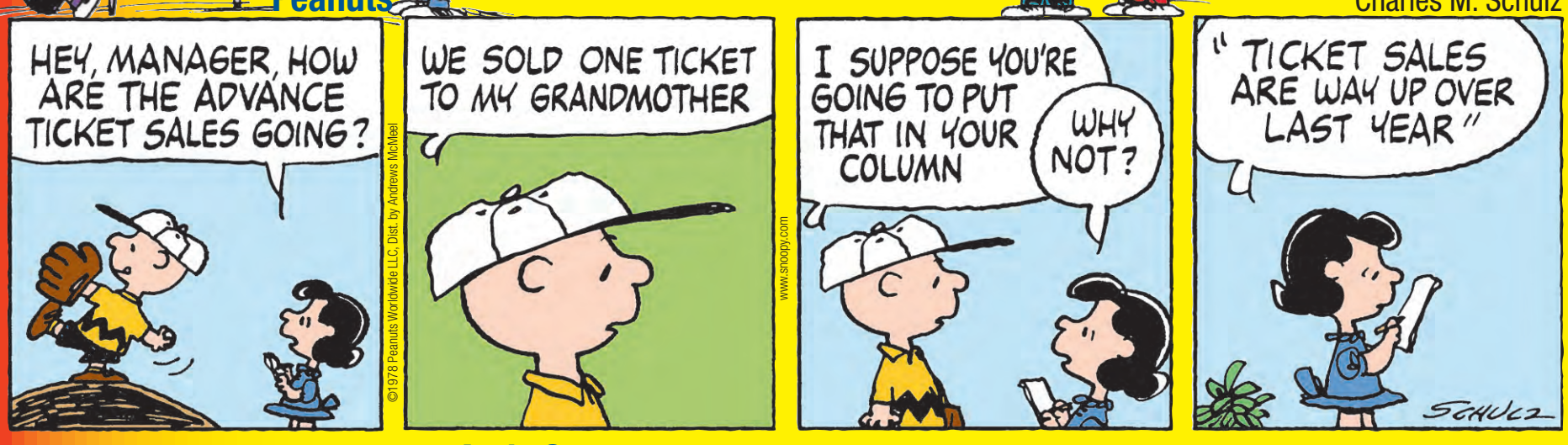
Grosse Pointe News THURSDAY COMICS

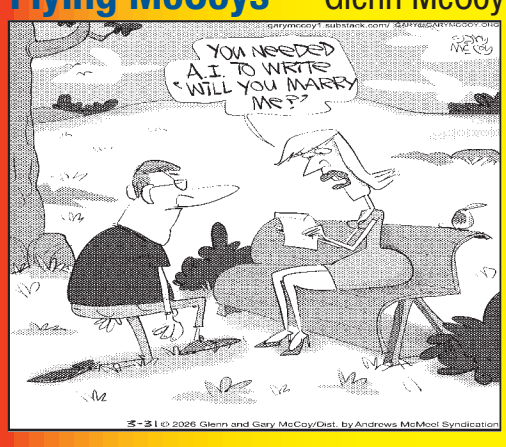
Peanuts
Charles M. Schulz



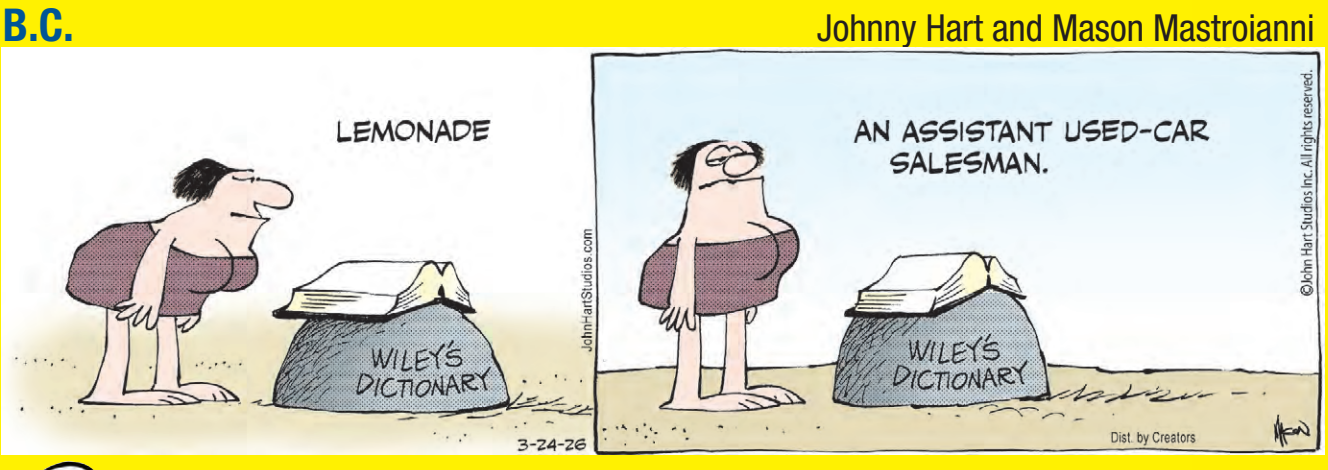
Bizarro
Dan Piraro and Wayno

Andy Capp
Reg Smythe

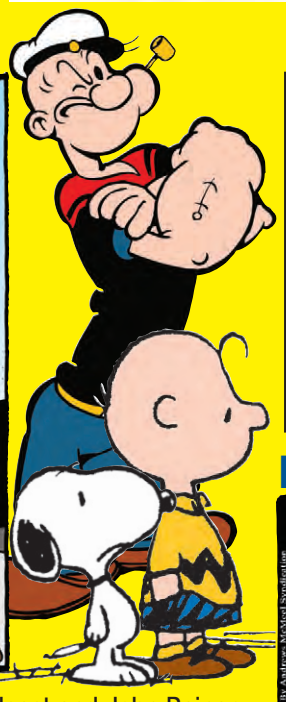
Flying McCoys
Glenn McCoy



B.C.
Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni

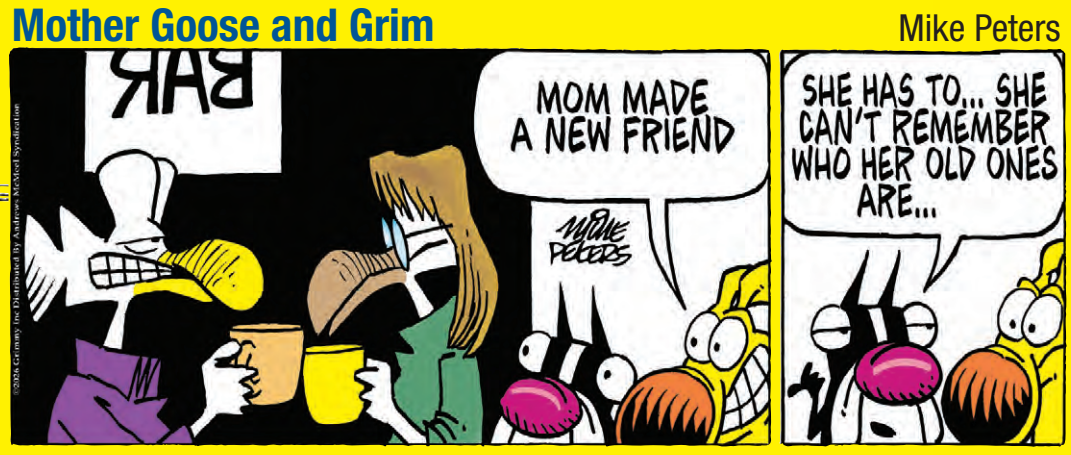


Reality Check
Dave Whamond



Beetle Bailey
Greg, Brian, Neal and Mort Walker

Mother Goose and Grim
Mike Peters



The Lockhorns
Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner

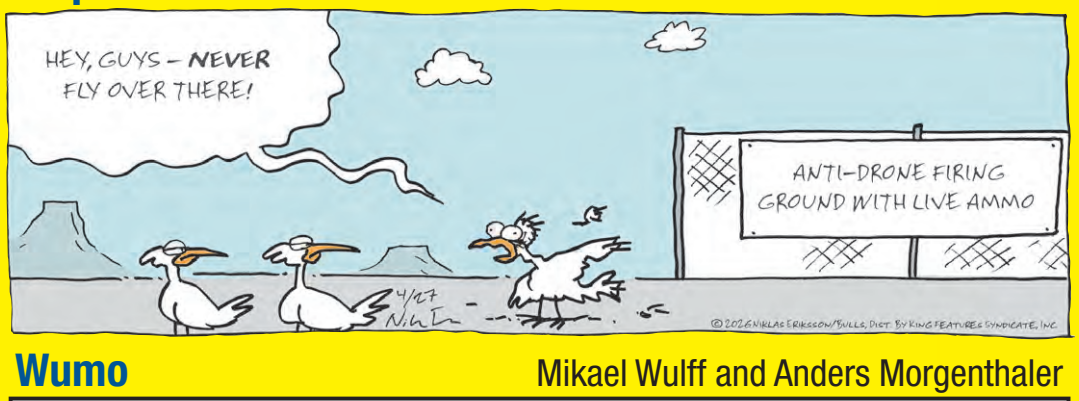
"THE GOVERNMENT IS ELIMINATING PENNIES? NOW YOU'LL NEVER GET ANOTHER RAISE."

Crankshaft
Tom Batiuk and Dan Davis

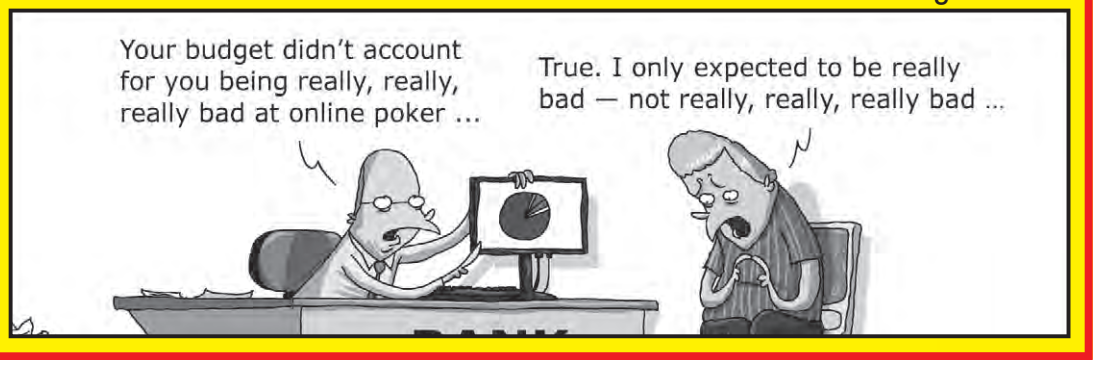
Dennis the Menace
Hank Ketchum, Scott Ketchum, Ron Ferdinand and Marcus Hamilton

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

Carpe Diem
Niklas Eriksson



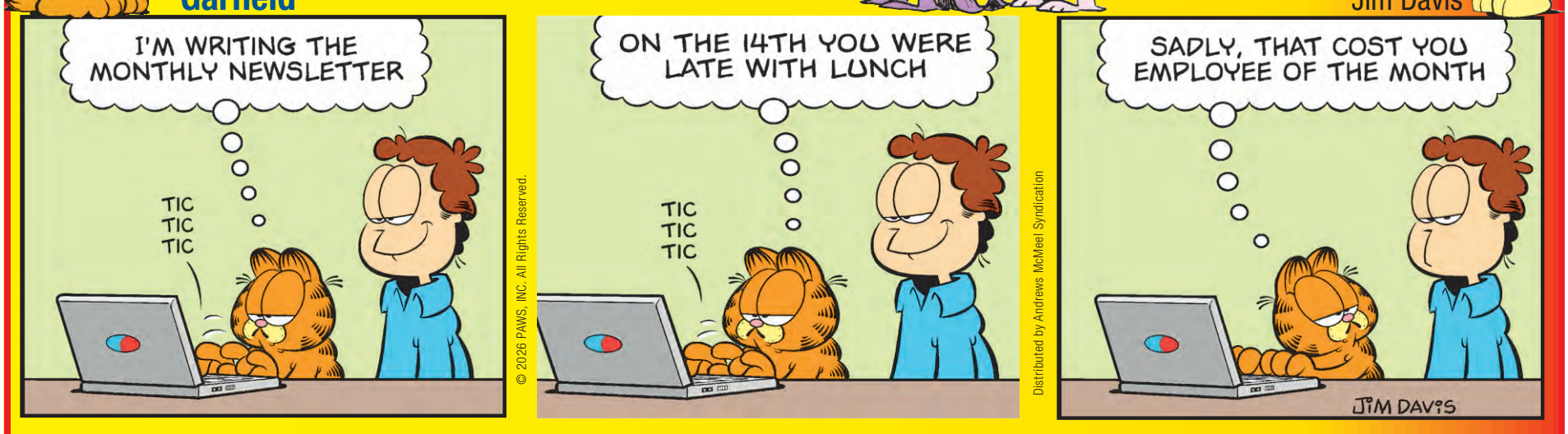
Wumo
Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler



Grosse Pointe News THURSDAY COMICS

Garfield

Jim Davis



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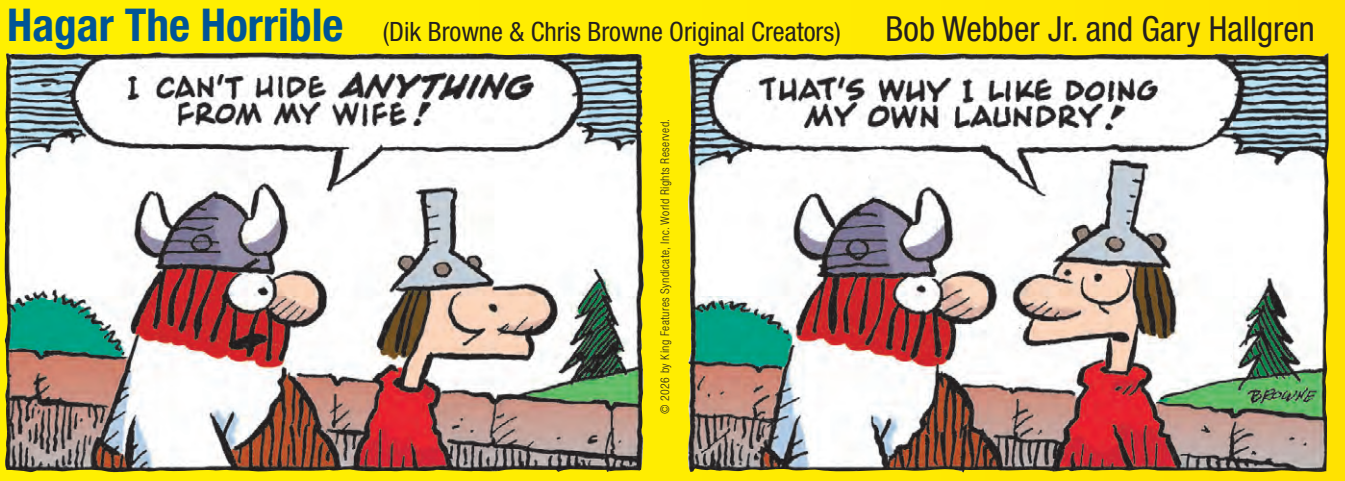
Hagar The Horrible

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



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Close To Home

John McPherson

Wizard of Id

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

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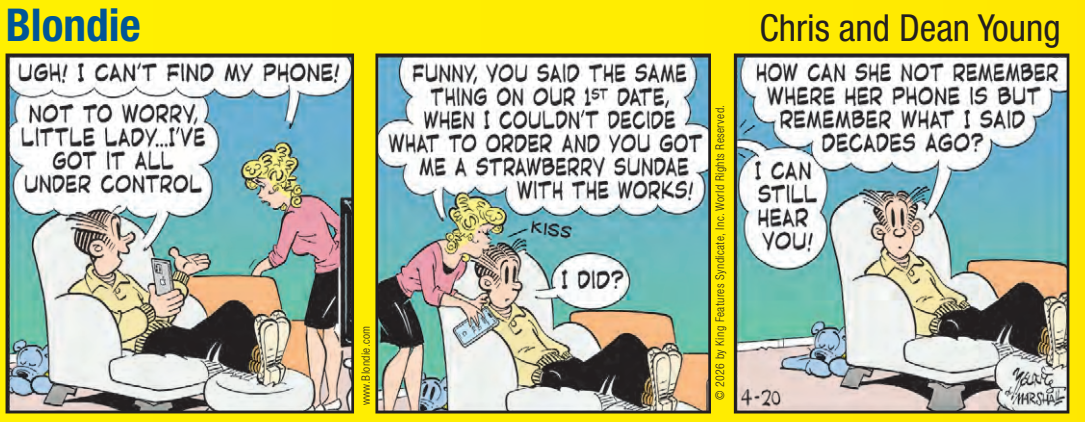
Facebook.com/Wizard Oild
Wizardofid.com

Ziggy

Tom Wilson

Blondie

Chris and Dean Young



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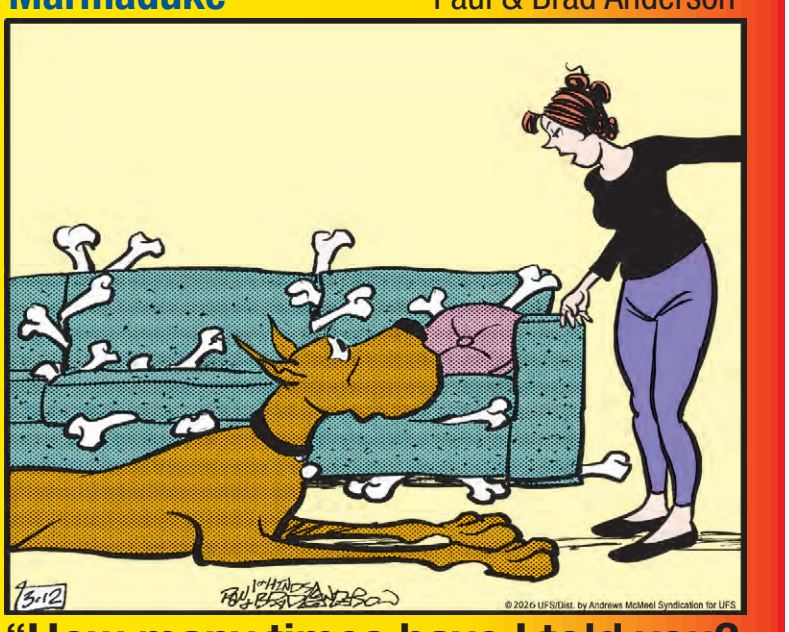
Marmaduke

Paul & Brad Anderson



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"How many times have I told you? Bury your bones outside."

Over The Hedge

Michael Fry and T. Lewis

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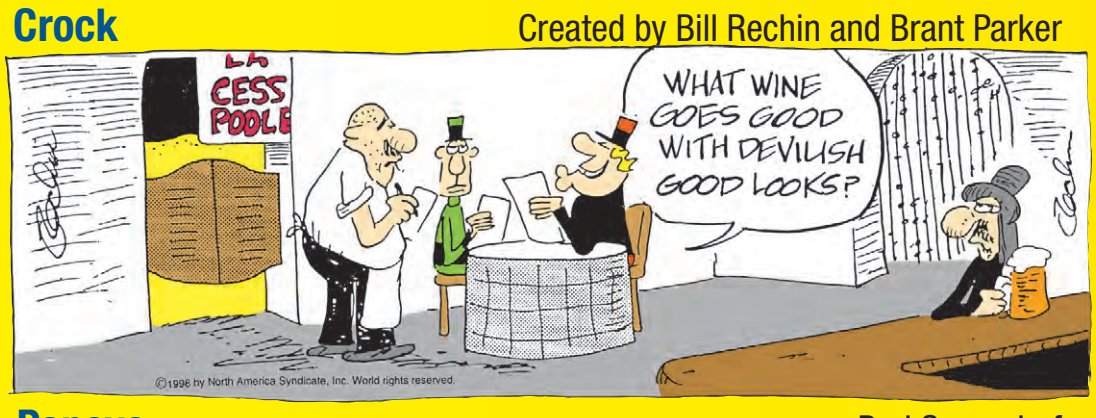
Crock

Created by Bill Rechin and Brant Parker



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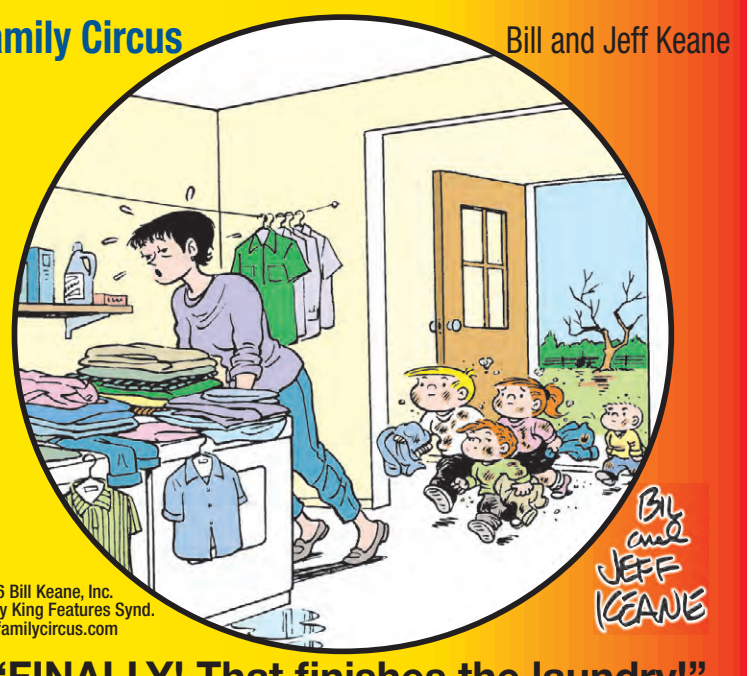
Family Circus

Bill and Jeff Keane



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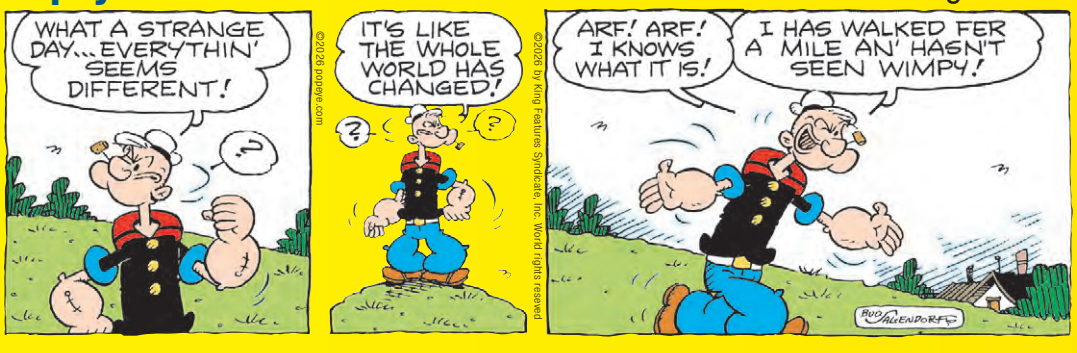
"FINALLY! That finishes the laundry!"

Popeye

Bud Sagendorf



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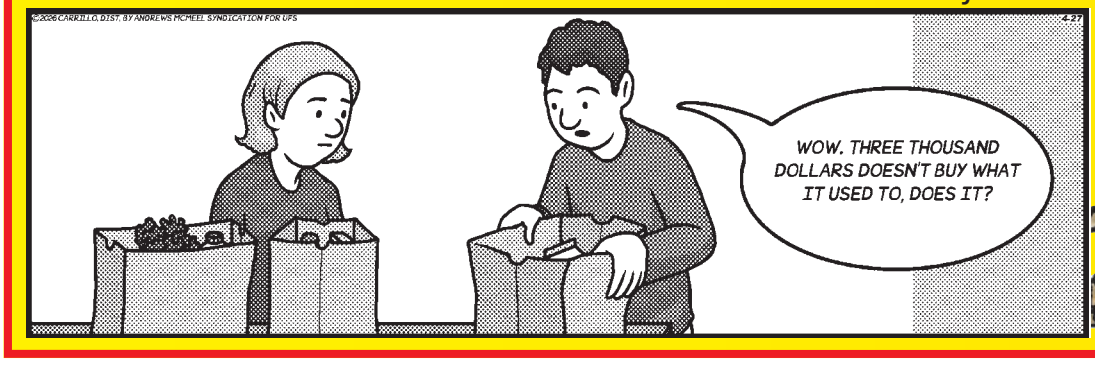
F Minus

Tony Carrilo



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Weekly Challenge

UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

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

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

Previous puzzle solution

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

4/30 DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆ 4/23 Solution

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Pointe Word Search

Find the words on the left in the puzzle below.

DEAL
DECISION
CHOICE
COST
FRUIT
GENERIC
MONEY
MONTH
NICKEL
SAVE
STORE

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

Contract Bridge

A PRECAUTIONARY MEASURE

East dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 6 5 2
♥ 8 4 3
♦ A 10 2
♣ 8 7 6 3

WEST
♠ K 10 4
♥ J 9 7 6 2
♦ 8 6 3
♣ A K

EAST
♠ 8
♥ A K Q 10
♦ 7 4
♣ Q J 10 9 5 2

SOUTH
♠ A Q J 9 7 3
♥ 5
♦ K Q J 9 5
♣ 4

The bidding:

East	South	West	North
1 ♣	1 ♠	2 ♥	Pass
3 ♥	4 ♦	4 ♥	Pass
Pass	4 ♠	Dble	

Opening lead — ace of clubs.

Nobody sounds an alarm to tell you when a crucial point in the play has been reached. You have to recognize the situation all by yourself and respond to it correctly, or you may soon find that the critical moment has passed you by.

Consider this deal where South got to four spades doubled as shown. West led the ace of clubs, East signaling with the queen, and continued with the king, which declarer ruffed.

Spurning the trump finesse, South played the ace of trump followed by the jack. West went up with the king and led a heart to his partner's queen, and South had to go down one when East returned a club. West's ten of spades was the straw that broke the camel's back.

South would have made the contract had he not missed his cue. Instead of ruffing the king of clubs at trick two, he should have discarded the five of hearts on it! Had he done this, he would have gotten home safely.

By discarding his heart loser at this early stage in the play, South would at the same time have severed West's only means of putting East on lead later in the play. In this way, South would have protected himself against the overruffing position that ultimately cost him the contract.

Actually, discarding a heart at trick two was not a difficult play. There was virtually no chance of losing a trick by this play, and a good chance of gaining one.

The only difficult thing about the play was to think of it. Had South stopped for a moment at the outset to consider what might defeat him, he might well have seen the wisdom of the heart discard.

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by Steve Becker

Royal Stars Weekly Horoscopes

Moon Alert: Avoid shopping (except for food and gas) and important decisions from 4:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. EDT today (1:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. PDT. After that, the Moon moves from LIBRA into SCORPIO.

Happy Birthday for Thursday, April 30, 2026: You are calm, independent and practical. You are also a perceptive professional and have an excellent sense of humor. This year you will reap the rewards of your past efforts. Expect opportunities, kudos and awards. Be ready to seize opportunities and act on them.

ARIES
(March 21-April 19)
You might feel some tension building up before tomorrow's Full Moon. Very likely, it will deal with financial matters, especially shared property, shared expenses, taxes, or debt. By the weekend, the dust will settle. Tonight: Check your finances.

TAURUS
(April 20-May 20)
Today there's a build-up of energy before tomorrow's Full Moon, which is the only one all year to take place directly opposite your sign. This means that relations with partners, spouses and close friends are being tested. The best way to handle this is with patience. Tonight: Be cooperative.

GEMINI
(May 21-June 20)
Each month, before the Full Moon, problems seem to intensify. Tomorrow is a Full Moon. Today you might feel challenges with your health or when dealing with co-workers and customers at work. Patience. Tonight: Get organized.

CANCER
(June 21-July 22)
This is the classic day to meet someone unusual — perhaps a friend or an acquaintance in a group setting. Quite likely, they will introduce something unexpected into your world. Tonight: Check your money.

LEO
(July 23-Aug. 22)
Today you might encounter an unusual authority figure. Quite possibly, this conversation will make you feel restless. But it also might inspire you in some way. Stay open to all possibilities. Tonight: You win!

VIRGO
(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Avoid controversial subjects today, because they will be volatile due to the buildup of energy before tomorrow's Full Moon. Discussions about politics, religion or racial issues might have too much explosive intensity. Tonight: Discussions.

LIBRA
(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
Financial arguments about your possessions, property as well as how to share expenses might arise today. These issues and their energies are building before tomorrow's Full Moon. Tonight: Maintain your possessions.

SCORPIO
(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
Tomorrow the Full Moon is in your sign. This means there's an opposition between the Sun in TAURUS and the Moon in SCORPIO, which creates tension. Today you might feel this tension with those who are closest to you — partners, spouses and friends. Tonight: You win!

SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
You're keen to work and accomplish as much as possible right now. However, your energy might be blocked by others or by your own feelings because of a buildup before tomorrow's Full Moon. Pull back. Take it easy. Don't push the river. Tonight: Enjoy solitude.

CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
New romance or an unexpected flirtation with someone who is "different" might occur today. Meanwhile, today holds all kinds of fun-loving opportunities. Live it up! Tonight: Check your finances.

AQUARIUS
(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
Stock the fridge, because spontaneous get-togethers and surprise entertaining might occur for you. This could be related to your work or something to do with a pet. It's an interesting day! Tonight: Cooperate and listen to others.

PISCES
(Feb. 19-March 20)
This is a mildly accident-prone day for you, so pay attention to everything you say and do. The reason for this is because a strong energy is building up before tomorrow's Full Moon, which can distract you. Tonight: Explore and learn.

BORN TODAY
Singer-songwriter, guitarist Willie Nelson (1933), actress Kirsten Dunst (1982), actor Steven Mackintosh (1967).

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg April 30, 2026

ACROSS
1 Oscar winner Malek
5 Wide necktie
10 Purple fruit
14 LSD
15 Some requests for treats
16 Name that anagrams to 12-Down
17 Sushi orders with crab and avocado
20 Li'l buddy
21 The night before Christmas, e.g.
22 "___ Shrugged"
23 "Fame" singer Cara
25 Firepit residue
26 Comparable (to)
29 Thick slice of grilled bread
34 Muscle-bone connector
36 Ticket reseller
37 Colorful rum cocktail
40 Pentathlete's sword
41 Units of land
42 "To repeat ..."
44 CD forerunners
45 Prepared to drive, in golf
46 Harvard or Harvey Mudd: Abbr.
47 Celebratory poem
49 Dish of ice cream, cake and meringue
54 Trailblazing astronaut Collins
58 Took home from a pound, say
59 Banquet for a foreign visitor ... where it would be apt to serve 17-, 29-, 37- and 49-Across?
62 Number of U.S. presidents who never married
63 Kind of sax
64 Key's comedy partner
65 Genre for Ice-T and Pusha T
66 Signs of things to come
67 Donkeys
68 Sinusitis doc

DOWN
1 Serving of ribs
2 Purple fruit
3 Not too spicy
4 Emphatic affirmation
5 "Te ___" (Spanish for "I love you")
6 Calm
7 Curved outward
8 Boo-boo
9 Org. associated with JFK?
10 Inconsistency in a story
11 Quiet time
12 39-Down's Golden State alma mater
13 What grams measure
18 On behalf of
19 Jah worshipper
24 Volcano associated with Hephaestus
25 ___ art (computer text designs)
26 Ready to leave home?
27 Travis who's engaged to Taylor Swift
28 Acclimate (to)
30 Largest continent
31 Genius' workplace?
32 Leak slowly
33 "___ bien!"
35 Cries of realization
38 Hitman John played by Keanu Reeves
39 Arthur of tennis
43 Latin labor leader Huerta
46 Composition of some castles
48 Fist bump
49 Brewskis
50 Copenhageners, e.g.
51 "Rolling in the Deep" singer
52 Thompson of "SNL"
53 Skillful
54 This, in Zaragoza
55 Newsworthy couple
56 Lois ___ (Superman's lover)
57 Largest boarding school in England
60 Craft brew letters
61 "Kirby's Adventure" console

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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

4/23 Solution

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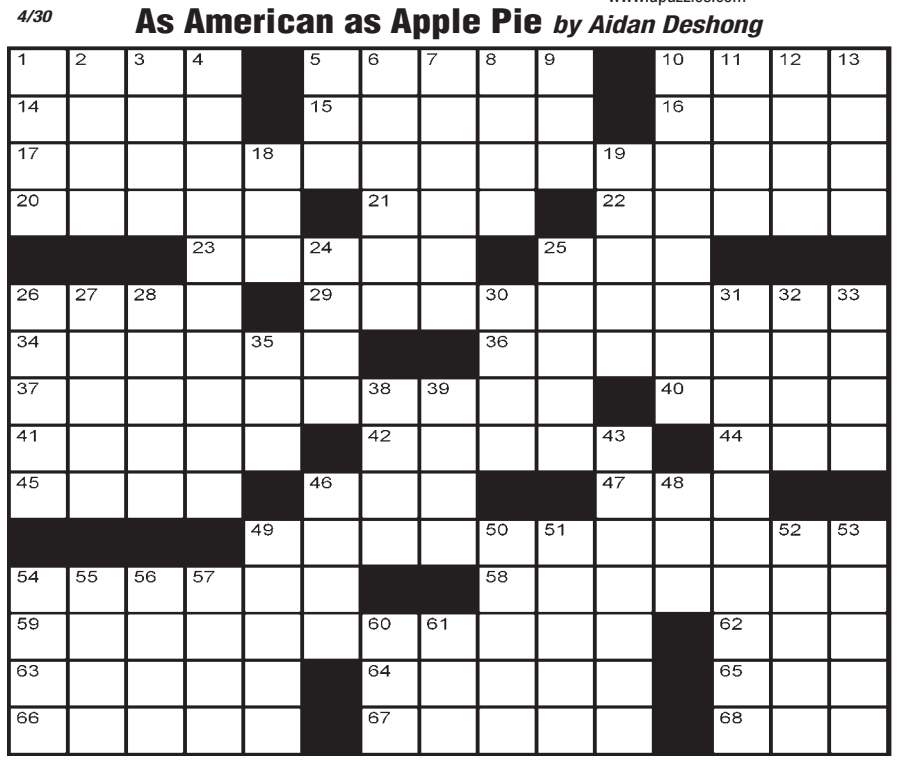
4/30

As American as Apple Pie *by Aidan Deshong*



SPORTS

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North wins nail-biters, South and ULS bats heat up in action-packed baseball week

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The first month of the baseball season is coming to an end and the action on the diamond is heating up — even if the temperatures aren't — as the season rolls into May. Last week's baseball action saw dramatic victories and big performances at the plate and on the mound as Grosse Pointe North, Grosse Pointe South and University Liggett School prepare for the second month of the regular season.

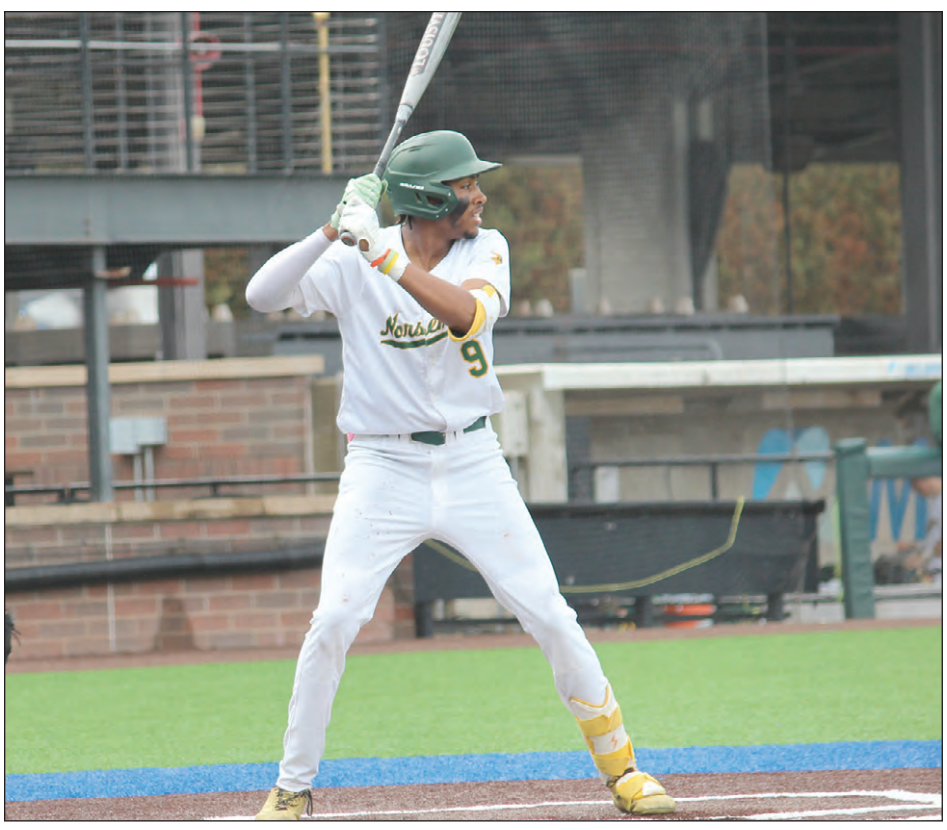

PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

North's DJ Edwards, pictured in a game against Grosse Pointe South, hit a walk-off RBI double to give the Norsemen a 3-2 win over Utica Thursday, April 23.

Grosse Pointe North

North fans might have been biting their nails during some of last week's games, but the Norsemen provided plenty of excitement with some close victories. The first was a walk-off win against Utica Thursday, April 23, as North won 3-2 in nine innings.

A sacrifice fly by Trevor Lipscomb gave North an early 1-0 lead in the first inning, but North was in a drought for much of the game after that. The Norsemen did not score again until the bottom of the seventh inning, when Luke Bruveris brought in the tying run on an RBI single to make it 2-2 and send the game to extra innings. DJ Edwards finished things off in the bottom of the ninth inning, hitting a double that brought Jacob Sahadi in for the winning run.

The walk-off win last Thursday was another in the several close games in which North has found itself already this season. The results have not always been as positive as they were last Thursday, but every close game provides a learning opportunity for a team that is trying to build itself up as a competitor.

"If you count the number of games we've had that were one-run games, we've been in five of them now," North baseball head coach Phil Kozlowski said. "In a lot of those games, we were leading in those games and found a way to give it away toward the end. It kind of helped us figure out what our personnel needs should be. … We're going to find ourselves on both good and bad sides throughout the year. We need to continue to stay positive and work hard and trust in ourselves and our abilities."

It was another close one for North Friday, April 24, when the team went on the road to face Chippewa Valley. The Norsemen nearly found themselves on the wrong side of a late comeback, but were able to battle for a 7-6 win.

Edwards and Lipscomb both had solo home runs, while Edward Macaulay finished with four RBIs in the win. Two of those RBIs ended up being crucial, coming on a two-RBI single in the top of the seventh inning that made the score 7-2 in favor of North. Chippewa Valley scored four runs in the bottom of the seventh, but fell short of completing the comeback.

The Norsemen were back in action Saturday, April 25, playing two games. The first was a 6-3 win for North against Fraser, with Macaulay's three RBIs helping power the Norsemen to the win. North went on to lose its second game of the day, falling 11-4 against Henry Ford II.

The team was at home again Monday, April 27, for the first game of a MAC White Division series against L'Anse Creuse North. The Norsemen fell 4-2 against the Crusaders. Lorenzo Dichio had both RBIs for North in the loss.

North visited L'Anse Creuse North after press time Tuesday, April 28. The Norsemen return home to take on the Crusaders again Thursday, April 30, at 4:30 p.m.

Grosse Pointe South

South's week had some ups and downs through a few games, but the Blue Devils were able to finish strong over the weekend. The team lost its MAC Red Division series against St. Clair, falling 3-0 Tuesday, April 21, and 5-1 Thursday, April 23.

The Blue Devils

See BASEBALL, page 6D

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Maltby ultimate team player for ULS lax, hockey

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

As the son of longtime Detroit Red Wings legend Kirk Maltby, hockey is in Landen Maltby's blood. What goes hand-in-hand with that love for hockey also is a love for lacrosse. Maltby plays on the varsity boys teams at University Liggett School.

His senior year, Maltby has wanted as much success as possible with both teams. In the winter, he helped Liggett's boys hockey team to its first Division 3 final four appearance in more than a decade while tallying 15 goals and 11 assists. Maltby is one of the many hockey players at Liggett now spending spring on the lacrosse team. They all share a common goal of wanting their last lacrosse campaign to be just as exciting as their final season on the ice as Knights.

"Going from the hockey season we just had and going into lacrosse, we just want to keep grinding it out and go as far as we can," Maltby said. "… The teams we lost to in hockey season, we get to play in lacrosse, so we get some revenge."

Maltby and the Knights have gotten off to a good start on their quest for one last great season. So far, Maltby has 10 goals and 12 assists for the Knights as the team has won eight of its first 10 games.

"(Maltby) is one of the best athletes I've ever coached," added Liggett boys lacrosse head coach Mike Costanzo. "He's also one of the nicest guys I've ever had the pleasure to be around."

PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Landen Maltby brings the ball up the field for University Liggett varsity boys lacrosse in a game against Divine Child April 20.

Grosse Pointe News

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Landen Maltby

School: University Liggett
Sport: Lacrosse

Sponsored by Pointe Capital Management

Maltby's numbers on the stat sheet might not be as high as some of his teammates, but his impact on the team is invaluable. He has become the Knights' Swiss Army knife, playing everything from midfield to attack to defense and, in a couple of emergencies, goalie.

"When I first started, I thought I'd be a midfielder," he said. "Sophomore year, I moved to attack and then I started doing some of everything. … I love doing everything I can for the team. If it means I have to play every posi-

See ATHLETE, page 2D

Landen's Legacy

- 10 Goals & 12 Assists in 10 games for ULS boys lax this spring
- Finished 2025-26 ULS boys hockey season with 26 points (15 G, 11 A)
- Committed to play college lacrosse at Trine University

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Blue Devils track and field teams win big over weekend

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The Grosse Pointe South boys and girls track and field teams had one of the best days so far this spring Saturday, April 25. The Blue Devils were well-represented at different competitions, but made plenty of noise with the girls finishing first and the boys coming in second at their respective events.

South's girls team made the trip Saturday to Warren Mott for the Steve Johnson Relays, dominating the 12-team field to finish in first place with a total of 114 points. The Blue Devils scored points in all 15 events throughout the day, including nine first-place finishes.

"Our team depth really stood out this past week," South girls track and field head coach Steve Zaranek said. "From field events to sprints to distance to hurdles and relays, the team brought in points from across the board."

South's relay teams earned quite a few of the Blue Devils' first-place finishes. The Blue Devils earned victories in the 400-, 800- and 1600-meter and sprint medley relays. Olivia Riddle, Ryan Wright, Morgan Duff, Evie Baer, Olivia Colt, Ciara Pongratz, Morgan Costello, Abby Macey, Calisse Budek and Daphne Spies all helped South collect those relay victories.

Eleanor Pilsner, Lydia Thomason-Redus, Ria White, Macey and Colt helped bring South victories in the 3200 and cross-country relay races. Duff, Baer and Allie Deveroux combined to give the Blue Devils a win in long jump, while Pongratz, Budek and Aria Burrascano helped South earn first in high jump. In pole vault, Ava Babcock, Maria Kotsis and Charlotte Mertz brought another first-place finish for South.

While South's girls team dominated their competition, the boys team for the Blue Devils had a big day as well. South's boys team traveled to Ypsilanti Lincoln for the Railsplitter Invitational, where the Blue Devils finished second out of more than a dozen teams.

Ethan Wilson, Zachary Wilson, Tristan Wininger and Nathan Tyler gave South a first-place finish in the 800 relay. Wininger also finished first in the 300 hurdles and second in the 110 hurdles.

In the 100-meter dash, Zachary Wilson finished second for South. Grayson Wodzisz earned another one of the best finishes for the Blue Devils during the day, coming in third in the 1600. Senior Liam O'Donoghue delivered more big points for South by finishing first in the pole vault.

South's boys and girls teams visited Henry Ford II for a dual meet after press time Tuesday, April 28. The Blue Devils are home again Saturday, May 2, for the 2nd Annual Wandering Wizard Invitational.

The event was created to honor longtime South coach Mike Novak, who passed away in 2024. The day begins at 9 a.m. with a one-mile walk and fundraiser for the National Pancreatic Cancer Foundation, followed by the beginning of the track and field events at 10 a.m.

COURTESY PHOTO

South's Ryan Wright hands the baton to teammate Morgan Duff in the 800-meter sprint relay at the Steve Johnson Relays Saturday, April 25.

PHOTO BY MADELINE HEXTER

Maltby finished his senior season with the University Liggett School varsity boys hockey team with 26 points while helping the Knights reach the Division 3 state semifinals.

ATHLETE:

Continued from page 1D

tion, I'd do it in a heartbeat."

That mentality and his athletic versatility are exactly what got Maltby noticed by teams at the next level. After he graduates from Liggett this spring, Maltby will move on to play Division III collegiate lacrosse at Trine University in Indiana.

Making the choice between playing college hockey or lacrosse was not the easiest decision and Maltby went into the process wanting to do both. However, when it came time to decide, he knew the men's lacrosse team at Trine is where he felt he could thrive.

"I really wanted to do both, but kind of realized that I didn't really have the option of doing that without it being too much of a burden for me playing two sports and doing well academically," he said. "A lot of lacrosse schools reached out and it showed that they see potential in me. … They all gave me good opportunities, but I saw myself fitting in best at Trine."

Maltby might be the man who can do everything for Liggett, but he knows that means he will have to get better at everything for the next level. Every game he has left with the Knights is an opportunity to win and help make it a successful senior year for himself and his fellow seniors, who have become his best friends. Each time he takes the field also presents the opportunity to improve some of the most important aspects of his game so Maltby can be the type of great team player in college that he is for Liggett.

"I want to improve on offense, because I've been mostly a defensive player recently," he said. "They've told me to work on offense, be able to shoot the ball well and run fast. I'm just trying to become the best lacrosse player I can be."

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 the following variance on May 18, 2026:

A variance at 1960 Lennon Street (007-02-1818-000) to construct an addition to an existing, non-conforming single-family residence. A variance is requested from Section 50-3.1.E: Side Yard Setback:

A 5-foot side yard setback is required.
A 4-foot, 5-inch side yard setback is proposed.
A variance of 7-inches is requested.

The ZBA public hearing is scheduled for Monday, May 18, 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.

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

Paul P. Antolin
City Clerk

G.P.N.:04/30/26

CITY OF HARPER WOODS
CITY COUNCIL
19617 HARPER AVENUE
HARPER WOODS, MI 48225

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council of the City of Harper Woods will hold a public hearing to consider a proposed amendment to the City's Zoning Ordinance on Monday, May 18, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. at 19617 Harper Avenue, Harper Woods, MI

Purpose of Hearing:
To receive public comment on a proposed text amendment to the City of Harper Woods Zoning Ordinance. The City Council will consider the adoption of the amendment following the public hearing.

Summary of Proposed Amendment:
An amendment to Chapter 6.15, Section C.(2) Hours of Operation. A request to adjust the hours of operation by extending the allowable closing time beyond 10:00 p.m. Thursday through Sunday.

All interested persons are invited to attend the public hearing and will be given an opportunity to be heard. Residents who are unable to attend this hearing may submit their comments in writing to the City Clerk's office before May 18, 2026.

A copy of this proposed Zoning Ordinance is available for inspection in the City Clerk's office Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Leslie M. Frank, City Clerk

POSTED: April 20, 2026

PUBLISHED: April 30, 2026

North girls soccer growing in confidence regardless of results

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The Grosse Pointe North varsity girls soccer team entered this season knowing there was nowhere else to go but up after the program did not win a game in 2025. The first half of the 2026 campaign has had its ups and downs, but the Norsemen believe they are getting back on the right track as a program, even if the results do not always show it.

"We've come out really competitive in every single game," North girls soccer head coach George Nicholls said. "... The girls are moving the ball and playing really smart. Our defense has been like a steel trap and so reliable. We're struggling a bit in the offensive third and the finishing area. ... These girls have seen the positive growth every game and the confidence is there."

North's offense has had its moments at times this season, including scoring eight goals in a win over Frankel Jewish Academy in late March and finding the back of the net six times against Clawson April 10. However, North has three losses and two draws in five games since, scoring only twice over that stretch.

That included a 1-1 draw against Lake Shore Monday, April 20, and a 1-0 loss to Lamphere Thursday, April 23, where Lamphere scored in the final minutes to win the game. Even in the loss, the Norsemen saw signs of improvement, recording 10 shots with a few solid scoring chances. The whole team feels it needs only continued confidence and growth to help those chances turn into goals.

"We went from almost afraid to shoot the ball to being more confident," Nicholls said. "... They see the improvement game to game. The next step is to bring the ball closer to goal and continue building that confidence that we can shoot the ball. The girls are gaining that belief in themselves."

While the Norsemen try to pick things up offensively, the biggest strength for the team through the first month of the season has been defense. Losses and draws may not be the results the Norsemen are looking for, but the team's defense has done a strong job of limiting opponents' scoring chances.

Having two experienced senior captains anchoring the defense helps and with their efforts, North hopes everything can come together for stronger results in the second half of the season.

"A lot of our returning players were on defense, so we had great experience there," Nicholls said. "... We've worked a lot on where to be, to the point where they take care of themselves. Our centerbacks, Molly O'Shee and Leah Burney, run the defense and run the field. They know where the outside defenders should be. They know where to position themselves to eliminate dangerous threats and they're confident in challenging balls that come toward them and clearing out danger."

PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

North freshman Eva Guzman battles for the ball against Lamphere Thursday, April 23.

The Norsemen found themselves in another close, low-scoring game Monday, April 27, falling 1-0 on the road against Fraser. North is at home Friday, May 1, hosting crosstown rival Grosse Pointe South at 6 p.m.

Blue Devils, Norsemen softball teams pick up more wins in exciting week

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The first month of the softball season is coming to a close and teams are looking to build momentum as the calendar flips to May. Every game is becoming more crucial and exciting and the excitement was on full display for Grosse Pointe South and Grosse Pointe North last week, with both teams earning big wins in games that included walk-off wins and big performances.

Grosse Pointe South

The wins continued piling up for the Blue Devils last week as the first month of the regular season winds down. South earned a key MAC White Division 6-1 victory Thursday, April 23, over Lake Shore.

Junior pitcher Makenzie Waterson put on a clinic in the win, pitching all seven innings and allowing only a single run on two hits while tallying 11 strikeouts. Vivian Lindow helped power the offense with a pair of RBIs on two hits, including a solo home run in the sixth inning.

While a strong pitching performance helped give South the win last Thursday, the next few games were all about offense. The Blue Devils played three games Saturday, April 25, in the Holland Invitational, earning wins in all three while scoring 49 total runs.

"We always want to be aggressive," South softball head coach Bill Fleming said about his team's ability to score, "especially as the pitching we see gets better as we go deeper into the season. We want to keep that aggressive edge and we've done a really good job. ... We're putting the ball in play. We're making teams make plays against us. The overall attitude is very confident and most of them now have years of varsity experience under their belt, so they know what it takes to hit the ball and they have fun with it."

PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Makenzie Waterson delivers a pitch for South against Lake Shore Thursday, April 23.

Saturday's first game was a 19-5 win for South over Ludington. Freshman Madison Iverson brought in three runs on three hits. Waterson, Sophia Husek and Avery Lollar all had a pair of RBIs each as well. On the mound, Husek earned the win and struck out 12 batters over six innings.

Next up for the Blue Devils was a matchup against Kalamazoo Loy Norrix, with South winning 15-0. South came out swinging right away with 13 runs in the first inning, including a two-run home run from Husek and a grand slam by Viviana Ostrowski. Ostrowski also was the winning pitcher, with six strikeouts and no hits or runs allowed in just three innings.

South earned another 15-0 win in the third game of the day when it beat Holland. Lindow, Waterson and Mackenzie Simon all finished with two RBIs each.

Those three wins over the weekend improved South's record to 14-2 through its first 16 games. As the end of April approaches and the team gets into the heart of the season, the Blue Devils hope the momentum and positive mentality the team has developed from its hot start to the season will continue as May begins.

"Everybody does their part," Fleming said. "Every game, it's somebody different. We're a team full of really good players who play really hard for their team. Softball is a hard game and it can be streaky. ... Our kids know that we go through cycles and that everybody on the team has to step up at different times and be a leader."

South hosted New Haven after press time Tuesday, April 28. The Blue Devils are home again Thursday, April 30, taking on Port Huron Northern at 4:30 p.m.

See SOFTBALL, page 6D

City of Grosse Pointe, Michigan

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED 2026 SINGLE LOT ASSESSMENT ROLL

The City Council of the City of Grosse Pointe, 17147 Maumee Avenue, Grosse Pointe, Michigan 48230, will hold a Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, May 18, 2026, in the City Council Chambers, 17145 Maumee Avenue, on the proposed 2026 City Single Lot Assessment Roll. Copies of the Single Lot Assessment Roll will be available for public inspection during regular business hours at City Hall (17147 Maumee Avenue) beginning May 1, 2026. Telephone 313-885-5800.

Public comments, oral or written, are welcome at the public hearing on the proposed Single Lot Assessment Roll.

Christopher Hardenbrook,
City Clerk

GPN: 4/30/26

City of Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Proposed 2026-2027 City Budget

The City Council of the City of Grosse Pointe Farms will hold a Public Hearing on the proposed 2026-2027 City Budget, at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, May 11, 2026 in the City Hall at 90 Kerby Road, or as otherwise posted at the City website at: www.grossepointefarms.org.

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of the Public Hearing.

The proposed Budget is on file in the Office of the Clerk for public inspection during regular office hours, 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, and is also available on the City's website.

The following is a summary of the proposed Budget:

GENERAL FUND

ESTIMATED REQUIREMENTS	
Municipal Court	$ 418,190
General Government	1,986,160
Public Safety	8,890,880
Public Works	4,505,750
Parks & Recreation	1,595,080
Contingency	50,000
Transfer - Other Funds	3,561,590
Total	$ 21,007,650
MEANS OF FINANCING	
Taxes	$ 16,283,100
Licenses & Permits	508,210
Federal and State Grants	75,000
State-Shared Revenue	1,174,670
Charges for Service	2,045,770
Fines/Forfeitures	283,000
Interest Income	357,400
Other Revenue	80,500
Fund Balance Appropriation	200,000
Total	$ 21,007,650

Public comments, oral or written, are welcome at the Public Hearing on the proposed City Budget.

DERRICK KOZICKI
Assistant City Manager/City Clerk

G.P.N.: 04/30/2026

HITS & HIGHLIGHTS

GIRLS VARSITY TENNIS

Grosse Pointe South varsity girls tennis defeated Grosse Pointe North 7-2 last Wednesday, April 22. Laila Aslam, pictured, and Aakansha Nagori both earned wins for the Norsemen. McKenzie Florence picked up a singles win for South, and the Blue Devils dominated in doubles. Grace Vollmer and Andia Nazarko, Charlotte Kowal and Ella Brennan and Francesca Swikoski and Aubrey Lindow were all doubles teams to earn victories for South.

PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

LITTLE LEAGUE SOFTBALL CELEBRATES OPENING DAY

Penny Gardner from the AA Wildcats throws out the ceremonial first pitch for Opening Day of Grosse Pointe Little League Softball Friday, April 24.

GIRLS VARSITY LACROSSE

Grosse Pointe South varsity girls lacrosse earned a victory over Lakeland last Wednesday, April 22, winning 15-8. Senior Lyla Hampton led the way with nine goals, while Stella Fry and Margaret Blake added a pair of goals each. The Blue Devils suffered a loss in their next game, however, falling 17-3 against South Lyon last Friday, April 24. South is at home Thursday, April 30, hosting Novi at 5:30 p.m.

University Liggett School varsity girls lacrosse picked up a pair of wins last week, helping improve its record to 6-1 so far this season. The first was a 16-3 victory over Grosse Ile last Saturday, April 25. The Knights followed that with an 18-7 win on the road Monday, April 27, against St. Catherine. Liggett is home again Friday, May 1, taking on Notre Dame Prep at 4:30 p.m.

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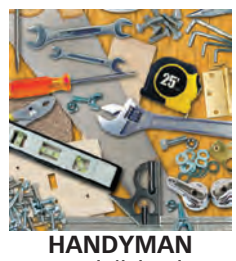

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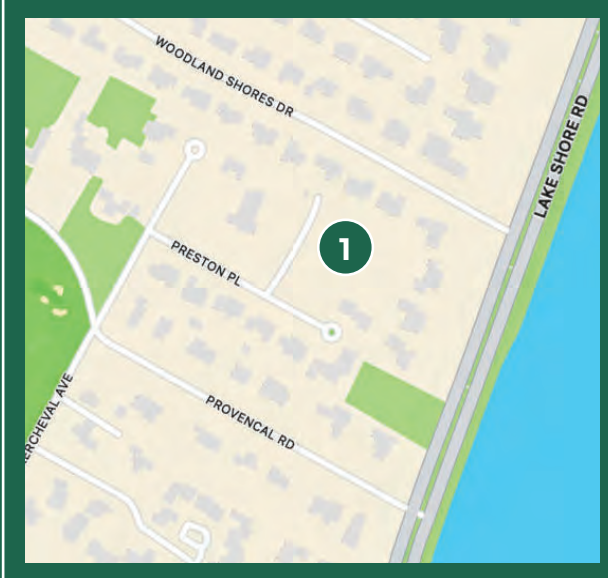
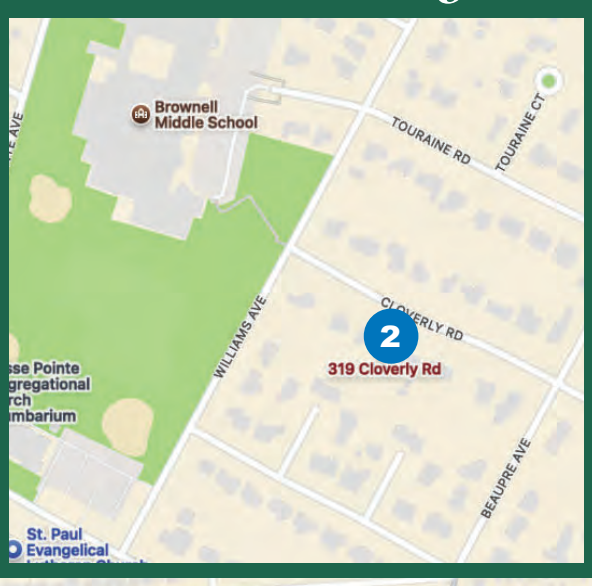
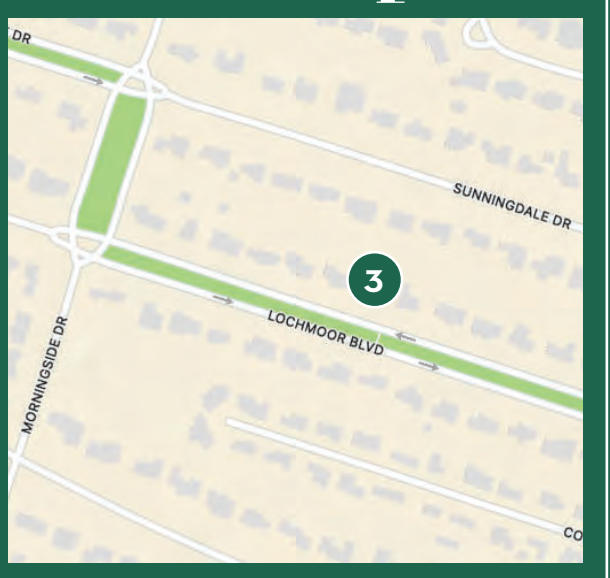
Grosse Pointe News Yard & Estate Sale Map







THIS WEEK

1. 30 Preston Place, GPF
2. 319 Cloverly, GPF
3. 86 Lochmoor Blvd., GPS
4. 22606 Ardmore Park, SCS
5. Alexander Street, SCS

◯ = YARD SALE ● = ESTATE SALE
See Classifieds for more details

PHOTO BY THADDEUS HOUK

South's Ben Bieri hits a tee shot at the Country Club of Detroit Monday, April 27, during the McIntyre Invitational.

South golfers finish close second in home tournament

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The Grosse Pointe South varsity boys golf team promised an exciting day of action at Country Club of Detroit Monday, April 27, when the program hosted the McIntyre Invitational. The day did not disappoint, with the top of the leaderboard being as close as possible and the Blue Devils finishing in second place by just one stroke.

South finished with an 18-hole team score of 305, finishing just one shot behind first-place De La Salle Collegiate. The Blue Devils ended up in the middle of a tightly contested top three, with Rochester Adams coming in third only one stroke behind South at 306.

South sophomore Marty Wayman ended the round in second place on the individual leaderboard, shooting a three-under-par round of 69. Junior Charlie Thomas also ended up in the top 10 with his score of 75. Will Gryzenia shot 80, Ben Bieri finished with 81 and Will Bishop came in at 82.

Grosse Pointe North finished the tournament in 12th place with a team score of 336. Senior Evan Michalski shot a round of 73 to finish in the top five individually. Aidan Burney had the second-best round of the day for the Norsemen, shooting 84.

University Liggett School's golfers combined to finish 16th in the tournament. Charlie Laethem's score of 81 marked the best round of the day for the Knights.

In upcoming action on the links, South hosts a match against Henry Ford II Thursday, April 30, at Gowanie Golf Club. The Norsemen take on Eisenhower at Lochmoor Club Wednesday, May 6. Liggett visits Shrine Catholic for a match at Red Run Golf Club Thursday, April 30.

BASEBALL:

Continued from page 1D

bounced back with a pair of wins in two games Saturday, April 25. The first was a 3-0 win over Henry Ford II, highlighted by a stellar performance on the mound from Henry Danielewicz. The sophomore pitched all seven innings of the shutout, allowing only three hits while striking out 10 batters.

Strong pitching was on display again for South in the second game of the day last Saturday, when the Blue Devils defeated Fraser 10-0. Brody Vinyard earned the win, pitching four scoreless innings with six strikeouts and only three hits allowed. Alex Foote tossed an inning of relief, continuing the shutout and giving up only a single hit. Ben Kocik and Brady Magee helped drive the offense in the win, bringing in a pair of RBIs each.

South added another tally in the win column Monday, April 27, with a 4-1 win on the road over Anchor Bay. Jack Danielewicz pitched a complete game for the win, going seven innings with four strikeouts and only three hits allowed.

The Blue Devils hosted Anchor Bay after press time Tuesday, April 28. South goes on the road to finish the MAC White series against the Tars Thursday, April 30.

University Liggett

The Knights' bats were hot in a couple of wins the team picked up last week. The first was a victory at home over Bloomfield Hills Thursday, April 23, where the Knights won 13-3. Kanaan Taylor had a big day with a grand slam that helped blow open the game for Liggett in the second inning. Sam Van Culin, Javion Gray and Ravi Hines all finished with two RBIs each as well.

Liggett looked dominant at home again Saturday, April 25, when the Knights hosted New Haven Merritt Academy and won 15-0. Joey Harris had three RBIs on two hits while also getting the win on the mound, pitching 2.2 innings with five strikeouts and just one hit allowed.

Liggett hosted Cranbrook after press time Tuesday, April 28. The Knights remain at home Thursday, April 30, hosting Cardinal Mooney for a doubleheader starting at 4:15 p.m.

SOFTBALL:

Continued from page 3D

Grosse Pointe North

The Norsemen pulled off some close wins last week, starting with a dramatic walk-off comeback victory Thursday, April 23. North hosted Chippewa Valley and rallied for four runs in the bottom of the seventh inning to come away with an 8-7 win.

North trailed 7-4 going into the bottom of the seventh inning when the rally started with an RBI double from Kate Stemmler. Ava Gerardi singled after that to give North two runners on base and set up the game-winning run. Freshman Sy'Rai Winbush stepped to the plate and launched a three-run walk-off home run to complete the dramatic comeback.

North's next game also was decided by just one run, but this time the Norsemen were the ones trying to defend against a late comeback. The Norsemen visited L'Anse Creuse North for a doubleheader Saturday, April 25, and won the first game 9-8.

North built up a nine-run lead through the first four innings, but L'Anse Creuse North started charging back. The Crusaders scored five runs in the fifth inning and scratched across three more in the sixth, but could not fully complete the comeback attempt. Victoria Mangol brought in three RBIs for the Norsemen, with Eva Borowski and Phoebe Julien bringing in a pair each as well.

Game Two of Saturday's doubleheader saw North lose 18-3. Emma Barr had a solid game at the plate, going 4-for-4 despite the loss.

North bounced back with a 9-1 win at home against Berkley Monday, April 27. Addison Moses recorded 13 strikeouts in the win, pitching all seven innings and surrendering only two hits. The Norsemen are on the road Thursday, April 30, heading to Romeo for a MAC Red Division matchup against the Bulldogs.

CITY OF HARPER WOODS
WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN
SYNOPSIS: REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 20, 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) approve and file the minutes of the regular City Council meeting held March 16, 2026 and furthermore receive and file the minutes of the Beautification Commission meeting held on October 27, 2025 the Board of Review meetings held on March 9, 2026, March 23, 2026 and March 25, 2026 and the Planning Commission meeting held on March 25, 2026.
2) to open the Appeal Hearing on the Revocation of the Business License at 19306 Kelly Road.
3) to close the Hearing.
4) to request that the business license at 19306 Kelly Road, Fly Social LLC be Revoked.
5) to open the Public Hearing on the Continuation of a Special Assessment District.
6) to close the Hearing.
7) to schedule a Public Hearing for May 18, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. to hear public comment and input on a proposed text amendment to the City's Zoning Ordinance extending the hours of operation for marijuana retail establishments.
8) That the agenda of the regular City Council meeting having been acted upon and with no further business, the meeting is hereby adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED
1) (1) approve the Accounts Payable/Payroll Vendor listing for Check Numbers 134749 through 134913 in the amount of $1,007,158.43 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 Anderson, Eckstein & Westrick Inc. in the amount of $60,786.15 for professional services performed during the month of March 2026 for the following projects: NG911 GIS updates #180-393; Temp Water Operator #180-303; 2026 Misc. Concrete Rep. #180-388; 2026 Joint Crack/Seal #180-392; FY2029 Federal Aid, Call for Projects, #180-394; GLWA Water Contract, #180-386; FDCVT Grant App #180-387; DWRF Lead Water Svc Repl #180-331; 2025 Sanitary Sewer Lining #180-379; 2026 San. Sewer Clean CCTV #180-391; 2025 San. Sewer Rep.
#180-365; 2026 San. Sewer FCIPP #180-390; 2025 San. Sewer FCIPP #180-364; 2026 Storm Sewer Rep. #180-389; CWSRF Sewer Rehab #180-382; CWSRF FCIPP Sewer Rehab #180-383, and the CWSRF SCIPP Sewer Rehab #180-384. (3) approve payment in the amount of $8,894.50 to Drive Creative Services, LLC for the printing of the Jan/Mar Newsletter. (4) approve payment to WCA Assessing in the amount of $6,703.33 for the contractual assessing services to be performed during the month of March 2026. (5) approve payment to Michigan Municipal League Workers' Compensation Fund in the amount of $6,159.00 for the annual payroll audit. (6) approve payment to the State of Michigan - EGLE in the amount of $7,481.85 for the city's annual water supply fee. (7) approve payment to SAFEBuilt, Inc. in the amount of $40,106.72 for the contractual building department services performed during the month of March 2026. (8) approve the quote provided by Command Communications to perform the encryption updates to the City's police/fire and vehicle radios to remain compliant with federally mandated encryption standards in the amount of $42,418.74. This invoice represents the updates to be made only to the radios. (9) approve the quote provided by Motorola Solutions to perform the encryption updates to the city's dispatch console to remain compliant with federally mandated encryption standards in the amount of $6,401.25. This invoice represents the updates to be made only to the dispatch console. (10) approve payment to Turf and Timber LLC in the amount of $7,750.00 for the removal of dead and downed trees/limbs and one stump removal. (11) approve payment in the amount of $21,273.00 to Guardian Sewers for their assistance with 3 water main breaks and 8 fire hydrant pump downs.
(12) approve payment in the amount of $7,383.13 to Blue Water Solutions LLC for purchase of 4 2" meters, encoder activator, 10 couplers, 24 bushings, and several flanges, nuts, & bolts. (13) approve payment to Nu Appearance Maintenance Inc. in the amount of $10,449.50 for contractual salting of City Hall and the annexes. This also includes lawn restorations due to main breaks, stop box repairs and tree removal restorations. (14) appoint Mark Modlin to the Board of Review as an alternate, for an unexpired term ending in January of 2029.
2) to adopt the attached resolution to continue a Special Assessment District in the City of Harper Woods.
3) to approve the 'at will' employment agreement between the City of Harper Woods and Philip Cavanagh to serve as the Deputy City Manager for the City of Harper Woods, and further to authorize the Mayor and City Manager to sign the agreement.
4) to approve the employment agreement between the City of Harper Woods and Sharon DeWaele-Persichini to provide general municipal law services for the City of Harper Woods, and further to authorize the City Manager to sign the agreement.
5) to approve the legal services agreement between the City of Harper Woods and the Perkins Law Firm to provide professional prosecution services the City of Harper Woods, and further to authorize the City Manager to sign the agreement.
6) to accept the 2.7% rate increase proposal dated March 23, 2026 from engineering firm Anderson, Eckstein & Westrick, Inc. effective July 1, 2026.
7) to approve Amendment No. 5 to the Water Service Contract between the City of Harper Woods and the Great Lakes Water Authority and further that the City Manager be authorized to sign the contract on behalf of the City.
8) to approve payment to DVM Utilities, Inc. in the amount of $11,118.00 for Progress Payment No. 3 (Final) on the 2025 Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation by FCIPP Lining Project #180-364.
9) to approve payment to the City of Detroit in the amount of $17,548.69 for the City of Harper Woods' share of the "Blue Hill Pumping Station" expense as the agreed upon settlement for fiscal year 2023, and $22,995.86 for future annual payments.
10) to approve the payment to Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy in the amount of $10,000.00 for the fine imposed for failure to collect compliance water.
11) to adopt the attached resolution providing our opposition to House Bills 5529, 5531 and 5532, the Housing Readiness Package bills, and support local governments' authority to govern land use, and further to direct the City Clerk to send copies of this resolution to the Governor, members of the Michigan Legislature representing the City, and such other parties as deemed appropriate..

Valerie Kindle, Mayor

Leslie M. Frank, City Clerk

Published: GPN, April 30, 2026