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MAY 7, 2026
GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

Community rallies after officer loses home in fire

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — Officer Thom Dionne, a U.S. Army veteran and 14-year member of the Farms public safety department, is known as the first to stop at a lemonade stand or offer a helping hand to a neighbor.

The number of lives he’s touched now is being reflected back through the numerous community members who have stepped forward to support Dionne and his family, after they lost their home in Utica in a devastating fire last Monday.

“We walked away with our shoes on our feet and our clothes on our back,” Dionne said. “Every single thing in the house is gone.”

Dionne was home Monday, April 27, when he discovered dark yellow and black smoke billow-

ing up the basement stairwell. When he ran upstairs to get his daughter and the dogs, there already was smoke coming out of the wall outlets.

The 172-year-old house was balloon frame construction, meaning the studs on the sides of the house went from the foundation to the attic, without the firestops between floors that are common with modern construction.

“Everyone knows that really, if you get a fire in the wall, it’s over,” said Dionne, who is dually trained as a firefighter. “Literally within minutes, the fire went from the lower level basement area to the attic — and it consumed the attic within seconds. So the firefighter is really fighting an attic fire that started near the base-

The Utica Fire Department fought the blaze for two and a half



COURTESY PHOTO

The roof collapsed on the first and second floors of the 172-year-old home in Utica, which is a total loss.

hours, during which the roof collapsed on the first and second floors. The home is a total loss.

“We’re trying to figure it

out,” said Dionne, who also is a Utica city councilman and former mayor. “We love our home. We love our neighbors. We

and has not solicited any help, the community has understood that many needs are immediate.

The owner of Blufin Sushi showed up with a check shortly after the news broke, as did the Harper Woods Police Association and many Farms residents who probably wouldn’t want to be named, Dionne said.

His coworkers at the Farms public safety station also started a GoFundMe — gofundme.com/f/help-thom-family-rebuild-after-house-fire — for temporary housing and replacing essentials that has garnered 197 donations in a week.

“That money’s immediately helping, because we spent hundreds and hundreds of dollars to buy clothes just for the week,” Dionne said. “We didn’t have toothbrushes. We

See FIRE, page 3A

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Magazine in this issue!

Housing foundation closing Sparks fly again at BoE meeting

By Ted O’Neil
Associate Editor

GROSSE POINTE PARK — The Grosse Pointe Housing Foundation is winding down after 15 years.

It awarded 1,700 grants totaling almost \$6 million since 2010 to provide housing assistance to college students and local workers, primarily in the west end of the Park, and Grosse Pointe Public School System employees.

A press release said the foundation has stopped accepting new applications and will continue to fund approved and current grants through the termination dates in active grant agreements or Sept. 30, 2026, whichever is later, for local workers and students. Grants provided to educators operate under a separate agreement structure and continue for current participants

until they are no longer eligible.

The foundation began as a result of the 2008 housing crisis that caused historically low rental occupancy rates in the Park and a stagnant business district.

“Today, Grosse Pointe Park is thriving. Occupancy rates are at

‘Qualifying college students and local workers, many of whom still live in the Pointes today, helped build the flourishing community that grew from this once struggling area of the Grosse Pointe community.’

GROSSE POINTE HOUSING FOUNDATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

an all-time high and its business district is strong,” the foundation’s board of directors said in the release. “Qualifying college students and local workers, many of whom still live in the Pointes today, helped build the flourishing community that grew

from this once struggling area of the Grosse Pointe community.”

Park Mayor Michele Hodges said she is grateful for the work of the foundation.

“The Grosse Pointe Housing Foundation formed at a critical time when Grosse Pointe Park was experiencing significant vacancies and other concerns with its housing stock and tax base,” she said. “It played a key role in catalyzing a chain of events that have enabled the city of Grosse Pointe Park to become the vibrant city it

See CLOSED, page 2A

By Ted O’Neil
Associate Editor

THE GROSSE POINTES — A discussion about board member compensation led to another heated discussion at the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education meeting Monday, April 27.

For background, board members each January at the first meeting are asked what they wish to do with their compensation, which is \$30 per meeting up to a maximum of 52 meetings per year. Trustees can elect to receive the money, direct it to a specific program in the district or refuse it, meaning the money stays in the general fund.

Toward the end of the meeting, while reviewing the monthly check register, Vice President Colleen Worden asked why former board member Ahmed Ismail was paid “\$36,000,” even though the amount was \$3,630.

Neither Worden nor any other board member corrected the amount before the meeting ended.

Superintendent Andrea Tuttle said Ismail and former board member Lisa Papas requested to be paid because the district’s business office could not provide proof the money they asked to be directed ever reached their desired recipients.

In a social media post, Papas said in 2021, 2022 and 2023, she asked the money be split between the choir programs at both high schools. She said she became suspicious after realizing she had never received any recognition from either program, especially considering her longtime involvement with the Grosse Pointe South High School Choir.

Papas added she missed the first meeting in January 2024, because her father was in the hos-

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Pointer of INTEREST

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Danny Dichio
Home: Grosse Pointe Shores
Detroit City FC coach’s soccer journey leads to home in the Pointes.



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Helm Wilson Day Center sneak peek

The Helm Wilson Day Center at 648 St. Clair hosted an open house last Friday, inviting community members to explore the space before its adult day program launches next week.

The adult day program is designed for residents of Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods ages 50 and older, who are living with cognitive decline and various forms of dementia including Alzheimer's. It will operate 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays.

Openings remain for the pilot group of participants — the pilot program begins Wednesday, May 13 — as well as for when the center opens fully and will welcome up to 20 participants per day.

"There is an intake process," The Helm Executive Director Krista Siddall explained, "rather than just pulling up and dropping people off."

The program's cost is \$79 per day for residents of the City, Farms, Park, Woods and Harper Woods. For Shores residents, who did not pass the senior millage, the cost is \$200 per day.

Interested caregivers should call (313) 882-9600.

More information may be found at helmlife.org/wilson-day-center/.



PHOTOS BY LAUREL KRAUS



Top left, Heidi Uhlig-Johnstone, director of the Wilson Day Center, left, and Krista Siddall, executive director of The Helm, stand in the main gathering space for collaborative games, lunch and exercise. Above, Support and Wellness Specialist Allie Short, the on-site social worker, sits in the center's caregiver resource library nook, which holds a plethora of resources for caregivers in the community. Left, a sitting area alongside St. Clair is a space for participants to sit, read and take a break. The center also hopes to have a gated outdoor seating area with raised gardens, though approval still is needed from the city.

Siblings Clark, Tyler and Grant Vovos explore a front-end wheel loader during last year's inaugural event.



FILE PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Touch a Truck returning

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — After last summer's inaugural event drew nearly 400 people, Touch a Truck returns Sunday, May 17, at Pier Park, 350 Lakeshore — scheduled in that sweet spot before naptime from 10 a.m. to noon.

The free event is open to all of the Grosse Pointes and offers kiddos — and kids at heart — the coveted opportunity to climb inside service vehicles and heavy machinery, along with meeting the men and women who operate them.

"I went through this phase with my son, who's now 11, but he was so obsessed with trucks when he was younger," said Nora Ezop, board member of the Grosse Pointe Farms Foundation, which sponsors Touch a Truck in partnership with Pier Park.

Attendees can expect police cars, a fire truck, garbage trucks, a street sweeper, dump trucks and a Gator truck. Organizers also hope to bring back the Eastern Wayne County Special Response Team's armored vehicle, which was a huge hit last year.

"More vehicles might be added," Parks and Recreation Director Chris Galatis said last week.

An ice cream truck will round out the festivities.

"We're going to be handing out tickets to the children and we'll offer a sweet treat for them," Ezop said. "Parents can purchase additional ice cream at a cost."

Touch a Truck again will be staged in the inner lot at Pier Park. Attendees may park in the north lot.

— Laurel Kraus

CLOSED:

Continued from page 1A

is today. The multitude of investments made in

precision form helped to shift the momentum in a very positive direction that will pay dividends for generations and anyone who owns a home in

the district has a much greater likelihood of a strong return."

Hodges added the foundation helped the city in ways beyond filling vacant houses.

"I know of no other community with such a

significant resource dedicated to protecting its tax base and housing stock," she noted. "The subsidies in and of themselves have great value, let alone the trickle-down impact on the Downtown Development

Authority and Tax Increment Finance Authority. Higher values also improve millage outcomes to other taxing jurisdictions, such as the Grosse Pointe Public School System, and mitigate the need for future tax increases. We are fortunate to have had such a strong partner working on behalf of the community and I salute the foundation for its many contributions."

City Manager Nick Sizeland agreed.

"The Park was facing some real challenges when the foundation started," he said. "There was a lot of uncertainty

and they completely reversed that trajectory. Their impact was measurable for home values and the success of our business districts on Kercheval and Charlevoix."

Its website, now offline, said the Park, "is a wonderful city to live in, with a diverse and thriving population of over 11,000 students, young professionals and families."

The website also touted the Park's proximity to downtown Detroit, Metro airport, Windsor and Ann Arbor, along with details about the city's two municipal parks and city services.

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City ramps up to Light the Night

Inaugural Memorial Day celebration is May 23

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — Opening day of Neff Park’s pool this month will be compounded by a new Memorial Day celebration sure to rival the current lineup of summer events in the Pointes.

Light the Night, a day-long celebration at Neff Park Saturday, May 23, will begin at 8 a.m. with a flag ceremony led by Grosse Pointe Farms Scout Troop 6100 and continue until dusk, when it culminates in a laser light show dedicated to a local Grosse Pointe fallen hero.

Lt. Col. Joseph Trane McCloud — who was born Dec. 14, 1966, and died Dec. 4, 2006 — went to Grosse Pointe South High School, where he played linebacker and made the All-City team in Detroit.

After earning a degree in liberal arts and history from the University of Tennessee, he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in 1989, and served on the USS Missouri during Desert Storm. On the 50th anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbor, McCloud was selected to escort President George H.W. Bush as he led the ceremony — one of his most memorable moments in service.

McCloud died during a mission in the Iraq War at age 39, and is buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

“His mother still lives in Grosse Pointe, so she’s been invited down, along with some of his friends,” Parks and Recreation Coordinator Chad Murphy said. “We’re



COURTESY RENDERING

Lt. Col. Joseph Trane McCloud

going to have a display board telling his story as well.”

The laser light show will serve as a unique alternative to a traditional fireworks show.

“I wanted to do something along the lines of fireworks, but I didn’t want the noise pollution,” Murphy said. “It felt a little bit backwards to be doing a fireworks show for veterans and fallen soldiers, because of how that negatively affects them, so I started looking into other alternatives.”

Continuing with the true meaning of Memorial Day, park staff will line the main walkway with a flag planted for every service member from Grosse Pointe who died in active duty, in addition to pro-

viding a station where attendees can write letters to a hero.

“We’re asking kids, parents, whoever, to write an encouraging letter to a service member,” Murphy said, “and we are working with a nonprofit that will send those out to where they need to go. As a former Coast Guard member, we used to get that kind of mail and it really does help.”

Light the Night also is not without a plethora of additional family-friendly activities.

Little Carpenters Corner features a prefabricated wooden desktop pinball game, which children can build with a hammer and nails.

“It’s a little bit more than a craft,” Murphy said. “It’s a little bit like

IKEA furniture. I had my 5-year-old and my 7-year-old nephew give it a go and they had some success.”

While there will be an instructor to guide the kids, parents are encouraged to assist.

Space is limited to 15 participants per session, so registration is free but required on the city’s parks and recreation portal at secure.recl.com/M1/grosse-pointe-mi/catalog/index.

The two sessions begin at 1:30 and 2:30 p.m.

Throughout the day, marina occupants are invited to decorate their boats with lights for a stationary parade in the evening.

Around 8 p.m., judges will select a winner, who will earn a reserved parking space close to the entrance at Neff for the summer.

Festivities also will include morning mindfulness offerings, a live band, food trucks and play zones.

The full schedule for Light the Night is as follows:

- ◆ 8 a.m., flag ceremony led by Farms Troop 6100;
- ◆ 9 a.m., yoga for 10 and older led by instructor Kim Lewandowski — bring a yoga mat or towel;
- ◆ 9 a.m., yoga for ages 5 to 10, led by a local preschool teacher with Lulu Loves Yoga — bring a mat or towel;
- ◆ 10:30 a.m., Tai Chi for 10 and older;
- ◆ 11:30 a.m., decorate bikes, strollers and scooters;
- ◆ “We will have some material to decorate with,” Murphy said, “but it’s encouraged to bring your own and make it unique.”

- ◆ Noon, Roll and Stroll Parade of Thanks;
- ◆ Noon, slip-and-slide bounce house, toddler bounce house and toddler play zone;
- ◆ Noon to 5 p.m., Kona Ice truck — patron paid;
- ◆ Noon to 3 p.m., Mean Weenie truck — patron paid;
- ◆ Noon to 2 p.m., Grosse Pointe Public Library book cart;
- ◆ 12:30 p.m., YMCA sports zone with inflatable and normal sports equipment and coaches on hand;
- ◆ 12:30 p.m., the diving well opens with an inaugural jump and a moment of silence for Memorial Day;
- ◆ 1 to 4 p.m., Grosse Pointe Zoology;
- ◆ 1 to 5 p.m., free caricature artist;
- ◆ 2 p.m., facepainting;
- ◆ 1:30 and 2:30 p.m., Little Carpenters Corner,

two sessions with 15 spaces each — registration is free but required;

- ◆ 2 to 4 p.m., trackless train offering rides around the park;

- ◆ 3 to 10 p.m., The Magic Box Selfie Station;
- ◆ evening, stationary boat parade;
- ◆ 7 to 10 p.m., band Sean Jovi performs live in the pavilion;
- ◆ dusk, laser light show dedicated to McCloud.

Light the Night is free for City of Grosse Pointe residents and up to two guests per park pass.

“It’s always been thought of more as the start of the summer and the opening of the pool, so we wanted to refocus on what Memorial Day is all about,” Murphy said on the impetus of the event. “And it’s the (U.S.) semiquincentennial, so we thought it might be the perfect time to do it.”

The Week Ahead

MONDAY, MAY 11

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Farms City Council meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Park Beautification Commission poster winner awards, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Park City Council meeting, 7 p.m.

TUESDAY, MAY 12

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Public School System Facilities meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- ◆ Main Street Grosse Pointe Board of Directors meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Citizens’ Recreation Commission meeting, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13

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

THURSDAY, MAY 14

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

FRIDAY, MAY 15

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Senior Citizens’ Ice Cream Social, 1 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Senior Citizens’ Commission meeting, 2:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 16

- ◆ Shred Day, 9 to 11:30 a.m. at Osius Park; for Shores residents.
- ◆ City-Wide Shred Day, 9 a.m. to noon at Patterson Park, for Park residents.

Drug dealer in Woods overdose cases sentenced to prison

By Ted O’Neil
Associate Editor

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — The woman accused of selling deadly doses of fentanyl-laced cocaine to three residents in 2023 was sentenced to 210 months, or 17.5 years, in prison Thursday, April 30, according to a press release from the United States Attorney’s Office for the Eastern District of Michigan.

Aerian Porter-Craig, 34, pleaded guilty last August to two counts of distributing fentanyl and cocaine, each punishable by up to 20 years in prison. In exchange, two counts of distribution of fentanyl and cocaine, punishable by up to life in prison, were dropped.

She was arrested Sept. 11, 2024, on Hollywood Street a few houses into Harper Woods from Grosse Pointe Woods.

The three victims, including two sisters, were found deceased June 10, 2023, just blocks apart. The sisters were eventually identified in the media by their father as Antoinette Calbone, 27, and Angelina Calbone, 23. The male was Michael Artley, 31.

According to a criminal complaint filed by the FBI in federal court before Porter-Craig’s arrest, one of the sisters and the male victim were found dead at a house on Canterbury Street, while the other sister was found a few blocks away at a house on Edmundton

Drive.

The Wayne County Medical Examiner said the two victims on

Canterbury died of fentanyl toxicity, while the

See OVERDOSE, page 5A

FIRE:

Continued from page 1A

didn’t have deodorant. We didn’t have plates. We literally had nothing.

“ ... It’s meant a lot because we’re able to get things now, because the insurance process is arduous and long and uncertain. So it’s been amazingly helpful.”

Though the ordeal also has been overwhelming and at times felt like too much to handle, Dionne said the support has made his family feel fortunate.

“They just showed up in

droves,” he added. “We didn’t ask for help. Everyone just offered and it was truly amazing.”

Including his best friend at work, Officer Paul Reygaert, who showed up to the fire scene with a very pregnant wife at home. She had the baby Thursday.

“The people I work with are way more like family than friends,” Dionne said. “And you don’t realize it as you go on day by day, but when the moment happens that you need those people in your life, they just show up and it’s unbelievable.”

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Detroit City coach finds perfect home with club and community

By Mike Adzima
Staff Writer

Long before he became the head coach of Detroit City FC and a Grosse Pointer, Danny Dichio was like most kids growing up in London, England. He aspired to play for his hometown club, a dream he achieved and kicked off a soccer journey that led him around the world and eventually to the Pointes.

“It’s ingrained in most young boys in England, growing up wanting to play professionally for their local soccer team, and I had the privilege of doing that,” Dichio said. “My mother is English and my dad’s Italian, so soccer culture was huge. My dad was very passionate about the game and I would watch games with him as a youngster and watch the World Cup. Seeing how passionate he was, it was only natural for me to take up the game at a young age. ... Playing at school, playing in the streets, playing at the local park, it was just an everyday part of my life.”

Dichio got to live his dream by beginning his professional career with legendary West London club, Queens Park Rangers. His professional career continued for more than a decade with various teams in the United Kingdom and Italy, but the final stop was the one that helped Dichio set up the next part of his journey.

In 2007, Dichio signed with Toronto FC, which



PHOTOS COURTESY OF JON DEBOER

Danny Dichio greets the Northern Guard Detroit City FC supporters.

was about to begin its first season in Major League Soccer. His name was etched in the club’s history when Dichio scored the first-ever goal for Toronto FC in its home opener, prompting a massive celebration from fans and making Dichio a famous figure in Toronto soccer lore.

“They were newly formed, had a new stadium and were a new club in MLS. It takes a couple of years for a club to really grow and establish itself,” he said. “Going there was a risk, but it was the greatest risk of my life, because it set my family and me up for the rest of our lives. Scoring the first goal, which wasn’t the prettiest goal, but luckily, my foot was on the end of the ball, putting it in the net. ... It was just a huge relief that we scored our first-

ever goal and my name was etched in history. It was a great moment for the club and the city.”

After a few seasons with Toronto, Dichio began the next phase of his soccer life. Coaching was something that intrigued him since he was told he had a knack for mentoring younger players, so Dichio began coaching with the Toronto FC Academy. Eventually he moved to his first United Soccer League Championship coaching role as an assistant with the Sacramento Republic.

A few clubs tried to bring in Dichio as a head coach in 2023. It was the opportunity with Detroit City FC that intrigued him the most, giving him a chance to take over a team on the rise in an area with a growing passion for soccer. Grosse

Pointe became the perfect place to settle down nearby.

“There were three or four clubs that had spoken to me,” Dichio said. “Detroit flew me out and invited me in. ... I was taken in by the downtown area and walking around the city. I got such a good vibe from it. ... Meeting the club and the front office staff cemented my decision.



Danny Dichio was hired by Detroit City FC as the head coach before the 2024 season and settled with his family in Grosse Pointe after taking the position.



“Finding Grosse Pointe and seeing that it was an area where my family and I could settle into and live a good life, there were a lot of boxes being ticked,” he added. “It was an easy decision for me and a decision that I’m glad I made.”

When he is not busy with coaching duties, Dichio often can be spotted around the Pointes. This time of year, he can be found at the baseball fields at Grosse Pointe North High School, where his youngest son, Lorenzo, is a sophomore on North’s varsity team.

Getting to experience being part of the community and things like high school sports games, church events and more is what has made Dichio and his family feel at home right away after coming to the Pointes.

“It’s a fantastic place for us to live and for kids to grow up in,” he said. “Everyone has welcomed us in, especially places like the Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church on Moross. ... It’s all part of a wonderful story of us choosing the right place to live in and be part of the community.”

While Dichio has settled in the Pointes, his team is preparing for a big move. Detroit City FC’s popularity and community support continue to grow each year and have grown enough that the club has begun construction of a new stadium on Detroit’s west side, where it will begin playing as early as next year.

Dichio has helped guide Detroit City to some of its most successful milestones yet, including multiple postseason appearances and a stunning upset of top-seeded Louisville City FC in last year’s U.S. Championship playoffs. He will be at the helm of the team when it moves into its new stadium. It is another major step in the growth Dichio and Detroit City have found together and is a connection that could lead to even bigger and better things.

“It’s a club that really is in touch with its community and its city,” Dichio said. “... You move into a new home, which is fantastic for the city of Detroit and for the club. We want to be competing with the top teams in this league and winning championships and winning cups. This is going to help us in the long run with recruiting players, identifying new talent and being competitive.”

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City of Grosse Pointe

Scam

An elderly resident was scammed into transferring \$1,000 from her PNC account to the perpetrator’s account Friday, April 24.

Nice try

The passenger-side window of a vehicle in the 500 block of Notre Dame was damaged in an unsuccessful attempt to gain entry into the vehicle between 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 28, and 7 a.m. the next morning.

Suspended

A 66-year-old Royal Oak woman was cited for a suspended driver’s license at 1:40 p.m. Wednesday, April 29, after she was pulled over at Waterloo and Lakeland for an expired license plate.

Graham crackers

A 35-year-old Detroit woman was pulled over for stealing a box of graham crackers from a store in The Village Wednesday, April 29, at which point the goods were promptly returned. The woman was cited for not having a driver’s license with her.

Bike stolen

A dark green Giant mountain bike was stolen from the 17000 block of Waterloo between 7 and 8 a.m. Thursday, April 30.

Unlocked cars

In the 800 block of Fisher, \$15 was stolen from an unlocked Jeep Cherokee and miscellaneous change was stolen from an unlocked Buick Enclave overnight into Saturday, May 2.

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

Grosse Pointe Farms

Unlocked

Gift cards worth hundreds of dollars were stolen from an unlocked vehicle in the 200 block of Hillcrest between 8 p.m. Sunday, April 19, and 6:30 a.m. the next morning.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Ecstasy

A 36-year-old Detroit man was arrested for possession of ecstasy at 6:03 p.m. Wednesday, April 29, after officers approached him while he was parked at a Mack gas station because he was driving a vehicle similar to one used in a Harper Woods shooting earlier in the day.

Going nowhere fast

A 28-year-old Detroit woman said she had been drinking at a fraternity party and was driving fast because she was lost, when she was pulled over for speeding 50 mph on Moross at 12:08 a.m. Saturday, May 2. A preliminary breath test showed her blood alcohol content to be 0.149 percent, for which she was arrested.

Wallet stolen

A wallet was stolen out of a vehicle on Waverly between Thursday, April 30, and Saturday, May 2.

Unlocked

A baseball bag was discovered in a front yard after it was stolen from an unlocked vehicle in the 200 block of Mt. Vernon between 3 p.m. Friday, May 1, and 10 a.m. the next morning.

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

Grosse Pointe Park

Phone fraud

A female resident reported last week being targeted by phone scammers. “(She) received a call from someone claiming to be with American Express, stating that a fraudulent account had been opened in her name,” according to Park police. “She was directed to an online application to speak with an individual posing as New York police and provided her driver’s license informa-

tion. She later contacted American Express directly and learned the call was fraudulent.”

K-9 tracks crook

A moocher wouldn’t take no for an answer last week at a business on Kercheval.

At 6:42 p.m. Tuesday, April 28, an employee of the business was preparing to close for the day when the suspect, later identified as a 29-year-old man, entered and asked to borrow money. Told no, he snatched an estimated \$350 cash from the till and ran away.

“The (business) owner chased him to a nearby (Park) residence,” police said. “Michigan State Police K-9 (unit) responded, assisting Park officers for a track. The suspect was located and taken into custody.” The suspect is a suspected itinerant drug user, according to police, but had access to the Park dwelling. He was charged with larceny.

Car break-ins

Four suspected larcenists fled police during darkened hours Friday, May 1.

A patrol officer, investigating a report in the 800 block of Beaconsfield of a suspicious vehicle being operated with its light out, found two unknown persons standing beside a silver Ford Edge occupied by two additional persons, all believed to be male.

“Officers attempted to stop the Edge with lights and siren,” police said. “The vehicle fled, leaving westbound Jefferson at Alter.”

Follow-up investigation found break-ins of

three parked vehicles.

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

Grosse Pointe Shores

Nothing to report per dispatch.

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

Grosse Pointe Woods

Bank fraud

A resident in the 600 block of Briarcliff reported around 5 p.m. Thursday, April 30, that she had been defrauded by scammers out of \$19,000 that day.

She received a call from someone using the name “Brian Smith” who claimed to be from her bank’s fraud department. She was transferred to someone claiming to be “David Conner,” then was sent an email she believed came from the FBI.

She was instructed to wire \$10,000 to another bank in Miami, then contacted with claims of another attempted charge on her account.

She was told to withdraw \$9,000 in cash for evidence and put it in a plain box that would be picked up by a courier. She finally called her bank in an attempt to stop the wire transfer, but was unsuccessful.

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



PHOTO BY LAUREL KRAUS

Artsy arch

Staff Writer Laurel Kraus stopped in her tracks to photograph this massive rainbow outside city hall following storms that swept the area during the City of Grosse Pointe City Council meeting Monday night.

OVERDOSE:

Continued from page 3A

one found on Edmundton died of fentanyl and xylazine toxicity. Xylazine is an animal tranquilizer.

The FBI examined the cell phones of Porter-Craig and the victims during its investigation. The complaint says the FBI believes the victims died late the night of Friday, June 9, 2023, within minutes of ingesting the drugs.

“Text message conversations show that AV-1, AV-2, AV-3 and another friend had planned to go out to a music show that night at a venue in Detroit but never made it,” the complaint said. “Outgoing communications on each of the victims’ phones abruptly stopped sometime after 11 p.m. on June 9, 2023, shortly after Porter-Craig had been to each residence.”

The FBI also said conversations showed one of the sisters had purchased drugs from the suspect almost two dozen times between June 2022 and June 2023 and paid \$1,405 for them via Venmo prior to the night of the overdoses.

The FBI said Porter-Craig texted the male vic-

tim and the sister found on Edmundton in the early morning hours of June 10, 2023, asking if they were OK after another customer contacted her at 12:30 a.m. that day, saying he used a test strip on cocaine she sold him that showed the presence of fentanyl.

“Anyone who profits from pushing deadly drugs like fentanyl into our Michigan communities should expect to spend years in federal prison. This sentence makes that message unmistakably clear,” said Jennifer Runyan, special agent in charge of the FBI Detroit Field Office. “While no sentence can bring back the lives lost due to this defendant’s criminal actions, this outcome delivers justice.”

Runyan added she was grateful to the Detroit FBI agents and the Grosse Pointe Woods Public Safety Department.

“Today’s sentence of Aerial Porter-Craig shows the justice system holds people accountable for their actions,” said Woods Public Safety Director John Kosanke. “A person who chose to profit from others’ addiction will now answer to the system that protects the innocent.”



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POINTES OF VIEW

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Grosse Pointe News

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

SEAN COTTON: Owner

ANNE GRYZENIA: Publisher

JODY McVEIGH: Editor in Chief

OUR VIEW

Honoring the honorable

National Police Week this year starts Monday, May 11, and runs through Sunday, May 17. It began in 1962, when President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation designating May 15 each year as Peace Officers Memorial Day to pay homage to those who lost their lives in the line of duty. The week in which that date falls is National Law Enforcement Appreciation Week. And we certainly have a lot to be appreciative of.

Here is a look at our local officers who have been honored for their outstanding achievements over the past year.

Grosse Pointe Woods

Detective Miles Adams and Lt. Detective Bureau Commander Keith Waszak were honored as Officer of the Year and Supervisor of the Year, respectively. Both also received department commendations for their work on what Public Safety Director John Kosanke termed the “obit bandit.”

That involved a Detroit man using obituary and estate sale notices to break into homes of the deceased while their funerals were being held.

“When it first happened, I met with the detectives and they were infuriated that someone would do that while those family members were grieving,” Kosanke said. “They put together a plan to catch the guy and they did within three weeks.”

Adams also was involved, along with the FBI, in arresting a Harper Woods resident who sold drugs laced with fentanyl that killed three residents — including two sisters — in June 2023 (see story, page 3A).

Grosse Pointe Park

“He’s always ready to go and willing to take on an assignment,” said Public Safety Director Jim Bostock about PSO Jason Lockwood, who was named Officer of the Year.

“To be considered for this award, several criteria are considered,” Bostock said. “Overall, the officer earning this award represents the spirit and embodies the values and commitment of the Grosse Pointe Park Public Safety Department.”

Lt. Colin Connaire was named Supervisor of the Year.

“Colin is a steady, trusted leader,” Bostock said. “On every type of run — criminal investigations, mental-health runs and community-service events — he is someone our employees can turn to for support and his ability to listen and guide others has a direct impact on morale. His shift truly begins and ends with him; first to arrive and last to leave. One of his finest abilities is his availability.”

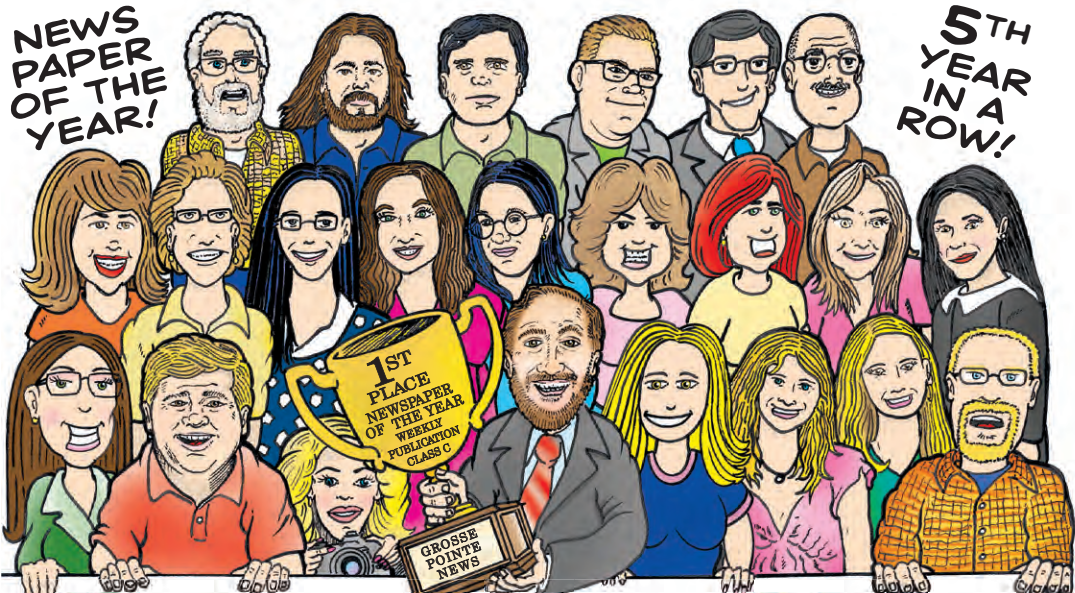
PSO Jesse Lafriniere and dispatcher Rachel Young received life-saving awards for their actions in helping a young boy who was choking on a grape.

“All too often, the term ‘hero’ is used open-handedly,” Bostock said. “Tonight, that word holds special meaning. Not just for two members of the department, but for the Shiftan family and their son, Sam.”

Grosse Pointe Shores

Officer Billy Howe III received the Director’s Award.

“This is given to the officer who consistently



Grosse Pointe News

ILLUSTRATION BY KEN SCHOP

exceeds the job description and performs at a level not bound by what is expected, but is required for the efficient operation of the department,” Public Safety Director Ken Werenski said. “Officer Howe is an asset to the department and has performed his duties in an exemplary manner.”

Two groups of officers received unit commendations for their work on two house fires last year.

Lt. Ron Coste, Lt. Ryan Wilson and officers Jason Rengert, Paul Morang and Howe received their commendation for work on an August house fire on Lakeshore.

“The success of extinguishing any fire starts with good leadership,” Werenski said. “Lt. Coste and his 25 years of experience initiated a plan that involved attacking the fire before it could spread further.”

Sgt. Jason Cook, Sgt. Jeff Roybal and officers Celeste Harrington, Derek Wood and Howe received theirs for a March fire on Sunningdale.

“Sgt. Cook used his 15 years of firefighting experience and training and attacked this fire,” Werenski noted. “These firefighters took Sgt. Cook’s orders and implemented the plan as they were trained to do.”

City of Grosse Pointe

Sgt. Joshua Ina was recognized as the 2025 Officer of the Year.

“The award is not based on one moment, one call or one incident,” Public Safety Director John Alcorn said. “It reflects something far more meaningful — years of consistent, dependable and professional service to this community and to this department.”

Officer Jacob Gentile earned the Mothers Against Drunk Driving Award for the second year in a row. It is granted to the officer with the most operating while intoxicated arrests in the city each year. Gentile earned an additional citation for successfully deploying stopsticks to prevent a fleeing vehicle when masked people breaking into a car were reported in the Shores.

Officer Randy Perry received a life-saving award for resuscitating the suspect in a hit-and-run incident in Grosse Pointe Park in November.

Ina, Sgt. Justin Strohmeyer, Lt. Chris Saunders and officers Andre Jones, Jarod Jones, Jacob Carpenter, Kenneth Ayres and Austin Giarmo earned a unit citation for their work on a house fire.

“We had defensive tactics training that day, so the department was full with off-duty staff there for training and they all responded to that fire,” Alcorn said. “So we had a great response that day and they knocked it out and made a great save on the house.”

Jones, Giarmo, Officer Mark Dombrowski

and Sgt. Michael Herrgott also earned a unit citation for the second of two significant house fires that occurred in the city last year.

“When our officers made entry, the resident and the dog were still inside the home, so they were able to guide her out safely,” Alcorn said.

Grosse Pointe Farms

Lt. Veronica Cashion was named Public Safety Employee of the Year.

“We’ve seen a lot of this particular officer in the last few years, deservingly so, for various reasons,” Public Safety Director John Hutchins said, referencing previous accolades in the line of duty. “Lt. Veronica Cashion is recognized for her outstanding dedication, leadership and perseverance in service to the Grosse Pointe Farms Department of Public Safety.”

Shores resident Megan Beskange received a community service award for calling 911 and remaining on the scene when she saw a vehicle drive into Lake St. Clair last August. She was able to provide direction, enabling officers to quickly spot the victim, who was floating face down in the water 50 yards from the vehicle, which was resting nose-first in the lake.

Lt. Wes Kipke, Sgt. Will Madsen and Officer Jon Ross leapt into Lake St. Clair, reaching the woman within four minutes of the initial 911 call. Though she was not breathing and had no pulse when they reached shore, Detective Lt. Antonino Trupiano and Sgt. Derek Lazarski performed CPR until she suddenly regained consciousness.

Also credited for their roles in the successful rescue are Officer Joe Maurer — who initially jumped into the lake to check the car before the woman was spotted — Deputy Director Andy Rogers, Detective Roger Wierszewski, Detective Keith Colombo, officers Jason Newberg, Jim LaBeau, Lila Ostrowski, Jack Maxwell and fire specialists Larry Stocking and Ray Krause.

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

We should also mention that National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week was marked last month in honor of 911 dispatchers, often called the “first” first responders. Congratulations as well to all of the officers who retired, were promoted or joined one of our five public safety departments. Many, many thanks.

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GROSSE POINTE 7-DAY
WEATHER FORECAST

May 7 – 13



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56° 41°	60° 45°	67° 47°	60° 44°	57° 41°	59° 54°	65° 50°
Mostly Cloudy	Chance of Rain	Chance T-Storms	Rain Showers	Mostly Cloudy	Chance of Rain	Cloudy
0%	40%	30%	30%	20%	20%	20%
SUNRISE 6:19 am SUNSET 8:38 pm	SUNRISE 6:18 am SUNSET 8:39 pm	SUNRISE 6:17 am SUNSET 8:40 pm	SUNRISE 6:15 am SUNSET 8:41 pm	SUNRISE 6:14 am SUNSET 8:43 pm	SUNRISE 6:13 am SUNSET 8:44 pm	SUNRISE 6:12 am SUNSET 8:45 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 Renee Landuyt



Animal communication and fun, odd facts

below a human ear’s detection, but elephants more than two miles away can hear and feel them. Elephants have sensitive cells in their feet and trunks and can feel these vibrations to interpret messages. The low frequency can travel through the air over long distances and be used to signal for help or coordinate herd movements. They also can use this low frequency to detect thunderstorms and water as far as 100 miles away. It can be used to warn others of predators and they also have a specific alarm call that means “human,” which is the scariest of all predators. Some of the communication methods animals use are vocalization; visual displays like a dog wagging its tail or a peacock fanning its feathers; and tactile communication (touch) like a cat rubbing against an object or person, using scent and pheromones to mark territory, identify individuals or leave a trail. Sound is a strong tool

I enjoy doing research, although it doesn’t always end at the one thing I was researching. Once I begin looking, the internet offers more information, then offers a different way to ask a question, then shows other questions on similar topics and the next thing I know, I have found lots of information about many other things. Originally, I was thinking about how humans aren’t very good at communicating so I looked up how animals communicate and found that animals communicate in such a clear way that other animals know what they’re saying. Animal communication is straightforward. For instance, over long distances, elephants use infrasounds, low-frequency deep-throated rumbles

animals use, from a tiny mewling or chirp to a loud roar, which help them attract a mate or warn of danger or help a group stay together. Horses use 17 different documented facial expressions to communicate to each other. That’s amazing. I would like to see these expressions. I wonder if they have an eye roll. Some animals use dancing, like bees wagging in their hives to inform other bees of important food sources or a peacock spider drumming out a beat with its legs in hopes of impressing another and, if it works, the female will dance in return. A great example is the male bird-of-paradise — the six-plumed bird, not the plant — where a male will tidy up his home making it more presentable, then perform an intricate courtship display bobbing his head and showing off his colorful feathers. Prairie dogs have different “words” they shout to ID the type of predator approaching, including a

sound that means humans are coming. I bet that word sounds like “run” or “hide.” Did you know sound travels up to five times faster through water than air? That’s why dolphins rely on sound communication more than any other form. All dolphins have the ability to use echolocation, which acts as sight underwater or in the dark, allowing them to avoid obstacles and navigate. Echolocation, a biological sonar system, is used mostly by dolphins, whales and bats. I was talking recently with a friend about some of the names groups of animals are called, so of course I had to look up what other names there were and found some fun ones. For instance, a group of anacondas is called a bed. A group of sloths also is called a bed. That might be cuddlier. Based on old folklore and superstitions, a group of crows is called a murder — more accurately, in scientific context, a flock or mob — but they are actually very social

and caring birds and among the smartest animals on the planet. There is a congregation of alligators and a bask of crocodiles, a mob of kangaroos, a romp of otters, a tribe of goats, a parliament of owls, a tower of giraffes, a leap of leopards and a gang of elk. And poetically, a group of butterflies is called a kaleidoscope and hummingbirds are called a charm. There are animal groupings like a convocation of eagles, a shiver of sharks — that is certainly how you’d feel if one swam by you — a prickle of porcupines, a pandemonium of parrots and a cackle of hyenas. Cackle. That sounds about right. Other animal groups, or collectives, are a wisdom of wombats, an ambush of tigers, a scurry of squirrels and an unkindness of ravens, called that because of folklore and superstitions. Then there are amazing facts about animals, such as an octopus has three hearts. They feel physical

and emotional pain, so stop using them in hockey. It’s cruel. Polar bears have black skin to help them absorb the heat from the sun; butterflies can taste with their feet; honeybees flap their wings 200 times a second and reindeer eyeballs turn blue in the winter to help them see when the light levels are lower. An immortal jellyfish is a tiny jellyfish species, which, when faced with a threat, can reset their cells to an earlier stage of life thus reverting to a younger state, theoretically cheating death indefinitely. Wow. Sea lions are the only non-mammal that can keep a beat. Bats save the U.S. economy billions each year by eating insects and pests that harm agriculture. Everyone should have a bat house in their yard. They eat lots of mosquitoes, too. I came away from all of this fun research having learned a lot, which only reinforced what I’ve always known: Nature is so amazing.

YESTERDAY’S HEADLINES

1951
75 years ago this week

PARK MAYOR TRAPS PAIR OF BURGLARS: Two young burglars who “cased” their would-be victims through the society pages of Detroit newspapers pleaded guilty to breaking and entering the home of Homer Fritsch, mayor of Grosse Pointe Park. The youths were surprised in the Fritsch home Saturday night by Park police. One of them told police that he learned from a society note that Mr. and Mrs. Fritsch would be attending a wedding reception at the Detroit Athletic Club Saturday.

1976
50 years ago this week

MILLAGE PROPOSALS SET: Voters will be asked to decide on a 2.2 school and 0.11 library millage increase in the second round of school

elections June 14. Both additional millage proposals are for one-year terms. In addition, on two separate ballots, will be four-year propositions for 24.35 school and 1.31 library millage renewals. The Board of Education decided to reduce its requests for additional mills after Pointe voters rejected a combined four-year package for 27.1 school (including 2.75 additional) and 1.45 library (1.31 additional) millage proposals March 29. **SOUTH HIGH SPORTS NEW LANDSCAPE:** Capping off a half decade of renovation of the aging landmark, South High School’s outside face-lift was completed this week with the dedication and planting of the last of dozens of flowering trees to brighten up the school’s Fisher Road entrance. The trees, along with about 50 shrubs, new walkways and sitting areas, were all part of a “Plant Pride at South High” campaign led by Grosse Pointe’s Garden Club Council.

2001
25 years ago this week

SHORES REJECTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY FUNDING REQUEST: The Grosse Pointe Shores village board of trustees, while praising the job done by the Grosse Pointe Historical Society, turned down a request to donate \$5,000 to the organization. Trustee Brian Hunt questioned society representatives Mryna Smith and Lisa Gandelot as to why the group asked for \$5,000 from each of the Pointe communities. Hunt also asked some questions about the society’s balance sheet — what its assets are against what its debts and obligations are. **CITY VOTERS APPROVE \$2.6M PARK BOND BY 4-1 MARGIN:** City of Grosse Pointe voters, by a margin of 819-189, approved the sale of \$2.6 million in bonds for the purpose of upgrading and improving Neff Park. The vote was the culmination of over a year’s work by the City’s council and a special park committee. The money will be used to build a new pool and bathhouse. **ST. PAUL SCHOOL**

KICKS OFF 75-YEAR CELEBRATION: What started out as a concept for a neighborhood parochial school in the 1920s still thrives today as the school that attracts students from the metropolitan Detroit east side looking for a strong faith- and academic-based learning environment. St. Paul School is celebrating its history, evolution and future with a year-long 75-year celebration which began

April 24.
2016
10 years ago this week

SURVEY SAYS: GO DIGITAL: Most residents responding to a citizen satisfaction survey admit to being wired. They use e-mail or other forms of social media and wish the city did, too. Some 81 percent of

Grosse Pointe Shores residents answering the survey want municipal officials to produce a monthly e-mail newsletter. **NEW PRINCIPAL NAMED AT MASON:** Mason Elementary School will officially welcome Roy Bishop Jr. as its new principal July 1. Bishop replaces Elaine Middlekauff, who is retiring after 19 years of service to the Mason community.

The Corewell Health Beaumont Grosse Pointe Hospital Vein Center: A Regional Resource for Comprehensive Venous Care



By Paul Gryzenia, M.D.

The Corewell Health Beaumont Grosse Pointe Hospital Vein Center, located in Grosse Pointe Farms, is the only dedicated vein center within Corewell Health, serving as a regional destination for comprehensive venous care. The center provides specialized evaluation and treatment across the full spectrum of venous disease, offering coordinated, patient-centered care for a condition that is both common and often underrecognized.

Chronic venous disease of the lower extremities is highly prevalent, affecting up to one in three adults. Despite its frequency, the condition is often underrecognized and progressive, allowing symptoms to worsen over time if left untreated. Early signs may include leg heaviness, pain, or swelling, but as the disease advances, patients can develop skin changes, discoloration, and venous stasis ulcers—significantly affecting quality of life and mobility.

Beyond patient symptoms, venous disease contributes to increased healthcare use, chronic wound care needs, and longterm functional impairment. Importantly, venous disease is treatable, and early recognition with timely referral can improve symptoms, slow disease progression, and help prevent serious complications.

Care at the Corewell Health Beaumont Grosse Pointe Hospital Vein Center is provided by board-certified physicians who specialize in endovascular care and have extensive experience treating venous disease. The center offers minimally invasive, ultrasound-guided procedures that are most often performed on an outpatient basis and typically completed in under an hour, allowing patients to return home the same day. When medically indicated, these treatments are usually covered by insurance.

As a central referral resource for the region, the Corewell Health Beaumont Grosse Pointe Hospital Vein Center combines advanced treatment options with clinical expertise, serving as a regional center of excellence dedicated to improving outcomes for patients with venous disease.

Dr. Gryzenia is a board-certified interventional radiologist and serves as Chief of Radiology at Corewell Health Beaumont Grosse Pointe Hospital. He practices at both the hospital and the Corewell Health Beaumont Grosse Pointe Hospital Vein Center, 87 Kercheval Ave., Grosse Pointe Farms. Appointments can be scheduled by calling (313) 473-2801. A physician referral is not required unless specified by your insurance carrier.



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Lock 'em up or get locked up

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

THE GROSSE POINTES — Gun-owning parents and child caregivers have a choice. They can lock up their unattended firearms or risk being locked up themselves.

“This is an issue very dear to my heart,” said Kym Worthy, Wayne County prosecutor. “Children have a magnetic attraction to guns for some reason. They always want to pick them up. They always want to play with it. They always want to shoot it.”

Worthy launched a public awareness campaign this week to curb child injuries and deaths linked to unsafe firearm storage.

She has the law on her side.

“The law mandates that unattended firearms must be locked up in a container or rendered inoperable with a locking device if a minor is likely to be present,” Worthy said.

The legislation dates to 2024.

“If you have a child, any guns in the house have to be locked up or the person can be criminally charged with not having the guns in a safe lockbox,” Park Detective Ryan Willmer said.

For at least five years Park police have given free gun locks to the public.

“They’re at the dispatch,” Willmer said.

Being convicted of breaking Michigan’s gun safety law risks being

incarcerated for 93 days to 15 years and penalties of \$500 to \$10,000.

“We haven’t had any charges yet, which is a good thing,” Willmer said.

Yet, statewide and nationally, firearms are the main cause of death for children, according to Worthy, citing statistics from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

Among Wayne County child gun-related injuries and deaths since 2021, Worthy highlighted a 5-year-old killed by a sibling playing with a father’s guns, a self-inflicted shot from a mother’s weapon and, this year, a child shot and killed by a sibling using a mom’s unsecured gun.

Most unlocked firearms were accessed from a nightstand or other sleeping area, according to Worthy.

“These deaths are completely, totally and absolutely preventable,” Worthy said. “A child is just as dead if killed from unsafe storage (or) a drive-by shooting. This is a critically important issue.”

“Responsible gun ownership includes responsible gun storage,” Detroit Mayor Mary Sheffield said. “Too often we hear or read of a heart-wrenching situation of a child that gains access to an unsecured firearm leading them to injury, trauma or even loss of life.”

“The answer’s simple: Safely store your weapon,” Worthy said.



The dawn redwood tree dedicated to late resident Michael Bernard is encompassed by his family, friends and city officials Friday, April 24, at Neff Park.

PHOTOS BY
LAUREL KRAUS

Michael Bernard honored with tree planting at Neff Park

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — For the last 36 years, the City of Grosse Pointe has planted a tree on Arbor Day as part of its Tree City USA certification.

Some years the tree is dedicated for an additional meaning or used as an educational opportunity for Maire Elementary School students.

This year, the selected dawn redwood was prominently planted at Neff Park in remembrance of and to honor late resident Michael Bernard. He died unexpectedly in February and left behind a legacy of giving back to the community and touching countless lives throughout the Pointes.

“This tree is a signature tree,” City Manager Joe Valentine said. “It’s a dawn redwood, which will grow to a significant

height and really cast a great shadow in this park, providing shade for everybody to enjoy this park.

“People who knew Mike knew he had strong roots in this community and this tree will continue to let those roots grow for many, many years, so we’re honored to be able to recognize Mike with this tree.”

The tree planting was attended by numerous members of Bernard’s family, who fondly remember many a family picnic with him at Neff Park.

His sons were on the Norbs swim team and served as lifeguards. Adding to the family’s ties to the park, Bernard’s oldest son, Jack, met his wife, Kendall, at Neff Park while they were both lifeguards.

“We appreciate the contributions Mike has



The dawn redwood — a fast-growing tree that can reach over 100 feet in height — was planted at Neff Park on Arbor Day, Friday, April 24.

made in this community able to recognize him for well over 30 years,” today.”

Valentine said, “and we’re really glad to be

— Laurel Kraus

Demolition of Pier Park pool moves forward under recent contract

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — Construction of the new Pier Park pool complex is solidly underway, with demolition of the pool scheduled to begin this week.

The former bathhouse also has been demolished and crews are installing the footings for the new bathhouse.

In addition, all of the old pool equipment has been removed from the former mechanical building, which will be converted into the lifeguard office.

“Construction of the new pool is scheduled to start in June,” City Manager Shane Reeside added.

With the project moving forward as scheduled, city council in April approved the final bid award to fall under the project’s scope, enabling the current demolition.

Contracts approved in prior months spanned construction of the pools and, separately, of the bathhouse. In

April, DSP Constructors out of Novi was awarded a contract for the site work involved in the project.

“The site work is substantial,” Reeside noted, before council approved a bid award not to exceed \$3,328,243.

Work within the contract included the demolition of the existing pool and pool deck, excavation of the area for the new pool, shoring up the size of the pool and dewatering during construction.

It further included the foundation work for the new mechanical building, which also will house the wet well for the pool filtration, as well as the utility site work, water and sanitary, the new pool decking and walkways and, ultimately, the site fencing that will surround the pool facility.

— Laurel Kraus



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COURTESY PHOTO

GPPSS teachers recognized

The Grosse Pointe Education Association Teachers of the Year were honored at the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education meeting Monday, April 27, ahead of Teacher Appreciation Week.

They are, alphabetically by building: Kelly Martz, Barnes Early Childhood Center; Bonnie Berschback-Moyer, Brownell Middle School; Sarah Hartley, Defer Elementary School; Mary Beth Coffey, Ferry Elementary School; Gigi Murray, Kerby Elementary School; Taylor Peters, Maire Elementary School; Margarette Scheich, Mason Elementary School; Christina Peklo, Monteith Elementary School; Colleen Byrn, Grosse Pointe North High School; Rachel Butler, Parcels Middle School; Carrie Morris, Pierce Middle School; Paige Davey, Richard Elementary School and Sandy McCue, Grosse Pointe South High School.

Pointer receives WSU alumni achievement award

City of Grosse Pointe resident Jessica Muzik recently received the outstanding alumni award from the Wayne State University Public Relations Society of America chapter and the school’s Department of Communications.

“As a two-time graduate of Wayne State University, as well as a former adjunct professor, it’s an honor to be recognized by the university that helped shape me and provide so many opportunities,” Muzik said in a news release. “For three decades, I’ve supported students, new professionals and clients and this award is a meaningful acknowledgment of that commitment and impact.”

With 30 years of integrated communications experience, Muzik currently oversees and is actively involved in strategy, planning and execution for several clients as an independent contractor for Franco.

Muzik joined Bianchi PR, which Franco acquired in 2025, as an account

coordinator in June 1996, after having served as an intern with the firm. With a number of promotions over the years, she was named vice president for account services in 2007 and has managed several award-winning media relations campaigns throughout her career.

While at Bianchi PR, Muzik also served as an adjunct professor at WSU, where she taught undergraduate and graduate-level courses in new media and strategic communications, as well as public relations writing.

Muzik earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in public relations and a master’s degree in organizational communications and public relations from WSU.

Accredited in public relations by the Public Relations Society of America, Muzik has been actively involved in the Detroit chapter of PRSA and served on the organization’s board of directors. She also is a member of the Automotive Press Association.



COURTESY PHOTO

South unveils MLK chair display

The Grosse Pointe South High School Class of 2026 presented its class gift Thursday, April 30, toward the end of the school day. The chair Martin Luther King Jr. sat in the night of March 14, 1968, when he delivered his speech “The Other America” at the school is now in a display case in the main hallway with the text of the speech covering the walls behind it. The chair had been kept in the principal’s office for decades, but the 2026 class officers and administration wanted to make the history of that event more accessible to students. In the lower left corner is a reproduction of the article the Grosse Pointe News published about King’s visit.

SPARKS:

Continued from page 1A

pital, later letting the administration know she preferred to receive her per diem the rest of the year. That came to \$1,020 for 34 meetings.

Ismail asked to be compensated for meetings dating back to 2021.

“When I learned it had never been distributed, I decided to have them send me the check and I can send the money where I want,” he said. “We can only get paid for a maximum of 52 meetings, but in 2023, for example, I had 70 meetings. I was probably making about \$2 an hour.”

Former board member Terry Collins said he also planned to inquire about his per diem, which he

directed to the South girls swimming program in which his daughter participated.

After Worden’s comment, President Clint Derringer asked Tuttle, “Were you here in 2024?”

“I came in February,” she responded.

“So that was under your watch,” Derringer said.

“So once again you’re questioning my integrity, President Derringer,” Tuttle shot back.

She was referring to a 2025 board meeting during which she felt Derringer implied information about the district’s food service contract had been withheld to possibly influence the 2024 board election.

“I have not done anything deceitful, as you have suggested,” Tuttle

continued. “I was only trying to clear the problem because we clearly have not done what we said we were going to do, even before I was here.”

Tuttle suggested board members receive their per diem so they can do with it as they please, calling the current system “convoluted.”

“Whether you like me or not is your choice,” Tuttle said. “But to question my integrity, I have been nothing but ethical and followed the rules of integrity my entire career. I find it offensive and poor leadership and I wish you would stop.”

Derringer, during closing comments, told Tuttle, “I’m sorry that what I said was offensive.”

Tuttle replied, “Your apology is not accepted. Please move on.”

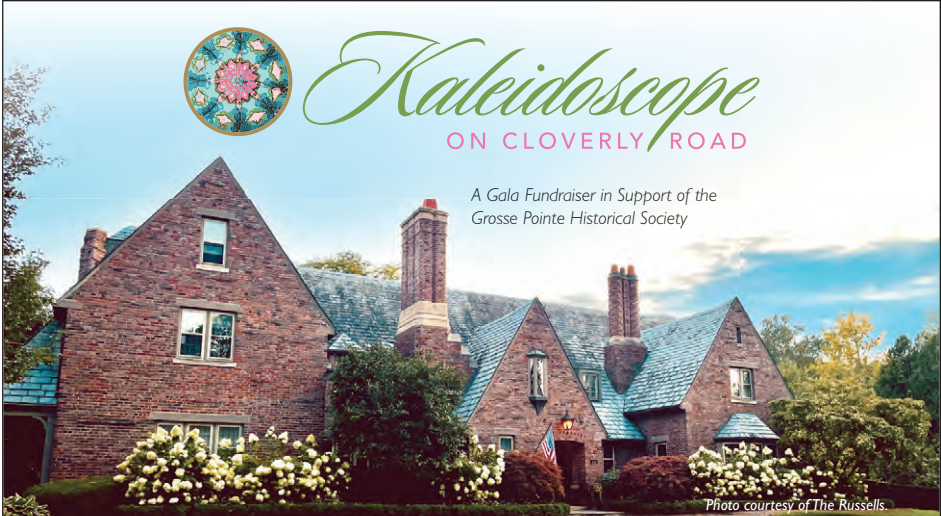
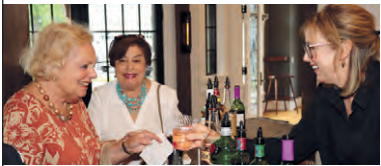


Photo courtesy of The Russells

Friday, June 19, 2026 • 6:00 - 10:00 p.m.

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Pregnancy Aid Detroit opens second location on Mack

Open house is May 11

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

DETROIT — Pregnancy Aid Detroit started 50 years ago out of St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church.

“Three women, all named Joan, said, ‘We got to help the ladies. Women who are struggling with their pregnancies and need support from the community, and we just don’t see it, so let’s be that for them,’” Executive Director and Grosse Pointer Nancy Anter said. “So we have a lot of support on the east side, but real heavy in Grosse Pointe, both financially and for volunteers and other support. We’re blessed for that.”

The nonprofit — physically based on 8 Mile in Eastpointe — opened its second location at 17415 Mack shortly after Easter, furthering its mission of supporting mothers from early pregnancy until the baby turns 1.

“Every woman who’s pregnant should enjoy that moment and just tra-

ditionally have other women around them to support them while they’re pregnant,” Anter said. “Anyone who thinks she might need some support, materially, emotionally, spiritually.

“We know the more you interact with a mom, the more she can reach out to her community, the better the health outcome is for the baby and for the mom, so we’re excited to be a part of that.”

Services start with free pregnancy tests for any woman who thinks she may be pregnant. If positive, she then can get a free ultrasound.

“We tell gestational age, we give the heartbeat and we can give verification of pregnancy, which is important for moms, for their health insurance, for WIC (Women, Infants and Children), for their jobs,” Anter said.

The nonprofit has a WIC program representative to help through the process, aids women in getting health insurance through Medicaid or can coach through the pro-



PHOTO BY LAUREL KRAUS

Pregnancy Aid Detroit’s second location at 17415 Mack is now open by appointment only.

cess of getting prenatal care without insurance.

It also has a professional counselor on retainer the expecting mom can contact through phone, text, Zoom or visit — in addition to mom volunteers who will sit and talk with the mother about what to expect, what is normal and share in the joys and hardships she is experiencing.

“Because all of us get it,” Anter said. “We’re all vulnerable to all kinds of emotions and physical things and relationship

issues and good and bad. So the more of us that come together, the stronger we’ll be as a community.

“Sometimes you get to your second trimester and you’re like, ‘Is this normal?’ Even if it’s not your first baby. So we are there to help them culturally as moms and as peers.”

Pregnancy Aid also has group classes, educational offerings, incentives, maternity clothes and other maternity accessories like pregnancy belts.

All services — which currently are by appointment only at the Mack location — are free to the expectant mother.

In 2025, Pregnancy Aid Detroit counted:

- ◆ 778 moms served,
- ◆ 252 free pregnancy tests,
- ◆ 213 free ultrasounds
- ◆ and 10,700 mom/baby items given, including 898 packs of diapers and 606 cans of formula.

The nonprofit is run solely through donations and community support.

To make a donation or for corporate contributions, visit pregnancyaiddetroit.org/support.

“We’re always looking for gently used or new maternity clothes,” said Anter of other ways to get involved. “And we take volunteers who are moms and want to sit with other moms and talk about whatever’s going on with them. Anybody can volunteer as long as they have a heart for the mission.”

The center also currently is in need of new baby bottles, baby wipes, new baby socks, diapers of all sizes, 6 to 9 month clothing for both genders, maternity bands and nursing bras.

To make a material donation, call ahead to (313) 882-1000.

The new Mack Avenue location also is seeking an ultrasound technician.

Open house

The community is invited to an open house for the new location at 17415 Mack from 4 to 7

p.m. Monday, May 11.

The festivities will include light refreshments, the chance to explore volunteer opportunities, blessings by the Revs. Robert Voiland of St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church and Matt Swiatek of Crossepointe Christian Church and tours of the space, which was renovated by volunteers and estate sale bargain finds.

“We had a professional painter who would work all day and come and then paint for free,” Anter said. “We had an engineer with a day job who would come and work until 8 or 9 at night at Pregnancy Aid. Thank God for volunteers.”

Prior to 2020, Pregnancy Aid Detroit was located within another Mack Avenue building nearby, but it couldn’t keep its lease as a result of COVID. The board led a capital campaign to purchase the building on 8 Mile and have now purchased the second, smaller building on Mack.

Baby cruise

The 2026 Cruise for Life — an annual Pregnancy Aid Detroit fundraiser — takes place 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Friday, June 27.

The cruise on the Detroit River with the Diamond Jack Riverboat Cruise Co. features dinner, dessert and a popular candy bar.

There also will be a cash bar, 50/50 raffle and raffles for a \$500 Visa card and a MacBook Neo.

Tickets may be purchased for \$65 at pregnancyaiddetroit.org/cruise.

Sales are capped at 125 tickets.

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Problems solved
Parenting app entertains while
building skills in young children

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Returning to Grosse Pointe from Silicon Valley after their first son was born seemed a natural move for Laura and Andrew Cavanagh. The couple met while attending Grosse Pointe South High School and enjoyed the warmth and support of the close-knit community during their own youth.

“My husband and I worked in tech for 15 years,” Laura Cavanagh said. “We had our first child in California. It wasn’t the childhood I wanted for him.”

However, even after the Cavanaghs changed their environment, finding ways to keep their young son occupied without placing him in front of a screen remained a challenge.

“I kept hitting roadblocks during the day,” Cavanagh admitted.

The experience is one parents of young children may find all too relatable: “It’s 4 p.m. The afternoon is dragging, everyone is losing it and you hand your toddler a screen because you have no idea what else to do. Not because you don’t care. Because you’re exhausted, you’re out of ideas and the screen is right there.”

The Cavanaghs’ solution? Using their tech backgrounds to create an AI-powered iOS parenting app that provides on-

demand, child-friendly activities based on age, interests and milestones. The app, Puffling, currently is available in the App Store.

“I built the product that I needed,” Cavanagh said. “It’s completely tailored to each child. Think of it like having a dream preschool teacher.”

Puffling is a fully customizable app that creates AI-generated activities each day that are matched to a child’s age and developmental stage. Each activity includes step-by-step instructions, a list of supplies, suggestions on how to extend the length of the activity or include a sibling, as well as how the activity is helping the child.

“It’s completely customizable,” Cavanagh said, noting if Grandma drops off a bag of pom-poms or popsicle sticks, the app will design an appropriate craft.

It also works on the go: “Say you’re picking up your oldest with your youngest in the car. You’ve got 20 minutes to kill. You can customize the activity based on the materials you have — or don’t have. ... It gives a lot of guidance, in the right tone, with the right amount of information.”

The app also tracks a child’s growth journey, including what skills they’re developing and what milestones they’re reaching. Parents can control the amount of

messiness involved, the time it will take, what skill to focus on and what milestone to work toward.

The app helps develop the core areas of cognitive, fine motor, gross motor, language and social-emotional skills. For example, scissor skills require muscle strength. A child can build hand strength and coordination by manipulating Play-Doh, or completing other simple activities, before attempting to use scissors.

“Without those steps, a child gets frustrated if you’re putting them into a place they’re not ready for yet,” Cavanagh said. “The app will meet them where they are. It tells you how to make it fun and not such a chore for you.”

Puffling also can create personalized stories and songs — a bedtime story or lullaby, for example, that is giggle-inducing or has a calming effect. It can be tailored to include the child’s interests and a setting of choice as well.

Using Puffling is simple: Open the app, select an activity and set down the phone.

“The whole interaction takes about 30 seconds,” she said. “It’s screen-free by design.”

Cavanagh noted how parents today have more parenting information available to them than any generation before.

“And somehow, that’s made everything harder,”

What’s
in a name?

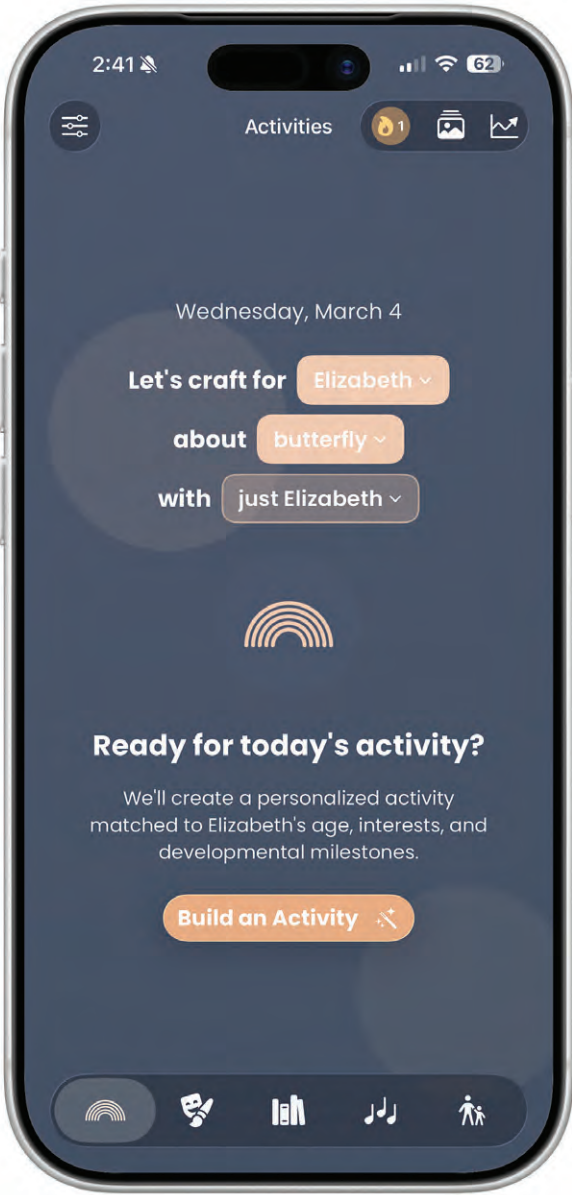
“We wanted a name that didn’t sound like every other AI company,” Cavanagh said. “But the deeper reason is what pufflings actually are — baby puffins. In Iceland there’s even this tradition called the Puffling Patrol where whole communities, kids especially, help disoriented chicks find their way to the sea on their first flight. We really loved the image of a community of grown-ups gently guiding little ones into the world since that’s really what early childhood is. Plus, I think there’s something poetic about it, too, since pufflings only have a brief window of being pufflings before they fly. Early childhood is the same — it goes by so fast. We want parents to feel like they made the most of it.”

she said. “More advice, more guilt, less clarity about what actually matters.”

According to the 2025 Common Sense Media census, children younger than 2 are averaging more than an hour of screen time a day. Children ages 2 to 4 average more than two hours. Three out of four toddlers exceed the limits recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics.

“A Lurie Children’s Hospital survey found that nearly half of parents rely on screens every single day just to manage daily responsibilities,” she said. “One in four have turned to screens because they couldn’t afford childcare. Meanwhile, Ohio State University research shows that 57 percent of parents report burnout, driven largely by the pressure to be a ‘perfect’ parent.

“I spent hours Googling activities, scrolling



COURTESY PHOTOS

Puffling creates daily activities for children in a simple, easy-to-navigate format.

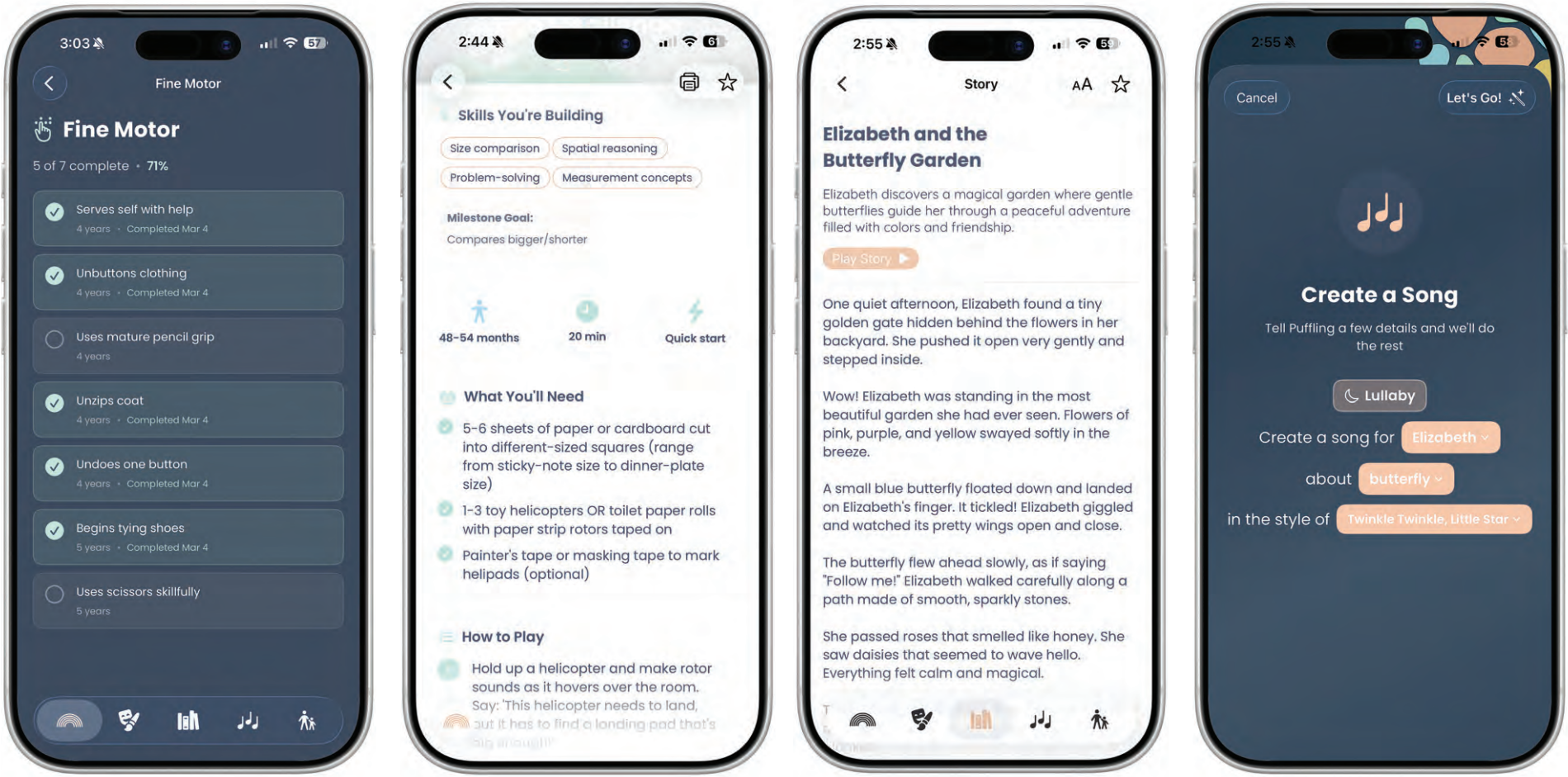
Pinterest boards and reading conflicting developmental advice. Then I’d run out of energy before I ever got to the actual playing part. I kept thinking: I don’t need 50 ideas. I need one good one. Matched to my kid. Right now. That product didn’t exist. So we built it.

“... I’m not anti-screens,” she added. “There’s no judgment or shame in whatever tools parents use, but this is an opportunity to provide more moments of connection. It’s making parenting a little bit easier.”

She tracks her own sons, ages 4 and 2, through the app.

“With two kids at my feet who are eager to do something, I can’t pause, get a book, thumb through it and hope to find something that will support the scissor skills we’re working toward,” she said. “Now I have something in my pocket I

See APP, page 2B



From left, fine motor skills is one of the areas Puffling users can track; with each activity, Puffling provides a list of skills being developed, as well as needed supplies, directions and other details; Puffling can create a story tailored to an individual child; and it also can create personalized songs.

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Community Luncheon celebrates partnerships

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

The 15th annual Community Luncheon, a celebration of community and service, was hosted April 22, at Grosse Pointe South High School.

Dozens of community leaders gathered to network, catch up and kick off the spring season during a luncheon hosted by Alicia Carlisle and Helen Srebernak. Grosse Pointe South Principal Cindy Parravano greeted guests, who were entertained by a trio from the high school's orchestra.

Outgoing Superintendent Andrea Tuttle spoke to guests about the excellence in education she's witnessed during her time with the Grosse Pointe Public School System. She gave an example of such excellence by noting the recent Olympic Games. Of the 232 Olympians representing the United States, who hailed from 32 states, 15 athletes were from Michigan and two of them were from Grosse Pointe. She also cited "Jeopardy!" contestant and 2009 Grosse Pointe North grad Jamie Ding, who has the fifth-longest win streak in the show's history.



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Superintendent Andrea Tuttle, center, seated with her family and keynote speaker Bob Riney, has a laugh during the luncheon as colleagues pay tribute to her accomplishments in the district.

"It's expected in Grosse Pointe we achieve excellence in every regard," she said. "... I feel truly fortunate to be able to be part of this community, albeit for a shorter time than I wanted."

Guest speakers Denis Karic, Wayne County Community College District provost, and Ford House President and CEO Mark Heppner, also spoke to attendees.

Karic addressed upcoming changes to the Mary Ellen Stempfle Center in Harper Woods, including modernizing

and expanding classroom spaces, as well as renovating the DaVita Dialysis building to offer dialysis tech classes.

"These are careers our region needs to fill," he said.

Karic also noted WCCCD's partnership with the future Michael B's Cafe through which the college is offering classes for diverse learners. He credited Ford House and Heppner for partnering with the program for photography classes, as well as Grosse Pointe Theatre and Executive Director Linda Zublick for creating theater classes.

"None of it happens without the leadership and support of Chancellor Curtis L. Ivery," Karic said. "... This is not just renovation; it's a statement about who we are at Wayne County Community College District."

Heppner spoke about core values, including a common one used at Ford House: love.

"Core values filter every decision you make," he said. "... Love

of self, love of family, love of community: We embrace that through the decision making we're doing. One thing we're trying to do is be more of the community, to serve the community."

Heppner also kicked off a tribute to Tuttle, who is retiring from the district effective Aug. 31, highlighting "the profound impact of Dr. Tuttle" with a top 10 list. Admirers of the administrator each shared an item on the list, which ranged from her commitment to the community and support of athletics and extracurricular activities to her efforts to stabilize the budget and pass three ballot initiatives. She also was touted for her commitment to safety and security; leadership and problem-solving abilities; creating a stronger school district and "saving our schools," among other traits.

Following lunch, keynote speaker Bob Riney, president and CEO of Henry Ford Health, spoke about the health system and its current projects. The downtown hospital is embarking on

a \$3 billion investment in the city of Detroit, he said.

"We're trying to build an entire work-live-play campus," he added, noting the projects include building a new bed tower, an energy center to fuel the entire campus electrically, a respite center for people with chronic illness, 800 housing units with high- and low-income housing together and the largest research facility in Michigan.

"It's a story of partnerships," Riney said. "The housing, Henry Ford is not doing that; the Detroit Pistons are doing that. They're our neighbors."

The research facility, he added, will be created in partnership with Michigan State University. The addition of a Shirley Ryan AbilityLab — the No. 1 rehabilitation hospital in the world the last 30 years — is being funded though a \$175 million donation from Dan Gilbert.

"We are embracing partnerships," Riney said, noting almost 30 acres of park will be intermixed with the new campus, "so patients and

families have gathering places that provide an environment they need."

Riney also spoke about welcoming the Ascension health system to the Henry Ford family more than a year ago. He said Henry Ford Health has long admired Ascension's values and is honoring Catholicity at all former Ascension sites.

Locally, he praised the clinical and medical staff at Henry Ford St. John Hospital for its extraordinary work, as well as its role as a Level I Trauma Center. Though there haven't been many visual changes, the 714-bed, multi-specialty hospital has been working toward launching an electronic medical platform for patients.

"I get incredible letters from people about the care they receive there," he said. "We want to make sure we completely honor that and keep going."

"... And I'll be the first to say we are not a perfect organization," he added. "We're continuously improving organization. If we let people down, if communication is not what was expected,

See LUNCH, page 4B



Bob Riney, president and CEO of Henry Ford Health, served as keynote speaker at the luncheon.

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"In California, making products for billions of people felt anonymous," Cavanagh said. "... It's meaningful to me to build this outside of Silicon Valley. Here, the Facebook groups, the local mom groups, have been so supportive. They tried it when it was ugly and clunky. This is so different, putting this in the hands of real people, hearing that they love it, hearing how they use it, the different ways they use it. It's wonderful to know we're making a difference."

"There's such warmth and support you get from the community when you're trying to build something useful for different people with different needs. It's been a beautifully eye-opening journey for me. It feels great to be in Grosse Pointe doing that, in the same childhood environment I felt growing up."

Puffling is free to download; a free trial includes full access. It costs \$9.99 per month to access additional tracking.

"Make it what you want it to be," she said.

Travel tips *for seniors*



By Grosse Pointe News Staff

Traveling the globe, or even closer to home, is a positive hobby that can pay short- and long-term dividends. Everybody knows that travel is an interesting and fun way to learn about the world around you, but did you also know that it's actually healthy for you?

The benefits to well-being may surprise even the most devoted jet-setters. For example, a joint study from the Global Commission on Aging found that women who vacationed twice a year had a considerably lower risk of heart attack than women who vacationed once every six years. The same study noted men who skipped an annual vacation had a 30 percent greater risk of heart disease. Honestly, that's the best news since discovering dark chocolate can be good for you!

Yet traveling as a senior may necessitate a slightly different approach than in younger years. Though older adults can reap the same travel-related rewards they did back in the day, some additional safety measures may be necessary to ensure that exploring new adventures as a senior stays enjoyable.



Get a pre-trip medical checkup

It's wise to double-check that you are in top condition to travel. A visit to the doctor also can be a great opportunity to update vaccinations and discuss medications. It can be tricky to manage medications when crossing time zones, so travelers should work out a schedule with their physicians to ensure they don't miss any doses.

This also can be the perfect time to renew prescriptions so you don't run out while away from home. Work with your physician and pharmacist to create a list of prescription and over-the-counter medications you take, which will make it easier to get through customs and get any necessary replacement medicines — should you need them while traveling.

Stay hydrated

The Cleveland Clinic notes that dehydration can cause dizziness, elevate a person's heart rate, contribute to swollen feet and muscle cramps, and result in fatigue, among other side effects. Travel is exciting, and it can be easy to forget to hydrate during engaging trips. Bring a large bottle of water and keep sipping regularly even if you don't feel thirsty.

Especially while flying, drink lots of water, even if it means traversing the path to that inconvenient little airplane restroom once or twice. You'll want to keep your bloodstream fully hydrated — and airplane air can be drying to skin.

Beware of deep vein thrombosis (DVT)

The Mayo Clinic warns travelers that DVT occurs when a blood clot forms in one or more of the deep veins in the body, typically in the legs — so keep moving during the longer legs of your journey.

Know the possible symptoms of DVT as well as how to avoid it. Lack of movement is the main risk factor, which can affect immobile travelers during long flights, train rides or road trips. DVT risk can be reduced by getting up and walking around when allowed to do so on long flights or train rides. If you'll be driving long distances, make frequent pit stops to get out of the car and stretch your legs.

Standing straight up for a few moments and flexing each foot and ankle by arching the foot and toes upward and then downward 10 times on each foot will help keep blood flowing in the legs. Do the foot flex exercise even when you can't stand up or move around the cabin.

You can do a few inconspicuous slow lunges in the plane or bus aisleway, walk to the restroom periodically — anything to move your body and promote blood flow. Just don't stay in one position for too long.

Overseas travel

If traveling overseas, determine vaccination requirements. Foreign countries may have very specific requirements due to diseases unfamiliar to U.S. citizens. The Health In Aging Foundation urges travelers going overseas to make this part of your early planning — since some countries require vaccinations be administered at least six weeks prior to entry into a new country.

Information regarding travel-related vaccinations can be found on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website at wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/page/travel-vaccines.

Travel with a group

Many communities offer trips as part of their adult enrichment or senior programs. There are also travel groups geared specifically toward seniors, such as Road Scholar. This organization specializes in creating educational travel programs for 55-plus communities, adult education groups, special interest groups and families. Once you select a program and secure a date, they will create marketing materials, host an informational session for your group, handle registration, help plan air transportation, collect payments and send out preparatory materials prior to your trip.

They recommend planning at least six months in advance for a trip within the United States and nine months in advance for international programs.

During your trip, Road Scholar's experienced group leaders will take care of everything — and your group will have the learning adventure of a lifetime.

Contact Road Scholar for information at roadscholar.org.

Take advantage of all there is to do and see via travel. You worked hard throughout your life, now is the time to enjoy!

Day trippin'

Every trip doesn't have to be lengthy, and multiple quick getaways throughout the year have much to offer by way of variety and stimulation. Consider day trips or weekend excursions as healthy and fulfilling options for in between longer vacations. Here are some day trips that can make lasting memories.

Wine country: Travel up the side of Michigan's thumb to visit the 3 North Vines vineyard in Crosswell. The charming winery offers wine tasting and nibbles in a relaxed, rustic, yet elegant atmosphere. Try a hard cider or sangria flight, cheeses and chocolates or fresh baked French bread with dipping oils on the weekends. The cheerful hosts are always happy to advise on wines that will appeal to your palate. Spend the day and take home a bottle or two for later. 3 North Vines Vineyard & Tasting Room is located at 5940 Peck Rd. Call (810) 956-2706 or visit online at 3northvines.com for information.

Art garden: For many, nature is their happy place. A garden tour or a visit to the nearest botanical garden is a great choice — but the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park takes it to another level. Fine art, culture and nature come together for a truly astounding experience. Midwestern plants coexist with specialized plants from regions all around the world. From cultivated and manicured plant displays to natural and native gardens, the colors and varieties brilliantly change with the seasons. Greenhouses offer unique plant collections like a carnivorous plant collection as well as succulents from around the world.

Sculptures, indoor and outdoor art exhibitions, a music amphitheater featuring concerts, a restaurant and gift shop all provide more to do and see. There is plenty to keep you busy for over a day, so stay overnight at The Leonard at Logan House, a luxury Bed & Breakfast only 10 minutes away. Scrumptious homemade food in a luxe historic mansion. Contact leonardatlogan.com or call (616) 308-6585 to make reservations.

Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park is located at 1000 East Beltline Avenue NE, Grand Rapids. Phone (888) 957-1580 or visit meijergardens.org.

Coastal escape: Refresh the soul with some "vitamin sea" — because a few days on a coastline just cannot be beat. Give Petoskey's Bay View Inn a try! With sweeping views of Little Traverse Bay, you'll feel transported from all your cares as you unwind in this quaint and beautifully restored Victorian mansion.

The inn offers activities for couples, families or groups — like an afternoon social hour in the sunroom, complimentary bikes for touring the area, a full service restaurant and bar — plus a great seasonal Sunday brunch.

Guests can take advantage of association amenities such as a private beach, paddleboards, hiking and biking trails, pickleball and tennis courts and live music and entertainment. Find out more at thebayviewinn.com or (231) 347-2771.



Bicknell lecture series concludes May 20

The Dr. Frank Bicknell Lecture Series, presented by the Grosse Pointe Historical Society, concludes its latest season with the lecture, “Corrado Parducci: Grosse Pointe’s own Architectural Sculptor,” which takes place at 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 20, at the Ford House Visitors Center, 1100 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Shores.

Born in Italy, Parducci immigrated to New York City in 1904, and traveled to Detroit in 1924 to complete an assignment for Albert Kahn. He only planned to stay for a few months; however, with the automotive industry booming in the 1920s, Parducci moved his family to Michigan and ended up spending the rest of his career working from Detroit. After World War II, he moved to Grosse Pointe Shores, where he lived until his death in 1981.

His sculptures may be found in most major Michigan cities, including Ann Arbor, Dearborn, Flint, Grand Rapids, Jackson, Kalamazoo, Marquette, Royal Oak, Saginaw, Midland and Ypsilanti. By the end of his long and

productive career, Parducci’s efforts adorned approximately 600 buildings.

In 1926, Parducci was asked to create a model of a home Albert Kahn had designed for Edsel and Eleanor Ford. It was used to show the Fords that Kahn’s design was what they envisioned for their site at Gaukler Pointe.

Although Parducci worked in a variety of styles — notably Romanesque, Classical, Renaissance and Aztec/Mayan/Pueblo Deco — it was his pioneering of the Greco Deco style for which he is best remembered.

Author, photographer and architectural historian Dale A. Carlson will present a PowerPoint program based on his 2020 book, “Corrado Parducci: A Field Guide to Detroit’s Architectural Sculptor.” Carlson also was a Bicknell presenter in September 2025, with a talk about stained glass in the Grosse Pointe community.

Carlson studied art, journalism and graphic design at four different Michigan colleges, including Michigan State University, while migrating

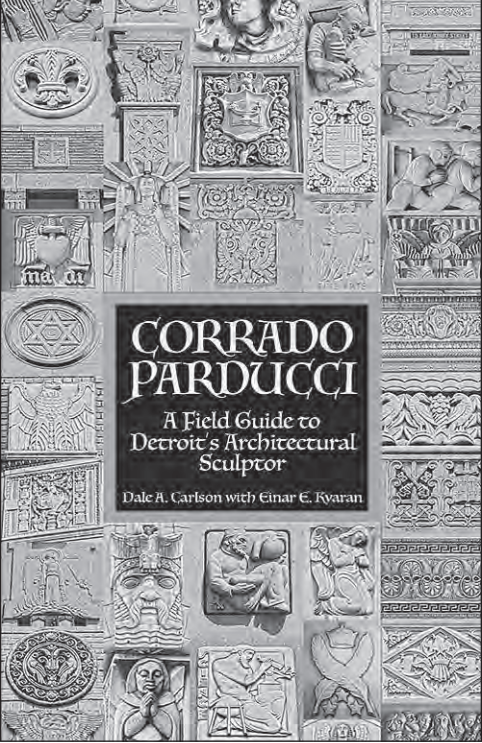
closer and closer to Detroit. In 2004, he relocated to Oakland County. He has degrees in photographic technology and art history, serves on the Berkley Historical Committee and has been the author of three books. In addition to “Corrado Parducci: A Field Guide to Detroit’s Architectural Sculptor,” his other books are “Kahn’s Detroit: A Field Guide to Albert Kahn Designs of the Metro Area” and “Stained Glass New Orleans: A Field Guide.”

He credits his late wife, Carolin Venegas Jones, for inspiring his ventures into publishing and photography.

This is the 27th annual presentation co-sponsored by Ford House and GPHS during National Preservation Month.

Admission to the lecture is free, but advance registration is requested as seating is limited. Register online at gphistorical.org/bicknell-lecture.html.

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



COURTESY PHOTO

Healthy Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods Coalition meets May 14

The Healthy Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods Coalition hosts its next meeting 8:30 a.m. Thursday, May 14, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

The May coalition topic is “Supporting Young Men Today.” Frank Wilberding, LMSW, will lead a discussion about the mental-health challenges, loss of purpose and social isolation many young men face, as well as offer practical ways

families and communities can help them build connection and meaning.

Attendees also will hear from Grosse Pointe South Assistant Principal Daniel Hyliard, co-founder of The Men of Vision, a PBIS-aligned peer network that fosters belonging among male students.

The event is free and all are welcome.

To register, email register@familycenterhelps.org.

AREA ACTIVITIES

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.

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

◆ Mother’s Day Luncheon & Movie, noon 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.

◆ Electronic Device Tutoring, noon to 3 p.m.

the first and third Fridays of each month.

◆ Conversational French for Beginners, 9:30 to 11 a.m. Tuesdays and noon to 1:30 p.m. Fridays, beginning Jan. 20.

◆ Conversational French for Intermediates, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays and 1:30 to 3 p.m. Fridays, beginning Jan. 20.

◆ Young Onset Parkinson’s Support Group, 4:45 to 6:15 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month, with facilitator Angela Ferrara.

◆ Low Vision Support Group, 10 to 11:30 a.m. the third Monday of each month.

Ford House

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

◆ 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.

◆ Spring Concert Over the Cove with Vanessa Carr, 7 to 9 p.m. Friday, May 15. Tickets are \$60 for Friends, \$75 for the public.

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

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

◆ Storytime Shuffle with Miss Mo, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, May 12.

◆ Storytime Shuffle with Miss Mo, 11 a.m. to noon Tuesday, May 12.

◆ DigiLit Series, 2 to 3:30 p.m. Thursday, May 14.

◆ Splitting Souls Book Discussion, 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday, May 14.

◆ Yoga Storytime, 10 to 10:30 a.m. Saturday, May 16.

Woods branch, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods

◆ 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.

◆ Beginning CAD Modeling, 4 to 5:30 p.m. Monday, May 11.

◆ Laughing Stacks Book Club, 7 to 8 p.m. Monday, May 11.

◆ Tuesday Night Book Discussion, 7 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, May 12.

◆ Playtime Pop-Ins, 10 a.m. to noon Thursday, May 14.

◆ Teen Tabletop Game Club, 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 16.

Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

◆ 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.

◆ Noon to 6 p.m. Wednesday, May 20, Jefferson Masonic Lodge No. 553, 22000 E. 11 Mile, St. Clair Shores.

Register at redcrossblood.org.

See EVENTS, page 5B



Group of male students posing for a photo at Kerby Elementary School.

Help Us Tell the Story of our Neighborhood Landmarks

Do you have a piece of Grosse Pointe history tucked away in an attic or scrapbook?

We are currently gathering materials for an upcoming exhibition celebrating the architect behind some of our most beloved community landmarks. To make this display truly special we’re looking for personal artifacts from the buildings that helped shape our community.

We are seeking items related to:

- Pere Gabriel Richard Elementary, Kerby Elementary and Pierce Middle School: vintage photos of the buildings or anything featuring the school mascots.
- The Punch and Judy Theatre: Tickets, show flyers, or programs.
- The Little Club: Historical photos or print ephemera.

If you have items you would be willing to lend or allow us to scan, please reach out! Your memories are the key to telling the full story of these iconic spaces.



Let us know about your items by scanning the QR code or visit gphistorical.org!



Top to Bottom: Pere Gabriel Richard Elementary School, The Punch and Judy Theatre, and Pierce Middle School



Grosse Pointe Historical Society

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



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

LUNCH:

Continued from page 2B

we own it, we lean into it. When you raise a con-

cern, it is acted on.”

Riney also updated attendees about the former Cottage/Pierson Clinic site in Grosse Pointe Farms.

“After a fire in the building, it has been the slowest return to life I’ve had to navigate,” he said. “The good news is it’s now open, it’s beautiful and it’s functioning well. We haven’t had a grand opening yet. There are a few clinics we’re still moving back in.”

He said the team currently is working on retail strategies for the building.

“There’s lots of excitement going on and at the end of the day, it’s all about our team,” he said. “I couldn’t be more proud.”

Riney closed the luncheon — sponsored by Henry Ford Health, Grosse Pointe Magazine and WCCCD — by assigning “homework” to attendees.

“Help lower the temperature in the community,” he said. “(Hatred) is playing out in health care in an awful way. Our caregivers are saying, ‘I didn’t sign up for this, for being punched or being spit on.’ ... We all have a collective job: to lower the temperature.”



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Second Time Around

By Margie Reins Smith

Time travel

I take issue with time-travel movies if the protagonist travels back to a time AFTER I was born. “Back to the Future” zapped Marty McFly’s DeLorean DMC-12 merely back to 1955. For me, the 1950s were yesterday. I Zoom with 10 of my high school girlfriends once a month and we often discuss, in great detail, events that took place 60-plus years ago. One of our group even remembers what she was wearing during each re-hashed event. “Groundhog Day” is a movie about time travel — but Weatherman Bill Murray only travels back

one day. He lives the same Groundhog Day over and over and over. I wouldn’t like to do that. Other time-travel movies are about fixing mistakes that happened in the past: preventing the Kennedy assassination or killing Hitler or falling in love and starting a steamy romance with a soulmate who lived in Victorian times. I don’t want to change the past. I just want my trip back in time to be worth the trouble and to take place before anything I remember. Go back to the early 1900s or the Middle Ages or all the way back to one of those backwards-counting years, B.C.E. Screenwriters should

stop piddling around with the 1950s! I still wear sweatshirts I bought in the 1950s. Not long ago, I threw away a drawer full of shoulder pads from the ’70s. The label on a winter coat I still wear bears the name of a department store that went bankrupt in the 1960s. I recently cleaned out my safe deposit box and it was stuffed to the brim, stacks of documents that dated from the ’60s and ’70s. If I could travel back in time, I wouldn’t want to change anything, but I might want to meet some famous people. And I’d want to meet my ancestors. As a child, I knew three of my grandparents. Either they never talked about their childhood experiences or — more likely — I never listened. Back then, I

wasn’t interested. My great loss. My mother’s father died in an automobile accident when he was in his 30s. The car, which he co-owned with a friend, was brand new, purchased just a few days earlier. The two men spent the evening together at a bar. The friend was driving home (probably DUI) when he veered off the road into a ravine. The car overturned. They were not discovered until morning. The friend lived, but my grandfather died. In that instant, my grandmother became a widow with five children younger than age 12. No life insurance. No accident insurance. No Social Security. No Medicare. Merely a high school education. Like many women in the 1920s, she was a

housewife. She knew how to cook and clean and care for children. My mother, the oldest, was enlisted as caregiver for her siblings while my grandmother cleaned other people’s houses. My mother described their situation as “poor.” So poor, she said, that she didn’t own a pair of boots. Her shoes and socks got wet when she walked to school in the snow and her feet remained wet for the rest of the day. I want to travel back to the 1920s to ask my grandmother how she coped. My father’s father came to America from Germany when he was 16 — all by himself. His parents sent each of their sons to America when they became eligible for the Army. My grandfather, the second son, moved in with his older brother in Hamilton, Ohio. He learned to speak English and got a job as a traveling salesman for a company that sold dry goods — fabrics, clothing and threads. I don’t think he ever finished high

school. He married my grandmother, the daughter of another German immigrant, in 1907. My father, the oldest of their three children, described their situation as “poor.” So poor, he said, that when he earned a letter in basketball in high school, my grandfather said they couldn’t afford to buy a school sweater to display the letter. “You already have a sweater,” he said. I want to ask my father’s parents how they coped. Actor Owen Wilson travels back farther than Marty McFly. He goes back 20 years before I was born in the movie “Midnight in Paris.” He schmoozes with members of the Lost Generation in 1920s Paris — folks like Ernest Hemingway, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Gertrude Stein, Pablo Picasso, Salvador Dali, Cole Porter, Josephine Baker and more. I’d also like to meet those notables to chat about how they coped. That would be time travel well worth the trouble.

Assumption shopping event is May 14

Assumption Cultural Center hosts Spring Fling, a ladies’ night filled with shopping and delicious food, from 6 to 9:30 p.m. Thursday, May 14. Attendees will enjoy appetizers and refreshments while shopping for

clothing, jewelry, accessories and other items from more than 30 vendors. Gift baskets will be raffled off during the evening. A cash bar also is available. Cost is \$35 per person. All proceeds benefit the philanthropic outreach of

Assumption’s Ladies Philoptochos Society. Assumption is located at 21800 Marter, St. Clair Shores. For more information or tickets, call (586) 779-6111 or email assumptionsspringfling@gmail.com.

The Helm welcomes return of Eastern Market produce sales

The Helm invites community members to stop by every other Tuesday this summer to purchase fresh-off-the-farm fruits and vegetables. Eastern Market will sell farm-fresh produce from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. every other Tuesday, from May 12 through the first week of September. The complete list of dates is May 12 and 26, June 9 and 23, July 7 and 21, Aug. 4 and 18, and Sept. 1. The produce will be set up on the back patio of The Helm at 158 Ridge Road, Grosse Pointe Farms. All are welcome.



EVENTS:

Continued from page 4B

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. Email slicari54@gmail.com.

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 13. Nick Krayacich, immediate past district governor, speaks. Email grossepointerotary@gmail.com.

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 ♦ Puzzle Palooza, 6 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, May 13. Costs vary per size of team. ♦ War Memorial History Tour, 10 to 11:30 a.m. Thursday, May 14. ♦ In Her Garden Luncheon, Honoring Marion Alger, 12:45 to 1:45 p.m. Sunday, May 17. Tickets are \$65 each.



At Sunrise on Vernier and Sunrise of Grosse Pointe Woods, each day is thoughtfully designed for residents living with Alzheimer’s, dementia, and other forms of memory loss. Residents enjoy small-group activities, chef-crafted meals, and familiar moments that bring comfort and connection.

With compassionate caregivers and personalized memory care, our community supports meaningful engagement and thoughtful routines—so possibility can continue to rise each day.

Call **313-643-5845** to learn more.

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Sunrise on Vernier
SunriseVernier.com

Sunrise of Grosse Pointe Woods
SunriseGrossePointeWoods.com



Grosse Pointe Branch
20879 Mack Ave
Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236
313-743-0433
schwab.com/GrossePointe

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OBITUARIES

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

Janet Allen Fruehauf

Janet Allen Fruehauf, 93, passed away peacefully Monday, April 27, 2026, with family members at her side.

Janet was born June 28, 1932, to Vera Allen and William Kenneth Allen and grew up on Westchester Road in Grosse Pointe Park. She went to Trombly Elementary School and completed her high school education at The Liggett School (now University Liggett School). She attended Bennett College and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Wayne State University.

During her school years, Janet was active in many ways, including field hockey and riding and jumping horses. Her family were members of the Grosse Pointe Hunt Club where she competed. While at GPHC, at age 14, she met Harry Richard Fruehauf Jr., who considered himself quite the rider. He was, and they were. At age 20, Janet married Dick. Their big wedding gift was a gelding named Master Key, of champion bloodlines. Their equestrian accomplishments led to the honor of competing at Madison Square Garden. The marriage lasted more than 70 years, with offspring of five children, 13 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Janet shared many

interests with Dick besides equestrian showing and fox hunting, like golf, boating, fishing, tennis, skiing, traveling and gathering with friends at the Country Club of Detroit, Turtle Lake Club, Lost Tree Club, Everglades Club, Walloon Lake Club and others. Janet complimented Dick with her virtues, loyalty, kindness and insightfulness. She had the ability to calm even the roughest seas.

On her own, Janet was active in many community interests, including Tau Beta, Grosse Pointe Garden Club and various bridge clubs. She even took up painting late in life and discovered an amazing talent. She shined as a caring lady who was well put-together and knew her manners while meaning what she said. Most of all, she had a passion for her family and was persistent in getting the clan to attend the many family events. It was a great credit to Janet and Dick that so many family members attended so many holiday gatherings, birthdays, family trips and spring breaks at their winter home in North Palm Beach.

Janet was predeceased by her parents; sister, Barbara; and husband, Dick. She is survived by her children, Janet Lynn Wood (Lev), Kimberly Fruehauf Baubie, Harry Richard Fruehauf III (Sheila), Nancy Fruehauf Smith (Michael) and

Kenneth Allen Fruehauf; and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

A service celebrating her life will be held at a future date. Memorial donations may be made to Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, where she practiced her faith and enjoyed the fellowship. The family extends a special thank-you to the outstanding caregivers who helped make her later years include the warmth and love she so deserved.

Kathy Victoria Matouk

Kathy Victoria Matouk, 76, passed away peacefully Sunday, April 26, 2026. She leaves behind a legacy of laughter, dedication and love.

Kathy was born Aug. 1, 1949. She was the beloved daughter of Mary Louise and William Matouk. As a devoted educator, Kathy spent more than 35 years as a fourth-grade teacher at St. Anne Catholic Grade School. Teaching was her true calling and greatest joy. She touched countless lives with her kindness and unmistakable, affectionate “teacher voice.”

Known warmly as “everyone’s Aunt Kathy,” she was the heart of her family. She took immense pride in being present for every milestone, including cheering at sporting events, joining field trips



Janet Allen Fruehauf

and hosting dinner and movie nights. Her thoughtful generosity made every holiday and birthday feel extraordinary.

Kathy was a vibrant social soul who treasured her card club, St. Anne’s community, bowling league nights, travel and many dear friends. She will be remembered by all who knew her for her quick wit, signature sarcastic humor and unique personality that was truly one of a kind.

She was the loving sister of Rosemary Matouk-Hage, Bill Matouk, John Matouk and the late JoAnn Matouk Romain; cherished aunt of Jennifer (Terry), Heather (Russell), Michelle (Imran), Kellie, Michael, William Matouk Jr., Christina (Maher), Maria (Dan) and Joseph; and a proud great-aunt to many.

A memorial gathering will be held at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, May 30, until a 10 a.m. funeral Mass at St. Anne Catholic Church, 32000 Mound, Warren.

In lieu of flowers, 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. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, 2000 Town Center, Ste. 1730, Southfield, MI 48075, bit.ly/3XuSSi0.



Kathy Victoria Matouk

Kathy’s unwavering presence enriched the lives of everyone she met. She will be deeply missed by all who knew her.

Arrangements entrusted to Wujek Calcaterra.

Joellen Ulrich

Joellen Ulrich, 88, passed away Saturday, April 25, 2026, at home in Grosse Pointe.

Joellen was a member of St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church and a fervent supporter of the chapel at Bon Secours Hospital (now Corewell Health Beaumont Grosse Pointe Hospital). She attended St. Paul on the Lake Catholic School before graduating from Dominican High School in 1956. She excelled in design, photography and painting, and enjoyed bowling and golf. She also was the treasurer for her family’s business.

Joellen was an active member of the Country Club of Detroit and Detroit Athletic Club. She enjoyed spending time with friends from her book club, the “Forget-Me-Nots,” as well as with her Grosse Pointe friends and neighbors. She had a deep-rooted family connection to the Detroit area dating back to the



Joellen Ulrich

1700s. Her family, the Rivards, were ribbon farmers in the 1700s on what is now Fisher Road.

Joellen is survived by her loving husband of 68 years, Donald J. Ulrich; son, Peter Ulrich; daughter, Christine Weed; grandsons, Jack and William Ulrich; granddaughter, Elizabeth MacLean; great-grandchildren, Maggie and Patrick MacLean; sister, Elaine; nephews, Patrick, Sean and Gregory; as well as many more nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her parents, Joseph and Helen Zaits; and brothers, Daniel and Bruce Zaits.

Joellen will lie in state at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, May 16, until a 10 a.m. funeral Mass at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. A luncheon will immediately follow at the Country Club of Detroit.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236, bit.ly/4eqIfXI; or the chapel at Corewell Health Beaumont Grosse Pointe Hospital, 468 Cadieux, Grosse Pointe, MI 48230.

Arrangements entrusted to Chas. Verheyden Inc.

See OBITS, page 7B

Robert H. Feys

November 27, 1948 - April 24, 2026

What a duty to put into words, a man like Robert H. Feys; one who could pour a drink, make women of all ages blush and a grown man cry with laughter, faster than his '95 Harley Softail Custom Motorcycle could zip down Lakeshore, on a clear sunny day. With his pedal to the metal every day since November 27th, 1948, his spirit and fervor underestimated & outran his engine, in all that he did. Bob passed away peacefully on April 24th 2026, after a walkoff Tigers win, in the presence of his loving friends & family.

Like a well-measured captain and coke, he was the unyielding mixture of spicy & sweet. His mentality so assured- it could jolt you, if you were a stranger. Not one to overthink his first impression to others, he could be mistaken as brash to the naked eye. Though he kept no strangers for long, this facade quickly melted away, by the warmth of his ability to connect with people in both a brainy and heartfelt way.

Bob was a man who could relate to people of every age. Children describe him as funny, thoughtful, loving and always there for the occasional dum-dum or Cheeto. He was accepting & willing to listen. His magnetic personality, unobtrusively generous spirit, calming advice, infectious laugh and incredible storytelling leaves a deep & irreplaceable hole in our spirit and in our community.

As a proud & stubborn Belgian, he is preceded in death by his parents Genevieve & Henry Feys, charismatic brother to Virginia (Danny) Florance, he loved his childhood on Beaconsfield with friends from high school still reliving their mischievous youth to this day. He spent his teenage years at the Grosse Pointe Damman Hardware



Store on Kercheval, where he worked for his father. He was a boastful graduate of “The High” in Grosse Pointe Farms and went on to become a patriotic U.S. Army Vietnam vet-receiving combat medals, a purple heart and time spent healing at Walter Reed Hospital. Bob demonstrated integrity and servitude as a loving father and caretaker to his son David Feys, who predeceased him.

Bob was a motivated baseball coach, little league enthusiast, GP women’s softball supporter-both in sponsorships & with libations after a win. An avid golfer as well, (turns out barkeep hours weren’t so bad) and provided much opportunity to win a few holes and a few favors along the way. And later, as his long game retreated, his short game took the green with Vietnam sniper-like accuracy.

As an enthusiastic bachelor, he experienced great happiness & heartbreak over the years, grateful for it all. Bob saw women like Wild

Horses by The Rolling Stones, “Graceless lady you know who I am, you know I can’t let you slide through my hands”. He saw every woman like they were on a runway-treating them like the most significant person to ever strut into his life. He enjoyed reassuring every female that, yes, their outfit was, in fact perfect. With his loud broadcast of “Woah! Woah! Woah!” with



every night out. A lesson for the husbands.

As everyone’s “best friend”, he treasured deeply, his devoted cast of companions from all the vibrant chapters of his life and was so loved in return that some friends would curate special, (intentionally crisp), batches of Belgian cookies, “for the bar”, but mostly just for him.

Bob loved his role as Grandpa to Colleen (Mike) Kiehl and Logan (Jeffrey Flanagan) Feys, Great-grandfather to Anna, Charlotte & Margaret Kiehl. He was a dependable uncle to Steven

(Dawn) Scott, Great-Uncle to Ava & Ella Scott. He will be missed for his hugs and contagious excitement with each visit.

No grass grew under his feet, even in retirement, he enjoyed vacations that called for cowboy boots and dancing to rock & roll. He especially treasured a comfortable seat at The Gormely Home each night; where he served as a bonus grandfather to Louie & Lexie and was kept vivacious, by their revolving door of loyal friends and late-night pool parties. Or maybe they were kept vivacious by him.

His most lasting legacy, will likely be the unassuming impact he made in our community, as the barkeeper of The Rustic Cabins in Grosse Pointe Park for 35+ years.



Rarely closed, and often enjoyed like a daily multivitamin, he was surrounded by “The Rusketeers” and a secret society collection of men, who meet to discuss and ponder the highs & lows of life. He

deep rooted the community in tradition with his bartenders, including on Christmas Eve where “regulars” meet for a quick hug and cookie exchange, only to close the bar just before mass.

If Bob’s car was parked at ‘the cabins’, the therapist was IN. Though he kept no hours, refused no service, and collected no co-pay, he was the remedy for many. Have a problem-look for his car-walk right in-the therapist will see you now. Have a hidden wound or a predicament? He’d mend it with a laugh, a hand-hold or an enticement, a hug & kiss, dum-dum sucker or a bag of chips, dish out a compliment, or a retaliation suggestion (mostly in jest & always for a laugh), he’d find you a solution, a jukebox penance, a confidence boost and a drink on the house. Once your troubles were eased-he’d walk you to your car and say “see you soon kiddo”. The air about him would prescribe a tonic that suggested, ‘that other guy deserved it’ or ‘you’re enough as you are’, simply because he listened. He was often surer of a person, than they are of themselves. A kind of confidence only years of life can lend.

He leaves an indelible mark and an empty seat at the bar, never to be filled. His laughter will echo against the walls of that century old clubhouse. We are all better because of his existence.

Thank a patriot and tip your bartenders.

Visitation will be held on Saturday, May 2nd at 9:30am followed by the funeral mass at 10:30am at St. Clare of Montefalco at 1401 Whittier Rd, Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to The Vietnam Veterans of America at www.vva154.com or by calling 586-776-9810.

OBITS:

Continued from page 6B

Alan Alphonse D’Augustine, D.O.

Alan Alphonse D’Augustine, D.O. 75, passed away Wednesday, April 29, 2026, at home in Grosse Pointe Park, surrounded by those who love him.

Alan was born May 4, 1950, in Newark, N.J., to Yolanda Pepe and Alphonse D’Augustine, both now deceased. Alan graduated from Kansas City University College of Osteopathic Medicine in 1977, before working as a pediatric anesthesiologist at Children’s Hospital of Michigan more than 30 years, retiring in 2016.

In the early 1980s, when Alan came to Detroit to complete a pediatric fellowship at Children’s, he met and fell in love with Paula (nee Ignaczak). They continued to speak on the phone daily for six months after their first date. They tied the knot at the end of those six months.

Alan valiantly and devotedly stepped in to help raise Paula’s two teenage daughters, Myreya and Carmina. He fulfilled every aspect of his new role. He worked long and hard hours to provide for his ready-made family. He took his job as an anesthesiologist and a father very responsibly and seriously.

As life would have it, along came six grandchildren who were a source of major delight for Alan and Paula. He was extremely proud of them and their many extraordinary accomplishments, always giving good guidance along the way.

During their 40 years together, Alan and Paula intermingled their Italian and Polish heritage in all ways possible, including through music, tradition, pasta and pierogis. Alan was a wonderful cook and baker. He was a voracious reader, avid learner and fixer-upper. He also loved swimming and recumbent bike riding, especially with the many great friends he met who also enjoyed the sport. These friends were very important to him, as was “Big Brock,” the surprise stepson he got to know and love later in life. Alan also enjoyed good storytelling and spending time with all of his children.

Alan memorized and prayed the 23rd Psalm throughout his life on a daily basis, especially when times were tough. He was devoted to his wife, Paula, and loved her in his own unique and special way.

Alan will be deeply missed and fondly remembered by all who had the privilege of knowing him. His one-of-a-kind personality ensured that his family will never forget him.

Alan is survived by his wife, Paula A. (nee Ignaczak) D’Augustine; stepdaughters, Myreya Amezcua and Carmina Towe; grandchildren, Adam W. Smith, Sophie M. Smith, Emma Walton, Eric Towe, Evelyn Towe and Ella Towe; brothers, Joe and Rick D’Augustine.

He was predeceased by his parents; and brother, Robert D’Augustine.

Memorial donations may be made to any ALS organization to help study and eradicate the disease for future generations.

A celebration of life will



Alan D’Augustine, D.O.

be planned for the future. Arrangements entrusted to Chas. Verheyden Inc.

John Conway IV

John Conway IV, 70, died peacefully at home Thursday, April 30, 2026, surrounded by his family. He was a loving and faithful husband, devoted father and friend to many. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

John was born in 1956, in Appleton, Wis., to Onnolee Laabs Conway and John Conway III. He was fortunate to receive the bonus love and support of his stepmother, Carole Conway, and stepfather, Winston Elting. John was the lucky brother of Lydee Conway Hummel, Lachlan Elting and Kit Conway Stevic.

He graduated from St. Mark’s School in Southborough, Mass., before earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics in 1979, from the University of Wisconsin—Madison. While in Madison that summer, he met the love of his life, Sheri, while restoring a small Chris-Craft ski boat. For their first date, they re-christened the boat and took it on its inaugural voyage on Lake Mendota. The couple were married in 1982.

John worked on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange while in college. After graduation, he began his career in banking at Fidelity Investments, Comerica Bank and Goldman Sachs in New York before putting down roots in Grosse Pointe and starting his own business, Conway Asset Management, which he proudly operated for the rest of his life. He enjoyed analyzing markets and picking stocks. He took his role as a fiduciary seriously. He also was driven to develop longstanding client relationships to help people prosper. He supported numerous medical research startups aimed at making a durable contribution to improving human health. His work reflected his deeper purpose of helping people and making a positive impact.

He gave his time to his community and was guided by a strong sense of personal responsibility. He was a board member and treasurer of The Grosse Pointe Academy, Christ Church Grosse Pointe and the Episcopal Diocese of Michigan. Additionally, he served on the board of visitors at the Wayne State University School of Medicine, was named Rotarian of the Year in 2000, and a Student Mentor Partner. John loved to make an impact while making lifelong friends along the way.

He invested his time in his family and was committed to giving his children a well-rounded foundation in life. He exposed them to culture, traveled off the beaten path and patiently taught



John Conway IV

them the myriad skills he had picked up throughout his adventurous life to instill confidence and a willingness to try. He insisted on sportsmanship and loved cheering his children on in hockey, volleyball, lacrosse and more.

As a young boy, John explored the “Great White North” by train, car and canoe with his stepfather, Win. Known as “Guero” in Mexico, he spent summers as a teen in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, helping restore an abandoned hacienda and training horses. From atop his favorite horse, Soltero, John explored the hills above San Miguel de Allende, and by bus, he explored Mexico. He also helped his mom export Mexican folk art and artifacts for sale in Chicago.

As an avid outdoorsman and lover of the water, John sailed the Great Lakes both competitively and with his family. He designed his own custom-made drift boat for fly fishing and duck hunting. At one point, he had more boats than children. He was a passionate cook, lover of good food and buyer of good food and buyer of birth-year wine. A friend to many, he was the inaugural “King Salmon” of their annual couple’s fishing trip, as well as an active member at the Detroit Athletic Club and Country Club of Detroit. He also was a diligent trainer of happy dogs. As a slayer of fish and fowl, he leaves behind 59 fishing rods. Stubborn when right, John once defeated the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, proving himself right. When his heart stopped in 2014 after losing a squash game, he was resuscitated to play another day.

John will live on in the hearts of all who knew him. In spirit, he presides over “Conway Rules” on the paddle court, “Piggie Nights” in backyards across America and lively Christmas parties.

John was predeceased by his parents, Onnolee Laabs Conway and John Conway III; stepfather, Winston Elting; and sister, Kit Conway Stevic. He is survived by his wife and “the greatest catch of his life,” Sheri; children, Betsy, Jenny, Billy and Johnny; sons-in-law, Aaron and Daniel; daughter-in-law, Caitlin; stepmother, Carole Conway; and grandchildren, Libby, Henry, Jack, Wilson and Hallie, who affectionately called him “Opa,” as a nod to flaming saganaki.

Per John’s wishes, his family will celebrate his life privately at a later date. There will be no public service.

John will be missed by his family and friends, but they are full of love for him and take comfort in knowing he lived a full life.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Special Olympics; or St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, 2000 Town Center, Ste. 1730,



Albina Rose Checki

Southfield, MI 48075.

Fond memories of John, as well as pictures or tales of his adventures, may be sent to his family at jcivmemorial@gmail.com.

Albina Rose Checki

Albina Rose Checki, 100, of St. Clair Shores, passed away peacefully Saturday, March 28, 2026, surrounded by her family.

Albina was born July 5, 1925, in Rossiter, Pa., to Attilio and Ida (nee Serafini) Buratti.

Albina is survived by her brother, Albert; and loving children, Denise Checki and Carol Ann Engels (Greg). She was the cherished grandmother of Rachel Hoppe (Jared) and Andrew Engels (Julie); and the dearest great-grandmother of Harper and Ford.

Albina was the oldest of four siblings; she was predeceased by her siblings, Anna and Aldo; and her husband, Felix, who passed away in 2016.

Visitation will be held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, May 23, before an 11 a.m. funeral Mass at St. Ambrose Parish, 15020 Hampton, Grosse Pointe Park.

Memorial donations may be made to the Solanus Casey Center, 1780 Mt. Elliott, Detroit, MI 48207, solanuscasey.org/help-us-serve/donate/.

Arrangements entrusted to Chas. Verheyden Inc.

ERC to host candidates for governor, board of ed

The Eastside Republican Club will host Michigan gubernatorial candidate Perry Johnson and Michigan Board of Education candidates Terence Collins and Bree Moeggenberg at its next forum Tuesday, May 12, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Johnson is a self-made businessman, author of several books on quality control standards for industry and the founder of Perry Johnson Registrars. He also is founder and owner of two corporations that function as quality control accrediting bodies. He previously ran for governor in 2022 and president in 2024. His main opponents in the August Republican primary are John James, Mike Cox and Aric Nesbitt.

Collins and Moeggenberg are the Republican candidates running for Michigan Board of Education. Collins is a senior financial analyst with one of Detroit’s Big Three and served the Grosse Pointe Public School System as member of the Finance and Facilities Committee

in 2023 and as a school board member from October 2023 to December 2024. Moeggenberg is a licensed childcare provider, small business owner and Republican state committeewoman.

In the November general election, voters will select two Board of Education members for an eight-member board for which two Republicans and two Democratic incumbents are running.

“Attendees of the forum will have an opportunity to hear how Republicans are the ones with answers from the economy to education,” said Renee Strobl, Eastside Republican Club chair. “Democrats, on the other hand, continue to spend more, for example, on public schools with no solutions to Michigan’s dismal ranking of 44th in the nation.”

Doors to the forum open at 7 p.m. All are welcome. A \$5 donation is suggested for nonmembers.

Visit eastsiderepublican.club or find the club at Facebook.com/Eastside-RepublicanClub or EastsideGOP on X.

CHURCH EVENT

St. Michael’s

St. Michael’s Episcopal Church, 20475 Sunningdale Park, Grosse Pointe Woods, presents its final Lunch, Laugh and Learn spring program Thursday, May 21.

The Michigan Rosies from the Rosie the Riveter Association of Michigan will present about the history and legacy of the Michigan women who went to work during World War II. Lunch is at noon, followed by the program.

A free-will donation will be collected at the door. Reservations are required by Tuesday, May 19. Call (313) 884-4820.

Worship Service

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

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

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

Solomon Spangler, Pastor
Making New Disciples - Building Stronger Ones

Grosse Pointe Congregational Church
(United Church of Christ)

Worship Sunday at 10:00 am

Rev. Richard Yeager-Stiver
An Open & Affirming Church
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The recipe for happy and healthy pets begins with food

By Grosse Pointe News Staff

Nutrition is a cornerstone of your pet’s good health. The right foods provide vitamins and minerals that affect everything from energy levels to susceptibility to disease. Pet parents may easily get confused, since store shelves are lined with countless pet foods, and some pack a more nutritious punch than others.

It’s wise to choose a high-quality, nutritionally complete and balanced diet. Price isn’t always indicative of quality, but pet owners may want to choose the best food they can afford. Check nutrition labels to ensure that protein sources are the first ingredients, which means they are in higher quantities in the food. Pass on foods that have a lot of fillers.

One of the first considerations for feeding is determining the right amount of food your pet requires. Checking the label for the serving size recommendation from the food manufacturer may not be so cut

and dry. That’s because pet food companies are in the business of selling food, which means the serving recommendation might be larger than is actually necessary.

A recent study that found 61 percent of cats and 59 percent of dogs are overweight or obese — overfeeding being a notable culprit behind that problem. It’s better to experiment with food portions to achieve the right balance instead of doling out cups of food in accordance with the instructions on a packet. Consult with a veterinarian or conduct research on what a healthy weight looks like on a particular breed, and what weights are in the right range for age and gender.

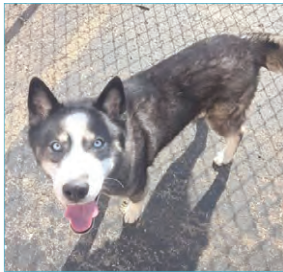
Consistency in feeding times is beneficial to pets, who tend to prefer routine in their lives to alleviate stress. Scheduled mealtimes may help with digestive health too. Rather than “free feeding,” which means leaving a food bowl out all day, scheduled meals can prevent overeating. Offering your pet an occasional treat can fit into a healthy lifestyle, too. But vets recommend that treats comprise no more than 10 to 15 percent of a pet’s daily caloric intake.



Adopt Pet

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Cody

Male, 2.5 years old, Siberian Husky, black/silver, 45 lbs.

To adopt this dog please call GPAAS (313) 884-1551

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Auto Home Life Retirement
JEFFERY TORRICE
(313) 881-0200



Bernie

Male, 1 year old, Pit Bull Terrier mix, gold brindle & white, 37 lbs.

To adopt this dog please call GPAAS (313) 884-1551

SPONSORED BY:



snout & about
MOBILE SPA
(586) 588-6055



Hugo

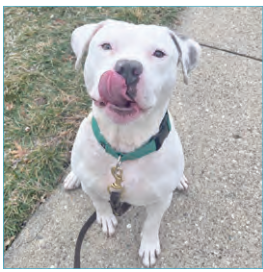
Male, 1.5 years old, American Bully, brown tricolor, 47 lbs.

To adopt this dog please call GPAAS (313) 884-1551

SPONSORED BY:



Allstate
You're in good hands.
Auto Home Life Retirement
JEFFERY TORRICE
(313) 881-0200



Bishop

Male, 2 years old, American Bulldog mix, white & gray spots, 63 lbs.

To adopt this dog please call GPAAS (313) 884-1551

SPONSORED BY:



Pam's Place
(313) 882-7233



Blair

Female, 4 years old, Lab Pit Bull Mix, black, 53 lbs.

To adopt this dog please call GPAAS (313) 884-1551

SPONSORED BY:



Backer
LANDSCAPING
(586) 774-0090



Lenny

Male, 4.5 years old, Mixed Breed, red gold, 55 lbs.

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Jeffrey

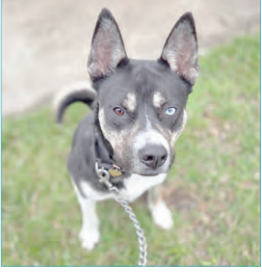
male, 6 years old, American Bulldog mix, white, 71 lbs.

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Nico

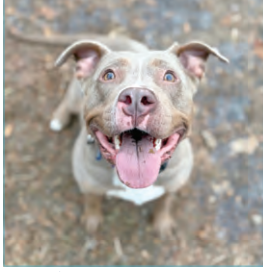
Male, 2 years old, Husky mix, tricolor, 49 lbs.

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Harlow

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Flurry

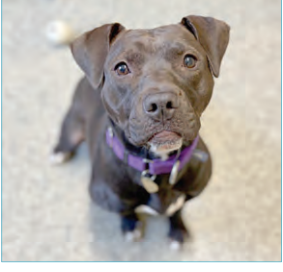
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Pennny

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Tails in Motion at Ford House is May 16

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

The inaugural Tails in Motion at Ford House — a joint effort between the Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society and Ford House — takes place 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, May 16, rain or shine, on the historic estate’s 87-acre grounds.

The new partnership invites dog lovers and the community to “leash up the whole family” for guided dog walks and dog-related activities, as well as raffles, a silent auction and more.

“Things are really coming together,” said Corinne Martin, GPAAS executive director. “We have 250 pre-registered now with two more weeks to go, plus walk-ins. We’re anticipating a good turnout.”

More than 50 volunteers have completed training to assist during the event. Additional help is being provided by the Grosse Pointe Rotary Club, which is handling parking, and the Botmasterz all-girl robotics team, featuring students from Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South high schools, offering face-painting for children.

Grosse Pointe Woods K-9 Arcos will provide hourly demonstrations.

“Our biggest attraction will be our raffle and silent auction,” Martin said. “We have so much cool stuff



for the silent auction, like a signed hockey jersey from (Columbus Blue Jackets defenseman) Zach Werenski. We’ve also got three autographed basketballs and signed jerseys from three of the Pistons — Cade Cunningham, Isaiah Stewart and Jalen Duren.”

Ford House will host a hospitality tent, offering beverages and snacks throughout the event, which is sponsored by Harper Woods Veterinary Hospital, Camp Bow Wow, Lou’s Pet Shop and Hollywood Feed.

“I foresee this as a well-attended community event,” Martin said. “We’re hoping to draw people in our community that are animal lovers and that want to support GPAAS. This will be a different flavor from Michigan Humane, who drew from all over. Our event is more community-

based. That’s why we chose the vendors we did.”

A pre-registration link is available online at gpaas.org/news. GPAAS asks that all participating dogs be current on their rabies vaccination; proof of vaccination must be presented at the gate.

“But you don’t have to have a dog to come,” Martin added. “Just come and enjoy the grounds, walk around, watch a K-9 demonstration and have a snack.”

Admission to the event is a donation to GPAAS, which relies solely on public donations to continue its mission of rescuing, caring for and finding homes for thousands of animals. Attendees may make donations via cash, check or Venmo.

“We’re not doing person or per-family admission,” Martin said. “It’s just a donation to us to support us.”



COURTESY PHOTO

Jeff Raymaker of the Fowler Center, left, and Steve Licari, president of the Lakeshore Optimist Club.

Fowler Center visits Lakeshore Optimists

Jeff Raymaker, development officer for the MCHS Family of Services, presented an overview of the Fowler Center to the Lakeshore Optimist Club.

The Fowler Center, located in Mayville, is a year-round camp serving children and adults with disabilities. The camp is licensed by the state of Michigan and accredited by the American Camp Association. The camp is situated on 200 acres, including lakefront, forests and meadows, making it ideal for outdoor fun and education.

The Fowler Center, founded by Jack Fowler in 1957, offers a range of accessible programming and attractions, including swimming, fishing, archery, equestrian, crafts, outdoor education, a ropes course, rock wall, tree house, garden and small animal interaction. Programs

and activities are offered through Summer Overnight Camp, Summer Day Camp, Travel Adventures and Weekend Respite Camps, as well as community and group events.

Fowler, who had cerebral palsy, attributed his independence and success to his experiences at camp. A teacher, he started the camp with nine students who had cognitive impairments and the concept grew from there. In 2021, the camp became part of the MCHS Family of Services. For more information, visit thefowlercenter.org/.

The Lakeshore Optimist Club meets the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 7:30 a.m. All are welcome to attend. Visit gpointimists.com for locations, dates and times each month. Follow the club at facebook.com/lakeshoreoptimists.

ASK THE EXPERTS By Dr. Renee Catrambone

How to bring peace into the home during preschool years

This is part three of a three-part Ask the Expert series on the parenting book, “1-2-3 Magic” by Dr. Thomas Phelan.

Parenting young children can be challenging. Although most of their aggravating behaviors are a normal part of development, they can be very difficult for parents to navigate on a daily basis. In the book “1-2-3 Magic,” Dr. Thomas W. Phelan presents many tools and advice for effective parenting. I recommend reading the whole book before using any of the techniques, as it really helps parents get the big picture of the scope of their parental responsibility.

From years of experience and long-term studies of different styles of parenting, we know the most effective parenting combines warmth and connection with high discipline and structure. The book leads parents into developing this style and is divided into three categories: stop behaviors, start behaviors and good connection.

Stop behaviors are socially unacceptable ways of dealing with emotions like hitting, biting, whining, screaming and breaking things. These behaviors are the ones that get counted with: “That’s one,” then pause, “That is two,” followed by a pause and then, “That is three ... time for a break.”

The authors suggest a variation of a traditional timeout, allowing the child time for the wave of emotion to come down and to learn more effective problem solving. There is no lecturing, shaming or parental anger. You must remain calm. He also suggests many alternatives to implement this when you are away from home or if the child

has severe separation anxiety.

The second section discusses start behaviors — getting children to do the things they don’t want to do, like getting ready for school, chores, studying or taking care of pets. Completely different approaches are necessary for encouraging children to do these behaviors and teach them good habits. Counting does not work for these behaviors and he offers many ideas you can try with your own children and see what works for your family.

The third part is just as important as the other two because without good connection, coaching and teaching does not come across as loving. Focusing on each child individually without the distraction of a phone or siblings for small amounts of time can improve your relationship. The author shares many strategies and scenarios for building individual connections with your children.

This book is an excellent resource for parents who feel overwhelmed by their children’s difficult behaviors and are looking for tools to bring some peace to their homes.

Dr. Renee Catrambone trained at University of Chicago Children’s Hospital and has been in pediatric practice for 25 years. She has a special interest in child mental health and emotional growth. She currently sees patients at Cornerstone Pediatrics.

The Family Center provides free programs and resources that help build happier, healthier families. Did you know The Family Center has a lending library? To borrow a copy of the book or read more from our Community Book Discussion panelists, visit family-centerhelps.org.

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Gabby

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Being gracious is the real gift

Dear Gabby: My daughter is graduating next month and I couldn't be prouder. The problem is that my ex will be there. The breakup wasn't exactly graceful and now I've learned he's bringing his new girlfriend. I'm uncomfortable and pretty much horrified. I don't want to cause a scene at my daughter's big day, but I also don't know how I'm supposed to sit there smiling while ... that's happening a few rows over. How do I handle

this with dignity? — Not Over it in the Woods

Dear Not Over It: There are few situations more emotionally complicated than sharing a milestone with someone who used to be your partner — and still is, in a way, through your child. Adding a new girlfriend to the seating arrangement suddenly makes a proud day feel less happy and more anxiety-inducing. Let's begin with what matters most: This day

belongs to your daughter. Not to your past relationship, not to your ex's present one and not the feelings you're carrying. She will look out into that crowd hoping to see two parents who can, at least for a few hours, put her first. That's the North Star here. That doesn't mean you're expected to feel serene about it. Of course you're unsettled. Of course it stings. But dignity isn't the absence of those feelings; it's the

decision to rise above them in how you act. A few key pieces of advice:

- Keep your interactions brief and neutral. A simple, polite acknowledgement is enough.
- Set yourself up for success by arriving early and positioning yourself near your support system.

Remember that your daughter is watching how you handle this, a likely not in a judgmental way, but in the way children observe their



parents navigating hard things. Showing her you can be gracious — even when it's difficult — is a gift that will stay with her long after the caps are tossed.

— Gabby

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

Drawing lines, finding peace

DEAR ANNIE: My husband and I have been married for eight years, and every vacation we take somehow turns into a group trip. He used to only invite his brother or his parents, but now the expectation is basically that we travel as one big extended family. The problem is, I don't enjoy these trips. His family is kind but overbearing. I feel like I can't relax. They also bicker, constantly arguing about where to eat, what to do and who's paying. I'm dying for a peaceful getaway with just my husband. I've hinted that I'd like a trip for just the two of us, but he says, "They won't be around for-

ever," which makes me feel guilty and like I should be supporting these trips more enthusiastically. How do I push for couple time without sounding selfish? — Third Wheel on My Own Vacation

DEAR THIRD WHEEL: It's wonderful that you've married a family man, but his family doesn't belong on every trip. It's unlikely he'll be offended if you tell him you want some quality time alone with him. You're not rejecting family trips; you're just adding in some much-needed couple time.

DEAR ANNIE: I am writing in response to the many parents who

write in seeking advice for a son or daughter battling addiction. Two years ago, my husband and I were devastated to learn that our son, from whom we had been estranged for seven years, was addicted to fentanyl. He, his girlfriend and their three children were living in an uninhabitable motel room. The kids had never been to school and were removed from their parents' custody. We thought that was rock bottom ... little did we know that rock bottom can have a basement! We could not have moved forward from the original devastating circumstances surrounding our son and his children

without the help of Parents of Addicted Loved Ones (PALgroup.org). I cannot recommend this organization highly enough! They have both in person and Zoom meetings all across the country, and we met as often as we wanted or needed with leaders and other parents who all experienced the same devastation of having a loved one addicted to some substance. We learned and internalized that we didn't cause our son's addiction, we can't control it and we can't cure it. We also learned proven techniques for not enabling our son in his drug use. The meetings are free, and you can remain



Dear Annie

by Annie Lane

anonymous in them. Our son is still addicted. Two of our grandchildren have been adopted by a wonderful family; the third is waiting for paperwork to be completed for her adoption to be finalized with another wonderful family. Finding a supportive community did not fix our son, but it sure helped fix us and give us peace in the middle of a terrifying, unimaginable storm. — Mom Who Has Been There

BEEN THERE: Your letter is a lifeline. Too many parents believe they caused -- or can somehow fix -- what is beyond their control. The wisdom you've found echoes the Serenity Prayer: God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I can't change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.

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

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Left, Owen Teague as Cal and Haley Lu Richardson as Erin at the strip mine in the 2021 movie "Montana Story," directed by Scott McGehee and David Siegel.

MOVIE REVIEW
"Montana Story"
2021 - Rated R
1 hr 51 min
★★★★☆

One of the great joys of being a movie buff, is witnessing a breakout performance from an up and coming actor. When a film features two of them, that's a rare and special occurrence indeed. Such is the case with "Montana Story," which showcases the talents of Haley Lu Richardson and Owen Teague. Richardson has been featured in several films including "Five Feet Apart" and the popular TV series "The White Lotus" and Teague's work includes the "It" movies and "Black Mirror." Here they both take their acting to the next level and it's something to behold. The film is a powerful, dialogue-driven family drama from the notable indie writer/directors Scott McGehee and David Siegel ("What

Maisie Knew," "The Deep End"). Here they've crafted a gripping tale that, while it starts out rather slow, sneaks up on you and simply won't let you go. It features some of the finest writing I've witnessed in quite a while. I should also mention the fine camerawork of cinematographer Giles Nuttgens. It's hard not to be impressed by the scenery — the film was entirely shot in Montana, aka Big Sky Country. What an amazing backdrop it is —



Cal looks in on Mr. T.

breathtaking mountain-scapes, dramatic cloud formations. It's almost enough to make you change your summer vacation plans! As the film opens, a young man Cal (Teague) returns to the family ranch where he was raised, to see his dying father. It's telling that instead of visiting his father first, he goes to look in on the family's 15-year-old stallion "Mr. T." After spending some time with the beloved horse, he finally stops in to check on his dad. We learn that his father is in



Movie Junkie Mark

by Mark Domin

"Life is too short to watch mediocre movies"

a coma after suffering a massive stroke. He's on life support and isn't long for this world. He's greeted by Ace (Gilbert Osoyur), a Kenyan hospice nurse who fills him in on his father's condition. Ace is a soft spoken man who knows just what to say. You can tell he's handled situations like this countless times before and he's a great sounding board for Cal. Cal certainly has his hands full. He's a civil engineer in Cheyenne and is taking time off to handle business matters at his father's sprawling 200-acre ranch. The estate is under water and he's dealing with an attorney to liquidate all the assets. He's also made the difficult decision to have Mr. T put down, since there's no one to take care of the

animal. The family's housekeeper Valentina (Kimberly Guerrero) stops in from time to time to help out around the house. Then, Cal's estranged sister Erin (Richardson) unexpectedly arrives. We learn that the two have been out of touch for the last seven years, and she's now a chef at a restaurant in Upstate New York. There's a palpable tension between the two siblings, which you can sense the second she appears. This is conveyed not just by their conversations, but the awkward silence that permeates most of their scenes, especially when they first reunite. Eventually they discuss the traumatic event in their past that drove them apart. As the movie pro-



gresses, we learn more about their father, who was a crooked lawyer, a philanderer, and a physically abusive tyrant. The more we hear about him and how he mistreated his two children, the more we despise him. It gets to the point where you pray he dies soon so his children can begin healing and move on with their lives. When Erin learns that Cal is planning on euthanizing Mr. T she's absolutely appalled. She then volunteers to take him back east with her and take care of him in his waning years. So the two of them head north to meet with a Native American named Mukki (Eugene Brave Rock) to buy an old truck and a horse trailer from him. Mukki's a fast-talking wheeler-dealer and you can tell things aren't going to go as planned. Right after the truck breaks down, the siblings visit an old strip mine. The sheer size of



Haley Lu Richardson, left, and Owen Teague in 2021's "Montana Story."

We Tried It!

by Anna Lizer



The pantry upgrade you didn’t know you needed

The M C G O R Rechargeable Motion Sensor Under Cabinet Lights from Amazon turned out to be one of those small home upgrades that makes an immediate difference. I originally ordered them to fix a dark pantry situation that had been bothering me forever and now I can’t imagine not having them. Installation was almost laughably easy. You stick

the small magnetic strips to the underside of the cabinet and the light itself snaps right into place — no tools, no wiring, no second-guessing. The magnetic design makes it simple to remove, which is especially helpful when it’s time to recharge. Charging is just as straightforward. Each light comes with a USB cord, so you plug it in, let it power up and pop it right back

into place. It feels low-maintenance in the best way, without the hassle of constantly swapping out batteries. The motion detection is what really elevates it. There’s the option to keep it on, turn it off or set it to auto. In auto mode, it



turns on the second you walk near it or open the pantry door. It’s quick, responsive and makes the whole space feel more functional without even thinking about it. What surprised me most is how much it improved

the overall feel of the pantry. It’s brighter, easier to navigate and honestly just more enjoyable to use. It solved a small, everyday annoyance with almost no effort, which is exactly the kind of Amazon find worth sharing. This product gets 4 out of 5 alligators from me, because it is a little annoying to remove the lights and recharge them every so often, but being that they were so inexpen-

sive and easy to install, I’d say it’s worth it. 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.



A milestone and a pot of mussels

Courtesy of Mombeau’s Table

Lately, it seems I’ve become the unofficial poster child for finding ways to work Calabrian chili paste into just about everything I cook. I can’t help it, it adds the perfect balance of heat, flavor and depth. It’s such a great swap for red chili flakes. In this week’s recipe, I’m putting it to especially good use by pairing it with mussels. The result is a dish that feels a little indulgent and restaurant-worthy, but is surprisingly simple to make and won’t break the bank. After what felt like forever, my daughter finally got her driver’s license. To celebrate, we decided a mussel feast was in order. And since mussels were on the menu, I headed over to The Lobster Pot to see my friend Katie. I’m glad I did. Not only do they have the freshest mussels in town, she even helped me come up with the recipe. It turns out her family used to celebrate life’s wins with mussels too. So she’s a pro when it comes to knowing what flavors work best. I almost fell over when she suggested making Calabrian chili butter. Little did she

know how obsessed I’ve been with this ingredient. I certainly wasn’t about to pass up another chance to use it. Mussels feel like a treat. Like lobster, you have to work at them to get the meat out. Your hands get dirty and you may need a bib. My kids love them! But the sweet and succulent treat inside the shell is absolutely worth it. And the best part is they are a small fraction of the cost of lobster. This recipe involves a simple broth of wine, lemon, fennel and tomatoes that’s kicked up with Calabrian chili paste. The mussels are steamed and then finished with a big knob of butter. The butter creates a silky and light sauce that is perfect for soaking into crusty bread. It’s spicy, briny and citrusy. The chopped fennel, onion and tomatoes help create lots of texture and help it to feel like a full meal. Welcome the warm weather by making a giant pot of mussels and then spend the evening outside diving into them. They could not be easier, or more enjoyable, to make. Cheers, Mombeau

- Mussels with Calabrian Chili Butter**
- 4 lbs mussels
 - 2 tbsp olive oil
 - 1 small onion, chopped
 - 1 bulb fennel
 - 4 cloves garlic, thinly sliced
 - 10 oz grape tomatoes, halved
 - 1 cup dry white wine
 - Juice of a lemon
 - 2-3 tsp Calabrian chili paste
 - 6 tbsp butter
 - 2 tbsp fresh chopped parsley
 - Salt and pepper to taste
- Start by cleaning your mussels. Make sure all of the shells are closed and put into a large colander. Rinse the shells thoroughly and gently rub them with your fingers to remove any grit. Pull off any stringy beards that are attached. Store them in the fridge covered



PHOTO BY KAREN FERGUSON

with a damp towel until you are ready to cook. To prepare the fennel, cut off the stalks and the thin root end. Slice in half from top to bottom and then cut into quarters. Remove the triangular root, then slice into thin strips. Heat the olive oil in a large stock pot, with a lid, over medium heat. Add in the onion, garlic and fennel along with a generous pinch of salt and pepper. Cook until

slightly softened, about three minutes, then add in the Calabrian chili paste. Let the chili paste bloom for one minute in the oil so the flavors wake up. Next, pour in the tomatoes, lemon and wine. Bring to a simmer and let the liquid cook for about two to three minutes. Gently add in the mussels. Use a large slotted spoon to mix them through the broth. Once the broth begins to slowly bubble again,

cover and cook on medium low for six to eight minutes. Take the lid off and check to make sure the mussels have all fully opened. Finish the dish by melting the butter over the top of the mussels. Then sprinkle with fresh parsley and give the mussels another toss to combine. Discard any mussels that did not open. Ladle into bowls with plenty of broth and crusty bread for dipping.

Let’s get cookin’!

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Grosse Pointe News

Wine and climate

One of the most problematic issues regarding wine quality revolves around the question of rain. But the rain that hit heavily on Napa and Sonoma vineyards for several days in early April caused no damage. Indeed, it was a blessing. However, rain during the harvest season in the fall is another story. In most areas of the northern hemisphere, where grapes are grown for wine, even light rains can pose enormous problems. Timing is everything. Grapevines are hardy and can last without irrigation for many decades. Vines send their roots deep into the soil to find water. Some grapevines have survived for more than 100 years without intervention from humans. The problem with the weather, however, is not about the vines themselves, but about the fruit they produce. And every sort of weather deviation from the normal can have terrible consequences.

Here are just a few:

- Rain: Even if rain is particularly heavy and floods the vineyards, as has happened numerous times around the world, if the rain occurs while the vines are dormant, turning a vineyard into a lake is not a major problem. Warmer weather eventually solves this. Flooding can, of course, cause some vines to become uprooted, necessitating replanting. But that situation is rare.
- Frost: Most French cultivars, the family of grapes that produce the finest wines (*Vitis vinifera*), can be damaged by too much very cold weather. This is what occurred in late March and early April this year in the Champagne district north of Paris. It was estimated that nearly half of all grapevines in the district were damaged by frost. With champagne prices already averaging more than \$50 per bottle in

the United States, importers now suggest that prices will go even higher.

- Heat: In the middle of summer in the northern hemisphere, temperatures rising above 100 degrees Fahrenheit do not pose a problem for grapevines if the duration of the heat is short. But if the heat wave lasts for several days, growers can have a difficult time keeping the vines growing. Irrigation helps, but at a time when global climate change seems to be inevitable, growers are now giving serious consideration to increasing the number of leaves vines produce to create additional shading of fruit.
- Humidity: If a vineyard encounters significant humidity, one risk is that vines might develop maladies like rot or mildew, requiring spraying to protect the fruit. Not only is spraying expensive, but it is not always a perfect solution.
- Wind: Regular and persistent wind can actually assist the development of certain flavors and some

varieties. Wind can be beneficial with Pinot Noir and Syrah. But when the wind is excessive and/or long-lasting, grapevines may stop photosynthetic reactions, which reduces flavor maturation. The result can be wines that have deficient flavors. In some areas of the world, this is difficult to cope with, but California typically does not have this problem. The above five climate impacts are not the only problems grape growers will encounter in the course of a year and in some areas, two or more of these issues

Wine Talk

by Dan Berger

will arise. And almost all solutions entail costs that growers must absorb. Grape growing and wine making may sound like a charming, idyllic way to make a living, but as one grape grower told me decades ago, “Don’t forget: that bottle of wine you’ll enjoy this evening is the result of farming. And farming is no picnic.” To find out more about Sonoma County resident Dan Berger, visit the Creators Syndicate webpage at www.creators.com. COPYRIGHT 2026 CREATORS.COM.

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MOVIE

Continued from page 2C

the site rather takes you by surprise. It's a gorgeous sunny day in the middle of a beautiful landscape. Then they approach the edge of the cliff and the unsightly gash in the earth is revealed. You think to yourself, just how much damage humans have done to this planet.



At the open pit mine.

Interestingly, Erin then compares the scene to Dante's Circles of Hell from his "Inferno." As mentioned earlier, there's an underlying sense of tension throughout the film. It's a slow-burning powder keg just waiting to explode. And explode it inevitably does. Without giving anything away, let's just say Cal and Erin finally

bare their souls in a cathartic scene. By opening up to each other, they reach a point where they can move beyond their painful past. It's a scene that doesn't take you totally by surprise, but it does let you know that things can only get better moving forward. "Montana Story" is another fine example of a genre that some critics have dubbed Neo-Western. It follows suit

with recent films like "Power of the Dog," "Nomadland," "Killers of the Flower Moon" and "Hold the Dark." I hope you enjoy it as much as I did. Note to parents: The film is rated "R" due mainly to language. I'd be inclined to rate it "PG-13." Currently streaming for free on Kanopy and Hoopla with your

library card and Plex. Also on Netflix, and to rent on Apple TV, Prime, YouTube, and Fandango.

My rating system:

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

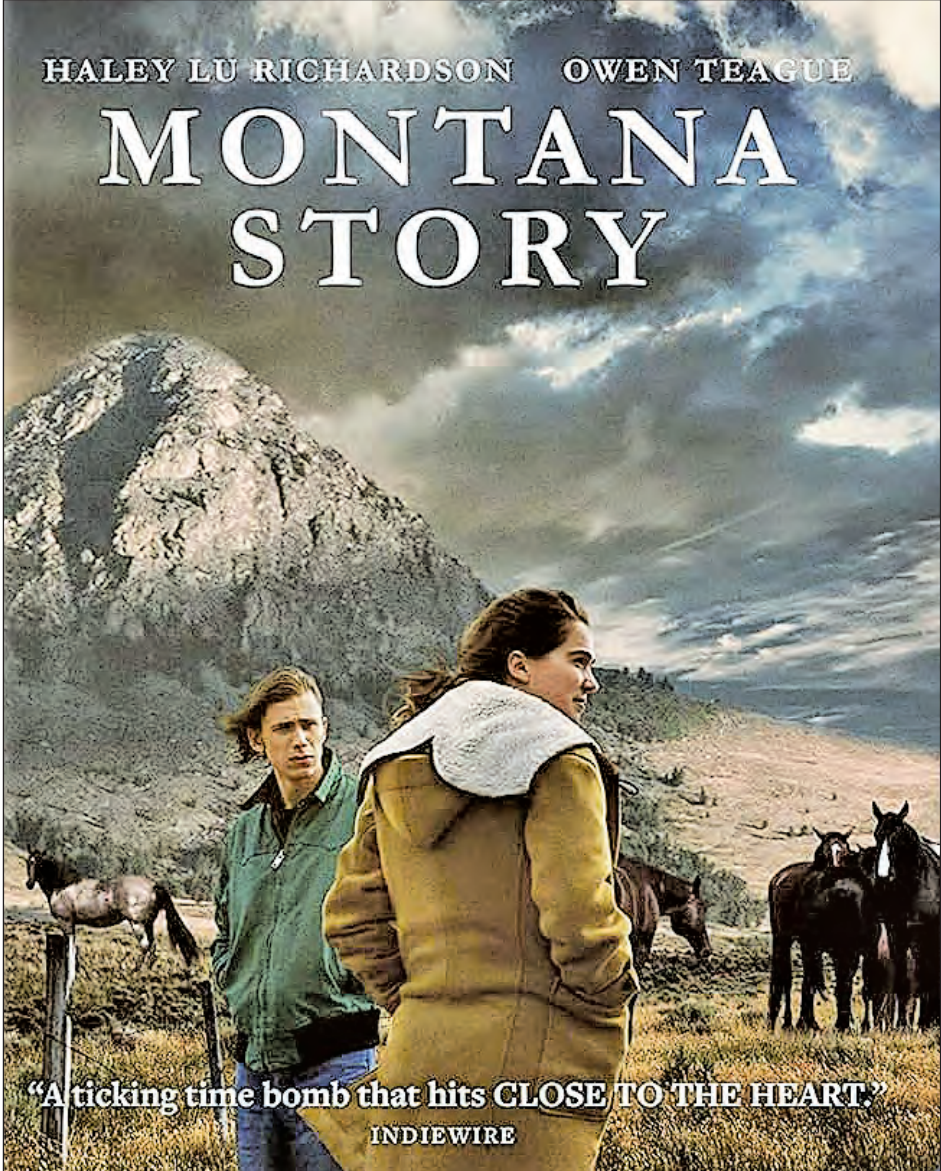
★★ So-so. Not a total waste of time, but you would have been better off reading a good book.

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

★★★★ One you'd recommend to friends.

★★★★★ So good you'd actually buy it!

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



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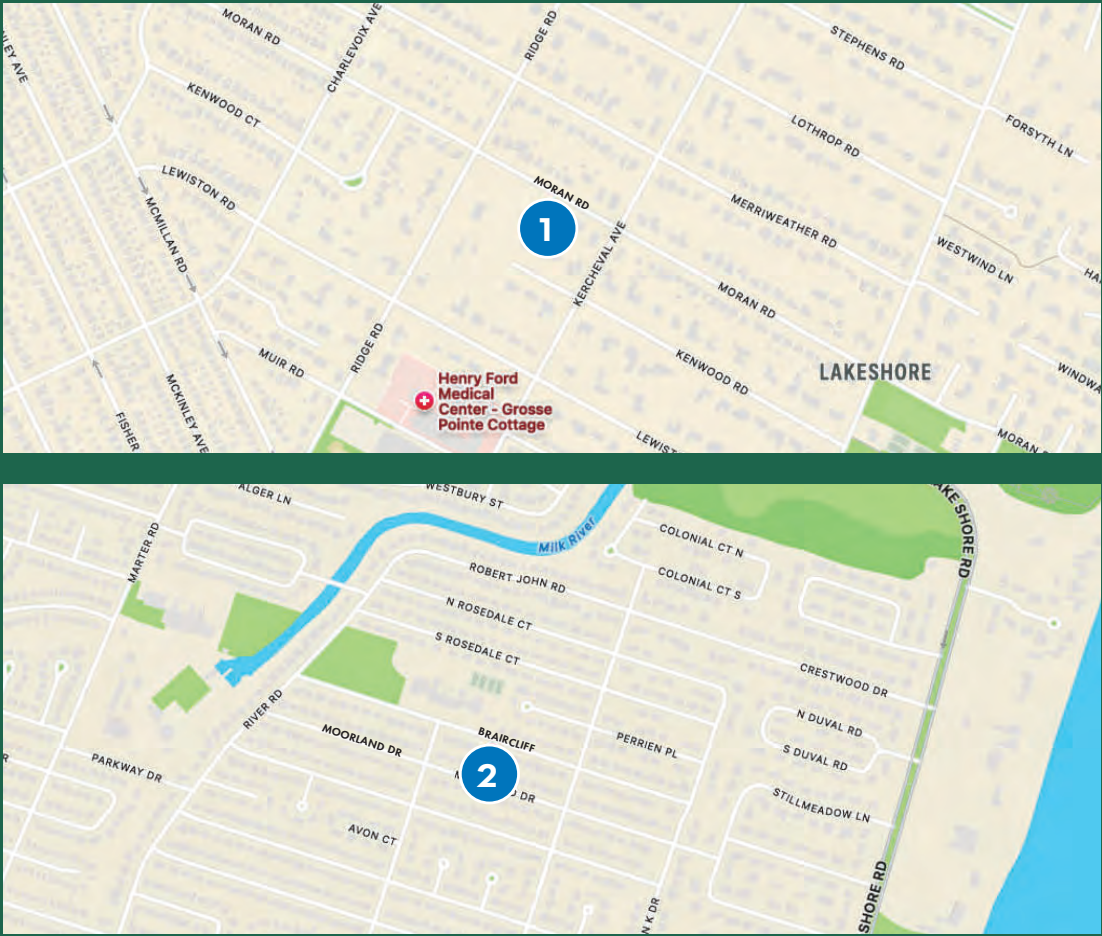
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Grosse Pointe News

Yard & Estate Sale Map



THIS WEEK: 1. 171 Moran, GPF 2. 773 Braircliff, GPW

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Weekly Challenge

UNIVERSAL
Sudoku Puzzle

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

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

Previous puzzle solution

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

5/7

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★☆

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4/30 Solution

Pointe Word Search

Find the words on the left in the puzzle below.

BOARD
CARE
COMFORT
DESK
DREW
FRIEND
HEARTS
LEARNING
LISTEN
TEACHER
WORK

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

Royal Stars Weekly Horoscopes

Moon Alert: Caution! Avoid shopping (except for food and gas) and important decisions after 10 a.m. EDT (8 a.m. PDT) for the rest of the day. The Moon is in CAPRICORN.

Happy Birthday for Thursday, May 7, 2026: You like to make a good impression because you are self-aware. You are also inquisitive, deeply sensitive and compassionate. Simplicity is the key to life this year. It's time to build solid foundations, both externally and internally. Take charge of your health. Physical exercise will be important.

ARIES
(March 21-April 19)
Steer clear of authority figures, bosses and the police, because anger and frustration might get you into trouble. Don't look for trouble because it will find you. Cool your jets. Appreciate the beauty of your daily surroundings. Tonight: You're high-viz.

TAURUS
(April 20-May 20)
With the Sun and Mercury in your sign, you have something to say today. Furthermore, TAURUS is a political sign -- well-versed in current history and news, which is why you might not resist arguing with someone about politics or religion. Don't do it. Save yourself. Tonight: Explore!

GEMINI
(May 21-June 20)
This is the classic day for disputes about inheritances, wills, shared property or anything that you own jointly with someone else. Table this discussion for another day. Tonight: Check your finances.

CANCER
(June 21-July 22)
Summon up all the patience you have when dealing with partners, spouses and close friends today. Hurts from earlier in the week might be percolating on the back burner. Stay chill. Tonight: Cooperate.

LEO
(July 23-Aug. 22)
There's a strong probability that controversial subjects will lead to arguments today, because people are impatient. Actually, you look great with the Sun high in your chart, while Venus in your House of Friendships encourages good times. Tonight: Get better organized.

VIRGO
(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Avoid discussions about how to share costs, expenses or who picks up the tab today. Likewise, discussions about kids and shared responsibilities are also likely to lead to arguments. Go with what works. Be a tourist in your own town. Tonight: Socialize!

LIBRA
(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
Do what you can to keep the peace in the family today, and especially to stay on good terms with partners and close friends. People are impatient and too ready to lash out. Protect your precious peace of mind. Tonight: Relax at home.

SCORPIO
(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
This is the classic day for some feisty exchanges that are work-related, health-related or related to a pet. You might get involved with a sibling or relative. You need more rest, and without this, you might be irritable. Tonight: Go gently.

SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
If you are a parent, be patient with your kids today because it's very easy for things to go south. Likewise, romantic partners might start out cozy and then end up arguing over nothing. That's because the Moon is at odds with Mars today and everyone is irritable. Tonight: Money and possessions.

CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
Today the Moon is in your sign, which can make you more emotional than usual. On top of this, it's at odds with fiery Mars, which creates needless disputes, irritability, rash actions and hasty behavior. Tonight: You're strong.

AQUARIUS
(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
You might encounter money squabbles with someone today or arguments about something you own, or something they own. Very likely, this could involve your kids, a romantic partner or something to do with sports or the hospitality industry. Tonight: Solitude.

PISCES
(Feb. 19-March 20)
Use patience and mental willpower to avoid arguments with friends or members of groups, which might easily arise today. These disputes could be related to money, cash flow, earnings or something that someone owns. Tonight: Friendships.

BORN TODAY
Actor Gary Cooper (1901), actress Lela Loren (1980), actor Breckin Meyer (1974).

Contract Bridge

THE MALADY NOTRUMPITIS

North dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A 6
♥ 8 7
♦ A K J 9 4
♣ J 10 5 2

WEST
♠ J 4 3
♥ A Q 10 6 2
♦ Q 10 5 3
♣ 4

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

SOUTH
♠ K 10 8
♥ 4 3
♦ 6
♣ A K Q 9 7 6 3

The bidding:

North	East	South	West
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
3 ♣	Pass	3 NT	

Opening lead — six of hearts.

Many players suffer from a malady called notrumpitis when they are dealt a long, strong minor suit. Granted that six or seven winners in a suit are a wonderful nucleus for a notrump game, there still exists the problem of making nine tricks before the opponents score five of their own.

Here is a typical case. South was surely right to think in terms of at least a game when his partner opened the bidding with one diamond. But he missed the mark badly when he impulsively bid three notrump over North's raise to three clubs.

East-West promptly cashed five heart tricks to put declarer down one on a hand where he could have made five clubs. So instead of scoring 600 points, South went minus 100 for a total loss of 700 points.

This type of misadventure occurs most often to players who tend to act precipitously when dealt a long, solid minor suit without bothering to check whether notrump is the right spot. Their rationale for such an action is that in the great majority of hands where either five clubs or five diamonds can be made, one can also make three notrump. But that in itself is not a good reason for failing to investigate whether the minor-suit game may be better when a notrump game might be in doubt.

In the present case, South should have made the convenience bid of three spades after North supported clubs to invite North to bid notrump with a heart stopper if he had one. North would have retreated to four clubs, and South, warned of the weakness in hearts, could then have bid the club game.

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by Steve Becker

Universal Crossword

Edited by Taylor Johnson May 7, 2026

ACROSS

1 Gentle throw

5 Canned meat with a gochujang flavor

9 Sectionals, e.g.

14 Honolulu's island

15 Marine apex predator

16 Grown-up

17 Stair

18 Indian flatbread

19 Areas

20 *Seller of Gruyere or Camembert

23 Houston MLB player

24 Select from a menu

25 (This is a library!)

28 Sombreros, e.g.

30 Messenger molecule

31 "Look Who's Talking ____" (1990 movie sequel)

32 Emmy winner Gordon-Levitt

35 *Unhappy circus performer "The Kite Runner" protagonist

38 Old enough

40 ____ Luyendyk Jr. (2018 Bachelor)

41 *Left-leaning person, typically

43 Wine and dine, for example?

45 Freudian concept

46 Slithery fish

47 Aspiring atty.'s exam

48 "SNL" alum Aykroyd

49 Rodeo rope

51 Standards

55 Performance group starring a bald trio ... or what you might call the trio of answers to the starred clues?

57 Warm winter drink

60 "SNL" alum Fey

61 Currency in France

62 Garden shelter

63 Three, in Tijuana

64 Christmas tree topper

65 Exams

66 Gumbo vegetable

67 Prefix for "health" or "novela"

8 Broadway in Nashville, e.g.

9 New Orleans cocktail

10 Bad smell

11 "Exciting!"

12 Draft option

13 GPS screen lines

21 Dove product

22 What F, M and X can represent

25 Hurricane or tornado

26 Backstreet Boys member Dorrough

27 Fine-tunes

29 "Valden" writer Henry David

32 Bored of it all

33 Last Greek letter

34 ____ Says (kids' game)

35 Used a bench

36 Settle once and for all

39 High vocal register

42 Places to store wine

44 Put up, as wall art

47 Temporary car

50 Sneaky grin

52 Path for a road trip

53 Big wall art, perhaps

54 Fern's reproductive structure

55 Kick out

56 Org. that launched Artemis II on April Fools' Day, 2026

57 "That Darn ____!" (1965 film about a mischievous feline)

58 Mine lode

59 "The Price Is Right" network

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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

4/30 Solution

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Three of a Kind by Sala Wanetick

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

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REALTORS

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South girls soccer takes down North for long-awaited first win

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

It has been a long spring for the Grosse Pointe South varsity girls soccer team leading up to its rivalry game against Grosse Pointe North Friday, May 1. The Blue Devils were winless to that point, coming into the game with a 0-10-1 record, but

finally broke into the win column with a tightly contested 1-0 victory over the Norsemen on the road. “I can’t explain how important that win was, even if it is the first win of the year,” South girls soccer head coach Joe Cada said. “... We’ve been dealing with injuries. Both of our captains have been out for

multiple weeks. We’ve been shorthanded and the girls have been doing the best they can. ... They’ve been great and keeping their heads up and have really positive spirits.” The game was close throughout, with the Blue Devils and Norsemen both battling for opportunities. With about five minutes left in

the first half, South was able to find the back of the net for the first and only goal of the game. The tally was scored by junior Brooke Hepner in what was her first game back after missing a few weeks due to injury. Hepner’s goal gave South an advantage heading into halftime, but neither side let off the gas in the second half. North had opportunities to even the game throughout the final 40 minutes, including some close chances as time was running out. South goalkeeper Lilian Schindlbeck was able to ward off those chances and help lead the Blue Devils’ defense in closing out the game. Getting the first win of the season in early May could be a major turning point for South. The Blue Devils have had to deal with injuries and inconsistent lineups throughout the spring, but are hopeful they can build momentum in the final stretch of the regular season. “There’s growth in every loss,” Cada said. “You learn from it and get better by playing against better teams. That’s how you grow as



PHOTOS BY MIKE ADZIMA

Sophomore Giuliana Long brings the ball up the field for South against the Norsemen Friday, May 1.



South sophomore goalkeeper Lilian Schindlbeck clears the ball out of the box after making a save in the Blue Devils’ 1-0 win over North.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Thomas gives his all on the links for South

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Like any ideal high school student-athlete, Grosse Pointe South junior Charlie Thomas is a team player first and

foremost. He will do anything to help his team win, whether that means playing a style of golf he admits might be boring, but successful, for South’s varsity boys golf team, or coming

back to the game of hockey mid-season to become a defensive pillar on the blue line for the Blue Devils boys hockey team. After his sophomore year, Thomas told himself he was done with hockey and wanted to devote more of his time and energy to golf. However, all it took was a couple of games being in the bleachers rather than on the ice to change his mind before he was strapping on his pads and lacing up his skates for another season on South’s blue line. “When the season came around, I went to a couple of the boys hockey games and realized that I missed it so much and missed the

energy,” Thomas said. “I texted the coach to see if I could come back and they needed a defenseman. I went to a couple of skates and then played in my first game right away against Liggett, which was huge.” Thomas helped make an impact on defense for South and finished the hockey season with three points, all assists. After that, it was on to golf season, focusing on the sport that has become his passion over the years, ever since joining his home course. “I started junior golf at CCD (Country Club of Detroit) and just fell in love with the game,” Thomas said. “I started practicing every day. For

Grosse Pointe News



Charlie Thomas
School: Grosse Pointe South
Sport: Golf
Sponsored by Fairway Packing Co.



PHOTO BY THADDEUS HOUK

Thomas follows through on a tee shot in a match against Eisenhower and Grosse Pointe North at Gowanie Golf Club April 17.

Leader On The Links

- Captain of Grosse Pointe South varsity boys golf
- Finished 7th with score of 75 at McIntyre Invitational April 27
- Member of South varsity boys hockey and golf teams

the last three years, I’ve gone to CCD three or four times a week just to work all day and get better, because my dream is to play college golf.” Thomas recently got the chance to compete at his home course and help his team achieve a huge result. He finished with a score of 75 at the McIntyre Invitational at CCD on April 27, which helped propel South to a second-place team finish and put him seventh on the individual leaderboard. This is his second year as a team captain for South as well; being a leader is a role he has embraced fully. As the Blue Devils have some of the most important matches and tournaments ahead, with MAC

See *ATHLETE*, page 6D



The Steak Shop

Score a home run this season.

Baseball teams ready for big moments as calendar flips to May

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The varsity baseball teams from University Liggett School, Grosse Pointe South and Grosse Pointe North have reached the second month of the regular season. There are plenty of games left, but big moments like league championships and play-offs are on the horizon and all three squads are trying to build all the momentum they can as each game becomes more crucial.

University Liggett

It was a big week for the Knights, complete with hot hitting and strong defense. Liggett was riding a winning streak heading into a Catholic League double-

header Thursday, April 30, at home against Cardinal Mooney. They kept the momentum going with another pair of wins.

The first was an 8-1 victory for Liggett in the opening game of the doubleheader. Dom Djurasaj looked unstoppable on the mound, pitching all seven innings and recording 13 strikeouts with just four hits and one run surrendered. Ravi Hines and Miles Quinn helped lead the offense with a pair of RBIs each.

Liggett took game two of last Thursday's doubleheader 5-0, doing so once again with a strong pitching performance. This time, it was the arm of Joey Harris leading the way, throwing seven innings with seven strikeouts and only one hit



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

South's Charlie Michelotti winds up to pitch against Anchor Bay Tuesday, April 28.

allowed. The momentum continued for Liggett Friday, May 1, as the team went on the road to take on Roseville. The Knights completely shut down the

Panthers, needing just four innings to notch a 15-0 win. Hines and Will Martin combined for a no-hitter on the mound. Marc Abdul-Nour had three RBIs while Javion Gray and Sam Van Culin brought in a pair of runs each.

"They put the ball in play and do the job for the team," Liggett baseball head coach Jay Ricci said about his team's recent offensive success. "They hit a sacrifice fly or a grounder to second base to move someone over. ... They're doing that and buying into it. They're not striking out. All of that leads to more success at the plate as a team."

Liggett went on the road again Monday, May 4, for another Catholic League doubleheader, this time against Riverview Gabriel Richard. It was another sweep for the Knights as the hot streak continued. Harris and Devin Steele drove in a pair of runs each, while Kanaan Taylor notched eight strikeouts on the mound in a 14-0 win in game one.

Game two was another shutout victory as Liggett took the win 7-0. The string of great pitching performances continued as Gray took the mound and threw four scoreless innings and allowed only one hit in the win.

"We have five or six guys who can dominate on the mound," Ricci said about the Knights' pitching strengths. "They're locating. They're not walking a lot of guys and our defense has gotten better behind them. ... All of them have just really shifted into a new gear."

Liggett visited Grosse Pointe North after press time Wednesday, May 6. The Knights are on the

road again Friday, May 8, as they head to Royal Oak.

Grosse Pointe North

Last week had its ups and downs for the Norsemen. An 8-3 loss at home Thursday, April 30, meant North was swept in all three games of its MAC White Division series against L'Anse Creuse North. Luke Bruveris had two RBIs for the Norsemen in the loss.

However, North bounced back in its next game Saturday, May 2. It was the first of two games for North against two different opponents for the day, with the Norsemen earning an 8-2 win over Royal Oak. Zane Hemler helped power the offense with a pair of RBIs on two hits. Daniel Lefevre pitched all seven innings and allowed two runs on just three hits.

North's second game last Saturday saw the team host Birmingham Seaholm. It was a high-scoring matchup, but the Norsemen were unable to keep up in the end, falling to the Maples 14-11.

North came out of the gate hot in the loss, scoring 10 runs in the first inning, sparked by a two-run home run from DJ Edwards to kick things off. Edwards came up to the plate again later in the same inning and put another ball over the left field fence for a grand slam to make the lead 10-0 for North. However, Seaholm chipped away at North's lead, with big innings in the fourth and fifth helping the Maples take over.

The Norsemen allowed 14 runs again Monday, May 4, in a road MAC White Division matchup against St. Clair. This time, North was on the losing end of a 14-4 game, with Edwards and Trevor Lipscomb bringing in two

runs each with their bats in the loss.

North hosted University Liggett School after press time Wednesday, May 6. The Norsemen then head on the road for another matchup with St. Clair Thursday, May 7.

Grosse Pointe South

The Blue Devils won their MAC White Division series against Anchor Bay last week, winning the first two games before suffering a 9-0 loss in the third game Thursday, April 30.

South hosted two games Saturday, May 2, starting with a matchup against Seaholm. The Blue Devils earned a close 4-2 win, with two RBIs from Charlie McPartlin helping spark things on offense. Henry Danielewicz got the win on the mound, pitching five innings and allowing one earned run on five hits, with Drew Hess earning the save at the end.

The Blue Devils were in another close one last Saturday in their second game of the day, defeating Royal Oak 3-2. Luke Thompson, Charlie Michelotti and Andrew Wilson helped drive in runs for South to get the win.

South hosted L'Anse Creuse North Monday, May 4, in the first game of a new MAC White Division series. The series started with a loss for the Blue Devils, getting blanked 4-0 by the Crusaders to open the week.

South visited L'Anse Creuse North after press time Tuesday, May 5, and hosted De La Salle Collegiate Wednesday, May 6. The Blue Devils are home again Thursday, May 7, for the final game of their series with L'Anse Creuse North, with first pitch at 4 p.m.

City of Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan

Notice of Public Hearing On the Proposed 2026-27 General Budget And Various Other Fund Budgets

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN the Mayor and the City Council of the City of Grosse Pointe Woods will be meeting on May 18, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 20025 Mack Plaza Dr., for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on the proposed 2026-27 General Fund Budget as well as the various other Fund Budgets of the said City.

The subject of this hearing is the property tax millage rate of 15.5414 proposed to be levied on July 1, 2026 to support the proposed General Fund, Public Relations, Solid Waste, Senior Service and Road Budgets. If adopted, the proposed millage will generate \$15,412,828 in operating revenue from ad valorem property taxes for all funds, which is a \$508,032 or 3.31% increase compared to the 2025-2026 total collection of \$14,904,809. The winter millage levied for the Milk River Drainage tax will be 3.723 mills.

Purpose of Millage	Millage Rate	Revenue Generated
General Operating	12.5078	\$12,404,325
Road Bond Debt	0.2500	\$247,932
Act 359 – Public Relations	.0504	\$49,983
Act 298 – Solid Waste	2.3909	\$2,371,120
Senior Services	.3423	\$339,468
Total Special Acts Millage	2.7836	\$2,760,571
TOTAL GENERAL, PUBLIC RELATIONS SOLID WASTE & ROAD DEBT MILLAGE	15.5414	\$15,412,828

Milk River Drain		
Purpose of Millage	Millage Rate	Revenue Generated
Milk River Drain Operations	2.4243	\$2,405,350
Milk River Drain Bonded Debt	1.2959	\$1,285,783
Administration	.0038	\$3,500
TOTAL MILK RIVER DRAIN LEVY	3.7237	\$3,694,633

The City Council expects to take action on the proposed millage rates as well as taking action to approve the aforementioned budgets at the Council meeting immediately following the public hearing. The taxing unit publishing this notice, identified above, has complete authority to establish the number of mills to be levied from within its authorized millage rate.

2026-2027 Proposed Budget Summary City of Grosse Pointe Woods

	2026-27 PROPOSED
GENERAL FUND	
General Government	\$4,383,398
Public Safety	\$9,122,465
Public Works	\$2,892,990
Management Info. Systems	\$577,370
Parks & Recreation	\$2,254,139
Total General Fund	\$19,230,362
SPECIAL REVENUE	
Major Street	\$2,045,423
Local Street	\$1,776,455
Act 302 Training	\$8,000
Parkway Beautification	\$107,990
Cable Fund	\$0
MCOLES	\$10,000
Solid Waste	\$2,445,574
CDBG	\$20,000
SOM MIDC Grant	\$52,000
911 Service Fund	\$160,602
Drug Forfeiture	\$800
Opioid Settlement	\$7,000
Senior Service	\$339,468
Total Special Revenue	\$6,973,312
DEBT SERVICE FUND	
Road Bond Debt	\$350,964
Capital Improvement Debt	\$209,238
Grosse Gratiot Drain (Milk River)	\$3,701,869
Total Debt Funds	\$4,262,071
CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	
Municipal Improvement	\$159,300
Total Capital Projects Fund	\$159,300
INTERNAL SERVICE FUNDS	
Motor Vehicle Fund	\$1,385,065
Workmen's Compensation	\$171,025
Health Fund	\$3,219,311
Total Internal Service Funds	\$4,775,401
ENTERPRISE FUNDS	
Parking	\$457,823
Water & Sewer	\$10,402,468
Boat Dock	\$228,064
Commodity Sales	\$300
Total Enterprise Funds	\$11,088,655
FIDUCIARY FUNDS	
Pension Trust Funds	\$4,695,215
Supplemental Annuity	\$316,571
Retiree Healthcare (OPEB)	\$22,450
Total Fiduciary Funds	\$5,034,236
Budget Total	\$51,523,337

A copy of the proposed budget will be available for inspection during regular business hours at the office of the City Administrator. Public comments, oral and/or written, will be welcome at the public hearing on the aforesaid proposed General Fund Budget and the various other Fund Budgets.

Sue Como
City Manager



CITY OF GROSSE POINTE FARMS BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

90 Kerby Road	5/11/2026	7:00 p.m.
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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE CITY OF GROSSE POINTE FARMS Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on 5/11/2026 at 7:00 p.m. at the Grosse Pointe Farms City Hall located at 90 Kerby Rd. to consider an application from the owner of the property located at 303 Hillcrest, which is located in the R-1 One-Family Residential District. The applicant requests the required approval of the following dimensional variance in order to proceed with the plans.

- Approval of a dimensional variance to permit an accessory structure that exceeds 15' in height.

All interested citizens are requested to attend the Hearings. Public comments will be received during the Public Hearing, orally. If you are unable to be present at the Public Hearing, please submit your written comments to the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 90 Kerby Road, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236 or through the www.grossepointefarms.org/publiccomment, by 12:00 p.m. the date of the hearing. For detailed instructions on how to observe or participate in the meeting please contact the City Clerk office at (313) 885-6600 or visit the City website. For further information regarding the application please contact Matthew Baka, Public Services Director, at (313) 885-4285. Plans are available at City Hall for review.

South track teams dominate at Wandering Wizard Invitational

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Saturday, May 2, marked one of the biggest days on the calendar for the boys and girls track and field programs at Grosse Pointe South. The Blue Devils hosted the second annual Wandering Wizard Invitational, an event created to honor the memory of former South coach Mike Novak. With some of the top competition from around metro Detroit coming to South to compete, the Blue Devils boys and girls teams both ended up on top of the standings at their home invitational.

For South's girls team, finishing first at the Wandering Wizard Invitational was the culmination of a successful week. Tuesday, April 28, the Blue Devils defeated Henry Ford II 91-46 in a dual meet that sealed the MAC White Division championship for the South girls and an undefeated season in league competition.

"We have a team of 75 young women who have consistently worked together to be at our best as a team and as individuals," South girls

track and field coach Steve Zaranek said. "Our expectations always remain high and each girl strives to meet those difficult but achievable expectations. Their work ethic and camaraderie are second to none."

The girls team for South had nine first-place finishes at the invitational last Saturday. Senior Morgan Duff took first place in long jump and in the 200-meter race. She was also part of the 1600 relay team that earned first place with teammates Olivia Colt, Aria Burrascano and Ciara Pongratz. Pongratz also was the winner of the 300 hurdles for South.

Daphne Spies, Evie Baer, Karissa Jelinski and Ryan Wright combined for a win in the 400 sprint relay. In the 1600 distance relay, Colt, Morgan Costello, Rylee Piornack and Eleanor Pilsner earned first place for South. Piornack also finished first in the 800, with Pilsner earning a pair of victories in the 1600 and 3200 distance races.

Grosse Pointe North's girls track and field team had some athletes



PHOTOS BY MIKE ADZIMA

South sophomore Evie Baer runs in the 100-meter dash at the Second Annual Wandering Wizard Invitational Saturday, May 2, at South.

compete in certain events at the invitational as well. Among the highlights for the Norsemen were a first-place finish in shot put by Nia Ruiz and Jessica Atchinson

taking first place in the pole vault.

South's boys team was dominant at its home invitational. The Blue Devils finished the day with 205 points in

first place, while second-place Lutheran North had 80.

The South boys placed first in nearly every event. Zachary Wilson was first in both the 100-

and 200-meter sprint races. Nathan Tyler won the 400, while teammate Grayson Wodzisz took the top spot in both the 800 and 1600.

Tristan Winger helped earn wins for South in both the 110- and 300-meter hurdles. He, along with Owen Applegate, Jayden Jelinski and Tyler, also earned first in the 800 relay. Applegate, Jelinski, Tyler and Daschel Hanneman brought the Blue Devils another victory in the 1600 relay.

In the field events, Joseph Agnone took first place in shot put, with North's Ashton Christie finishing second. Liam O'Donoghue was victorious for South in the pole vault.

Both the boys and girls teams from South and North competed in the MAC White Division Meet after press time Tuesday, May 5. South's teams are set to be in action Saturday, May 9, at Warren Mott's Marauder Quest For Gold Invitational. The Norsemen head to Dakota for an invitational the same day.



South's Nathan Tyler takes the baton from teammate Tristan Winger during the 800 relay at the Wandering Wizard Invitational Saturday, May 2. The Blue Devils' team of Winger, Tyler, Owen Applegate and Zachary Wilson took first place in the event.

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MAY 17TH | UNIVERSITY LIGGETT SCHOOL | GP WOODS, MI



Grosse Pointe News

Peanuts

THURSDAY COMICS

Charles M. Schulz



HEY, YOU STUPID BEAGLE, I'M DOING INTERVIEWS FOR OUR SCHOOL PAPER...



© 1978 Peanuts Worldwide LLC. Dist. by Andrews McMeel

HOW ABOUT A GOOD QUOTE FOR OUR READERS?



www.stoopys.com

BLEAH!

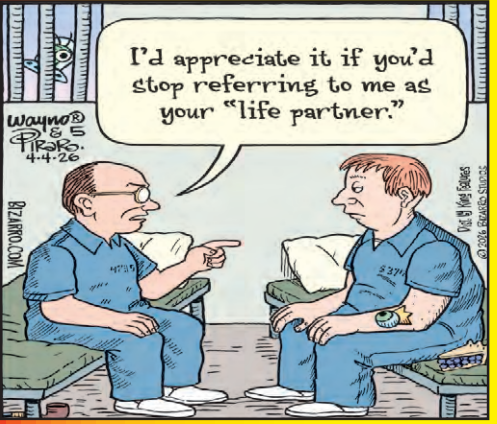


"HE SAID HE EXPECTS TO HAVE ONE OF HIS BEST SEASONS EVER"



SCHULZ

I'd appreciate it if you'd stop referring to me as your "life partner."



Waymond
Piraro
4-4-26

RIGHT, I'M OFF TO SNOOKER, FLO



I'VE GOT TO CALL INTO THE JOB CENTRE ON THE WAY. THEY HAVE SOMETHING FOR ME

OH, GREAT, PET. THAT'S SO GOOD TO HEAR



GOLDSMITH & GARNETT

I DROPPED MY SNOOKER CLUB MEMBERSHIP CARD IN THERE



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SUMMER NEXT TIMES YOU SHOULD BE CAREFUL TO NOT HAVE SUNBURN ON YOUR HAND BEFORE RUBBING YOUR FOREHEAD.



Waymond
Piraro
4-4-26

WHAT'S YOUR SPECIAL?

THE DUCK.



John Hart Studios Inc.

HOW WAS THE DUCK PREPARED?



HE DIDN'T TAKE IT WELL.

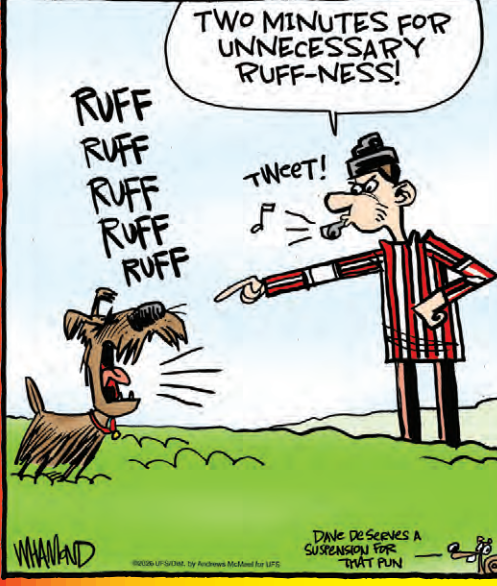


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TWO MINUTES FOR UNNECESSARY RUFF-NESS!

RUFF RUFF RUFF RUFF RUFF

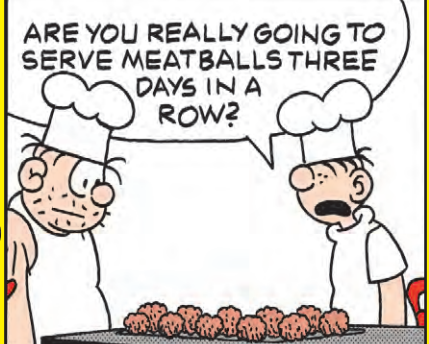
TWEET!



Waymond
Piraro
4-4-26

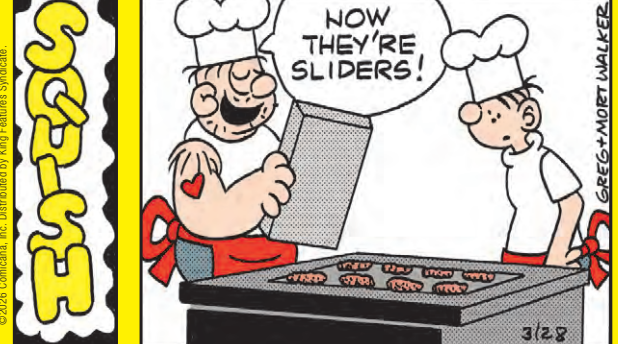


ARE YOU REALLY GOING TO SERVE MEATBALLS THREE DAYS IN A ROW?



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NOW THEY'RE SLIDERS!



GREG, BRIAN, NEAL AND MORT WALKER

"BY THE TIME WE PAY OFF WHAT'S TRENDING, IT WON'T BE TRENDING ANYMORE."



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I CAN TELL IT'S RAINING, BY MY EARS

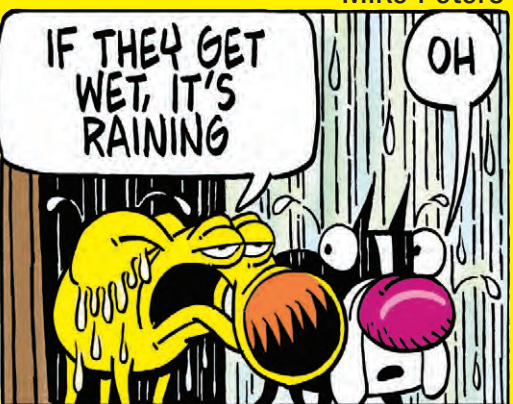
HOW?



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IF THEY GET WET, IT'S RAINING

OH

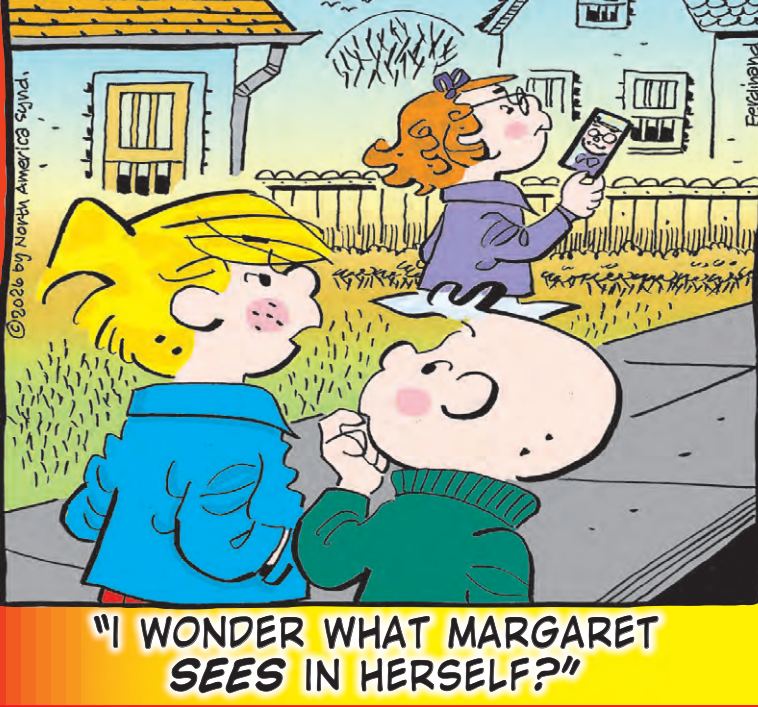


MIKE PETERS

Dennis the Menace

Hank Ketchum, Scott Ketchum, Ron Ferdinand and Marcus Hamilton

"I WONDER WHAT MARGARET SEES IN HERSELF?"



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IS THAT A NEW WRISTWATCH, GEORGE?



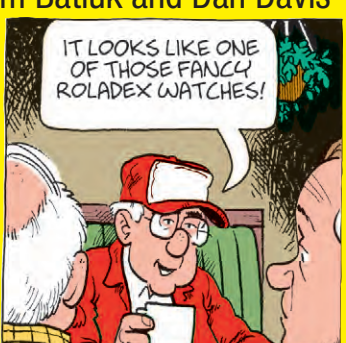
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AS A MATTER OF FACT IT IS!



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IT LOOKS LIKE ONE OF THOSE FANCY ROLADAX WATCHES!



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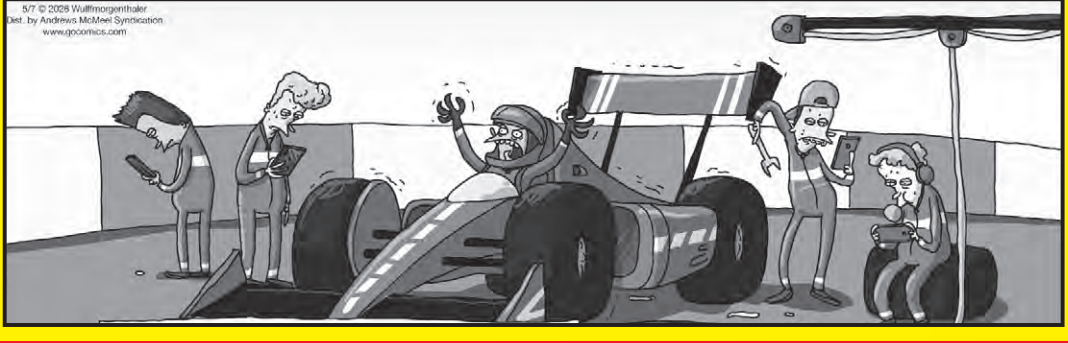
CAPTAIN SMITH RETURNS FROM WHAT HE DEEMED A SUCCESSFUL PATROL IN THE ARCTIC OCEAN.

IVAN WAS HERE



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Wumo



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Grosse Pointe News THURSDAY COMICS



Garfield

I WANT TO GET UP, BUT I DON'T WANT TO DISTURB GARFIELD



JTM DAV'S 3-28

I'LL JUST SIT HERE A FEW MORE MINUTES



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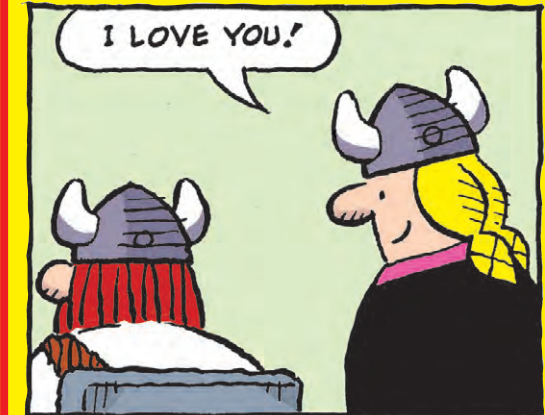
MINUTES? IF I WERE YOU, I'D BE CANCELING PLANS FOR THE WEEKEND



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

I LOVE YOU!



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AT LEAST YOU HEARD ME!



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Close To Home John McPherson

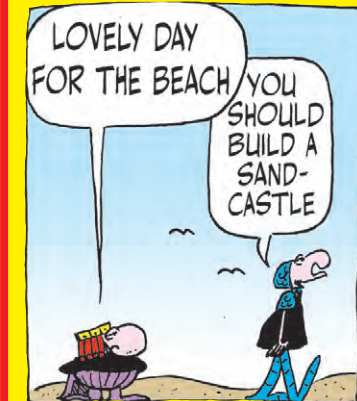


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Wizard of Id Created by Brant Parker and Johnny Hart. Currently by Mason Mastroianni

LOVELY DAY FOR THE BEACH

YOU SHOULD BUILD A SAND-CASTLE



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YEAH! I'LL MAKE IT LOOK JUST LIKE MY REAL ONE

GOOD IDEA!



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PAT PAT PAT



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KICK

LOOK, GUYS... CAN I GET A DAY OFF?!



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Ziggy Tom Wilson

DOCTOR, YOUR NEXT PATIENT IS HERE, AND HE LOOKS LIKE ANOTHER SCREAMER!



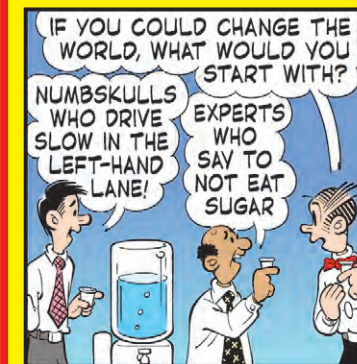
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Blondie

IF YOU COULD CHANGE THE WORLD, WHAT WOULD YOU START WITH?

NUMBSKULLS WHO DRIVE SLOW IN THE LEFT-HAND LANE!

EXPERTS WHO SAY TO NOT EAT SUGAR

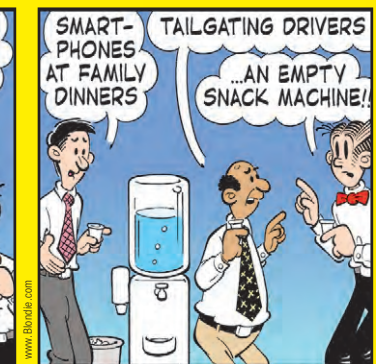


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SMART-PHONES AT FAMILY DINNERS

TAILGATING DRIVERS

...AN EMPTY SNACK MACHINE!



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Marmaduke Paul & Brad Anderson

WE JUST NAILED ANOTHER TROUBLESHOOTING SESSION, BOSS...



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"I can't... throw it... if you don't... let go... of it..."



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Over The Hedge

MY PHONE'S DYING.

SIGH...WE'LL HAVE TO RUN A CORD TO THE HINKLESONS!

OO! FUN!



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WHEN? WHY??

WHAT'S A HINKLESON??

CAN I HELP??



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CAN I?? PLEEEEEEZ??

PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE...

ALWAYS COMPATIBLE.

ALWAYS.



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Crock

TODAY'S MISSION IS DANGEROUS. YOU MAY NOT RETURN

NOW'S THE TIME TO WRITE YOUR LAST LETTERS HOME

WITH AN INTRODUCTORY PENCIL AND PEN SET OFFER FOR \$10.99



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Popeye

I HAVEN'T SEEN WIMPY ALL DAY!

ARF! ARF! NEITHER HAS I!



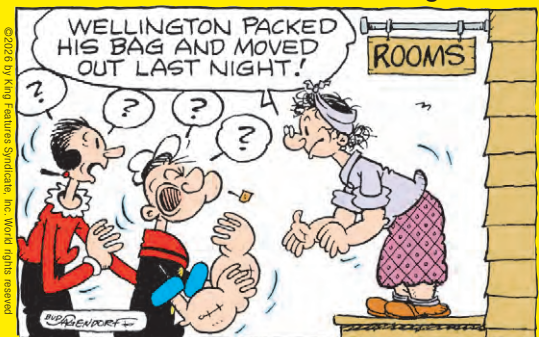
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WE'D BETTER CHECK HIS ROOM... HE MIGHT BE UNWELL!



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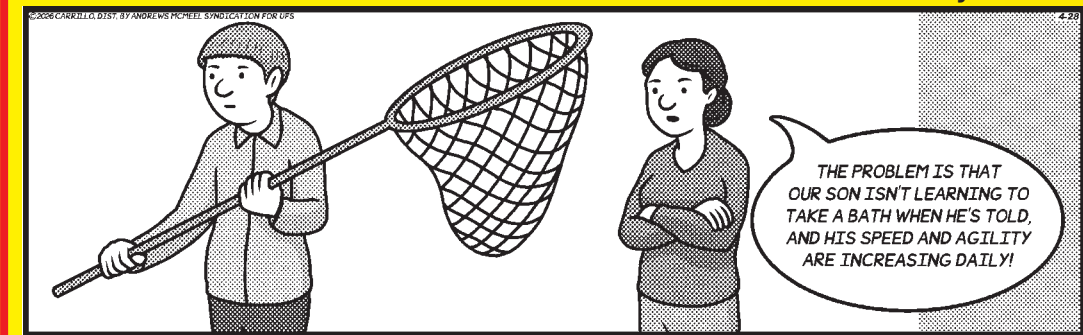
WELLINGTON PACKED HIS BAG AND MOVED OUT LAST NIGHT!



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F Minus

THE PROBLEM IS THAT OUR SON ISN'T LEARNING TO TAKE A BATH WHEN HE'S TOLD, AND HIS SPEED AND AGILITY ARE INCREASING DAILY!



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Family Circus Bill and Jeff Keane

"Remember! Hugs and kisses come before 'What did you bring us, Grandma?'"



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South softball's bats remain hot, North falls in MAC Red challenges

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Action continued on the softball diamond throughout the Pointes last week as the calendar flipped to May. The teams from Grosse Pointe South and Grosse Pointe North are looking to pick things up in the second half of the regular season. The results from last week were stronger in some areas than others.

Grosse Pointe South
South's bats were on fire again much of last week, beginning with an 11-0 win over New Haven Tuesday, April 28. Mackenzie Simon and Sophia Husek each had a pair of RBIs. Husek also closed out a combined no-hitter for South, pitching two scoreless and hitless innings after Makenzie Waterson pitched three shutout innings to start. The Blue Devils kept rolling into Thursday, April 30, earning a 10-3 victory against Port Huron Northern at home. Husek once again had a big performance at

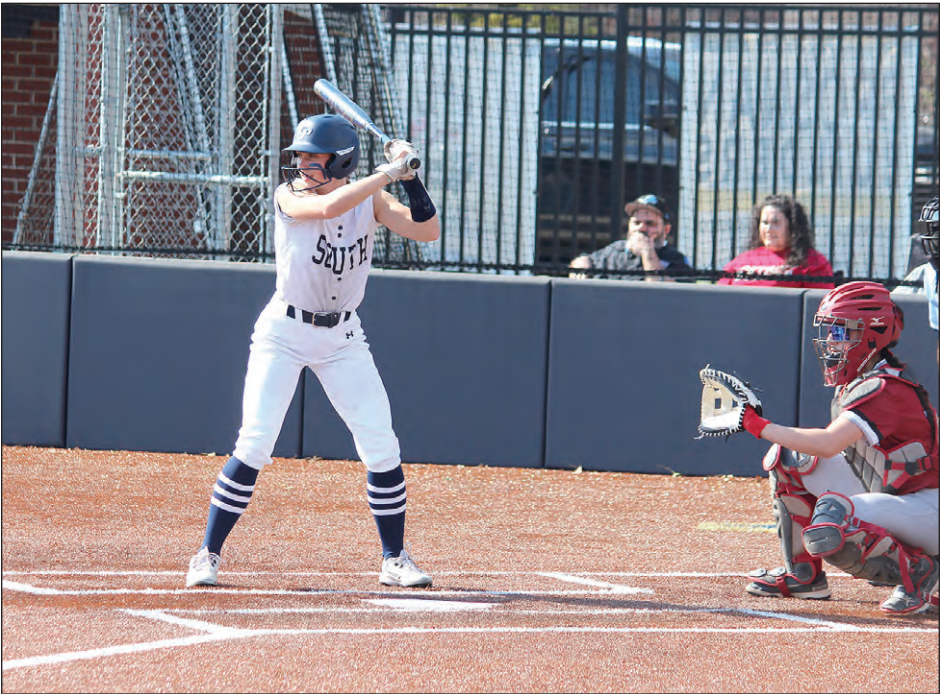


PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

South's Viviana Ostrowski, pictured in a game against Detroit Western, brought in the game-winning run in extra innings for the Blue Devils in a 5-4 road victory over Port Huron Northern Monday, May 4.

the plate, bringing in two RBIs on three hits, while Simon added to South's total with a two-run home run in the fourth inning. South kept the momentum going the next day and shut down L'Anse Creuse in a 6-0 win Friday, May 1. The Blue Devils took advantage of

a host of L'Anse Creuse errors on offense, while strong pitching powered the way to the win. Waterson threw six scoreless innings, allowing only five hits with seven strikeouts to earn the victory. The team hosted three games Saturday, May 2, as part of the Blue Devil

Invitational. The first game of the day was another big win for the Blue Devils, taking down Berkley 15-0. Piper Obermok finished the game with four RBIs, including a two-run home run, while Husek struck out six batters on the mound through three innings.

Obermok left the yard again in South's second game last Saturday, hitting a three-run home run to help South in a blowout 11-0 win over West Bloomfield. Madison Iverson and Courtney Cowan finished with a pair of RBIs as well. South's winning streak was snapped in Saturday's final game, as the Blue Devils fell 5-4 against Lutheran North. South carried a 4-2 lead into the final inning, but the Mustangs rallied in the bottom of the sixth inning to pull off the comeback. The Blue Devils got back in the win column Monday, May 4, picking up a 5-4 win on the road over Port Huron Northern in extra innings. Viviana Ostrowski had a pair of RBIs in the win, including an RBI single in the top of the eighth inning that brought in the eventual game-winning run. South heads on the road for a MAC Blue Division matchup with Warren Woods-Tower Thursday, May 7. The Blue Devils return home

Monday, May 11, to take on Marine City at 4:30 p.m. **Grosse Pointe North** Last week brought a pair of matchups for the Norsemen against two of the top teams in the MAC Red Division. The first saw North head on the road to face Romeo Thursday, April 30, where North's offense had trouble putting much together in a 6-3 loss. Sy'Rai Winbush had the only RBI for North and one of just three hits for the team. Addison Moses earned nine strikeouts over six innings on the mound despite the loss. North returned home Friday, May 1, to host Anchor Bay. It was another loss for the Norsemen, falling to the Tars 12-3. Senior Eva Borowski had three hits, while Emma Barr and Phoebe Julien each had RBIs in the loss. North visited Dakota Tuesday, May 5, after press time. The Norsemen return home Thursday, May 7, hosting Henry Ford II at 4:30 p.m.

ATHLETE:

Continued from page 1D

Red Championships and MHSAA regionals just a few weeks away,

Thomas' leadership is going to be key in this stretch of the season. Some recent examples show why Thomas is a perfect leader for South when things become

crucial. "I really like helping out the younger kids on our team and being a leader," he said. "We just lost to Romeo in a match and after that our coach

asked if the captains had anything to say and I got to speak up and say that we're not going to lose another match all year and that we're just going to take this on the chin and move forward." Thomas has been at or near the top of the leaderboard for South many times this spring. He knows his game keeps improving, but what has really helped is not any adjustments in his swing, but rather changing how he thinks about each shot and each

round. "As long as I'm focused and mentally prepared, I'll play my best golf," he said. "I need to stay present during my round and not think about my past shots, but just look forward and play everything shot by shot." That mentality has helped Thomas become one of South's most consistent golfers throughout the spring. One thing he has talked about with his coaches is playing what might be considered "boring" golf. The

mentality of playing things safe and consistent, even if it is boring, has helped Thomas tremendously. "Being consistent comes from me trying to play the simplest golf and the most boring golf I can play," he said. "... I feel like this year, compared to previous years, freshman and sophomore years, I would have one good round and one bad round. This year, I feel like I've evened it out more and can play really consistently."



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PHOTO BY THADDEUS HOUK

Thomas is spending his second consecutive season as a team captain this spring for South varsity boys golf.

Grosse Pointe News



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