



Grosse Pointe News

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JULY 30, 2026
GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

Early voting ends Sunday

By GPN Staff

THE GROSSE POINTES — There are no local Grosse Pointe races on the August primary ballot.

Voters will be deciding which Republican candidates will advance to the November election for governor and the state Senate. Democrats will choose their candidates for governor, the U.S. Senate, Congress and the state House.

Also on the ballot is a proposal for the Wayne County Transit Authority Wayne County Public Transportation Millage, which would levy a maximum of 0.9831 mills for 10 years to fund public transportation services in the county. It would replace an expiring millage that supported SMART buses.

Early voting kicked off last weekend and runs 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. — with the exception of the Shores, which runs until 4 p.m. — through Sunday, Aug. 2.

"I would encourage voters to take advantage of the early voting precinct, because the lines will be shorter," said Derrick Kozicki, Farms assistant city manager/city clerk.

Early voting locations are as follows:

- City of Grosse Pointe, council chambers, 17145 Maumee
- Grosse Pointe Farms, council chambers, 90 Kerby
- Grosse Pointe Park, city hall, 15115 E. Jefferson
- Grosse Pointe Shores, city hall, 795 Lakeshore
- Grosse Pointe

See VOTE, page 2A



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Annabel Schlachter, Dan LaLonde's niece and store manager at LaLonde Jewelers and Gemologists, sits on the newly dedicated bench with Cindy LaLonde, LaLonde's widow and vice president of the store, who holds the proclamation from the city of Grosse Pointe Farms.

LaLonde's legacy honored with bench, mayoral proclamation

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — "Sometimes there are giants in the industry, quite frankly, and the city of Grosse Pointe Farms lost a huge giant, Mr. Dan LaLonde, recently," Mayor John Gillooly said at the start of the city's council meeting Monday, July 13.

Daniel LaLonde, owner of LaLonde Jewelers and Gemologists on The Hill and longtime president of The Hill Association, passed away unexpectedly at home in mid-April.



Dan LaLonde

A bench dedicated in his memory by The Hill Association was placed outside his business during a ceremony Tuesday, July 21.

The week prior, he also was posthumously recognized with a mayoral proclamation honoring his legacy, which was presented to his wife of 30 years, Cynthia.

"Mr. LaLonde went above and beyond the call of duty," Gillooly said. "Not only in his role as a resident, not only in his role as a business leader or in his role as president of The Hill Association, but Mr. LaLonde did a lot of good things for a lot of people."

The LaLondes devoted decades to operating and expanding the jewelry shop at 91 Kercheval. They were honored by the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce in 2017, as an Excellence in Business award winner, of which LaLonde was deeply proud.

"Through his professionalism, expertise and integrity, Daniel strengthened the economic vitality and welcoming character of the city of Grosse Pointe Farms, while serving literally generations of residents," the mayoral proclamation reads. "… Daniel demonstrated a

See HONORED, page 2A

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Five file, 4 running for BoE

By Ted O'Neil
Associate Editor

THE GROSSE POINTES — As of the deadline at 4 p.m. Tuesday, July 21, five people filed to run for three open seats on the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education in November's election.

They are Ginny Jeup, Walt Fitzpatrick, Mariel Krupansky, Thomas "Jake" Howlett and Michelle White. The open seats currently are held by Sean Cotton, Jeup and Valarie St. John.

Krupansky, however, told the Grosse Pointe News she has suspended her campaign for health reasons (see letter to the editor, page 6A). Her name will still be on the November ballot as she did not meet the 4 p.m. Friday, July 25, deadline

See FILE, page 9A

Parent wins temporary injunction against GPPSS

By Ted O'Neil
Associate Editor

THE GROSSE POINTES — A parent who was served by police with a "no trespass" order from the Grosse Pointe Public School System was given a temporary injunction against the district last week.

Gary Shane Pruitt, of Grosse Pointe Woods, filed the suit in March in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, claiming the district violated his First and 14th Amendment rights.

According to a chronology in the complaint, Pruitt attended a back-to-school night at Parcells Middle School in early September 2024, and "observed many rainbow/transgender pride flags" on display. After contacting Jason Wesley — who at the time was principal at Parcells — Pruitt was told to contact then-Deputy Superintendent Roy Bishop. The suit claims Bishop told Pruitt, "that nothing was likely to change and was further instructed he could contact the school board."

On Sept. 30, 2024, saying he had permission from school officials, Pruitt visited Parcells after students had been dismissed and filmed a one-minute video of the flags in question, along with a voiceover. He

See GPPSS, page 9A

Grosse Pointe News

THE NOSH

MONTHLY FEATURE SHOWCASING WHAT'S NEW AT LOCAL EATERIES



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Pointer of INTEREST



Lisa Santi
Home: Grosse Pointe Park
Building community through discipline, tradition

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One invasive after another

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer



PHOTO BY BRAD LINDBERG

Beautification Commission Chairwoman Lisa Kyle and Commissioner Jim Creighton ask residents to be on the lookout for invasive species.

GROSSE POINTE PARK — The invasive tree of heaven was hiding in the weeds of plant watchdogs until it got noticed hosting another invasive, the annoying spotted lanternfly.

"Nobody paid much attention to tree of heaven until spotted lanternfly came," said Lisa Kyle, chairwoman of the beautification commission. "That's their favorite host. That's why we learned about tree of heaven."

Tree of heaven, native to China, is considered a weed tree in Michigan.

"It was undesirable, but now is very undesirable because spotted lanternfly is so attracted to it," Kyle said.

She's starting to notice the tree all over.

"They're ubiquitous," she said. "Some would say they've already become naturalized because we see them everywhere."

If Kyle gets lonesome for tree of heaven, she needn't go far.

"My next-door neighbor has a tree of heaven popping up," Kyle said.

It got worse.

"I found a big, red spotted lanternfly in the center," she said.

It kept getting worse.

"And there was a whole row of garlic mustard growing," Kyle said.

Garlic mustard, spotted lanternfly and tree of heaven are on the commission's list of five invasives for which people should be on the lookout.

Two others are purple loosestrife and dame's rocket.

Purple loosestrife is a noxious weed with showy flowers and an aggressive growing habit that obstructs waterways.

Dame's rocket produces so many seeds it takes years to eradicate.

"We're all being taken over," Kyle said. Her sense of humor is as dry as her observations are objective.

She and Commissioner Jim Creighton staffed an information booth during last Saturday's Kercheval After 6.

"We are engaging with residents, prompting our programming and alerting the community about some of the invasive species we see popping up around the city this year," Kyle said.

Among visitors was resident Kathryn Krauss-Schikora and her three children.

"One of the things our family is really passionate about is keeping native wildflower species, native plants, bugs and insects prominent in Michigan," Krauss-Schikora said.

She's doing her part by growing milkweed on her property. Butterflies like milkweed.

"We have two varieties of milkweed, regular and swamp milkweed," she said. "We've seen butterflies around, but haven't seen eggs or caterpillars yet this year. We had some last year."

Smoke from Canadian wildfires forced commissioners this month to cancel their Saturday morning volunteer cleanup of Patterson Park. A new date hasn't been set.

"It has to do with garden beds, along the boardwalk, cleanup and weeding," Creighton said. "Sometimes we install plants."

WM launches creative writing workshop for veterans

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — A first-of-its-kind creative writing workshop for veterans launches at The War Memorial this fall, combining guided creative writing, visual design, trauma-informed wellness support and the publication of a dedicated literary journal created entirely by veterans.

"Many veterans experience social isolation, challenges with emotional health and limited opportunities to process their lived experiences in supportive, community-based settings," Maria Miller, War Memorial president and CEO, said in a release. "While southeastern Michigan offers counseling and employment services for veterans, there remains a critical gap in creative, reflective and community-building programs that use the arts as tools for healing and connection."

The free, six-week class, running Monday evenings from Sept. 28 to Nov. 2, will be led by accomplished writers and educators Kelsey Ronan and Elizabeth Wagenschutz.

Wagenschutz teaches English, creative writing and women's literature at University Liggett School, in addition to being co-moderator of the award-winning student literary magazine, The Lambrequin.

Ronan was a University Liggett educator until recently when she accepted a position as professor of English at St. Clair County Community College. She also is a published author, with her novel "Chevy in the Hole" being selected as a New York Times Editor's Choice.

"My father is a Vietnam veteran and he worked for the VFW for his entire professional career," Wagenschutz said, "so I was extremely excited at the opportunity to work with The War Memorial in this capacity, working with veterans and giving any veterans who are interested an opportunity to engage in a creative expression activity."

The educators will engage veterans in memoir, poetry, fiction and visual layout to develop both creative and technical skills, though they were careful to note that the course of the workshop is dependent on where the writers want to

See WRITING, page 3A

VOTE:

Continued from page 1A

Woods, city hall, 20025 Mack Plaza Dr.

Monday, Aug. 3, the day prior to Election Day, is the sole day without in-person voting options.

"For most smaller cities, it's not feasible because of staffing," Kozicki said. "The city clerks on Monday will be setting up the precincts for Tuesday and preparing all of the Election Day voting equipment."

Election Day polls are open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 4.

Voters in the City of Grosse Pointe will convene in the Neighborhood Club gymnasium, 17150 Waterloo, which is a more accessible option than the upstairs conference room where the last election was held.

"This is the second time we'll be at the Neighborhood Club," said Chris Hardenbrook, City of Grosse Pointe assistant city manager/city clerk. "(This) is our new permanent polling location and we're very appreciative of the Neighborhood Club opening up the doors for us, because it's a big commitment to host such an event."

Both Farms precincts will be located at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, which in recent years became the city's permanent polling location.

In the Park, precincts 1 and 2 are located at the Tompkins Community Center, Windmill Pointe Park, 14920 Windmill Pointe Dr.

Precincts 4, 5, 6 and 7 are located at the Lavins Activity Center, Windmill Pointe Park, 14920 Windmill Pointe Dr.

Both Shores precincts will be located at the Grosse Pointe Shores Municipal Building, 795 Lakeshore.

In the Woods, precinct 1 is located at St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 20475 Sunningdale Park. Precincts 2 and 3 are located at the city hall community center, 20025 Mack Plaza Dr.

Absentee ballots must be returned by the time polls close at 8 p.m. Election Day.

"For the most up-to-date information regarding registering to vote, absentee voting, polling locations, sample ballots and much more, visit the Michigan Voter Information Center website (mvic.sos.state.mi.us)," according to information posted on the Park city clerk's portion of the municipal website, grossepointepark.org. "The Department of State has an early in-person voting webpage that provides answers to many frequently asked questions regarding early voting and early voting sites as well."

HONORED:

Continued from page 1A

lifelong commitment to civic engagement, fostering collaboration among citizens, community organizations and the city of Grosse Pointe Farms, leaving a lasting impact on the community he so dearly loved."

LaLonde served as president of The Hill Association — working with other business owners to enhance the vitality of The Hill business district — since 2011, was an active member of the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club and lived a life threaded throughout the Grosse Pointe community.

"I, John Gillooly, mayor of the city of Grosse Pointe Farms, on behalf of our city council and our administration, and all of our residents, do hereby recognize Daniel LaLonde for his exemplary civic leadership, business excellence and enduring contributions to the city of Grosse Pointe Farms," the proclamation concludes.

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Academy student honored for cleaning the community

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — While recently collecting roadside litter along Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Academy student George Hollerbach was spotted by none other than the mayor of the city he was tidying.

"He had just finished a walk down Lakeshore Road from approximately Sunset Lane, close to Warner, down to Moran and he picked up a bag full of trash just in several blocks," Mayor John Gillooly said. "He did it on his own and he told me how much he enjoys picking up garbage to make our city look nice and clean (and) that he intends to do so in the future."

Hollerbach was honored Monday, July 13, before city council in the second edition of its newly established student recognition program.

"We're truly blessed ... with students and young people who care deeply about the community and care how the community looks and how it presents to people," Gillooly said by way of introduction.

The Academy student also was lauded for achieving good grades and his involvement in various sports, including hockey and sailing.

"Mr. Hollerbach, we are very, very grateful for people like you, for people like your family in the city of Grosse Pointe Farms," Gillooly said. "We wish you continued success in your schooling, but we also wish you continued success and hope you keep up being the great citizen that you are. You have a very, very bright future in front of you."



COURTESY PHOTO

The Grosse Pointe Academy student George Hollerbach with the bag of trash he collected during a recent walk along Lakeshore.

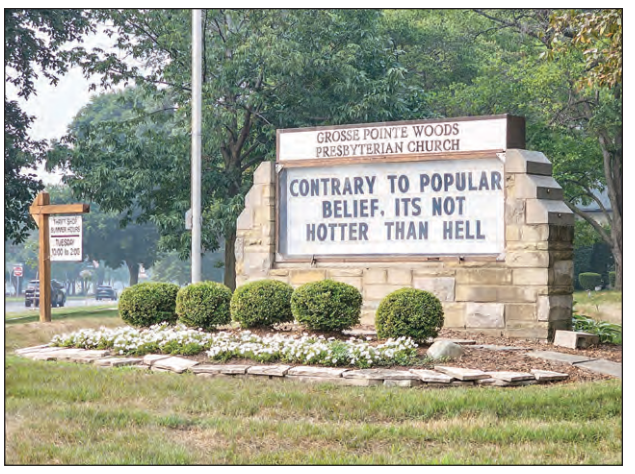


PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Truer words ...

While relief from a stretch of high heat seems to be in the forecast, Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church shared its take on the temperature with a touch of humor.

Park man sentenced

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

DETROIT — A half dozen family members sat silently at the back of a Wayne County courtroom to see the sentencing of a husband and father guilty of manipulating photographic images of his wife and children for internet porn play.

"This case is dark and disturbing," said 3rd Circuit Judge Darnella Williams-Claybourne Monday, July 27. "There is a spiral of lawlessness and criminal behavior."

She sentenced Nelson Otto Ropke, 41, for two crimes to which he'd pleaded guilty early this month in a deal with prosecutors to avoid trial on 26 felony counts related to possessing and distributing child sexually abusive material.

"He's done a lot more damage than people think," Wayne County Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Tina Ripley said. "They're long lasting. They're not one-time occurrences. These are things people have to live with every day."

"I would like to express my deep remorse and regret for my actions and the negative impact it's had on loved ones," Ropke said prior to sentencing.

Ropke, a heart patient, attended court in a wheelchair, as he had for some earlier hearings.

His thinning, brown hair was longer, his beard fuller. He wore the

See COURT, page 10A

Woods arrests two for attempted robbery

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — Two suspects are in custody after public safety officers responded around 5 a.m. Tuesday, July 28, to a call for an attempted armed robbery in the 2100 block of Anita.

A press release from the department says officers determined the suspects brandished a firearm while trying to steal the victim's vehicle. The victim produced their own firearm and shots were fired, although no one was injured.

While on scene, Grosse Pointe Farms Public Safety reported a single-vehicle accident of a vehicle matching the description of the one that was stolen. The suspects were arrested as they attempted to flee on foot and the firearm was recovered.

In addition to the Farms, officers from the City of Grosse Pointe, Harper Woods and the Metro Detroit Auto-theft Recovery Team assisted.

The Week Ahead

TUESDAY, AUG. 4
- Primary Election

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 5
- Michigan Public Service Commission — DTE hearing, 10:30 a.m. at Woods City Hall.

THURSDAY, AUG. 6
- Grosse Pointe Woods Retiree Health Care Trust Fund meeting, 6:15 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUG. 8
- Park Farmers Market, 9 a.m. to noon at Kercheval and Lakepointe.

WRITING:

Continued from page 2A

go.

"It's for veterans. It doesn't have to be about being a veteran," Wagenschutz said. "It doesn't have to be about your service. It can be, of course."

The goal of the program, according to The War Memorial, is to provide veterans with structured opportunities for storytelling, self-expression and design, which are proven methods to strengthen resilience, reduce isolation and foster community understanding of the veteran experience.

"Creative writing workshops do tend to bring out the people you didn't know had a great American novel in the metaphorical or maybe literal drawer," Ronan said, "or a memoir they're working on, from something they're interested in crafting for publication to something they're looking to share with their family to hand down their history and express their experiences."

The workshop will culminate in a published high-quality literary journal and a public reading event to honor and share veterans' creative contributions with the broader community.

"If you've never written or if you haven't written since your English class in high school or if you do have that draft of a novel in the drawer, we'd love to have you," Ronan said, emphasizing that the class is for any veteran who's interested or curious.

It will be funded by a $20,000 grant The War Memorial received in May from the Community Foundation of Southeast Michigan Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Legacy Funds Grosse Pointe Community Assets Program.

Those interested in registering for the six-week workshop may do so at warmemorial.org/events/veteranwellness.





Building community through discipline and tradition

By Meg Kelly
Editorial Intern

When Lisa Santi talks about martial arts, she does not view it as physical combat or athletic performance, but as a practice that shapes a person's character, confidence and resilience. That perspective defines Turn of the Tide Martial Arts, where she has spent more than three decades establishing a training space grounded in respect, practical self-defense and personal growth.

Santi has been immersed in martial arts for more than 40 years, holding a seventh-degree black belt in Tang Soo Do alongside ranks in American Style Nunchaku and the Samurai sword system, Toyama Ryu. For 34 years, she has operated her school in Grosse Pointe Park, developing deep roots in the community. Despite her decades of high-level accomplishments, including inductions into multiple martial arts halls of fame, she remains dedicated to the daily, generational joy of the sport.

"One of my greatest joys is teaching and training alongside my sons, Marino and Angelo, and my daughter, Francesca, and their children," Santi said.

Her introduction to the discipline was sparked entirely by chance during her childhood, driven by simple curiosity rather than an initial connection to the sport.

"Believe it or not, I was inspired by the local TV Guide, a small weekly magazine that listed what shows were on the television, when they aired and what channel to watch," Santi said. "When I was about 10 years old, the centerfold featured a man in a karate gi performing a flying side kick. I looked at that photo every week and dreamed of learning the exotic art of karate. I finally started training when I was 18 years old."

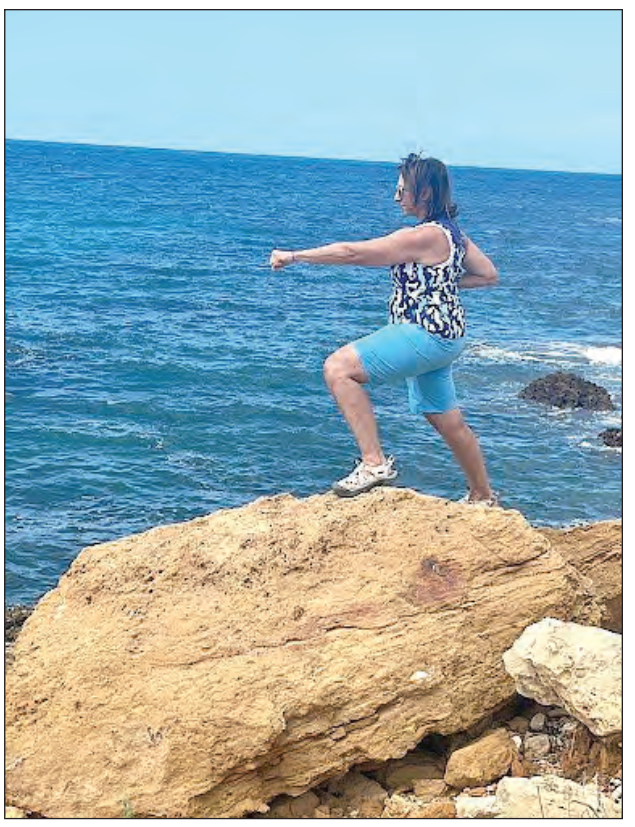
What began as a young child's fascination became a lifelong passion.

"I fell in love with the movement, flow, challenges and discipline of the martial arts," Santi said. "I love learning, growing and continuing to improve my skills. I am always looking to see how I can turn basic movements into strikes, takedowns and throws."



COURTESY PHOTOS

Lisa Santi posing in her gi with nunchucks.



Lisa Santi on vacation embracing how her practice can be done from anywhere in the world.

Over time, her dedication shifted toward instructing others and navigating the struggles of business ownership. Founding Turn of the Tide was an intimidating step, arriving at a time when very few martial arts schools were owned and operated by women.

"I was inspired out of necessity," Santi said. "I was teaching classes at the Tompkins Community Center for the school I was affiliated with. When I needed to part ways with that school, Terry Solomon, the parks and rec director at that time, assured me that I could keep teaching my classes on my own and make it my own program."

Running the school required perseverance, particularly when navigating modern crises that threatened the school's survival.

"One of the biggest challenges was during the COVID shutdown," Santi said. "I nearly threw in the towel. I thought, 'I've had a good run. I guess it's time to let it go.' Then I talked with my good friend and mentor, Sensei Jaye Spiro, who owns and operates Mejishi Martial Arts in Ferndale, and she convinced me that I could stay in business and make it work. I am so glad that I listened to her."

She adapted by moving her entire curriculum outdoors to the waterfront, finding unexpected inspiration in an ancient style of training.

"We trained outside in the summer, fall, winter and spring," Santi said. "It turned out to be a fantastic experience. Training outside at Windmill Pointe Park was so cool. We all felt like we were reconnecting with our martial arts ancestors who trained outside all the time."

That resilience conveys the lessons she gives to her students, focusing on a definition of success that values personal growth over external markers.



Santi has been a martial artist for more than 40 years.



"When I first began training, earning a new colored belt or another dan rank was how I measured success," Santi said. "Today, I am no longer focused on chasing belt rank. I am confident in my skills and I realized long ago that wearing a new belt does not make you a better person or martial artist. I would also say watching my students grow, learn and master a new skill for the first time gives me so much joy."

This focus on mindset over titles is something she had to learn firsthand while mastering difficult techniques over years.

"It has taught me that perseverance is a mindset," Santi said. "You set small goals for yourself and then you work toward that goal. All the small advances add up and before you know it, you are doing something remarkable. I remember trying to learn a very challenging double-nunchaku move. I worked on it off and on for hours at a time, sometimes late into the night. Then one evening, after years of trying, it just clicked and I got it. I was so excited I called one of my nunchaku black belts who was away at college at the time and shared the news with him at 1 a.m."

Santi has expanded her horizons by studying weapon systems and practicing open cross-training with other masters, ensuring her self-defense program remains dynamic.

"I take what I learn from other systems and explore how to apply those movements and principles to my own style," she said. "This has shaped the way I learn and teach because I am not limited to one system. I teach what works for self-defense and personal protection."

Staying open-minded is vital for any martial artist who wishes to keep growing.

"I believe we should honor the traditions of the art that we train in, but not get narrow-sighted into thinking that one style is the best," Santi said. "There are so many amazing martial arts out there, each having something wonderful to offer."

As a female business owner who entered the martial arts world more than 40 years ago, Santi remembers a time when the environment was far less welcoming to women.

"When I began training in the martial arts over 40 years ago, I was one of two women training at our school of about 25," Santi said. "We had to be tough as nails to stick around. Most of the male instructors back then really didn't want to train women and they did their best to discourage us by being super tough on us. It was survival of the fittest."

Because of her history, she views martial arts as a tool to help young people find their inner power and voice.

"People think of martial arts and they think of fighting, but it is so much more," she said. "The Little Dragons 4- to 6-year-olds learn manners, taking turns, breathing skills, self-defense skills like yelling, 'LET ME GO!' and respect. The Mighty Vipers and Peaceful Warriors, students ages 7 and up, move on to learning teamwork skills, to be confident and have a positive attitude, to say, 'NO!' and mean it."

This combination of mental awareness and physical capability serves as a crucial safety tool for the modern world.

"I teach what I call the four A's," she said. "The four A's are attitude, aware, avoid, action. I teach these as self-defense awareness tools. I think in today's world of school shootings and gun violence, being aware of your surroundings, knowing what to do to avoid a dangerous situation and using some sort of action, whether it's running away or fighting back, is very important."

Today, Turn of the Tide operates under a simple philosophy where advanced students and beginners are met with equal esteem on the mat.

"I don't think that I teach beginners differently from advanced students," Santi said. "An advanced student is just someone who has a little more knowledge and time on the mats than a beginner student. They both deserve your respect."

For Santi, the ultimate reward of her 34-year school legacy is watching her students step into their personal strength and carry those lessons into their adult lives.

"Time spent training in the martial arts is really time spent learning about yourself — your strengths, your weaknesses and how you can successfully navigate and grow from each success and each failure," she said. "Our school motto is, 'When one journey ends, a new one begins. Are you ready for the journey?' I believe a good martial arts school will help prepare you for life and its endless roller coaster ride of ups and downs."

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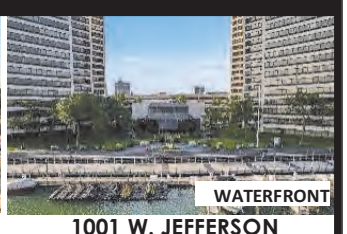

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PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

Grosse Pointe Park

Small fire

A nasty habit was blamed last week for a small fire on a porch near the corner of Maryland and Kercheval.

At an unrecorded time Saturday, July 25, firefighters sprayed dry chemical retardant on excess flames coming from a small lantern on the porch.

"Smoking appears to be the cause," officers said.

Failed car theft

Searchers failed to find two unknown males fleeing the scene of a parked Kia Sportage with a broken window and steering column.

Police think the pair tried to steal the vehicle while it was parked in a lot Sunday, July 26, at Lakepointe and Kercheval.

"The suspects fled southbound in the alley on foot," police said.

— Brad Lindberg

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

City of Grosse Pointe

Out from under

All four tires and rims were stolen from a 2026 GMC Sierra in the 700 block of Lakeland, leaving the vehicle on blocks, in the early morning hours of Tuesday, July 21.

Village theft

For stealing approximately $360 worth of items from a store in the 17000 block of Kercheval at 9:20 p.m. Friday, July 24, a 44-year-old Detroit woman was arrested as she attempted to flee on foot.

Arson

A 25-year-old Riverview man turned himself in last week for a July incident on Rivard, when he poured gasoline on a bonfire causing significant burns on a young woman.

He was charged with first- and fourth-degree arson.

Ran red

A 27-year-old Detroit man was arrested for operating while intoxicated and fleeing and eluding at 3:40 a.m. Saturday, July 25, after he initially was spotted running a red light at Mack and Rivard.

When an officer attempted to pull him over, he sped off, but eventually stopped the car and fled on foot before being arrested.

Speeding

A 43-year-old Detroit man was stopped for speeding 52 mph on Mack at 2:30 a.m. Monday, July 27, and subsequently arrested for operating while intoxicated.

— Laurel Kraus

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

Grosse Pointe Farms

Keyed car

After parking her vehicle in a parking garage on The Hill while she went to a doctor appointment at 8:30 a.m. Monday, July 20, a 65-year-old Grosse Pointe woman returned to her car to find a vulgar note claiming she did a bad job parking.

Later in the day, she noticed scratches on her car consistent with being keyed.

Gassed up

After trying to steal alcohol from a gas station on Mack at 9:54 p.m. Monday, July 20, a 44-year-old Detroit man was trying to pump gas into his vehicle when officers arrived.

He said he had just left the hospital where he was visiting his mother, though he showed strong signs of intoxication.

A preliminary breath test found his blood alcohol content to be 0.259 percent, for which he was arrested.

Take the wheel

The steering wheel was stolen from an unlocked vehicle in the 400 block of Kerby between 1 p.m. Friday, July 24, and 9:55 a.m. the next morning.

Unwelcome guest

While landscaping Sunday, July 26, a homeowner on Hall Place discovered a suitcase lying in a wooded area on her property.

By looking through its contents, officers determined the suitcase belongs to a 36-year-old man who suffers from mental illness and is believed to be homeless.

— Laurel Kraus

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

Grosse Pointe Shores

Nothing to report per dispatch.

—Ted O'Neil

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

Grosse Pointe Woods

Nothing to report per dispatch.

—Ted O'Neil

Report information about crime to Grosse Pointe Woods Public Safety, (313) 343-2400.

Making quite a splash





PHOTOS BY BRAD LINDBERG

GROSSE POINTE PARK — A featherweight ball player needed just one pitch to hit the bullseye on the fundraiser dunk tank benefiting the Grosse Pointe Park Little League.

It was during Kercheval After 6 last Saturday evening. Connor Eldred, 6, standing 10 feet from the target, clearly imagined himself to be atop a mound. A righty, he stood sideways to the make-believe batter, raised his left foot to start the windup, reared back and, with a look defining determination, let fly.

Eldred plays for the league's AAA Mud Hens, named for the Detroit Tigers affiliate for which current Toledo Mud Hens hitting coach Mike Hessman set the minor league record of 433 home runs.

"I play third base," Eldred said. So did Hessman.

Eldred's pitch dunked Joshua Goulet, Little League board member and deputy field manager.

"It's to raise money," Goulet said, climbing back to a chair suspended above the tank. "It's fun for the kids. We get 300 kids on the field. It's a wonderful adventure."

Lessons are learned and confidence is built.

"It teaches you how to be a little bit of a leader, to keep your teammates amped up, ready to play and stay focused," Goulet said.

— Brad Lindberg

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POINTES OF VIEW

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

Grosse Pointe News

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OUR VIEW

No time to slow down

Summer is supposed to be about relaxing. Going up north, listening to a Tigers game on the radio, boating on Lake St. Clair.

While there is plenty of that to go around, Grosse Pointers also know how to work hard and get things done when something needs to be accomplished, be it fundraisers, charitable organizations or municipal contracts. And the pages of the Grosse Pointe News bring it all to you every week.

That is why we are running a subscription special of two years for $50 in honor of America's 250th birthday. Act fast though, as it ends Friday, July 31. That is two years of award-winning reporting, photography, advertising and design.

Here is a look at some of that recent work.

We all know Pointers are generous, from multi-million-dollar donations to local foundations to helping those in need. Last week, we wrote about efforts by family, friends and former colleagues to help Jim Arthur, a retired Woods public safety officer who is battling ALS.

Earlier this month, it was a story of the kindness one Woods family has experienced as husband and father Jay Turner fights a recurrence of cancer. That kindness has included everything from neighbors making meals for the family to making sure Turner's sons get to athletic practices to a simple gesture like three girls raising money via a lemonade stand.

A few months ago, it was a hockey-themed fundraiser for Katie Sime, a University Liggett School coach and teacher diagnosed with brain cancer.

More recently, Ray Laethem Buick GMC hosted a blood drive in honor of Gretchen Carron, a family friend fighting leukemia. That event was planned by Carron's daughter, Lauren, and Charlie Laethem, son of Jeff Laethem, the dealership's president and CEO.

Lauren Carron said patients like her mom undergoing chemotherapy need blood transfusions and the Red Cross constantly is in need of replenishing its supply.

Along the same lines, living organ donors were honored in June during a baseball game at UWM Field during Living Donor Awareness Night, put on by the Living Liver Foundation that was founded by Shores residents Dave and Lynn Galbenski. The night also included three living double donors who had donated a kidney and part of their liver.

There also was good news for two local organizations — Full Circle Foundation and Kids on the Go — that serve our special needs community.

Full Circle Foundation moved its resale store from Mack to Jefferson in a former medical office building last fall. It and a second building, across the parking lot, form the Full Circle Foundation — A.A. VanElslander Campus, thanks to a $4 million donation from the foundation of the same name.

Work is underway remodeling the other building thanks to a $3 million donation from Jim and Patti Anderson of the Shores. It will contain offices, an event space and room for Full Circle's Team 26, which provides programs for young adults with special needs after they age out of the Grosse Pointe Public School System.

Kids on the Go, meanwhile, which provides no-cost therapy and programs to children ages 3 to 17 with special needs, is remodeling its new home, the former Barrister House banquet facility on Harper in St. Clair Shores.

The move was made necessary after Kids on the Go was notified in May 2024 that its current location at the Nonprofit Center at Pare, owned by the South Lake Schools district, was closing. Two anonymous Grosse Pointe families made it possible with large donations.

Speaking of houses, Ford House recently held a ribbon cutting to celebrate the completion of its two-year, $7 million shoreline restoration project.

Another example of this community's generosity was seen last month, when Salvatore Scallopini donated 30 percent of its proceeds June 30 to the Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society to help fund Arcos, the Woods K-9 officer.

Local officials also have been busy.

The Park secured a $19.8 million, zero-interest loan from the state's Drinking Water Revolving Fund to pay for replacing lead water service lines. That is a real feather in their cap since such loans and grants generally are reserved for less affluent communities.

In the City, officials reached an agreement with the owner of the vacant lot behind CVS on St. Clair to use it for parking and events while the developer works on restructuring feasible plans to build apartments on the site.

The City also instituted a "Walk Your Wheels" courtesy zone in The Village requiring riders to walk their bicycles, scooters and skateboards on sidewalks in the shopping district.

In the sports realm, six swimmers from Grosse Pointe South High School — Whitney Handwork, Mischa Eng, Quinn Ryan, Caroline Bryan, Corinne Stencel and Nicole McEnroe — were named All-Americans by the National Interscholastic Swim Coaches Association for their times in three relays and two individual events.

We also had a story about former Pointer Maya Joint, who defeated Serena Williams — arguably the greatest female tennis player in the history of the sport — at Wimbledon last month. And we will track our Little League softball and baseball teams as they work toward the post season.

There also are plenty of summer recipes still to be had via Mombeau's Table and great movie reviews each week from Movie Junkie Mark, aka Mark Domin.

Be sure to visit grossepointenews.com or call (313) 882-6900 to start, renew or extend your subscription. Great things are happening in the Pointes and we deliver it all to your doorstep and/or laptop every week.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Pure Grosse Pointe

Lake St. Clair is definitely a summertime playground for boating and swimming. During a recent beautiful summer day, a variety of watercraft — a freighter, a kayak, a yacht, a Jet Ski, a catamaran and a couple of cabin cruisers — all took time to enjoy the blue water of Lake St. Clair just off of Lakeshore.

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.

Withdrawn

To the Editor:

I recently made the difficult decision to withdraw my candidacy for the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education.

Earlier this month, I underwent emergency surgery. I have since learned that I will need a second surgery in October, making it clear that I cannot commit the time and energy this campaign — and, more importantly, service on the board — deserve.

While I am disappointed to step away from this election, I remain deeply committed to our public schools and our community. I had spent months preparing for this campaign because I was excited by the opportunity to serve as a school board trustee, making this decision especially difficult.

While I am stepping away from this campaign, I am not stepping away from our schools. As my daughter begins her journey in Grosse Pointe Public Schools, I know I will remain an engaged parent and active member of our school community for many years to come.

I am sincerely grateful to everyone who encouraged me, reached out with kind words and supported my candidacy. Your confidence in me and your shared commitment to the future of Grosse Pointe Public Schools have meant so much.

Although election deadlines mean my name will remain on the ballot, I have withdrawn from the race and ask voters to keep this in mind when casting their ballots.

This chapter may be ending sooner than I expected, but my commitment to Grosse Pointe Public Schools is not. I look forward to continuing to support our students, educators and families, and I hope to have the opportunity to serve our community in the future.

MARIEL KRUPANSKY, PH.D.
Harper Woods

Many thanks

To the Editor:

The Grosse Pointe Garden Center's annual Garden Tour was a success thanks to everyone involved.

This longstanding event helps support the Garden Center, a nonprofit organization with the mission to promote education, beautification, horticulture and conservation in our community.

Publicity is such a major part of any event. Thanks to the Grosse Pointe News, Pointe

See LETTERS, page 7A

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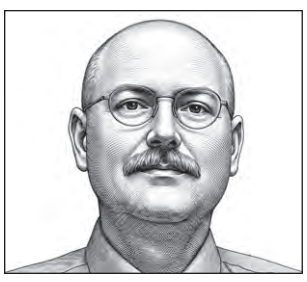
Ellie Carter

GROSSE POINTE 7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST July 30 – August 5 — LOCAL 4 Expect More.

THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
84° / 63°	85° / 66°	82° / 64°	84° / 64°	85° / 72°	95° / 69°	92° / 59°
Mostly Clear	Mostly Clear	Chance T-Storms	Chance Rain	Mostly Clear	Cloudy	Cloudy
0%	0%	50%	30%	0%	10%	20%
SUNRISE 6:23 am SUNSET 8:53 pm	SUNRISE 6:24 am SUNSET 8:52 pm	SUNRISE 6:25 am SUNSET 8:51 pm	SUNRISE 6:26 am SUNSET 8:50 pm	SUNRISE 6:27 am SUNSET 8:49 pm	SUNRISE 6:28 am SUNSET 8:47 pm	SUNRISE 6:29 am SUNSET 8:46 pm

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

I SAY By Ted O'Neil



This cup does not runneth over

I very rarely watch soccer. Rarely as in only during the World Cup. And only games involving our teams, be it the men's or women's national teams.

The game bores me to tears. I liken it to watching paint dry. You know it's boring when the fans have to stand and sing the entire time to keep from falling asleep. That must be why the sideline chairs for players and coaches look like recliners so they can nod off whenever they want.

But it's sort of like the Olympics. There are events in both the Winter and Summer Games — curling, figure skating, downhill skiing, gymnastics — that I would never watch otherwise, but will tune in to root for our fellow countrymen and countrywomen.

Aside from the boredom of soccer, which some erroneously call football — or "fútbol" if you want to get uppity — the terminology can be off-putting.

◆ Pitch — it's a field.

◆ Kit — it's a uniform.

◆ Nil — it's zero.

◆ Club — it's a team.

And what's with the clock? Not only does it run the wrong way, keeping track of time already wasted you can never get back, but the whole stoppage time just seems fishy. Only the referee has this hidden number that no one else is allowed to know? Seems like the fix could be in for sure. FIFA has had its history of scandal. A decade ago 12 officials from various soccer organizations pleaded guilty after it was discovered millions of dollars in bribes traded hands regarding where certain tournaments would be played and who the corporate sponsors would be.

And the "injuries?" Players will collapse as if they've been shot with a machine gun if an opponent so much as looks at them cross-eyed, rolling on the ground like they're in the throes of death, only to get up and sprint down the field.

The use of singular references for teams also offends my sense of grammar. I know it's because many teams don't have plural nicknames, but saying "Country A play Country B tomorrow" just sounds silly.

While soccer here has certainly gained in popularity over the years, I don't ever see it displacing one of the "Big Four" of football, baseball, basketball or even hockey.

I read an explanation for that many years ago by the late, great sportswriter Frank Deford. The gist was that places where soccer is truly embraced — mainly Europe, South America and Africa — are mostly socialist or socialist leaning. They think a 0-0 or 1-1 tie is a thing of beauty. We Americans, on the other hand, as capitalists, not only celebrate, but crave, incremental levels of achievement, such as home runs, touchdowns and slam dunks.

It was refreshing, however, to hear reports of visitors here to cheer on their team describing how much they enjoyed America and that it was far different from the lies their media — and sadly much of ours — had been telling them for years.

Wake me up when the women's World Cup starts next year.

YESTERDAY'S HEADLINES

1951

75 years ago this week

SCHOOL BOUNDARIES ESTABLISHED: The Board of Education came to a decision relative to the determination of elementary school boundaries for next year at its July 25 meeting. This problem has been under consideration and study for several months by the Board and its staff. In April the Board announced boundaries for the elementary school districts, but later decided to withhold final decision until after the school census which was taken in May could be tabulated and analyzed.

TRIO OF KIDS CONDUCT OWN CRIME WAVE: Three Grosse Pointe boys admitted breaking and entering seven homes in Grosse Pointe Farms. The boys, ranging from 13 to 15 years of age, were released to their parents pending further investigation. They were arrested last week in possession of 10 guns, part of a gun collection, stolen from the home of Mrs. Lee Cassil of Mt. Vernon on July 4. Police Chief Walter Hoyt described the weapons as highly dangerous. "Some were loaded," he said.

1976

50 years ago this week

GP NURSING HOME AWAITS REFURBISHING: Residents of the Grosse Pointe Nursing Home may soon see their home renovated in line with State and Federal residential care regulations. Nursing home officials and Grosse Pointe City fathers have finally come to an agreement allowing the home to proceed with State finalization of their plans, and to begin contracting for the construction job. The $250,000 renovation of the facility, 315 Fisher Road, will include construction of a new occupational therapy room, a beauty parlor, extra bathrooms and dining areas, a sunken garden and installation of elevators.

SKYDIVING ASPIRATIONS UNDULLED BY BROKEN LEGS: For most people a first parachute jump from 2,800 feet that results in two broken legs would probably dull any future skydiving aspirations. Not so for Jim Steis, 18, of the Woods, who is chalking his June 27 fledgling flight, in which he broke his right ankle in three places and his left tibia, up to experience. "Well, I might do it again," said Jim from his wheelchair in the lounge of Cottage Hospital.

GPS OFFICERS EARN THANKS: The mother of Janey Pekarek, the Ferry School sixth grader saved from drowning in a backyard pool by Shores Public Safety Officer Gary Mitchell in June, sent a letter to the Shores Council thanking Officer Mitchell and Sgt. James Jurcak for their quick response and exemplary performance in averting a tragic death. The council at its regular meeting Tuesday morning, July 20, commended the officers for their performance in accordance with the high standards of the public safety department. Officer Mitchell will receive a citation of merit for the rescue in October.

2001

25 years ago this week

FIRE CLEANUP AT HUNT CLUB RESTS FOR DEFENSE: The Grosse Pointe Hunt Club has been ordered to delay cleanup of the July 8 fire that killed 19 horses. Grosse Pointe Woods Municipal Judge Lynne Pierce granted a request by the attorney for Stephen Richard Fennell, the 23-year-old Woods resident charged with throwing fireworks into the 100-year-old wooden barn. The charred remains must be preserved through July 31, by which time Fennell's private arson investigator is expected to have sifted through the site.

SHORES GETS 100 PERCENT TRIPLE-TRAINED PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS: Grosse Pointe Shores officials believe the village was the first community in the United States to combine the services of police and fire into a single public safety department in 1911. Mayor John Huetteman III believes that in 2001, the village has achieved another first by having all its public safety personnel be triple-trained in the fields of police, fire and emergency medical protocols.

PARK'S CARETTI RETIRES; HILLER NEW CHIEF: David Hiller, a 29-year veteran of the Grosse Pointe Park department of public safety, has been named director. He replaces retiring director Richard Caretti. Hiller, the department's former deputy director, said, "I've reached the pinnacle of my career. It's a wonderful feeling." Hiller, 51, began his police career right out of high school in 1968.

2016

10 years ago this week

WEIPERT RESIGNS: Four-term Councilwoman Jean Weipert resigned this month. She and her family are moving to another state. Members of the City of Grosse Pointe council intend to appoint a replacement to complete Weipert's term ending November 2017.

ROOKIE DRIVER IS OFF TO THE RACES: Armani Williams has already achieved many milestones in his young life. The 16-year-old, who will be a junior at Grosse Pointe South High School in the fall, is a champion race car driver. He is the only one his age level qualifying for the Automobile Racing Club of America Truck Series, competing against drivers decades older. He holds "the highest finish in the history of the series as an African American," according to his father, Del Williams. And he has overcome challenges associated with his diagnosis, at age 2, of autism.

MR. PROVENZANO GOES TO WASHINGTON: Grosse Pointe South High School English teacher Nicholas Provenzano starred in his own action-packed adventure to Washington, D.C., in June as one of 50 representatives invited to participate in the White House's National Week of Making. Participants were chosen due to their dedication to makerspaces — creative, do-it-yourself spaces where people gather to create, invent and learn. The event recognized not just educators, but people from all walks of life, Provenzano said.

LETTERS:

Continued from page 6A

Magazine, The War Memorial and many other organizations who supported our tour. None of this would have been possible without the generosity of the six homeowners and St. Clare of Montefalco Parish, who opened their beautiful, unique gardens to the public.

The public safety departments in the Park, City, Farms and Woods worked through the tour to ensure the safety of all.

Many others helped make this tour a success, including local businesses who sold tour tickets, as well as sponsors and donors who provided financial support. Many thanks to the artists who painted in the gardens, the Master Gardeners and docents who answered questions guests had and garden club members who greeted visitors as they entered the gardens. The lovely music provided by the Sweet Mountain Strings Dulcimers and the Festival of Flutes was enjoyed by all.

For membership and other information about the Grosse Pointe Garden Center, call (313) 889-1647, email gpgardencenter@outlook.com or visit us at gpgardencenter.org. We are now in the process of selecting gardens for the 2027 tour, June 18 and 19, 2027. If you or anyone you know is interested in being on a tour, please contact the Garden Center.

KATHY BROWN AND GINNY BROWN
Garden Tour Co-Chairs





Store evolves for future

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — The city's nearly century-old hardware store is building a new future by cutting lumber operations.

Taking their place are goods the store's owner said buyers want for everyday routines.

"We're going to add more home and household items — cleaning supplies, paper products — add more pet essentials and storage solutions and things we know everybody needs from a home and household perspective," said Waref Hawasli, owner of Pointe Hardware Group on Kercheval. "We're exploring, but not committing to, a pantry concept for food. Like a curated grocery store with coffee, honey and jams, Michigan-made products that emphasize the local feel."

"I want it to boom, that's for sure," said Diane Dann, the store's head of procurement and 30-year employee. "Different products are being brought in. It's going to be a little different than hardware. I think it's going to be great."

The store has been in business more than 74 years. Its new incarnation aims toward the vibe of a small-town general store.

"There are some really inspiring brick-and-mortars in northern Michigan towns that have a quaint, neighborhood feel of a general and hardware store," Hawasli said.

The change shows in the store's new name, Pointe General & Hardware.

"Pointe Hardware is almost a general store already," Hawasli said. "It carries a lot of stuff — lawn and garden, housewares, plumbing, electrical, mechanical, irrigation and seasonal things."

Sundries and necessities, which Hawasli characterized as "I need it today" products, will remain among the store's 21,000-item inventory.

The customer workshop will grow into a separate business.

"It's going to be more client servicing for millwork and building things like entertainment centers, furniture and vanities," Hawasli said.

Marvin Windows and Doors will expand.

Hawasli said he based the changes on facts.

"My decision matrix was balance sheet, transaction count, current buyer habits and what I'm seeing online," he said.

Shifting from home building to lifestyle products fits recent buying trends in the community.

"Grosse Pointe Park 30 years ago was different than Grosse Pointe Park today," Hawasli said. "A lot of baby boomers are selling their homes, downsizing or moving to Florida. Grosse Pointe Park is becoming a destination for young families. We have to think about how to serve the community that always supported us, but also how to attract a community and become a provider."

Market forces drove the Pointe General evolution.

"We have to be strategic because today's buyer habits have been changing for a while," Hawasli said. "Our advantage in the past was being close by. But now, we're competing in a completely different landscape. Customers have the ability to get what they need from no matter how far away it is. We're going to dissect the store in a way that identifies things people are buying online and walk away from those. We'd rather replace them with essential items people really need. That will still be about 40 to 50 percent of our DNA."

Canvassing the health of independent hardware stores generated a fire-hosed volume of commercial obituaries.

Vernon Hardware, in business 87 years near Durand, is closing this week.

Wright City (Missouri) Hardware shut down last month. It was 89 years old.

Central Center Hardware was a staple for 49 years in Chillicothe, Ohio, until closing last spring.

"It's not because the stores were poorly run," Hawasli said. "It's because buyer habits are changing drastically. People are able to get everyday necessities by clicking a button."

He used a knightly word to describe his store's David-and-Goliath struggle with big box lumber outlets.

"It was a valiant effort," Hawasli said. "What makes a general store super special is relationship-based. They're the place neighbors run into each other, where people come and hang out. We want to continue servicing customers that have been coming to Pointe Hardware. We also want to start attracting clients and customers who want to see what Pointe Hardware has in the Michigan section and things like that. That's what transitions us into this new exciting path, to take what is there and reimagine it in a thoughtful way."

Also being phased out is the Festool power tool section.

"Festool has been hit with many challenges," Hawasli said. "It is a power tool I poured my heart into, but tariffs really hurt Festool. It's already an expensive tool and pricing continues to go up."

Park couple opens In Thicket, a new bookstore in Little Village art district

By Meg Kelly
Editorial Intern



COURTESY PHOTO

In Thicket features a carefully curated selection to reflect the owners' personal taste and community interest.

For book lovers Ryan Jackson and Kimberly Sutton, opening their new used bookstore, In Thicket, was about more than starting a business. It was about creating a place for curiosity.

The shop, located inside the historic Cadillac Arts building in Detroit's rising Little Village neighborhood, fully opened in May, marking a homecoming for the couple, who live in Grosse Pointe Park.

Sutton is a Grosse Pointe South High School graduate who grew up in the Woods and Shores. She spent the last 30 years with Jackson in Chicago.

Both are graduates of the University of Chicago and have a passion for literature. They decided to return to Michigan last year before their son began elementary school.

"We were living in Chicago and we were kind of looking to relocate to be closer to family," Jackson said.

The path to opening the storefront required a long search. The couple spent months looking across Detroit for real estate, but repeatedly ran into roadblocks.

"Buying real estate in Detroit is tough right now, in between the renovation costs and things," Jackson said.

Their Realtor connected them with the developers behind the Shepherd and Lantern, the former a rehabilitated church converted into a public art gallery, the latter the former Blue Bird Bakery converted into a mixed-use art hub and public space. The Realtor showed the couple a property that once was a nursing home.

"We decided that this was probably the opportunity for us," Jackson said. "This is an emergence of a neighborhood as a destination."

After securing the building in March, Jackson spent weeks moving the massive book collection they stored at his mother-in-law's house, garage and basement and various other locations. With the help of a friend, they moved bookcases from Chicago, painted the interior and quietly opened to neighbors.

"We soft-opened in April," Jackson said. "For a while I was just like, 'If you see my truck here, I'm here and we are open."

The store's name, In Thicket, is a direct nod to a Charles Olson poem.

"This line about the thicket is about searching for things and finding things in this little thicket," Jackson said.

To accommodate that slow search, Jackson designed the shop's interior with countertops and cozy seating.

"We are trying to make a store where people feel comfortable just to stay, to sit for a while, to look at stuff and learn with no pressure to buy," he said.

Jackson's interest in reading began during high school, sparked by his educators.

"I had some really good teachers who kind of turned me on to books," he said.

While attending college in Hyde Park,

See THICKET, page 10A

City of **Grosse Pointe Woods**, Michigan

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Grosse Pointe Woods City Council, meeting as the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) under the provisions of Public Act 110 of 2006, MCL 125.3101 through 125.3702 as amended, and Grosse Pointe Woods City Code of 2022 Chapter 50, Article 7, Section 50-7.15, will consider a parking variance at 20311 Mack Avenue for a cosmetic surgery and medspa facility. The variance is requested from Section 50-5.3.H: Off-Street Parking Requirements. Specifically, the applicant is seeking relief from the following Ordinance standard:

"For medical or dental centers or clinics, and professional offices of doctors, dentists or similar professions, one parking space is required for each 200 square feet of gross floor area."

Based on this parking standard, and as a reuse of the existing building, a total of 14 off-street parking spaces must be provided. The existing parking lot provides four dedicated parking spaces; a variance of 10 parking spaces is requested.

The ZBA hearing is scheduled for Monday, August 17, 2026, at 7:00pm, at City Hall in the Council Chamber/Courtroom (20025 Mack Plaza Drive, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236). The application is available for inspection at the City Clerk's office between 8:30am and 5:00pm Monday through Friday.

All interested persons are invited to attend and will be given the opportunity for public comment. The public may appear in person or be represented by counsel. Written comments will be received in the City Clerk's Office at 20025 Mack Plaza Drive, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236, or at cityclerk@gpwmi.us up to close of business preceding the hearing. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services at the meeting should contact the Grosse Pointe Woods Clerk's Office at (313) 343-2440 seven days prior to the meeting. The agenda and pertinent documents will be available at www.gpwmi.us.

For additional project information, contact the Building and Planning Department at (313) 343-2426 or e-mail: building@gpwmi.us.

Paul P. Antolin
City Clerk

G.P.N.: 07/30/26

CITY OF HARPER WOODS
POLICE DEPARTMENT
WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN
NOTICE
AUCTION OF IMPOUNDED/ABANDONED VEHICLES

Pursuant to PA 104, an auction will be held on **AUGUST 12, 2026** at 5:00 P.M. at Woods Towing, located at 22755 Lexington, East Pointe, MI, 48021 The following impounded/abandoned vehicles will be auctioned:

2003 MITSUBISHI MONTERO.....JA4NW51S63J037094
2017 DODGE DURANGO 1C4RDJDG0HC600844
2019 KIA NIRO.....KNDCB3LC4K5338697
2012 CHEVY MALIBU 1G1ZB5E0XCF350866
2014 CHRYSLER 300.....2C3CCABG8EH307136
2001 LEXUS RX300.....JTJGF10U710108443
2007 CHEVY IMPALA..... 2G1WU58R579142271
2012 CADILLAC SRX 3GYFNAE39CS659691
2009 CHEVY IMPALA.....2G1WT57N791312374
2010 CHEVY MALIBU 1G1ZB5E84A4151984

The above vehicles can be viewed 1/2 hour prior to the The above vehicles can be viewed 1/2 hour prior to the auction, at Woods Towing. Payment by cash or certified check only. Cars listed may be pulled or released prior to the auction by the Harper Woods Police Department.

Lt. Thomas Teatsworth
Traffic Safety Section

POSTED: July 22, 2026
PUBLISHED: July 30, 2026

A copy of this notice can be viewed on www.harperwoodscity.org under Public Notices.

City of **Grosse Pointe Woods**, Michigan

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in accordance with Chapter 8, Buildings and Building Regulations, Article IX, Fences of the City Code of the City of Grosse Pointe Woods, the City Council will hold a public hearing (in accordance with Section 8-284) in the Council Court Room of the Robert E. Novitke Municipal Center, 20025 Mack Plaza Dr., on Monday, August 17, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. to hear a fence exception request at 502 Glen Arbor Lane. The applicant requests permission for a four-foot-in-height decorative aluminum fence within the front yard (exception to Section 8-280: Front Yard Fences).

All interested persons are invited to attend and will be given the opportunity for public comment. The public may appear in person or be represented by counsel. Written comments will be received in the City Clerk's Office at 20025 Mack Plaza Drive, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236, or at cityclerk@gpwmi.us up to close of business preceding the hearing. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services at the meeting should contact the Grosse Pointe Woods Clerk's Office at (313) 343-2440 seven days prior to the meeting. The agenda and pertinent documents will be available at www.gpwmi.us.

For additional project information, contact the Building and Planning Department at (313) 343-2426 or e-mail: building@gpwmi.us.

Paul P. Antolin
City Clerk

G.P.N.: 07/30/26

North High getting new limited-use parking lot exit

By Ted O'Neil
Associate Editor

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — The Grosse Pointe Public School System will be allowed to build an exit-only gate from the back parking lot at Grosse Pointe North High School onto Wedgewood Drive for limited use.

City council approved the matter at its meeting Monday, July 20, passing a resolution allowing "revocable, temporary and restricted access" for the district to what the city calls a "stub street."

In its request to the city, the district said four buses enter the rear parking lot off Morningside Drive twice a day to drop off and pick up special needs students.

"Those buses load and unload behind the building, closest to their classrooms," reads a letter from Acting Superintendent Roy Bishop and Executive Director of Buildings and Grounds Ben Matteson. "This provides a more protected environment for students on the spectrum who benefit from a more calm environment than arrival and dismissal at the front of the building. Their arrival and departure times are also slightly staggered from the usual Monday 8:42 a.m. and Tuesday through Friday 8 a.m. arrival, and 3:05 p.m. dismissal."

Bishop and Matteson added currently, the buses must execute a blind back-up and difficult turn in order to exit to Morningside, which has led to damage to the building and buses.

They also noted four benefits to the district:

◆ safety for students as buses won't be making a blind backup,

◆ less damage to property,

◆ less exhaust and noise by eliminating the pivot turn and reducing the time buses spend idling waiting for the bus ahead to navigate the difficult turn and

◆ less damage to the parking lot from the pivot turn.

Residents on Wedgewood, however, made their objections known, saying the buses would erode the residential character of the street and could be dangerous for pedestrians. Council said it would review the matter yearly, holding a public hearing at the first meeting every July.

"We're going to make sure they (GPPSS) adhere to the promises they made," City Manager Sue Como said. "We want to manage our expectations, which is why we made it revocable. The yearly public hearings will be an extra layer of protection for the city and our residents."

The district must install an electric, ornamental gate that will be 37 feet wide and 6 feet high and operated by the bus drivers remotely. GPPSS said it would not be used for any other vehicular or pedestrian traffic except for emergency vehicles or snow plows as needed.

A district spokesperson said the gate should be delivered in about three weeks. Cost is $50,000, taken from sinking fund dollars, and is part of a larger repaving project of the rear lot at North.

GPPSS sets 26-27 calendar

By Ted O'Neil
Associate Editor

THE GROSSE POINTES — While negotiations continue on a new contract between the Grosse Pointe Public School System and the Grosse Pointe Education Association, the two sides have reached a tentative agreement on a calendar for the 2026-27 school year.

"We understand the need to be able to plan your calendar professionally and personally," the GPEA said in a social media post last week aimed at its members. "We also understand the needs of our students and families to plan as well."

The union noted the calendar is subject to ratification of a full agreement between it and the district.

Key dates are:

◆ Sept. 8, first day of school,

◆ Nov. 3, Election Day, no school, teacher professional development day,

◆ Nov. 25 to 27, Thanksgiving break,

◆ Dec. 23 to Jan. 1, winter break,

◆ Jan. 18, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, no school,

◆ Feb. 15 to 19, midwinter break,

◆ March 26 to April 2, spring break,

◆ April 19, teacher professional development day, no school,

◆ May 31, Memorial Day, no school,

◆ June 16, last day of school.

"District leadership is grateful to the Grosse Pointe Education Association for working with us to release these calendar dates," Acting Superintendent Roy Bishop said. "This allows families the opportunity to plan and shows the collaborative efforts in our ongoing negotiations with the teachers union."

The current two-year contract expires at the end of August. The GPEA in 2024 said 70 percent of its members voted on the contract, with 97 percent of them voting to ratify it.

The key takeaway from that contract was the permanent elimination of what had been known as "the formula." It called for teacher salaries to be reduced if the district's fund equity fell below a certain level. Conversely, it called for teachers to receive an off-schedule bonus if it exceeded a certain point.

It also included 2 percent raises each year and step increases. A step increase equates to about a 4 percent pay boost. In addition, the deal also included three fewer teacher work days per academic year. Each day equals 0.5 percent of salary, so that was a 1.5 percent in-kind pay raise.

The GPPSS Board of Education in June approved four-year agreements with the Grosse Pointe Educational Paraprofessional Association, Grosse Pointe Educational Plant Association (maintenance) and Grosse Pointe Educational Office Association.

Each group will receive 3 percent raises each year, plus step increases for those eligible, while paraprofessionals also will get hourly longevity raises after their fifth year of employment starting at 55 cents and topping out at $2.30 after 25 years.

"It's historic to have four-year contracts with our employees, so the fact we were able to get this done is amazing," Bishop said at the time. "We wanted to extend the conversation beyond the two-year model to see how we can give our employees something to look forward to down the line and not only attract people, but keep them."

Donation drive

All three branches of the Grosse Pointe Public Library are collecting school supplies for Macomb Foster Closet.
Donations may be dropped off at any branch until Thursday, Aug. 6.
Requested items include pens, pencils, markers, erasers, pencil sharpeners, rulers, backpacks, lunch boxes, folders, binders, notebooks, crayons, glue and scissors.
Donations will be given to foster children to use during the upcoming school year.
All donated items must be new.
For more information about Macomb Foster Closet, visit macombfostercloset.org/backtoschool or call (586) 422-0200.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

FILE:

Continued from page 1A

to officially withdraw.

Cotton announced earlier this month he would not seek re-election to another four-year term, stating, "I believe too many of the current trustees lack the judgment, common sense and financial understanding necessary to govern a district with a budget of this size and complexity. With only a few exceptions, I no longer believe my time is best spent trying to persuade trustees who have little interest in sound financial stewardship or thoughtful governance."

He did not rule out a possible run in 2028.

St. John did not respond by press time to an email from the Grosse Pointe News seeking comment on her decision.

Jeup, from the City of Grosse Pointe, was elected to her first term in 2022. She previously has worked as a corporate recruiter and real estate agent and has an elementary school teaching certificate out of Massachusetts.

Fitzpatrick, of Grosse Pointe Farms, retired from GPPSS in 2024, after 30 years with the district and 40 years total in education. He started with GPPSS as a math teacher at Pierce Middle School before becoming assistant principal there. He served as principal at Trombly Elementary School from 2003 until it closed in 2020, then spent four years as principal at Kerby Elementary School. He most recently has been serving as executive director of the Grosse Pointe Foundation for STEAAM Support and served on the district's Bond Advisory Committee last year.

Howlett, of Grosse Pointe Park, is a real estate attorney and serves on the board of directors for the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education. His father, Timothy Howlett, served on the board from 1990 to 1998, including as president in 1993 and 1994, and 1996 to 1998.

White, also from the Park, is a retired attorney.

Candidates had the choice of circulating nominating petitions and gathering between 40 and 100 signatures of registered voters within GPPSS or paying a nonrefundable $100 filing fee. Write-in candidates have until 4 p.m. Friday, Oct. 23, to file a declaration of intent.

GPPSS:

Continued from page 1A

ended up posting the video to the "Grosse Pointe Public Schools Concerned Parents" Facebook page Oct. 14, 2024.

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

The suit says Pruitt's voiceover was, "his constitutionally protected speech and political opinion." Wesley in an Oct. 15, 2024, email to Parcells families said, "The video did not contain any threatening content; rather it was political in nature, as expressed by a parent." Wesley also wrote, "We value your input and want to ensure that all voices are heard."

The video may be viewed at tinyurl.com/5n7z2726.

The court also ordered the district to remove Pruitt's photograph from the Parcells office and that GPPSS "can take no further retaliatory action" against him.

"No parent should live under the threat of retaliation, harassment, shaming and ridicule from a school district for merely criticizing public officials," Pruitt said in a statement via his attorney. "Parents have the right to speak out and voice their opinion on any public-school action."

GPPSS in a statement said it was working with Pruitt prior to the judge's decision to allow access for him to his child's school activities with advance notice.

"Our staff will comply with the injunction, but cannot comment further due to pending litigation," the statement said.

Lansing-based attorney David Kallman, who is representing Pruitt, said the district has 30 days from last Friday to file an appeal. If it doesn't, he would file a motion to make the injunction permanent.

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THICKET:

Continued from page 8A

Chicago, he took a late-night shift at an academic bookstore and fell in love with the communal nature of bookstore spaces, where people can gather to learn and chat.

Now running his own shop, Jackson curates every shelf to reflect both personal taste and community interest. In Thicket is stocked with used, handpicked books, featuring sections on architecture, graphic design and classic and contemporary cookbooks.

"The best bookstores are both like reflections of their community and reflections of their owner," Jackson said.

The inventory ranges from traditional classics to modern academic selections, theory, philosophy and radicalism. It also features a unique "living off the land" section dedicated to practical skills.

"I like books that can teach you new skills," Jackson said.

They highlight selections on gardening, woodworking, construction and crafts. He recently sold out — in one week — multiple copies of a book detailing the Norwegian method of stacking firewood because his customers viewed it as an art form.

Little Village has quickly blossomed into a cultural neighborhood, anchored by community projects like Pewabic Pottery and the Shepherd. The neighborhood also features the Charles McGee outdoor sculpture garden, a free community garden and local boutiques. Upcoming plans include an art movie theater.



COURTESY PHOTO

In Thicket is located inside the historic Cadillac Arts building in Detroit's Little Village neighborhood.

"It feels like this area is now a budding artistic community," Jackson said.

Inside the Cadillac Arts building, In Thicket sits with other creative stores, including an home goods store and a courtyard ceramics gallery.

Looking ahead, Jackson and Sutton plan to expand their programming with special events like author discussions, book clubs and poetry readings. The store will host its first major public event Sept. 12, during Detroit Design Month, as part of a building-wide open house that will feature a series of panel talks with physical artists, including local industrial designers and jewelry makers.

"We want to do events that are more of a reflection of the store," Jackson said.

Since opening, the most rewarding moments have come from matching unique books with the right readers, such as when an architect staying nearby purchased a rare, thick Italian publication on building structures into mountains.

"Finding the right book for the right person is always really rewarding," Jackson said.

For other people aiming to build a business out of their passions, Jackson's primary advice is to stay grounded in the wants of the surrounding neighborhood.

"Listen to your customers," he said. "Engage with your customers in a real way, because if you build something that you just want, it's not gonna work."



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE GROSSE POINTE CHAMBER

Doing business

The newest Italian gem in Grosse Pointe Farms, Tavola Mia, is open for business at 123 Kercheval. Tavola Mia offers a sophisticated but approachable menu featuring Italian brunch and dinner, with a heavy emphasis on Mediterranean seafood, handmade pasta and wood-fired pizza. Visit tavolamiagp.com for more information.

COURT:

Continued from page 3A

green and white short-sleeve pullover and elastic-waist pants of a Wayne County Jail prisoner. He'd been incarcerated 97 days, unable to post $1 million cash bond set by his hometown municipal judge in Grosse Pointe Park following arrest by Michigan State Police internet investigators.

During an earlier hearing in Park court, Ripley described Ropke using a computer to distribute "photos and videos containing child sexually abusive images of prepubescent children."

She said at the time, "This case is more than just him putting (them) online. He created it by putting faces of himself and family members on images of children engaging in sexual acts. He engaged with others online, receiving and distributing these images."

"There's no excuse," Ropke said in a strong voice. "I've lost everything. I want to seek forgiveness and redemption from God."

"This is a tragedy all the way around," said Ropke's attorney, Timothy Dinan. "So many people have been affected by this. I know my client regrets his actions. He's also somebody who needs treatment."

Williams-Claybourne ordered treatment along with sentences for the two crimes included in the plea deal:

- 10 to 25 years for aggravated child sexually abusive activity and
- 10 to 20 years for using a computer to commit a crime.

Sentences are concurrent. Ropke has the right to appeal.

"A lot of people have problems in their lives," the judge said. "It doesn't escalate to this level we're seeing today. The court extends its well wishes to known and unknown affected parties here."



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2-4B BEAUTIFUL BEGINNINGS | **5-6B** OBITUARIES | **6B** CHURCHES | **6B** AREA ACTIVITIES

Turning grief into hope through Barrett's Pages of Love 2026 book drive

By Meg Kelly
Editorial Intern

In a hospital room swarmed with monitors tied to complex medical tubing, holding a fragile newborn baby isn't always possible. But when Allie Dykgraaf sat in the neonatal intensive care unit with her son, Barrett, she found that reading a picture book could bridge the tough physical distance between them while offering a quiet love beyond the beeping monitors.

"Reading was simple and meaningful," said Dykgraaf, a former Grosse Pointe resident currently living in Grand Haven. "Books created comfort and normalcy for us."

Now, Dykgraaf and her family are channeling that comfort back into the hospital that cared for Barrett through a community initiative called Barrett's Pages of Love 2026. Now through Sunday, Aug. 9, new and gently loved children's books are being collected to stock and refresh the bookshelves in the Neonatal and Pediatric intensive care units at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital, to help other families facing critical medical crises. Book donations also will support the Children's Center of Detroit, as well as its Back-to-School Backpack Bazaar.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Allie and Justin Dykgraaf with their son, Barrett.



Allie Dykgraaf read picture books to her son, Barrett, while he was in the NICU.



Those who donate gently used or new books are invited to select a handmade bookmark, created by Rebecca Golus, as a thank-you.

Barrett Dykgraaf was born July 30, 2025, following a pregnancy filled with uncertainty. At 36 weeks, doctors diagnosed him with campomelic dysplasia, a rare genetic disorder that medical professionals warned was life-limiting. After spending his first 35 days in the NICU, his family brought him home and filled his days with simple joys, like driving around to look at Christmas lights and feeling the breeze at the beach.

Through every struggle, Dykgraaf remembers her son as "extremely courageous and brave" and a "happy-go-lucky guy." Even after terrifying medical episodes during which he would temporarily stop breathing and they would have to revive him, Barrett would wake up with a bright expression that instantly lifted the room.

"After these episodes, he would have such a huge smile and we could burst into laughter," Dykgraaf said.

Once at 4 a.m., after pulling out his feeding tube, Barrett simply looked up at his parents with a wide grin.

"He had the biggest laugh and smile and you were like, 'You stinker,'" Dykgraaf recalled.

The book collection is being hosted in honor of what would have been Barrett's first birthday. On Jan. 19, during a severe storm, Barrett passed away peacefully in his parents' arms. Though the day was dark and overcast, a sudden ray of sunlight broke through the heavy clouds and shone directly onto Barrett's face in his final moments, leaving the family and medical staff in awe.

"Sunshine is his symbol and shines when it needs us the most," Dykgraaf said. "It felt like heaven opened up for him."

That ray of sunshine now serves as a significant emblem on T-shirts created for participants of a memorial walk taking place in honor of Barrett's first birthday. The shirts also carry the phrase "Little Bear, Big Courage."

The idea for the local book drive, which is operating concurrently with a drive in Grand Haven, came together with the help of Barrett's grandmother, Rebecca Golus, of Grosse Pointe Park. Recognizing how sterile and clinical a hospital setting can feel, the family wanted to bring warmth back into the units and leave behind a legacy that reflected Barrett's spirit.

"We believe every child deserves joy," she said. "Books seemed like a natural because we were teachers and we know what a connection that makes between each other and brings the world to children."

To express her gratitude to donors, Golus hand-crocheted intricate bookmarks to accompany the book donations.

For Dykgraaf, the drive is about much more than books. It is about supporting grieving parents and ensuring that medically fragile children are remembered for their bravery.

"Kindness is simple," she said. "Grieving families, what they fear for the longest time is that their child will be forgotten."

Dykgraaf hopes the drive inspires people to perform daily acts of kindness, which she calls "Barrett blessings," whether by sending a supportive text or helping a parent in need.

Books may be dropped off for Barrett's Pages of Love 2026, through Aug. 9, at 1409 Yorkshire, Grosse Pointe Park.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Barrett's grandparents, Rebecca and Mark Golus, stand next to the table in front of their house at 1409 Yorkshire, Grosse Pointe Park, where they're hosting a book drive through Aug. 9. There is a bin for gently used books and a bin for new books. The new books will be donated to the hospital where Barrett spent the first 35 days of his life. Books also will go to the Children's Center of Detroit and to its Back-to-School Backpack Bazaar.



Cheerful blooms

Growth is one of the most universal beginnings. Whether it's a new plant, a fresh bouquet or a home garden starter, blooming plants, left, reflect renewal, care and the beauty of something just starting to grow. Affordable, accessible and full of life, plants make starting fresh more colorful. From **Trader Joe's.**

Baby Bee

Preciouos stuffie, right, from **Apple Blossom Baby & Decor**.





Soothing teas

The Newbie tea kit, above, is designed for comfort and recovery. The Sunshine Citrus Sampler, below, is a bright blend that feels refreshing and offers a small moment of pause and self-care. **Available at The Tea & Spice Exchange.**



Growing Together

New moms, new babies and beautiful beginnings

The transition into motherhood is full of joy and discovery for both mom and baby. These amazing gifts, hostess items and treats from local Grosse Pointe shops make the new journey cozy, comfortable and a little more wonderful.

By Meg Kelly
Editorial Intern



Jellycat bunny rattle

A soft, playful first toy, above, that feels as comforting as it is adorable. The gentle soft texture and timeless design make it a perfect first beginning stuffed animal for newborns. From **Small Favors.**





The Darling Effect blanket

A foundational newborn essential, above right, that represents protection and warmth. this soft blanket, above right, will be one of the first layers of your new baby's world. From **Small Favors.**



Knotted bow shoe

Handmade shoes, left, made from premium leather, are perfect for both casual outings and special occasions. From **Apple Blossom Baby & Decor.**

Demdaco Teething Buddy

Cute attachment for baby's stroller or carrier that serves as a teether and mini security blanket. Holds baby's favorite binky. Choose from pink unicorn, above, or soft cow, right. From **Small Favors.**



Pretty mama

Soft layers that reflect both transition and identity shift into "Mommy." Sweaters, right, are the warm hug that every new mother deserves. **Village Palm** has clothing that feels like a beautiful reset for a brand and exciting new chapter of life.





Warmies slippers

A cozy self care staple for new moms. These slippers, left, bring physical warmth and emotional comfort during long nights and early mornings. From **Small Favors.**

Caspari napkins

Pierre Frey by Caspari napkins, below, add a touch of class to entertaining baby's visitors. From **The League Shop.**





Relaxation candles

A finishing touch that sets the tone of your most comforting space. Candles, above, symbolize warmth, atmosphere and calm. At **Anthropologie.**



Celebrate with cake!

Every birthday marks a new chapter, no matter the age. Bring celebrations into focus with a custom cake from the **Chocolate Bar Café**, above, and turn simple moments into memories.



Good time goose

Sweet little goose candle holder enhances every kiddie cake. From **Amazon.**



Good to know

Helpful tips any new mom will welcome! Cute flash cards , above, available at **Apple Blossom Baby & Decor.**



LeCadieux scalloped plates

Colorful and eye catching, these plates, above, add energy to a table setting. From **The League Shop.**



Baby Daisy

Stuffed daisy, right, from the Baby Animal Collection at **Apple Blossom Baby & Decor**. 100 percent cotton yarn. Every baby animal provides five meals to children in need. Celebrate your new arrival by helping other babies.



Lil' succulents

Lovely succulent gardens of mini plants, right, burst with new life. Watch them grow right alongside your little one as they enhance the beauty of your home. From **Trader Joe's**.

COURTESY PHOTOS

Apple Blossom Baby & Decor
17110 Kercheval Ave., GP
appleblossombabyanddecor.com

Chocolate Bar Cafe
20737 Mack Ave., GPW
chocolatebar-cafe.com

The League Shop
16847 Kercheval Ave., GP
theleagueshop.com

Small Favors
17112 Kercheval Ave., GP
shopsmallfavors.com

Trader Joe's
17028 Kercheval Ave, GP
traderjoes.com

Grosse Pointe Board of Realtors celebrates 40 years

By Jody McVeigh
Editor



PHOTO BY JODY MCVEIGH

From left, Grosse Pointe Board of Realtors founding members Tom Youngblood and Cathy Champion, current GPBR President Don Symons and CEO Bob Taylor. Youngblood and Champion are holding the 1980s documents created during the establishment of the GPBR.

It's been 40 years since a team of six Realtors dedicated their time, talent and expertise to create the Grosse Pointe Board of Realtors, whose mission is to "deliver the best member experience."

"That's something we always think about," said Bob Taylor, who has served as CEO the last 12 years. "We demonstrate care.

"There are nine different associations in southeast Michigan," he continued. "If you called all nine of them, about half would answer the phone; the two largest might get back to you in a couple of days if you're lucky. We demonstrate care, always putting the member first."

That's a bold statement for an organization whose membership covers 3,000 square miles. The GPBR has come a long way since its early days, sprouting from around 400 members in 1986 to more than 2,000 today.

It all started when a small group of Realtors decided they needed a more hyperlocal focus to their business.

"Back then ... the National Association of Realtors assigned the city of Detroit an area which included Grosse Pointe," said Cathy Champion, who helped found the GPBR and has been a licensed Realtor for more than 50 years. "They had to start somewhere. It was all Wayne County, which made sense at the time. They did a lot of great things, but they couldn't wrap their arms around the difference between residential and commercial real estate."

The organization's focus, she added, centered on Detroit.

"That didn't help our members or our residents," she said. "In the 1970s, we started an organization to exchange information among our members, cooperating with one another, promoting residents' real estate in Grosse Pointe. We acted as a board of Realtors."

Before becoming the Grosse Pointe Board of Realtors, local agents would gather monthly to share thoughts on practices that enhanced homeownership and the professional image of Realtors in the community. The group called itself the Grosse Pointe Real Estate Board, then the Grosse Pointe Real Estate Exchange.

"This little group (in Grosse Pointe) wasn't very well-served," said Thomas Youngblood, another GPBR founder who has been a licensed Realtor for 58 years. "We'd have meetings every month with an agenda and we'd find ways of solving problems."

Added Champion, "We had a small enough group then, close to 400. All those members wanted to secede from the Detroit board.

"... We were the second board to request a new jurisdiction," she added. "We were small and trying to branch out more."

Champion and Youngblood, along with Skip Baer, Kathy Clawson, Paris DiSanto and Hugo Higbie, spent nearly three years compiling documents, attending hearings, meeting with attorneys, giving presentations — all while earning their own livings as Realtors — before receiving approval at the state level, then the national level, to become the GPBR.

"The whole thing was a very serious three years," Youngblood said.

The group had to demonstrate to the Michigan Association of Realtors it was capable of branching out on its own and, once the state association was convinced, the group had to convince the national association, which eventually voted in favor of the jurisdiction in November 1985.

"During those three years, it was not uncommon for the six of us to meet three or four times a week for an hour to an hour and a half at a time," Youngblood said. "... All of us who participated were independently working, running our businesses, earning a living and dealing with this.

"... All the legal fees, the travel, we all paid for it ourselves," he added. "It was like a crusade for what we thought was a better way to do business in the community."

"Historically, within the national association, there's not been a new association of Realtors formed since Grosse Pointe, unless it was the merger of two already existing associations," said Taylor, a licensed Realtor for 52 years.

Once formal operations began in January 1986, "instead of sending our dues downtown, we could keep them here," Youngblood said. "We got an office, then we expanded it."

The board initially rented space at a large real estate firm on Mack before finding a home 37 years ago at its current site, 710 Notre Dame, Suite 2, City of Grosse Pointe.

"We incorporated into the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce," Taylor said. "We shared space with the Grosse Pointe Chamber here. Now, Aitken-Ormond (Insurance) owns one-third of the building and we own two-thirds."

Once established, the GPBR created a Grosse Pointe-based multiple listing service, or MLS. It began offering extensive educational programs and training for agents and providing ethical standards and grievance channels. It also created uniform distribution of industry advances and trends.

"The leadership of this group grew and drew in more people," Youngblood said, "and became more active at the state and national levels."

GPBR members have participated on Michigan and national association boards; been assigned to state and national task forces and committees; attended state and national events and conventions; and helped implement state and national regulations, including Agency Law, Seller Disclosure Law and Lead Paint Disclosure Law.

"The people here were instrumental in creating and organizing those things," Youngblood said.

"It's a slow evolution of talent over the years," said Don Symons, GPBR president and a licensed Realtor for 42 years. "Many are still involved and available, which helps make it consistent."

Since its inception, the GPBR has grown exponentially, partially due to the influx of members from outside Grosse Pointe.

"The Macomb Board of Realtors, over the years, was a good home," Symons said. "It was very engaging; the members liked it. But as time went on, it became more difficult to run, so it went away. Members were looking for homes and some went to bigger boards, but then they discovered they were nothing more than a number. They'd have big events, but they were so large you couldn't get any camaraderie. People started looking for alternatives."

Many turned to the GPBR, which provides benefits to members, including educational opportunities and social events. Another draw, Symons said, is its serious commitment to ethics and professionalism.

"And let's be honest," he added, "it's affordable."

Due to the sudden influx of "Macombians," Taylor said, "Grosse Pointe was getting lost to the Macomb voice."

As a result, the group changed its bylaws in 2019 and split membership into two chapters — one for Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods, the other for Macomb County. Its board of directors also expanded and includes three representatives from each chapter, as well as three at-large members.

"And we allow any of our members who are on a state or national committee to sit on the board," Taylor said. "At one time we had as many as 19.

"The focus on being hyperlocal actually allowed us to grow as we have."

Brokers and agents aren't the only memberships held by the GPBR. Affiliates like banks, title companies, surveyors and other related businesses are a part of the organization as well.

"We have an association of 2,000 members and we still try to keep it as local as we possibly can," Champion said. "Tom and I remember the days when we knew every single person in every office. Now, not so much."

It's not for lack of effort. In addition to educational and training opportunities, members are encouraged to attend social events that build camaraderie.

While early social events split members by gender — the ladies

See BOARD, page 6B

BIRTH



James Preston Brecht

James Preston Brecht

Chelsie and Karl Brecht of Grosse Pointe Farms announce the birth of their son, James Preston Brecht, who was born June 23, 2026.

Maternal grandparents are Michael Leathers and Jennifer Bemis-Leathers of Bettendorf, Iowa. Paternal grandparents are Gregory and Michelle Brecht of Grosse Pointe Farms. Great-grandmother is Geri Pastewski of the City of Grosse Pointe.

'Art Through Preservation' exhibit at Posterity



COURTESY PHOTO

Tim Burke with two of his cat sculptures, which were part of the Artist Takeover in The Village in 2024.

Posterity Art & Framing Gallery presents "Art Through Preservation," a solo exhibition by Detroit artist and sculptor Tim Burke. Opening this August, the exhibition showcases sculptures, jewelry and mixed-media works created from salvaged materials rescued from historic Detroit buildings.

For years, Burke has dedicated himself to preserving pieces of Detroit's architectural history before they disappear forever. Often working directly at demolition sites with permission, he carefully salvages tiles, stonework, metal and architectural fragments, preserving some for local museums while transforming others into works of art.

"I am deeply rooted in the arts of Detroit," Burke said. "My great-grandfather worked as a master plasterer on the Fox Theatre and my father was a Cass Corridor artist. One of my earliest influences was a visit to the Detroit Institute of Arts, where I became fascinated by sculpture and the stories art can tell."

Known for rescuing materials from landmarks such as Hudson's Department Store, Cass Tech and Gratiot Central Market, as well as historic churches and theaters, Burke described his work as "preservation with anthropological underpinnings." His sculptures incorporate reclaimed stone, marble, copper, industrial metal and architectural artifacts that might otherwise have been lost to history.

At the core of Burke's work is transformation. By turning discarded materials into something meaningful and beautiful, his art reflects Detroit's own story of resilience, reinvention and renewal.

Visitors throughout Grosse Pointe may already recognize Burke's larger-than-life whimsical cat and robot sculptures displayed throughout The Village. These works often incorporate unexpected materials, including F-18 fighter jet components, Patriot missile drive gears, reclaimed metals and fragments from historic Detroit buildings.

"These sculptures bring joy to children and adults alike," Burke said. "They bring out the kid in all of us."

More than sculpture, Burke's work serves as an unofficial archive of Detroit's past. Every piece contains fragments of the city's architectural, industrial and cultural history, ensuring that stories of lost landmarks continue to live on through art.

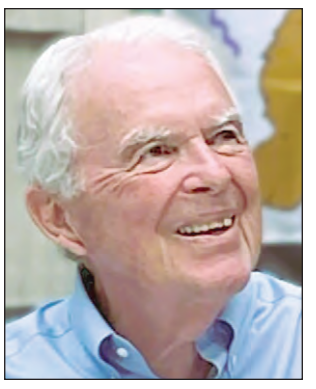
"Art Through Preservation" opens Saturday, Aug. 1, and runs through Monday, Aug. 31, at Posterity, 17005 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe.

An artist reception takes place 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 7.

For more information, call (313) 884-8105.

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.



John L. Conroy Jr.



Susan Ludeke Loredo



Choung Kwai Yee



Patricia Grobbel Kemp



Thomas M. Trefzer Sr.

John L. Conroy Jr.

John L. Conroy Jr., 88, died peacefully Sunday, June 21, 2026.

Born June 1, 1938, in Pontiac, John grew up in Birmingham and was a longtime resident of Grosse Pointe before making his home in Royal Oak in his later years.

John's childhood was marked by his strong spirit and athletic ability. A graduate of Holy Name Catholic School and University of Detroit Jesuit High School and Academy, John excelled in basketball, football and baseball. In 1956, he followed in his father's footsteps by enrolling at the University of Notre Dame, where he continued his basketball career. After graduating in 1960, John proudly served his country in the U.S. Army from 1960 until his honorable discharge in 1967.

John spent his entire professional career with the National Bank of Detroit (NBD), where he held several senior leadership positions, including president of NBD Canada and first vice president, before retiring in 1998.

An avid golfer, John won the club championship at Pine Lake Country Club in 1960, and later enjoyed a 55-year membership at the Detroit Golf Club. He also was a longtime member of the Country Club of North Carolina in Pinehurst. His passion for the game continued well into retirement when he served as executive director of the Michigan Seniors Golf Association for seven years.

A man of deep faith, John was a devoted parishioner of Holy Name Catholic Church, St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church and St. Clare of Montefalco Parish. His greatest joy was his family. He was a loving and engaged father who took great pride in supporting his children and grandchildren throughout their lives.

John was predeceased by his first wife, Bette. He is survived by his beloved wife, Suzanne. John was the loving father of Pat (Debra), Meg, Maureen Schmidt (Thomas), John III (Alison), Christian (Rachel) and Corbet (Maddie); and the devoted grandfather of Charles, Jack, Colleen, Elizabeth, Margaret, Carey, Keagan, Molly and Leo.

John will be remembered by all his loved ones for his warm smile, genuine kindness, quiet grace and unwavering devotion to his family and friends. His legacy of faith, generosity and love will continue to inspire all who knew him.

Visitation was held at A.J. Desmond & Sons Funeral Directors in Royal Oak. A funeral Mass was celebrated at Holy Name Catholic Church in Birmingham.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Grosse Pointe Theatre, 315 Fisher, Grosse Pointe, MI 48230, bit.ly/4yE6qJM.

Susan Ludeke Loredo

Susan Ludeke Loredo, 76, passed away Thursday, July 23, 2026, surrounded by her husband and sons. She leaves behind a meaningful legacy of compassion, family, togetherness and joy. Her greatest happiness came from being surrounded by her family and friends, practicing her faith and offering unconditional love and support to those who needed it most.

Susan was a loving wife, sister, mother and aunt. She is survived by her devoted husband, Rene; sons, Andrew (Katia), Charles (Kelly) and Paul (Jessica); beloved grandchildren, who affectionately called her "Lola," Lillianna, Cecelia, Liam, Julian, Cameron, Mia, Meredith and Millie; dearest sisters, Joan Sikele (the late Bill) and Sally Kopacko (Vince); and sisters-in-law, Deborah Ludeke (the late John), Carmela Loredo and Rhodora Loredo-Herzog (Andrew). Susan was predeceased by her parents, Charles and Lillian; and brothers, John, Bob, Walter and Tom.

Susan possessed a remarkable gift for welcoming people into her family circle, whether they were friends of her sons, parishioners at St. Philomena Parish or neighbors in the community. She reached out far and wide and always was eager to share food at her table and laughter in her home.

Susan's lifelong journey of caregiving began during her time as a nurse at Bon Secours Hospital (now Corewell Health Beaumont Grosse Pointe Hospital), where she met her husband, Rene. She eventually retired to focus on raising her growing family. As a deeply dedicated mother, Susan poured her time and energy into supporting her sons through countless hours of tennis and soccer practices, tournaments, matches and school events. That love also extended to all of the friends the boys brought home. With boundless warmth, Susan always ensured her children received the utmost love and support.

Susan and Rene dedicated a great deal of their time and talents to the St. Philomena Parish community through their extensive volunteer work. Over the years, Susan served as a lector, Eucharistic minister and member of the Funeral Luncheon Committee. She also led the Christian Service Commission for a time, provided premarital counseling, conducted blood pressure checks on countless Saturdays and eventually stepped into the role of parish events coordinator. She continued to bring her passion for serving others in the community as owner of Biggby Coffee in Grosse Pointe Farms, where she loved to interact with her customers.

Susan will be remembered by all who knew her for her generous heart and immense capacity to extend her love to an ever-widening circle of people. She always was the very first to offer a warm welcome and the last to depart from any gathering, fully dedicating her time to being with those she cherished.

Visitation was held at Chas. Verheyden Inc., Grosse Pointe Park. She will lie in state at 9:30 a.m. Thursday, July 30, until a 10 a.m. funeral Mass at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 22412 Overlake, St. Clair Shores.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the St. Bonaventure Monastery, 1740 Mt. Elliot, Detroit, MI 48207, thecapuchins.org/donate.

Choung "Rose" Kwai Yee

Choung "Rose" Kwai Yee, 95, passed away peacefully Friday, July 24, 2026.

Rose was born Oct. 13, 1930, in Hong Hou Village, Canton, China, to Tingshang and Ho Lin Jung. Rose was married for 48 years to her husband, Young, who predeceased her. She was a loving mother to Philip (Nancy) and Margaret; proud grandmother to Lance (Elizabeth), Ashley (Eric), Caitlin (David) and Emily (Briana); and adoring great-grandmother to Johnathon, Callen, Archer, Wrenly and Grace. Rose also is survived by two sisters and one brother, as well as many nieces and nephews.

Rose met Young through an agency that listed prospective brides. Young met 43 ladies before he selected Rose, No. 44, at the recommendation of a matchmaker. They were married Aug. 16, 1948. They came to the United States in November 1948, on a small airplane. It took 36 hours, with stops in Hong Kong, Manila, Philippines, Guam Island, Wake Island and Hawaii, before finally landing in San Francisco. After arriving in the U.S., Choung took on the Americanized name "Rose," which was her given name translated into English.

Rose and Young left San Francisco Jan. 2, 1949, and arrived in Detroit by train after three days. They helped run Rose's older brother's bean sprout business for about a year. They then moved to Harper Avenue and St. Cyril Street in Detroit and opened a Chinese hand-laundry business. They sold the business June 8, 1958, and learned the restaurant business from Rose's older sister. On Oct. 7, 1958, Rose and Young opened Wan Kow Chop Suey in Grosse Pointe Woods. When Young unexpectedly passed away in 1990, Rose's daughter, Margaret, left her job at GMAC to help run Wan Kow. Rose worked until 2016, and finally retired at the age of 86.

Rose enjoyed gardening in her retirement. Her daughter took her to Sedona, Ariz., the Route 66 road trip, various national parks and back to her homeland in the Guangdong Province.

Rose was loved by many. She was always kind and had a ready smile for all who were fortunate to cross her path.

Rose will be laid to rest at Mount Hope Memorial Gardens in Livonia.

Patricia Grobbel Kemp

Patricia "Pat" Grobbel Kemp, 91, of Detroit and Grosse Pointe Park, passed away peacefully Monday, May 25, 2026, surrounded by family in Vancouver, Wash. She leaves behind a legacy of love that nurtured five generations of a close-knit family and friends.

Pat was predeceased by her husband, William B. Kemp; and daughters, Kathleen Anne Kemp and Patricia Josephine Jackson. She is survived by her daughters, Margaret Fitzpatrick Karteron (René), Michaela Marie Zirnbauer (Martin) and Angela Mary Woodrow (Andrew); son-in-law, Thomas Jackson; beloved grandchildren, Sarah (Joseph), Erin (Drew), Colleen (Gregory), Brendan (Mayra), Miranda (Effiong), Rebecca (Johannes), Leon, Parker and Henry; cherished great-grandchildren, Seth (Hailey), Raylie (Gabe), Lance, Joseph, Trinity, Nate, Brooke, Griffin, Iona and Zev; two treasured great-great-grandchildren, Roseleigh and Theodore; and many dearly loved nieces and nephews.

Pat was born Nov. 14, 1934, in Detroit, to Cyril and Margaret "Peg" Grobbel. In her early years, Pat's family moved to Grosse Pointe Park and joined the parish of St. Clare of Montefalco. She attended the Academy of the Sacred Heart (now The Grosse Pointe Academy), further deepening her faith before graduating with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in watercolor painting from Manhattanville College of the Sacred Heart (now Manhattanville University) in Purchase, N.Y.

Pat married Bill Kemp and together in love and faith they welcomed five daughters. Pat's dedication to her family spanned continents as her children and grandchildren dispersed worldwide. She will be deeply missed and forever remembered by her family and friends.

A Rosary and Divine Chaplet reading will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 1, before a 10:30 a.m. funeral Mass at St. Clare of Montefalco Parish, 1401 Whittier, Grosse Pointe Park. Interment will follow at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, 17100 Van Dyke, Detroit.

Memorial donations may be made to the Sister Kathy Avery Scholarship Fund at St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic School, 16231 Charlevoix, Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230.

Thomas M. Trefzer Sr.

Thomas M. Trefzer Sr., 81, of Grosse Pointe Woods, passed away peacefully Saturday, June 27, 2026, at Henry Ford St. John Hospital in Detroit, surrounded by the love of his family.

Born May 15, 1945, in Detroit, Tom lived a life defined by hard work, integrity, kindness and an unwavering devotion to those he loved.

Tom is survived by his beloved wife of 44 years, Dorothy, whom he proudly called the "girl next door." Together, they built a life filled with love, laughter, adventure and countless cherished memories.

He graduated from St. Paul on the Lake Catholic School in 1963, before earning a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering from Michigan Technological University in 1967.

Tom was the founder and owner of Safe Flue Chimney & Wildlife Services in Grosse Pointe. For more than 40 years, he built a respected business through honesty, dedication and exceptional service. His strong work ethic and commitment to doing things the right way earned him the trust and friendship of countless customers throughout the community.

Outside of work, Tom embraced life with enthusiasm. He and Dorothy loved spending time up north, where they found peace in Michigan's beautiful outdoors. He enjoyed sporting clays, gardening, reading, tandem bicycle rides and square dancing with Dorothy. Tom also found great joy in volunteering with the Grosse Pointe South High School choir, where he worked behind the scenes to help make each performance a success. Supporting the students and contributing to the choir program was something he genuinely loved; it reflected his generous spirit and quiet commitment to serving others. During his college years, he earned his private pilot's license and proudly served as a member of the ski patrol, feeding his adventurous spirit and love of learning new skills.

More than any accomplishment, Tom's greatest joy was his family. He treasured every opportunity to spend time with his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Whether sharing stories, offering advice, lending a helping hand or simply enjoying each other's company, Tom made every gathering special. His quiet wisdom, steady presence and gentle sense of humor will be deeply missed but lovingly remembered by all who knew him.

Tom was predeceased by his parents, Theodore and Rita Trefzer. He leaves behind his loving children, Thomas Trefzer Jr., Catherine Trefzer, Karen Genter (Martin), Laurie Murray, Cheryl Shrader and Kristen Ifkovits (Todd). He was the proud and loving grandfather of Robert Bates, Adam Trefzer, Michael Henson III, Amanda Henson, Martin Genter (Lea), Joseph Murray (Taylor), Sean Murray (Alexandra), Cody Shrader, Amanda Shrader (Garrison), Lindsey Shrader, Brennan Ifkovits, Kaitlin Ifkovits and Corbin Ifkovits. He was blessed with three great-grandchildren, Kayleigh Henson, Michael Henson IV and Finnegan Shrader. Tom also is survived by his brothers, Theodore Trefzer (Nancy), William Trefzer (Jan) and Ronald Trefzer (Darlene); as well as many nieces, nephews, extended family members and dear friends whose lives were enriched by knowing him.

A celebration of life and luncheon will be held 11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 22, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Guests are invited to wear bright colors and share memories.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society, 20542 Harper, Harper Woods, MI 48225, gpaas.org/donate; or the Capuchin Soup Kitchen, 1820 Mt. Elliott, Detroit, MI 48207, cskdetroit.org/donate.

Tom will be remembered as a loving husband, devoted father, proud grandfather and great-grandfather, loyal friend, hardworking businessman and a man of quiet strength and unwavering character. His love for his family, generosity and the example he set through a life well-lived inspires all who had the privilege of knowing him. His memory will forever be a blessing to those who knew and loved him.

S0ee OBITS, page 6B

OBITS:

Continued from page 5B

Dr. Nana Pantos

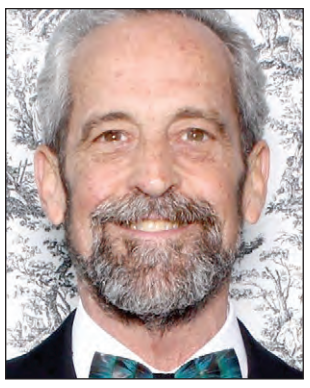
Dr. Nana Pantos, 95, passed away peacefully at home Tuesday, July 14, 2026, with her family at her side.

Dr. Pantos was born in Iran and attended medical school in Tehran. She was the first OB-GYN resident at St. John Hospital (now Henry Ford St. John Hospital), where she also met her husband, Theodore Pantos. She continued and completed her residency at DMC Detroit Receiving Hospital.

She is survived by her husband, Dr. Theodore Pantos; son, George Pantos; sister-in-law, Parvine Baniriah; along with many nieces and nephews.

A funeral was held at Assumption Greek Orthodox Church in St. Clair Shores.

Memorial donations may be made to Assumption Greek Orthodox Church, 21800 Marter, St. Clair Shores, MI 48080.



Todd Alan Brooks

Todd Alan Brooks

Todd Alan Brooks, 74, a lifelong resident of Grosse Pointe Farms, passed away Sunday, Jan. 25, 2026. He leaves behind a legacy rooted in family and a deep love for the community he proudly called home.

Born April 10, 1951, in Detroit, Todd grew up and spent his entire life in Grosse Pointe Farms. He was the beloved husband of Kathryn Brooks; devoted father of Alexander Brooks; and proud grandfather of Maximilian and Vivienne Brooks. His grandchildren were the joy of his life and he cherished their daily phone calls on the way to school. Those simple moments meant everything to him.

Todd was predeceased by his parents, George and Patricia Brooks; and brother, Craig Brooks. He is survived by his wife, Kathryn Brooks; son, Alexander Brooks (Sarah); brothers, Garry Brooks (Susan), Mark Brooks (Jacqueline) and Trent Brooks (Debbie); as well as many extended family members and lifelong friends.

Todd established Brooks Transportation and found great purpose in his work and the relationships he built over the years. Outside of work, Todd was an avid golfer who relished every opportunity to play, especially during his beloved trips to Scotland and Ireland with his brothers. He approached life in his own way — independent, loving and genuine — with a twinkle in his eye those who knew him will never forget.

Above all, Todd was a loving family man who took the greatest pride in those he loved. He will be deeply missed by his family, friends and his Grosse Pointe community, who were such an important part of his life.

A gathering will take place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 1, with a memorial at 12:30 p.m., at Chas. Verheyden Inc., 16300 Mack, Grosse Pointe Park.



James Patrick Gallagher

James Patrick Gallagher

James "Jim" Patrick Gallagher, 91, passed away Sunday, July 19, 2026, surrounded by family.

Jim was born Aug. 30, 1934, the youngest of three sons to John "Jack" and Narcissa Gallagher. He served as a caddy and eventually groundskeeper at the Lochmoor Club. He graduated from De La Salle Collegiate High School in 1952, before attending Michigan State University (MSU), where he was honored as the inaugural Evans Scholar program honoree. Jim graduated from MSU in 1957, and embarked on a long and successful career in business and sales, culminating in his assumption of the roles of general manager and president of MP Pumps in 1983.

Jim married Meta Weitzel in 1988. He retired from sales in 1997, and enjoyed a full and active life with his family, often pursuing his treasured pastime of captaining and restoring boats. As members of the Antique and Classic Boat Society, Jim and Meta went on many memorable boating rendezvous. Jim's meticulous boat restorations garnered him widespread respect and admiration from the boating community. In particular, a 26-foot wooden 1957 Chris-Craft that Jim restored, named The Class of '57, received 27 awards during Jim's 12 years of showing the boat.

Jim will be remembered by all who knew him as a hardworking and sincere gentleman with a wonderful sense of humor and deep love for his family, as well as a true friend and mentor who provided wise counsel and much-appreciated encouragement. He maintained a deep faith until his final days, serving as a prayer warrior for family members.

He is survived by his wife, Meta Gallagher of Grosse Pointe Park; children, Michael Gallagher (Stacy), Carrie Peters (Dr. John), Colleen Stevenson (Tom) and Thomas Gallagher (Sandra); stepchildren, Meta Martinez (Michael), Michele Pittel (Wayne), Mark Weitzel (Dr. Eileen) and Marjorie Frew (Colin); 17 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and his first wife, Georgiana Gallagher.

A private ceremony was held. A memorial service at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church in Grosse Pointe Farms will be held in the fall.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the St. Bonaventure Capuchin Monastery, 1780 Mt. Elliot, Detroit, MI 48207, thecapuchins.org/donate.

AREA ACTIVITIES

Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

◆ Noon to 6 p.m. Thursday, July 30, The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 18, Christ Church Grosse Pointe, 61 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ Noon to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 19, Jefferson Masonic Lodge No. 553, 22000 E. 11 Mile, St. Clair Shores.

Register at redcrossblood.org.

Ford House

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

◆ Lake Fest, 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 1. Admission costs vary.

◆ Storytime: "Stuck," 10:30 to 11 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 4.

◆ Food Tales: "Pop!" 10:30 to 11 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 6.

◆ Shakespeare Stroll at Ford House, 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 6. General admission is $50, VIP admission is $75 and student admission is $25.

◆ Science Saturdays, Cranbrook Institute of Science, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 8. Ticket prices vary.

For tickets and information, visit fordhouse.org.

The War Memorial

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

◆ SummerFest Movie: "Super Mario Galaxy," 6 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 5.

◆ Grosse Pointe Symphony Orchestra outdoor summer concert, 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 6. Tickets are $25 for adults, $20 for seniors and veterans, $10 for college students and free for students in K-12.

Rotary

The Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe hosts its next meeting at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 5, at Village Grille, 16930 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe. New member Zakary Belisle speaks. Email grossepointerotary@gmail.com.

Harper Woods Library

The Harper Woods Library, 19601 Harper, Harper Woods, hosts Gentle Evening Yoga from 6 to 7 p.m. Mondays, July 27, Aug. 10 and 24, and Sept. 21. Classes are taught by Yemisi Odetoyinbo. Registration is encouraged.

GP Sail Club

The Grosse Pointe Sail Club presents its Peche Island Detroit River Classic Race at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 4, at the main pier at Windmill Pointe Park. All sail clubs are welcome to compete for a $10 entry fee. Visit gpsc.org for details.





COURTESY PHOTOS

After three years of meetings, documentation and presentations, including three state and one national meeting each year, the newly established Grosse Pointe Board of Realtors expressed its sense of humor with a few tongue-in-cheek photos. The GPBR "polo team" included back row, from left, Skip Baer, Tom Youngblood, Hugo Higbie and Kathy Clawson, and front row, from left, Cathy Champion and Paris DiSanto. Posing in front of a high-flying advertisement for the association are, from left, Clawson, Youngblood, Champion, Baer, Higbie and DiSanto.

BOARD:

Continued from page 4B

attended a fashion show, while the men enjoyed a comedy roast — activities these days come in the form of an annual golf outing (coming up Sept. 14 at Gowanie Golf Course), monthly happy-hour events and a monthly roundtable lunch, among others.

"One of the most recent events we had was speed networking at Buffalo Wild Wings," Symons said. "It was like speed dating, but with several affiliates and Realtors. They had four minutes to introduce themselves and talk about what they're about.

"… We do a lot of socials to get everybody as engaged as we can," he added. "Our monthly roundtable lunch is open to all members and affiliates. We share ideas, issues, problems."

"It's informal, but informative," Taylor added.

Noted Youngblood, "Agents can rely on the fact this organization is a good resource for them."

"We may still be the only board of Realtors association with four general membership meetings a year," Taylor added. "And we're one of two in southeast Michigan that has a license to offer classes."

"We've had education (opportunities) as long as I can remember," Symons added.

In addition to advancing professional standards, promoting ethical practices and supporting continuing education, the GPBR advocates for private property rights and homeownership, including offering seminars for the general public.

"What we're trying is a professional approach; we're not just out looking to grab a listing," Youngblood said. "… This is needed now as much as ever because of the complexity of the world we live in."

Added Taylor, "If we stopped caring about members, we would have a finite existence. Because caring is our foundation, it's a limitless future."

Learn more about the GPBR and what it offers at gpbr.com

Summer Carillon Concerts begin Aug. 4



Grosse Pointe Memorial Church will present its annual Summer Carillon Recital Series on four Tuesday evenings in August at 6:15 p.m.

Concertgoers are invited to come and listen from anywhere on or near the church campus.

The 45–minute concerts are family–friendly and presented rain or shine. Any curious members of the audience who would like to climb up to the bell tower at the conclusion of the concerts may do so.

Performers for the 2026 series are:

Aug. 4: Pamela Ruiter-Feenstra

Aug. 11: Eva Albaghetti

Aug. 18: Christine El–Hage Walters

Aug. 25: Eric Whitmer, Memorial's resident carillonist

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

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Grosse Pointe Rotary to host 3rd annual Community Garage Sale

The Grosse Pointe Rotary Club recently announced its third annual Community Garage Sale, taking place Aug. 14 to 16.

"Thanks to the generosity of Rotary members and our community, this event has been a success in previous years," said Jackie Dale, immediate past president, "and we're looking forward to another fantastic weekend of shopping, volunteering and community fellowship.

"We are especially excited to welcome student volunteers from our local Interact clubs," she added. "We are grateful for the continued support and participation of Kevin Cox, faculty sponsor for the Grosse Pointe South Interact Club, whose leadership helps make this event possible."

In addition to sale items, the event will include hot dogs for a donation, cooked by Rotary Club President Dave Colton.

More donations welcome

The club currently is accepting donations of gently used items. They may be dropped off at 26339 Jefferson, St. Clair Shores, where the sale will be held.

Volunteers and shoppers needed

Those interested in donating, volunteering or shopping are invited to stop in.

The event schedule is:

Thursday, Aug. 13, Setup Day, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 14, Garage Sale, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 15, Garage Sale, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sunday, Aug. 16, Garage Sale, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and clean-up 2 to 4 p.m.

For more information or to volunteer, email Cox at CoxJ@gpschools.org.

"We hope you'll join us for another great community event," Dale said. "Every donation, volunteer and shopper helps support the Grosse Pointe Rotary Club's service projects, Interact, local high school scholarships and our ongoing commitment to making a difference in our community."



Rotarians Ted Everingham and Tony Laurie take a break in the shade.



Rotarian Sandy Macmechan serving hot dogs during the 2025 sale.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Jackie Dale and "Garage Sale King" Doug Horst at last year's sale.

'Three Marches, Two Sisters, One Bridge' documentary to be shown

As part of the League of Women Voters "Unite and Rise for Voting Rights" National Day of Action, the League of Women Voters of Michigan invites community members to watch the film, "Three Marches, Two Sisters, One Bridge," Saturday, Aug. 8.

The documentary tells the story of two sisters who participated in the historic 1965 Selma voting rights marches. Following the film, attendees will have the opportunity to hear directly from the sisters during a live panel discussion via satellite. They will reflect on their experiences, the significance of the Selma movement and the continuing importance of protecting the freedom to vote.

The program will be held at Grosse Pointe Congregational Church, 240 Chalfonte, Grosse Pointe Farms. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. Welcome and introduction is at 4:45 p.m. The documentary will begin promptly at 5 p.m., followed immediately by the panel discussion. The event will conclude around 6 p.m.

"The fight for voting rights is an important chapter in our nation's history and continues to shape our democracy today," League of Women Voters Grosse Pointe President Lynne Pierce said. "This event offers an opportunity to learn from those who lived this history and to reflect on the importance of ensuring that every eligible voter has the freedom to participate in our democracy."

Residents of all ages are encourage to attend this free program. The event is part of the League's ongoing commitment to voter education and civic engagement through nonpartisan public programs.

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GROSSE POINTE Gabby



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

Setting up for success



Dear Gabby: I've served on the board of the same nonprofit for almost 15 years. I care deeply about the organization, but I'm feeling burned out. The problem is that every time I hint about stepping aside, people tell me, "We can't do this without you." How do I leave without feeling like I'm abandoning the cause and dying of guilt? — Guilty in Grosse Pointe

Dear Guilty In Grosse Pointe: If an organization truly can't survive without one volunteer, it might have a succession problem rather than a leadership problem.

Leaving doesn't mean you care less. Sometimes it's the healthiest gift you can give both yourself and the organization. Perhaps you could work on building teams and mentoring people so you know you aren't leaving anyone in the lurch and feel confident about the health of the nonprofit when it's time to pass the baton.

Volunteering is such a wonderful part of our community; it sets us apart from many other places. It is vital to keeping the Pointes as beautiful and generous as they are. Thank you for donating your time!

— Gabby

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

I can't be my grieving mother's caregiver



Dear Annie

by Annie Lane

DEAR ANNIE: My father died two years ago after more than 50 years of marriage. Since then, my mother seems to have stopped living.

She spent her entire adult life caring for my father and raising our family. She rarely did anything just for herself. My father handled the finances, made most of the decisions and was the more social one.

Now my mother calls me several times a day. She asks me to make appointments, pay bills, arrange repairs and help with even small decisions. I love her and want to help. But I have a job and a family of my own. Lately, I feel more like her parent than her daughter.

What worries me most is how isolated she has become. She spends nearly every day sitting at home watching television. She waits for one of us to call or visit.

My siblings and I have encouraged her to volunteer at a local animal shelter. She has always loved animals, and we thought it might give her purpose and companionship. We have offered to drive her and even go with her the first time. She refuses. Then she tells us how lonely and unhappy she is.

I know she is grieving. I do not expect her to forget my father or simply move on. But I worry that by doing everything for her, we are making her even more dependent. At the same time, I feel guilty whenever I set a boundary.

How can I support my mother without becoming responsible for rebuilding her entire life? — Concerned Daughter

DEAR CONCERNED: Your mother is in the process of grieving, and after 50 years of marriage, she may truly not know how to live on her own. Be patient with her, but remember that you cannot rebuild her life for her.

Try inviting her to do one small thing instead of suggesting a whole new routine. Offer to go with her to the animal shelter for just one afternoon. She may be more willing to do something if it feels manageable.

Help when she truly needs you, but gently step back from the things she can learn to do herself. You can support her without becoming her entire support system. Love should be a helping hand, not a permanent crutch.

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

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Fun destination at Sweet Pointe Candy Shoppe



Food Gossip

by Nina Taormina

Grosse Pointe Park got a little sweeter this spring when Sweet Pointe Candy Shoppe opened its doors at 15129 Kercheval.

Self-described "serial entrepreneur" David King was out of his wheelhouse running a candy store. He had to learn everything from retail operations to health department regulations. Chocolate temperature, humidity control and supply chain logistics, not to mention hiring and training a team of eager teenagers, were all new territory for him.

Sweet Pointe hires in at age 15 and, along with David's son, stepchildren and 14 part-time employees, he tells me the phone is constantly ringing with teenagers wanting to apply. If I was 15, this is exactly where I'd want to work!

As an owner of software and AI services, local insurance agencies, commercial and residential property management and two of the largest short-term rental properties in southeast Michigan — MotownBnB.com and MotorCityBnB.com — it's safe to say David is a guy who has his hands in everything. Sweet Pointe, his first venture into retail, was founded in 2025. He opened the Park retail location in April 2026.

For those of us who have lived in the area most of our lives, we know this location has been home to multiple candy and ice cream shops over the years. David dove into the feedback and instantly knew the direction he wanted to take it. The space was completely renovated and reimagined to create a one-of-a-kind experience.

"Part of the buildout included dedicating roughly one-third of the store specifically to interactive kid engagement, plus a dedicated birthday party area, all layered on top of a classic, nostalgic candy shop feel," he said.

A complete remodeled was in order. But I had to ask, why candy again? His answer made sense.

"Honestly, it goes back to my great-grandfather, who owned a candy and grocery store on Six Mile Road in Detroit back in the 1930s and '40s," he said. "My grandmother and her twin sister both worked there. It was a true family business."

The store eventually closed during World War II because his great-grandfather could no longer get candy or supplies to keep the business running.

"But the stories and old photographs left a real impression on me growing up," he added.

David explained that with Sweet Pointe, he knew he couldn't just sell candy. He wanted to make visits to the shop an experience.

"We stock more than 1,000 unique items," he said, from U.S. and international chocolates, gummies and Swedish candies to taffy, licorice, fudge and fresh truffles with dye-free and sugar-free options, as well as plant-based snacks, old-time novelty candies, penny candy and more.

Thirsty? We all know how much the kiddos love ICEE slushies, so he threw that machine into the mix, along with fresh Coffee Beanery coffee and hot cocoa.

"We also have three distinct bulk sections: premium chocolates, standard bulk candy and that's where our penny candy is as well," David said. "Guests easily spend 30 to 40 minutes just browsing before they find something to satisfy their sweet tooth."

Bestsellers are bulk candies, saltwater taffy from Taffy Town and a good old ICEE, in that order. David said he's becoming a big fan of the Taffy Town saltwater taffy himself.

I should also mention Sweet Pointe is a great place to pick out personal gifts. There are so many cute, packaged goodies to choose from and something sweet always puts a smile on anyone's face, no matter the occasion.

Speaking of occasions, what kid would not want their birthday party at an interactive candy store? You can make reservations online at sweetpointecandy.com. The party space can accommodate up to 16 kids, plus about 10 parents. Pricing can be found online. Parties include cotton candy, slushies, ice cream and snacks.

Kids can make their own 100 percent edible candy crafts, such as candy sushi, candy kebabs, Oreo dirt cups, Nerd ropes and more. This also includes a take-home, build-your-own goodie bag. Parents be aware: Your kid is coming home happily wired.

"Every birthday guest also gets to sign our birthday barrel, a 25-year-old whiskey barrel that stays in the store for as long as we're open," David said. "Kids can come back years later and find their name."

Beyond birthday parties, the shop also opens for private events such as book clubs, social groups, mom's night out and similar gatherings. And there's a 7-foot cotton candy champagne wall that can be rented for private events.

Interactive engagement is also a fun part about Sweet Pointe. There's a floor projector game system with a specialized vinyl mat that runs over 300 games such as bingo, picture matching, balloon popping, driving games and more. Games rotate every few minutes, so there's always something new to play.

David said because its first major holiday will be Halloween, the candy shop will offer specialty seasonal items no one else will have.

More fun things coming soon include hands-on classes, like chocolate-covered strawberry nights and caramel-apple making. For all the sweet announcements and future events, follow on Facebook at Sweet Pointe Candy and Instagram at @sweetpointecandy.

And don't forget to pop in during Kercheval After Six Saturdays. There are fun times to be had in the Park. We're glad Sweet Pointe Candy has joined the community.

Fun Fact: In the back of the shop, you will find "The Wheel of Grosse," a giant spinning wheel inspired by the Jelly Belly Bean Boozled game (your kids and grandkids will know). Spin the wheel and take a chance on tasting a good jellybean or a disgusting flavor such as burnt rubber, booger or dead fish. Witnessing the expressions are priceless!

Stay tuned. Stay hungry.



COURTESY PHOTOS

The Sweet Pointe Candy Shoppe store front.



The Taffy Town saltwater taffy tower, left, and cotton candy champagne wall.



The birthday corner with its signature barrel.



The coffee/popcorn/ICEE station, top, and the Wheel of Grosse.



The bulk candy wall.

We Tried It!

by Anna Lizer



For some reason when I saw that former "Friends" star Courteney Cox started a "beauty products for the home" business, I knew I'd have to try it.



The aesthetic of Homecourt, an all-purpose cleaner, is very "preppy," as the kids say these days. It's stylish, simple yet upscale and is getting a lot of online attention.

The all-purpose spray lifts dirt, smudges and grease (according to its website) and that holds up; it definitely does its job, but so do most kitchen cleaners in my opinion.

You can use it on wood, tile, sealed stone, stainless steel and granite, according to packaging. Where it stands apart is both the price (Ouch! It's $20 a bottle!) and the scent (It's amazing!). It's basically the Salt & Stone of the home spray and cleaning world.

I got the most popular fragrance, "Cece," which has notes of sweet cardamom, cinnamon and, patchouli oil and white leather. It sounds weird, but it's actually pretty amazing. The formula is eco-friendly and contains no toxins. In addition it's vegan, cruelty-free and the packaging is made from 100 percent post-consumer materials.

This is all well and good — and the product smell is so great I would like to recommend it — however, unless you have a lot of disposable income, I think this is a special-occasion product I'm not sure I could justify ever repeat-purchasing or recommending. If I were you, I'd just stick with Mrs. Meyers or something similar and get four or five bottles for the price of one Homecourt. We are giving it two alligators because of the price.

Homecourt sells for around $20 for a not-that-big spray bottle and is available on Amazon here: tinyurl.com/2z3zz3nb

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

2 Out Of 5



Cast-iron upside-down peach cake

Courtesy of Mombeau's Table



PHOTO BY KAREN FERGUSON

Stone fruits continue to dominate our fruit bowl as we are about to head into August. The apples, oranges and bananas of the school year take a back seat in the summer, making room for baskets of peaches, nectarines and plums. For a few short months, I can handle the occasional fruit fly. Usually the fruit is gone long before it arrives. Everyone in my house is thrilled with the break. This week, I managed to squirrel away a few peaches to make a cake of some sort.

A couple of months ago I wrote about a lemon olive oil cake that continues to be my son's and my favorite. So I used the same recipe, backed off some of the lemon and added some big juicy peach halves. The result was absolutely outstanding. The batter is made with almond flour, which gives the cake a slightly denser, more rustic texture than one made with traditional flour. Do not let this deter you from making the cake! Almond flour is readily available in most large grocery stores and is so easy to work with. It gives the cake a beautiful nutty flavor. Olive oil makes up the rest of the batter, adding richness. It also helps keep the cake moist long after coming out of the oven.

For this recipe, I used a cast-iron skillet. As the cake bakes, butter and brown sugar melt together into a rich, buttery caramel that bubbles around the peaches before slowly seeping into the cake. The result is an incredibly moist crumb infused with sweet caramel flavor. Around the edges of the skillet, the caramel thickens and clings to the cake, creating deeply golden, slightly chewy bites with crisp, caramelized edges. In fact, the edges of the cake are the best part — sticky, buttery and slightly crispy. You could use a regular cake pan if you don't have a cast-iron skillet, as I've included directions for both methods.

I want to say this recipe is as easy as making a boxed cake. Because in my mind, it is. No frills and nothing fancy, just really good, simple ingredients. I could have spruced it up with powdered sugar or fresh whipped cream. Maybe something green for the picture? But I intentionally left the cake alone because it doesn't need it. It speaks for itself. In fact, the only addition that I could think of would be a splash of dark rum over the top when it comes out of the oven. Make this dessert a priority in your summertime kitchen. I promise you'll want it for breakfast the next morning if you have any left.

Cheers, Mombeau

Cast-Iron Upside-Down Peach Cake

2 ¼ cups almond flour

½ tsp salt

1 ½ tsp baking powder

3 large eggs

¾ cup white granulated sugar

¾ cup good extra-virgin olive oil

Zest of one lemon

1 tsp vanilla

4 tbsp butter

4 tbsp brown sugar

3 ripe peaches

Preheat your oven to 350 degrees. Start by adding the almond flour, salt and baking powder to a bowl. Whisk to combine and remove any lumps, then set aside. In another bowl, add in the eggs. Mix until the eggs are slightly frothy and then add in the sugar. Beat together until the eggs and sugar turn pale yellow and ribbon-like. Next, add in the lemon zest, olive oil and vanilla extract. Add the dry ingredients, a little at a time, to the eggs until they are evenly combined.

Next, melt the butter in a cast-iron skillet over medium heat. Swirl the pan to coat the sides as well. Add in the brown sugar. Whisk together and let it come to a bubble. Halve the peaches and take out the pits. Place one half in the middle of the skillet over the butter and brown sugar. Then lay the other halves in a circle around it. Turn off the heat and then pour the batter over the peaches. Use a knife to spread the batter evenly over the top. Place the pan into the oven and cook for 35 minutes or until a knife comes out clean.

*If you don't have a cast-iron skillet, melt the butter and brown sugar in a small saucepan. Bring to a bubble for a few minutes or until the sugar melts into the butter. Pour the mixture into a greased, parchment-paper-lined cake pan and then place the peach halves over the top. Top with batter and smooth out. Cook the same as above.

When the cake is ready, remove from the oven and let cool for 10 minutes. Run a knife along the edges to loosen the sides. Place a cake plate over the top, say a prayer and flip. The cake should easily come out. Let the cake cool, slice and enjoy.

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Grosse Pointe News



Ask questions

After looking at the wine list and realizing that most selections are too expensive, you finally settle on a compromise. It was made by a winery you've heard of and the price is not excessive.

But are you certain that the wine you get is the one that's on the list?

Restaurant pricing of wine has become ridiculous. Historically, restaurants saw the wine list as a profit center. Most owners knew they could charge prices based on outrageous markups, confident that most consumers, out for a good time, would pay the price.

I know that restaurants have fixed costs that need to be covered. Restaurateurs tell me regularly that they make very little on food. And that the costs of labor and provisions are constantly rising.

I get that, but when a bottle of wine costs the restaurant $20 and patrons are expected to pay $65 for it, something is amiss. The least patrons can do is to validate that the wine they ordered is what they wanted.

Here are some tips:

Check the vintage: With wine sales at their lowest level since the late 2000s, older wines are backing up in warehouses. I have noticed that some restaurants have taken the vintage date off their lists, hoping patrons will not ask to validate the year.

When a bottle is brought to the table, make certain the vintage is what you ordered. In most cases, white wines are best from 2023 and younger. Older vintages, especially for rose wines, should be rejected. No one can be sure whether the wine was properly stored. Inexpensive red wines are generally OK back to about 2021.

Be wary of nonvintage wines: A few California wineries have taken some older wines and relabeled them without a vintage date because savvy buyers will reject old wines. I'm not suggesting chicanery, but it's best to be careful.

Check the appellation: Some producers located in relatively prestigious areas are now producing wines with a "California" appellation. There is a big difference between a small area and a huge one.

When ordering wine by the glass, ask to see the bottle. This may irritate some servers, but I have been intentionally misled often enough that I need to know if the glass I have been told about is what I end up getting.

In an expensive San Francisco restaurant, I ordered a fine Sauvignon Blanc. What came wasn't what I ordered. The waiter brought the bottle over. It was plonk. I sent the glasses back. Ten minutes later, the waiter came back with the proper wine — and the bottle to prove it.

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

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PHOTOS COURTESY OF SOUTH WIND BLOWS, CYPRUS AVENUE FILMS AND HARVEST FILMS.

Above, Barry Ward as Joe Ruttledge at the graveyard in the 2023 movie "That They May Face the Rising Sun," written by Eamon Little, Pat Collins and John McGahern and directed by Pat Collins.

Movie Junkie Mark

by Mark Domin

"Life is too short to watch mediocre movies"



MOVIE REVIEW
"That They May Face the Rising Sun"
2023 - Not Rated
1 hr 51 min
★★★★★

Ever have one of those days where almost nothing seems to go right? Or you find yourself depressed after listening to the evening news? Or perhaps your job is getting you down? It's times like these when you could use a two-hour respite. That's exactly what watching "That They Might Face the Rising Sun" felt like. It's a healthy dose of cinematic therapy if you will. I invite you to take your shoes off, get comfortable on your sofa and spend a couple relaxing hours viewing this delightful film. If you're at all like me, it'll do you a world of good.

The film is an adaptation of the best-selling final novel from the popular Irish author John McGahern. I've not heard of him before but I'm definitely going to check the library for his books. For a relatively small country, Ireland sure has produced a number of brilliant writers — James Joyce, Oscar Wilde, Colm Tobin, and Frank McCourt, to name but a few. Pat Collins did a magnificent job directing the movie. He's best know for his documentaries about all things Irish including "Silence," "Song of Granite" and "The Dance" as well as the highly acclaimed television series "1916: The Irish Rebellion."



Above, Strolling down a country lane.



Right, Barry Ward as Joe, plowing the field.

Adding to the film's quiet beauty is the sensitive camerawork of Richard Kendrick. His work here is both subtle and flawless, perfectly capturing the breathtaking scenery of the Emerald Isle. Whether it's a scene of the mountains rising from a calm lake, or a couple farmers walking down narrow dirt lane, he makes just about every shot a work of art. This is one of those films where you could almost turn the sound off and be hypnotized by the visuals. It's truly that gorgeous.

Another aspect of the movie I especially enjoyed was the nuanced soundtrack. For the most part, it's a quiet layer of solo piano composed by Irene and Linda Buckley. If it was available as a CD, I'd be the first in line to buy a copy.

This is a film where almost nothing happens, and believe me, that's a good thing. It takes place in the late 1970s or early 80s. Joe (Barry Ward, "Extra Ordinary") and Kate Ruttledge (Anna Bedereke, "Dying") moved from London back to the small village in western Ireland five years prior. Joe was raised there so he's a familiar face in town. The couple just want to immerse themselves in a simpler lifestyle. If it weren't for Joe's car and a tractor, the story could easily have taken place a hundred and fifty years ago.

The village is full of interesting characters, including a charming older couple Mary (Ruth McCabe) and Jamesie Murphy (Phillip Dolan), Jamesie's brother Johnny (Sean McGinley), who returns from London once a year, and Patrick (Lalor Roddy), a bitter old curmudgeon who lives by himself, but definitely has the gift of gab. The film takes its time introducing us to these folks. The Ruttledge home is almost like a public confessional where one at a time, their neighbors pop in to share some gossip, have a spot of tea, or help themselves to a meal. And they welcome them all with open arms.

Joe is a writer and spends a good deal of time working on his latest creation. We're not sure whether it's a novel or a collection of poems, but we occasionally hear him reciting from his writings. When asked if his latest work is the usual heavy going he replies, "Not much drama, more of the day-to-day stuff."

Kate, we're told is an artist who runs a gallery in London. They're visited by her business partner who tells her they're at a crossroads and may need to sell the gallery soon. We see some of her work on the walls of their house and watch her as she learns basket weaving.

There aren't any real conflicts or exciting moments in the movie, just a small village engaging in living life. A few of the highlights include a wedding between an older couple and the spirited reception, watching several folks lend a helping hand harvesting the hay and shearing the sheep. There's also a quiet and somber burial scene where it's pointed out that it's important for the deceased to be facing east so he "might face the rising sun."

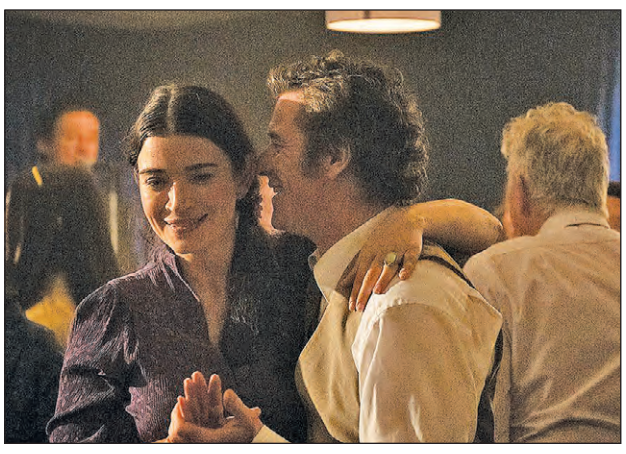
If you're a regular reader of this column, you know I'm a big fan of action flicks. But I also appreciate subtle movies as well. This is one of those gentle films that knocked me over the head with a soft mallet. If you're in the mood for one of the most calming films you're likely to see, don't miss this one. One last thing: You may want to turn on the subtitles because the Irish accents can be a bit thick at times.

Currently streaming for free with your library card on Kanopy and Hoopla. And to rent on Prime and Fandango.

Note to parents: The film is not rated but I'd be inclined to rate it "PG-13" for a bit of cussing.

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

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



Above, Kate (Anna Bedereke) and Joe (Barry Ward) dancing at a wedding.



Movie poster.



Taking a break.



Putting their friend to rest.

Making history

Photo story by Renee Landuyt

The Grosse Pointe Historical Society hosted its annual gala Friday, June 19, at a private home in Grosse Pointe Farms. More than 240 guests toured spaces inside the home, as well as roamed the grounds. A strolling dinner was provided.

Guests also were treated to a preview of the GPHS's new exhibit, "Robert O. Derrick, Architect of Dreams." The full exhibition will open this month at the Grosse Pointe History Center, 175 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms. Derrick not only was the architect to the gala house, but to several others on Cloverly, as well as Ridge, Beverly, Provencal, Kenwood, Lincoln, Vendome, Berkshire and others. He also designed the Punch and Judy building, Richard and Kerby elementary schools, Pierce Middle School, University Liggett School, the Grosse Pointe Club and the Farms water filtration plant. Outside of the Pointes, he is most known for designing the Henry Ford Museum and several buildings in the city of Detroit.

The exhibition provides background on Derrick's life as an architect and a community member. It includes items from the GPHS collection, including blueprints, photographs, architectural specifications and ephemera.



Above, event hosts Brittany and Gregg Russell stand in their garden.



Douglas Dossin stands with Leslie Wagner, immediate past president of the Grosse Pointe Historical Society.



Sue and Gary Scheiwe were among attendees.



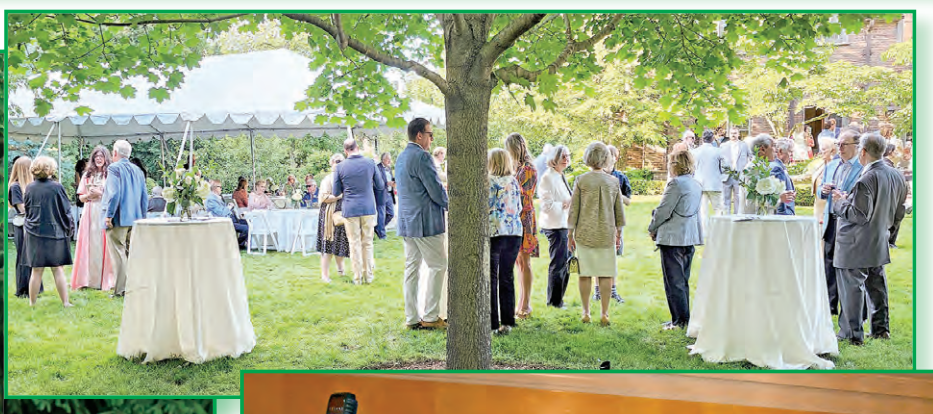
Mark Heppner, president and CEO of Ford House, stands with Grosse Pointe Park Mayor Michele Hodges and Gerry Piro.



Guests mill around the backyard pool during the event.



Rebecca Reiter stands with her husband, Eric Reiter, general manager and COO of Lochmoor Club.



The back yard was a popular place to gather during the gala.

.



Dale Carlson and Grosse Pointe Historical Society President Stuart Grigg take a photo in a room promoting the exhibition, "Robert O. Derrick, Architect of Dreams."

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706 Houses: Detroit/ Wayne County
707 Houses: St. Clair Shores/ Macomb County
708 Apts/Flats/Duplex: Rent
709 Townhouses/ Condos to Rent
710 Townhouses/Condos Wanted
711 Garages/Mini Storage for Rent
712 Garages/Mini Storage Wanted
713 Industrial/Warehouse Rental
714 Living Quarters to Share
715 Hunting Rentals
716 Offices/Commercial for Rent
717 Offices/Commercial Wanted
718 Property Management
719 Rent with Option to Buy
720 Rooms for Rent
721 Vacation Rental: Florida
722 Vacation Rental: Out of State
723 Vacation Rental: Michigan
724 Vacation Rental: Resort
725 Rentals/Leasing
726 Waterfront
727 Relocation Services

HOMES/LOTS FOR SALE
800 House for Sale
801 Commercial Buildings
802 Commercial Property
803 Condos/Apts/Flats
804 Country Homes
805 Property for Sale
806 Florida Property
807 Investment Property
808 Waterfront Homes
809 Waterfront Lots
810 Lake/River Resorts
811 Lots for Sale
812 Mortgages/Land Contracts
813 Northern Michigan Homes
814 Northern Michigan Lots
815 Out of State Homes & Property
816 Real Estate Exchange
817 Real Estate Wanted
818 Sale or Lease
819 Cemetery Lots
820 Business For Sale
821 Open House
822 Vacation Properties
824 Mobile Homes
825 Farms
826 Auctions

Guide to Services

900 Air Conditioning
901 Alarm Installation Repair
902 Siding
903 Appliance Repairs
904 Asphalt Paving Repair
906 Basement Remodeling
907 Basement Waterproofing
908 Bathtub Refinishing
911 Brick/Block Work
912 Building/Remodeling
913 Cargo/ Auto Transport
914 Carpentry
915 Carpet Cleaning
916 Carpet Maintenance
917 Carpet & Tile Removal
918 Cement Work
919 Chimney Cleaning
920 Chimney Repair
921 Closets
922 Computer Services
923 Construction Repair
924 Demolition
925 Decks/Patios
926 Doors
927 Debris/ Clutter Removal
929 Drywall/Plastering
930 Electrical Services
933 Excavating
934 Fences
935 Fire/Flood Damage
936 Floor Sanding/ Refinishing
937 Floor Installation
938 Furniture Refinishing/ Upholstering
939 General Services
940 Glass-Residential/ Commercial
941 Hoarding
942 Garages
943 Landscapers / Gardeners
944 Gutters
945 Handyman
946 Home Services
947 Heating/Cooling Repair & Installation
948 Insulation
949 Janitorial Services
950 Engine/Motor Repair
951 Iron Work
952 Locksmith
953 Marble/Stone
954 Painting/Decorating
956 Pest Control
957 Plumbing & Installation
958 Pool Maintenance
959 Power Washing
960 Roofing Service
961 Security Enforcement
962 Sanitation Services
964 Sewer Cleaning Service
965 Shutters
966 Snow Removal
968 Shrink Wrapping
969 Swimming Pool Service
970 T.V./Radio/CB Radio
971 Tree Service
973 Tile Work
974 VCR/DVD Repair
975 Vacuum Sales/Service
976 Ventilation Service
977 Wall Washing
980 Window Installation
981 Window Washing
983 Welding

ANIMALS
500 Animals Adopt A Pet
502 Horses For Sale
503 Household Pets For Sale
504 Humane Societies
505 Lost And Found
506 Pet Breeding
507 Pet Equipment
508 Pet Grooming
509 Pet Boarding/Sitting
510 Animal Services

AUTOMOTIVE
600 Cars
601 Chrysler
602 Ford
603 General Motors
604 Antique/Classic
605 Foreign
606 Sport Utility
607 Junkers
608 Parts/Tires/Alarms
609 Rentals/Leasing
610 Sports Cars
611 Trucks
612 Vans
613 Wanted To Buy
614 Auto Insurance
615 Auto Services
616 Auto Storage

RECREATIONAL
650 Airplanes
651 Boats And Motors
652 Boat Service/Care
653 Boat Parts
654 Boat Storage/Docking
655 Campers
656 Motorbikes
657 Motorcycles
658 Motor Homes
659 Snowmobiles
660 Trailers/Tractors
661 Water Sports
662 Recreational Vehicles

DEADLINES
Please call for holiday deadline dates and times, subject to change.

CLASSIFIED DISPLAY ADS:
TUESDAYS: 1:00 P.M.
CLASSIFIED WORD ADS:
TUESDAYS: 1:00 P.M.

PRICING
Prepayment is required. We accept credit cards, cash and check.

FREQUENCY DISCOUNTS
Given for multi-week scheduled advertising with prepayment or credit approval. Call for rates or for more information. Phone lines can be busy on Monday and Tuesday. Please call early.

WORD ADS:
35 words for $25.00; additional words are 30¢ each. Abbreviations are not accepted.

BORDER ADS STARTING AT:
$26.00 per column inch

CLASSIFYING AND CENSORSHIP
We reserve the right to classify each ad under its appropriate heading. The publisher reserves the right to edit or reject ad copy submitted for publication.

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

Place an Order

MAIL OR FAX THIS FORM (OR PLACE AN ORDER ON OUR WEB SITE)
Grosse Pointe News
Mail: Classified Advertising, 16980 Kercheval Pl., Grosse Pointe, MI 48230
Phone: (313) 882-6900 Ext. 4 **Fax:** (313) 882-1585
Web: grossepointenews.com
Email: classifieds@grossepointenews.com

YOUR ADVERTISEMENT
CLASSIFICATION NAME: _____

$25 FOR 35 WORDS. ADDITIONAL WORDS, .30¢ EACH. CALL FOR COLOR!

		35 $25.00	36 $25.30
37 $25.60	38 $25.90	39 $26.20	40 $26.50

NO. OF WEEKS: _____ X COST PER WEEK: _____ = TOTAL: _____

YOUR CONTACT AND BILLING INFORMATION
NAME: _____
STREET ADDRESS: _____
CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____
PHONE _____
AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____
CARD NO: _____ EXP. DATE: _____
Prepayment is required. We accept credit cards, cash and check.

Announcements

100 ANNOUNCEMENTS

AUDIEN HEARING
The world's first hearing aid with touchscreen controls.
No tiny buttons, apps or prescriptions.
45- day risk free trial.
Free shipping.
Lifetime support.
More than 1.5 million happy customers.
Call Audien 1(866)466-0762

CONSUMER CELLULAR
the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers.
No long- term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just $20/ month.
For more information, call 1(866)306-6243

In observance of **LABOR DAY** the office is closed Monday, September 7, 2026
Grosse Pointe News Classified **DEADLINE Tuesday 1PM** September 8, 2026

100 ANNOUNCEMENTS

PREPARE for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5 Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1(855)773-8191 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

Special Services

121 GENERAL SERVICES

METRO TESTING SERVICES
32000 Harper Ave.
St. Clair Shores MI 48082
(586)200-5421
Fax (586)879-0581
We specialize in court ordered drug and alcohol testing.
Weekday Hours 8am- 8pm
Weekend Hours 8am- 2pm
Walk In's always welcome
Website: metrotesting services.net

126 CONTRIBUTIONS

SEEKING COMPASSIONATE financial donor to help in restoring a small 1800's victorian house.
(586)696-6274

Help Wanted

200 HELP WANTED GENERAL

GROSSE POINTE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
is seeking a Part-Time Church Operations Coordinator
Do you enjoy bringing order to moving pieces, solving problems, and helping people? We're looking for an organized, dependable person to support our church office, Sunday worship, communications, building use, and day-to-day operations while partnering with staff and volunteers.
If you find purpose in creating the structure that helps others, we'd love to hear from you.
Learn more & apply: https://www.gp-cong.org/employment

200 HELP WANTED GENERAL

CROSSING GUARD
The City of Grosse Pointe Woods Department of Public Safety is seeking seasonal permanent part-time crossing guards for the Monday – Friday, AM & PM crossings.
Rate of Pay: $21.01/hour.
A detailed job description and Employment Application can be obtained at **www.gpwmi.us**.
Email your application to **cityadmin@gpwmi.us**; drop it off at City Hall; or mail it to:
City of Grosse Pointe Woods
20025 Mack Plaza Drive
Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236
Attn: City Manager
Questions?
Contact School Resource Officer Jeffry Martel at **jmartel@gpwmi.us** or **(313) 343-2410**.
Application deadline is open until filled.
The City of Grosse Pointe Woods is an EOE, FMLA, and ADA compliant employer.

203 HELP WANTED DENTAL / MEDICAL

GROSSE POINTE
Doctor's office is seeking a full- time medical assistant/ nurse.
Must be friendly and detail oriented.
Previous medical office experience of at least 1 year, EMR knowledge and computer skills helpful.
Please email resumes to careers@drshaunadiggs.com

210 HELP WANTED RESTAURANT

IRISH COFFEE BAR & GRILL
hiring
COOKS
Please apply in person any day after 5pm.
18666 Mack Avenue
Grosse Pointe Farms

302 SITUATION WANTED CONVALESCENT CARE

CITA ANGELS HOME CARE
Caregiver services.
24 hour care. We assist in cooking, cleaning, bathing/ grooming, doctor's appointments, errands, etc.
Accepting medicaid payments.
1(866)54-ANGEL

Merchandise

409 GARAGE / YARD / RUMMAGE SALE

DON'T MISS THE KENWOOD COURT BLOCK
Garage Sale in Grosse Pointe Farms!
July 31– August 1, 8 a.m.– 3 p.m.
Multiple homes, great deals, furniture, household goods, kids' items, and hidden treasures throughout the neighborhood.

409 GARAGE / YARD / RUMMAGE SALE

MASSIVE GARAGE SALE
185 LAKEVIEW AVE.
Large amount of items from father's estate and a move.
Decor, vintage, collectibles, cottage-core, albums, misc. furniture, wrought iron patio set.
Name Brand Clothing, men's/ women's.
Thursday- Saturday. 9- 4. Cash / Venmo

MOVING SALE!
Everything must go.
Furniture, linens, kitchenware, washer and dryer, household and garage items.
Be prepared to transport your purchases.
CASH ONLY
1399 Edmundton
Grosse Pointe Woods
Friday, July 31
Saturday, August 1
Sunday, August 2
10am- 5pm

406 ESTATE SALES

MARCIA WILK ESTATE SALES
313 779 0193
www.marciawilkestatesales.com

444 LEXINGTON
GROSSE POINTE FARMS
FRIDAY AND SATURDAY
JULY 31 AND AUGUST 1
9:00 - 4:00
Between Mack Avenue and Chalfonte

This is a really nice sale with something for everyone! We have an oak Deco dining set, mahogany buffet, perfect vintage Herman Miller table, pair wing chairs, pair leather barrel chairs, oriental carpets and tapestries, bookshelves, books, artwork, large Bose Wave radio, large selection of copper and tin middle eastern pieces, crystal, Lenox "Cretan" set, nice men's and women's clothing, outstanding antique weather vane, chandeliers, toys, Tonka, Schoenhut doll, large New Zealand books, outdoor furniture, lots and lots more!

Street Numbers honored at 8:30 a.m. Friday
Check out marciawilkestatesales.net and estatesales.net to see some featured items. We accept cash, checks, VISA, MasterCard, Discover, AMEX and Apple Pay

415 WANTED TO BUY



SELL ME YOUR VINYL RECORDS
We buy LP's, 45's
No collection too large.
We come to you!
RIPE RECORDS
Call (313)469-7479

Property For Rent

716 OFFICE / COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

BEAUTIFUL ROOMS for rent in established Grosse Pointe Salon.
Can be utilized by esthetician, massage therapist or microblading/ permanent make up artist.
Rent is $350.
Includes electric, water and heat/ cooling.
Call Friends Hair & Nails at (313)886-2503
Ask for Merry.

FOUR OFFICE SPACES
Single Units or Flexible Workspace Solutions for Growing Teams.
Includes high-speed internet, parking/ covered parking, shared kitchen and conference room access.
Great Location.
(313)770-4711

Property For Sale

825 FARMS

EQUESTRIAN COUNTRY ESTATE
48 acres in St. Clair
Four bedroom home, with private driveway, inground pool and large wraparound sunroom featuring beautiful views overlooking multiple pastures.
Extensive equestrian facilities, 32 stall main barn 244' by 80' with indoor riding arena and indoor 50' round pen.
Smaller barn has 7 additional stalls.
Several paddocks include automatic waterers and loafing sheds.
Full time residence or weekend retreat.
This property checks every box.
35 minutes from Grosse Pointe, 2.5 miles to the St. Clair River, 4 miles to the quaint upscale town of St. Clair, 2 miles off I-94.
$1.2 million
(810)650-1867 or (810)941-9488

Classifieds Work For You
To place an ad call: (313)882-6900 x4
Grosse Pointe News

Grosse Pointe News Classified Advertising
AD OF THE WEEK

MARLBOROUGH ESTATES
Move in by August 31st, 2026
SELECT
2 BEDROOMS RENTING AT $975 - $1,168 MONTHLY
Discover the charm of a New York style walk- up in the heart of Detroit! Modern interior with washer/ dryer. Minutes away from Grosse Pointe, Wayne State & Midtown. **Non- smoking. No pets.**
Come take a tour.
1031 Marlborough
(N of E. Jefferson Ave/ east of Chalmers)
For more information call (313)469-0656
Email: marlborough@continentalmgt.com



SELL IT FAST IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!
Grosse Pointe News (313)882-6900 ext. 4



Have You Heard?
You'll sell it *FASTER* here!
Grosse Pointe News **classifieds**
313-882-6900

DIRECTORY OF SERVICES

Some classifications are not required by law to be licensed. Please check with the proper state agency to verify license.

907 BASEMENT WATERPROOFING

ACCULEVEL
Your foundation repair and basement waterproofing experts.
Whether basement, crawl space or concrete slab, we'll guide you on the right path to a healthy home.
Act now!
Up to $600 off.
Restrictions apply.
Call for a free consultation.
1(866)438-1859

DEBEERS HOME IMPROVEMENT BASEMENT WATERPROOFING
INTERIOR DRAIN TILE
MACHINE DIG
HAND DIG
313-886-8088

911 BRICK / BLOCK WORK

DEBEERS HOME IMPROVEMENT MASONRY
TUCKPOINTING
CHIMNEY REPAIR
PORCHES
WALKWAYS
313-886-8088

MADISON MAINTENANCE
specializing in restoration of chimneys, porches, houses, brick walls, tuck pointing, all masonry. Grosse Pointe resident. Free estimates. Licensed and insured.
masonrygp88@gmail.com
(313)885-8525
Cell (313)402-7166
NOW OFFERING FINANCING

Some classifications are not required by law to be licensed. Please check with the proper state agency to verify license.

911 BRICK / BLOCK WORK

REDBARON ENTERPRISES HANDYMAN SERVICE & CONSTRUCTION
•Chimneys
•Porches
•Concrete
•Steps
•Stonework
•Tuckpointing
•Patios
•Fireplaces
•Brick Work
RedBaron Enterprises.com
(313)408-1166

912 BUILDING / REMODELING

HADLEY HOME IMPROVEMENT INCORPORATED
Residential
Commercial
MASTER BUILDERS
Licensed & Insured
Free Estimates
(313)886-0520
Grosse Pointe Woods

NAUTICAL TILE
SPECIALIZING
in Bathroom and Kitchen Remodels
Decades of experience and a legacy of craftsmanship.
Committed to delivering results that stand the test of time.
4th Generation tile & stone setter
(586) 217-7795
Nauticaltile.com

914 CARPENTRY

REDBARON ENTERPRISES HANDYMAN SERVICE & CONSTRUCTION
Wood Rot
Repair Specialists
Garage
Straightening
Deck Repairs
Crown Molding
Custom Wood
Projects
Free Estimates
RedBaron Enterprises.com
(313)408-1166

914 CARPENTRY

Nick Karoutsos Painting
Since 1985
586.778.9619
•CUSTOM CARPENTRY
•WOOD REPAIR & REPLACEMENT
•HANDYMAN SERVICES
~All Work Guaranteed~
FREE ESTIMATES • LICENSED • INSURED

920 CHIMNEY REPAIR

DEBEERS HOME IMPROVEMENT MASONRY
313-886-8088

MADISON MAINTENANCE
specializing in restoration of chimneys, porches, houses, brick walls, tuck pointing, all masonry. Grosse Pointe resident. Free estimates. Licensed and insured.
masonrygp88@gmail.com
(313)885-8525
Cell (313)402-7166
NOW OFFERING FINANCING

927 DEBRIS / CLUTTER REMOVAL

REDBARON ENTERPRISES HANDYMAN SERVICE & CONSTRUCTION
Debris Removal
•Clean Outs
•Hauling
Unwanted Items
•Dumpsters Available
RedBaron Enterprises.com
(313)408-1166

REDBARON ENTERPRISES HANDYMAN SERVICE & CONSTRUCTION
DUMPSTERS AVAILABLE
•Clean Outs
•Basement/ Garage Clean Out
•Debris Removal
(313)408-1166

936 FLOOR SANDING / REFINISHING

NATURAL HARDWOOD FLOORS
Dustless floor sanding, staining, refinishing, molding, install.
Free estimates.
Guaranteed.
30 plus years experience.
Tony Arevalo
(313)330-5907
visit us at:
refinishmyfloor.com

939 GENERAL SERVICES

GUTTER • WINDOW CLEANING
Insured
Call Tom Micoli
(313)656-9402

943 LANDSCAPERS / TREE SERVICE/GARDENER

BRYS LAWN & SNOW LLC
Spring cleanup, weekly cutting, bush trimming, weeding.
Free quotes.
Established 1986.
Jim Sr.
(586)804-2186

DAVE'S TREE & SHRUB
CARPENTRY
Tree Removal/ Trimming
Stump Grinding
FREE ESTIMATES
35% OFF SUMMER DISCOUNTS
SENIOR DISCOUNTS
*** FIREWOOD * AVAILABLE**
25 Years
(586)216-0904
davestreeandshrub.com

943 LANDSCAPERS / TREE SERVICE/GARDENER

GARDENER
serving the finest Grosse Pointe homes since 1979.
Affordable next day personalized service.
Provencal, Lake Shore Road and condo experience.
We are Expert trimmers, weeding, bed edging, cultivating, shrub & flower planting, rose pruning, ornamental shrub & tree care, mulch plus more.
That sort of thing.
Ron (313)377-1467

944 GUTTERS

REDBARON ENTERPRISES HANDYMAN SERVICE & CONSTRUCTION
Gutter Replacement & Repair
5 & 6 inch Gutter Guards
Gutter Cleaning
Free Estimates
RedBaron Enterprises.com
(313)408-1166

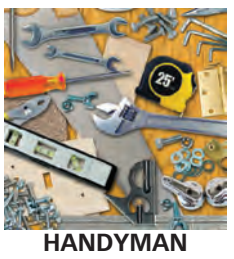
NO more cleaning out gutters.
Guaranteed!
LeafFilter is backed by a no- clog guarantee and lifetime transferrable warranty.
Call today 1(866)495-1709 to schedule a FREE inspection and no obligation estimate.
Plus get 75% off installation and a bonus $250 discount!
Limited time only.
Restrictions apply, see representative for warranty and offer details.

944 GUTTERS

HADLEY HOME IMPROVEMENT INCORPORATED
SEAMLESS GUTTERS
Temper Aluminum
Gutter Covers
Insured
Free Estimates
(313)886-0520
Grosse Pointe Woods

945 HANDYMAN

DEBEERS HOME IMPROVEMENT HANDYMAN SERVICES
CARPENTRY | PLUMBING | ELECTRICAL
313-886-8088



HANDYMAN
specializing in Plumbing, Heating, Air Conditioning, Electrical and miscellaneous odd jobs.
Lifetime career experience, reference available.
Call Douglas Kehrer at (586)292-5971

REDBARON ENTERPRISES HANDYMAN SERVICE & CONSTRUCTION
We're your **"TO DO"** list handymen!
Let us help you with any plumbing, electrical, carpentry and much more.
RedBaron Enterprises.com
(313)408-1166

948 INSULATION

REDBARON ENTERPRISES HANDYMAN SERVICE & CONSTRUCTION
A quiet home is a relaxing home!
Blown in Cellulose Insulation is GREEN, cost and energy efficient.
Red Baron Enterprises, LLC can insulate your home.
RedBaron Enterprises.com
(313)408-1166

HADLEY HOME IMPROVEMENT INCORPORATED
Residential
Commercial
INSULATION EXPERTS
Licensed & Insured
Free Estimates
(313)886-0520
Grosse Pointe Woods

954 PAINTING / DECORATING

GROSSE POINTE PAINTERS INC.
FREE ESTIMATES
Interior/Exterior
Commercial & Residential
313.882.9234

JOHN'S PAINTING
Interior/Exterior
Repairing:
Damaged plaster, drywall, cracks, windows puttying, caulking.
Fire/Water damage insurance work.
All work guaranteed
G. P. References
License/Insured
Free estimates
Senior Discount
(313)882-5038

Nick Karoutsos Painting
Since 1985
586.778.9619
•INTERIOR & EXTERIOR
•RESTORATION
•CUSTOM PAINTING
~All Work Guaranteed~
FREE ESTIMATES • LICENSED • INSURED

954 PAINTING / DECORATING

REDBARON ENTERPRISES HANDYMAN SERVICE & CONSTRUCTION
Painting Services
Interior & Exterior
Floors
Drywall
Plaster
Restoration
Wood Finishing
+ Staining
+ much more!
RedBaron Enterprises.com
(313)408-1166

957 PLUMBING & INSTALLATION

REDBARON ENTERPRISES HANDYMAN SERVICE & CONSTRUCTION
Plumbing
Diagnosis
Installation
Repair
Hot Water Tanks
Snaking
RedBaron Enterprises.com
(313)408-1166

960 ROOFING SERVICES

RR CODDENS
Family since 1924
Re-Roofs ~ Tear Offs
Flat Roofs
Chimney Repair
(313)886-5565
(313)550-6602
Licensed•Builder•Insured

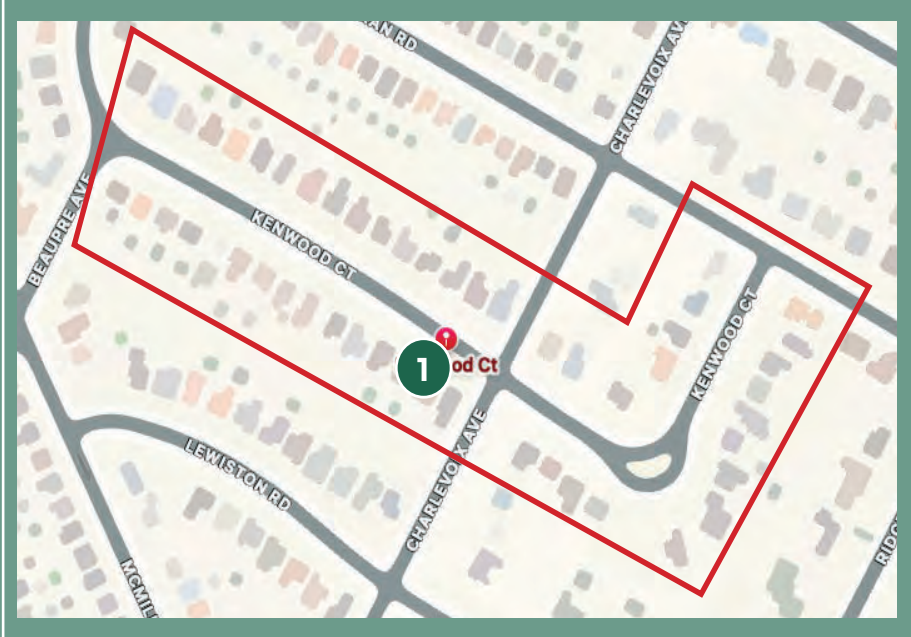
REDBARON ENTERPRISES HANDYMAN SERVICE & CONSTRUCTION
NEW INSTALLATION
Roofs, Gutters
Repairs
Siding
Financing Available!
RedBaron Enterprises.com
(313)408-1166

HADLEY HOME IMPROVEMENT INCORPORATED
Residential
Commercial
ROOFING EXPERTS
Lifetime Warranty on Shingles
Licensed & Insured
Free Estimates
(313)886-0520
Grosse Pointe Woods

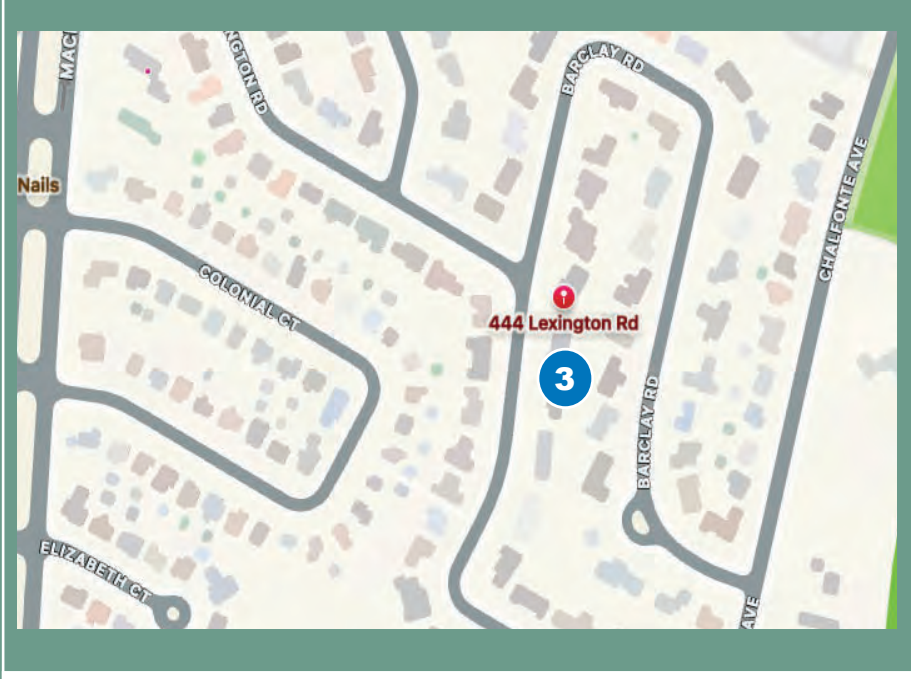


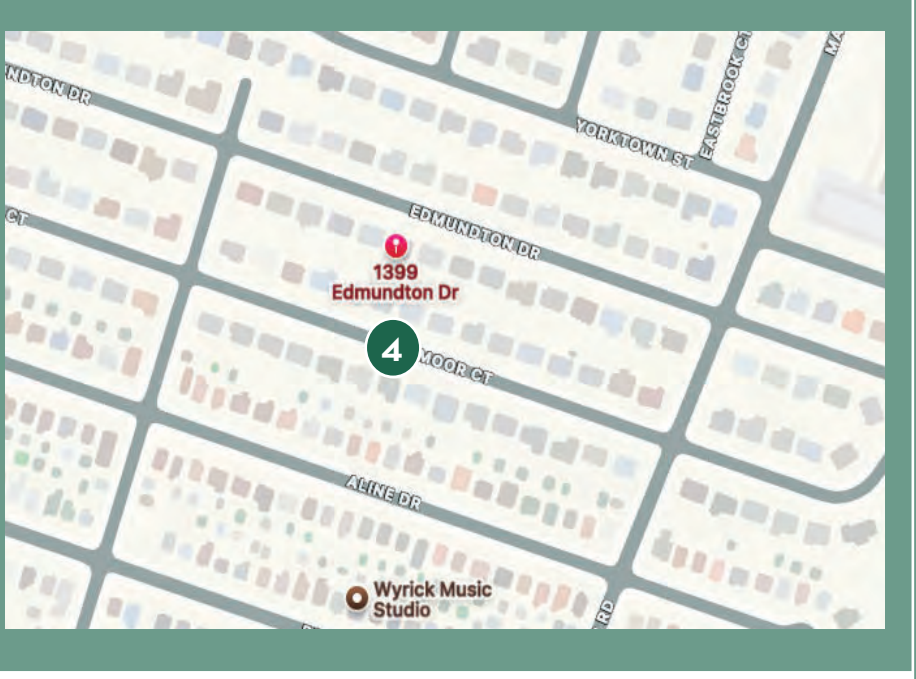
Grosse Pointe News Classifieds: 313-882-6900 x 4

Grosse Pointe News Yard & Estate Sale Map









THIS WEEK: July 30, 2026

1. Kenwood Court, GPF
2. 185 Lakeview Ave., GPF
3. 444 Lexington, GPF
4. 1399 Edmundton Dr., GPW

= YARD SALE = ESTATE SALE
See Classifieds for more details

Weekly Challenge

UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

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

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

Previous puzzle solution

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

7/30 7/23 Solution

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Pointe Word Search

Find the words on the left in the puzzle below and spell out the hidden sentence with the unused letters.

AMERICA
AUSTRALIA
BULGARIA
CANADA
CHINA
DENMARK
IRELAND
KENYA
ENGLAND
POLAND
RUSSIA
VIETNAM

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

Royal Stars Weekly Horoscopes

Moon Alert: Avoid shopping (except for food and gas) and important decisions after 5 p.m. EDT today (2 p.m. PDT). The Moon is in AQUARIUS.

Happy Birthday for Thursday, July 30, 2026: You are grounded, practical and motivated. You're also logical and value tangible progress. This is a slower paced year. It's OK to rest. Take time to rejuvenate your energy. Focus on friends who are kind, helpful and have your back. Concentrate on your needs and what brings you happiness.

ARIES
(March 21-April 19)

You'll enjoy hanging out with friends today. You might initiate something or spur others into a game of sports or physical activity. This is a playful time for you. Enjoy the company of others. Tonight: Fun schmoozing.

TAURUS
(April 20-May 20)

You're high-viz today, and people see you as proactive and ready to initiate something. This could relate to home and family, or it might be about social outings. Both of these areas are blessed for you today. Tonight: Be modest.

GEMINI
(May 21-June 20)

Travel and a chance to do something to expand your world will appeal to you today. Be a tourist in your own city. Talk to people from other backgrounds. You've got lots of energy and drive today, which is why you are seeking adventure! Tonight: Learn something!

CANCER
(June 21-July 22)

On the whole, this is a favorable financial day for you. Something might occur behind the scenes that relates to shared property or someone else's wealth. It's also a lovely day for you to schmooze with others. Tonight: Check your finances.

LEO
(July 23-Aug. 22)

Your enthusiasm might inspire others to take action today. You have influence over others today. Competitive sports and physical activities will be a fun choice. Tonight: Be gracious.

VIRGO
(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

You're motivated and others can see that you're ready for action. Fortunately, you'll also be charming and diplomatic in how you want to go about achieving your goals. Tonight: Work and get organized.

LIBRA
(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

This is a lovely day to socialize! Accept invitations to party. The arts, movies, the theater and sports will appeal. This is also a great day for fun activities. If you're attracted to someone romantically, make the first move. Tonight: Play!

SCORPIO
(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Family discussions will be lively and dynamic today. You might be successful in persuading someone to give their help, resources or money to your home and family. Tonight: Relax.

SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

This is a wonderful day for those of you in sales, marketing, teaching, acting and writing. You will be persuasive and convincing. You're enthusiastic about life today. You also want to learn something new and exciting. Tonight: Discussions.

CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Finances have your attention today. You might be interested in shopping or spending money. If so, be aware of the restrictions of the Moon Alert. Enjoy the company of someone "different" today. Learn something new. Tonight: Check your money.

AQUARIUS
(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Today the Moon is in your sign dancing with fiery Mars, which makes you confident! You might assume the role of leader, especially if you want to start something new or initiate some kind of action. Tonight: Friendships.

PISCES
(Feb. 19-March 20)

You have a lot of inner drive to make some changes, perhaps improvements at home. Meanwhile, playful, romantic discussions might take place because Venus opposite your sign promotes all relationships in a cozy way. Hugs! Tonight: You're admired.

BORN TODAY

Actor, bodybuilder, politician Arnold Schwarzenegger (1947), actress Lisa Kudrow (1963), actor, TV host, former football player Terry Crews (1968).

Contract Bridge

ONE UP FROM DOWN UNDER

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 4
♥ A K Q
♦ A 10 6 5 4
♣ Q 10 9 8

WEST
♠ K J 9 8 6 3
♥ J 7 3
♦ K Q 7
♣ 3

EAST
♠ 10
♥ 4 2
♦ J 9 8 3 2
♣ 7 6 5 4 2

SOUTH
♠ A Q 7 5 2
♥ 10 9 8 6 5
♦ —
♣ A K J

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	3 NT	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	5 ♥	Pass
6 ♥			

Opening lead — king of diamonds.

Here is a neat hand played by Bruce Bell, New Zealand expert. It features a rare sequence of plays that led to a most unusual ending.

West led a diamond against six hearts, and Bell had to choose between two methods of play. He could try to ruff spades in dummy, which seemed likely to leave him short of his goal, or he could attempt a dummy reversal, which would require little more than a 3-2 trump division. Bell selected the latter approach and made the slam as a result.

The principle underlying a dummy reversal is that declarer uses the trumps in his own hand to ruff dummy's losers, instead of using dummy's trumps to ruff the losers in his hand. Properly executed, a dummy reversal produces more trump tricks than declarer would normally be able to make.

Bell ruffed West's king-of-diamonds lead, played a heart to the queen, ruffed another diamond, led a heart to the king and ruffed a third diamond. Having exhausted the trumps in his own hand, he next led the jack of clubs to the queen. He then cashed the ace of trump and ace of diamonds, on which he discarded the A-K of clubs!

After unblocking the clubs with these discards, Bell was able to cash the 10-9-8 of clubs to bring himself to 11 tricks, and the ace of spades accounted for the slam-going trick.

In all, Bell scored four clubs, the ace of diamonds, the ace of spades, and six trump tricks to escape what appeared to be certain defeat as the cards lay.

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by Steve Becker

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg July 30, 2026

ACROSS
1 Is inclined
6 Certain citation style: Abbr.
9 An "X" of XOXO
13 "See ya, senorita!"
16 Prefix with "war" or "lock"
17 "Is it OK for us to leave?"
18 Small-screen spot
19 Black cat, perhaps
20 Stardew Valley mine find
21 Follower of Islam's second-largest sect
23 Product made from cashews or soy
26 Make out, in Manchester
28 Parties with haupia and poi
29 Secondary social, say
31 Football maneuver that may involve a touch
33 Showtime subsidiary
34 Malinin on the ice
35 Unprivileged individual
37 Playing roller derby, say
39 "Planet of the ___"
40 Ablaze
42 Rises suddenly
43 Thrice-repeated conjunction in the U.S. Postal Service "creed"
44 Already
46 Convent crew
47 They might be worn for a night out!
50 Oscar-winning King
51 ___-cone
52 Voice quality
56 Mouth-related
57 "I'm sorry"
60 "Hold up"
61 Pompous
62 Phisher's targets: Abbr.
63 Esports rating system
64 Jaguars, e.g.

DOWN
1 ___ Bell
2 Wax-wrapped wheel
3 This clue's number squared
4 Dislikes on Reddit
5 Chicago-to-Louisville dir.
6 Lacking scruples
7 Morsel used in pesto
8 In the past
9 Swimming legend Ledecky
10 Orthodontics brand
11 They're sometimes crossed to purchase fireworks
12 Fries or tots, typically
14 Eager
15 "You're making me blush!"
22 "___ All That" (2021 rom-com)
24 Tour de France champion Bernal
25 Security system devices, for short
26 Programs with evil twins and amnesiacs, stereotypically
27 "That's the LAST time!"
30 Labels
31 "Larger ___ Life" (Backstreet Boys hit)
32 Widely knowledgeable person
34 Statement of faith?
36 Bespectacled "Bob's Burgers" character
38 Parent's sister
41 It's rigged on a brig
44 Kick out permanently
45 "You down?"
48 Stands up at the altar
49 Prying
50 This crossword has 15
53 Posthumous bio
54 Brussels-based grp.
55 "Slow Churned" ice cream brand
58 Long-handled gardening tool
59 NYC subway operator

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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

7/23 Solution

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www.upuzzles.com

7/30 **Summer 2026 Themeless Week, Puzzle 4** *by Brian Callahan*

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				

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Woods Warriors take back Lakefront Swimming crown

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter



PHOTO COURTESY OF ANDREA VAN BECELAERE

The Woods Warriors leap into the pool at Lake Front Park after securing the championship at the 2026 Lakefront Swimming Association finals Wednesday, July 22.

In 2025, the Grosse Pointe Woods Warriors had their sights set on a third consecutive Lakefront Swimming Association championship, only to have the title snatched by the Grosse Pointe Shores Sharks. However, the Warriors battled back to the top of the mountain in 2026, earning the title of champions yet again at this year's Lakefront Swimming Association finals Wednesday, July 22.

"Every year now we expect to compete," Woods Warriors head coach Greg Wolff said. "This year, we knew it was going to be really tight. When we scored out the preliminary events, there were only about seven points separating us from Grosse Pointe Farms. We knew the relays would be really tight. … Our relay swimmers overachieved. We were hoping we might pull off a few more first places and second-place finishes. In the freestyle relays, we won six out of eight of them and they were tight races, too. Nothing was easy."

The Warriors finished with 376 points, with the Grosse Pointe Farms Barracudas coming in second at 317. The Grosse Pointe Park Mutants rounded out the top three in third place, while the Sharks finished fourth, the City of Grosse Pointe Norbs in fifth and the St. Clair Shores Sea Serpents in sixth place.

One of the top swimmers helping lead the Warriors to another title was Hadley Beal. She finished first in the girls 17U 100-meter IM with a time of 1:10.09. Beal's time of 34.64 also put her first in the girls 17U 50-meter breaststroke, beating out Liliana Ivanaj from the Shores Sharks by just 0.09 seconds.

Lucy Vernier also picked up some key wins for the Warriors, including a first-place time of 18.32 in the girls 8U 25-meter freestyle. Vernier also took first place in the girls 8U 50 freestyle. One of the biggest wins of the finals for the Warriors came in the girls 57U 200 medley relay, where the ages of all participants must add up to 57 or less. Ada Cavanagh, Elizabeth Fooks, Adrianna Bogner and Emma Stepulla pulled out the win for the Woods in one of the final events that sealed the win.

In the boys events, David Staperfenne earned first place for the Warriors in the boys 10U 50 freestyle with a time of 32.31. Santino Orlando's 31.04 time in the boys 12U 50 freestyle brought the Warriors another victory. Brady Winbigler won the boys 17U 50 backstroke at 28.87 for the Warriors as well.

Taking back the title of Lakefront Swimming champs was an exciting moment for the Warriors, but also bittersweet. It was the final meet with part of the coaching staff that helped lead the team to its recent championships, but a fitting farewell for some with a team that played a significant role in their lives.

"I've had a couple of coaches who were swimming on the team when I started in 2017 and began coaching with me in 2021, Jaden Payne and Gabe Loper," Wolff said. "Unfortunately, they're growing up and made it known that this would be their last season with us. There were a few tears with the swimmers, but it really motivated our team to try and win it for them. They've been incredible assistant coaches, even to the point where I found myself doing a lot less and them doing a lot more."

Lochmoor dominates MICSA finals for seventh straight title

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The swimmers from the Lochmoor Club Sea Dragons have become a force to be reckoned with in the Michigan Inter-Club Swimming Association over the past decade. The club's dominance continued last weekend at the 2026 MICSA finals at Great Oaks Country Club in Rochester, where the Sea Dragons captured a seventh consecutive championship and broke their own record for most points scored at a finals meet.

"As coaches we couldn't be more proud of the Lochmoor swimmers and their performance this weekend," Lochmoor coach Kevin Hafner said. "The dedication and support from the families at Lochmoor is what keeps us strong."

Lochmoor finished atop the standings with 1,147 points, surpassing the record-setting performance of 1,126 points the club had at last year's finals. This year's title also marked its 21st championship in the past 25 seasons for the Sea Dragons.

Swimmers from the Sea Dragons set three league records during this year's finals. The girls 200-meter freestyle relay team of Evelyn Vandenberghe, Gigi Thibault, Karen Rosenbach and Ella Hafner set a new record with their time of 1:54.66. Hafner also set a record in the girls 15-17 100 freestyle at 55.92. Evie Gerstenberger had a record-breaking performance in the girls 8U 25 backstroke with her time of 17.98. She was also victorious in the 8U girls 25 freestyle.

Thibault was victorious in both the girls 9-10 25 butterfly and 50 backstroke events. Mia Fozo was a double champion for the Sea Dragons in the girls 11-12 100 freestyle and 100 IM races.

Brady Bond earned a pair of first-place finishes for Lochmoor in the boys 15-17 50 and 100 freestyle races. Liam Hafner won both the 50 and 100 freestyle races in the boys 11-12 division.

More individual champions for Lochmoor included Mia Meyer, who took first place in the girls 8U 25 breaststroke. Paloma Pilotto earned a win in the girls 8U 25 butterfly, Lily Schorer won the girls 11-12 50 backstroke, and Charlotte Bond was victorious in the girls 13-14 100 IM.



COURTESY PHOTO

The Lochmoor Club Sea Dragons swim team celebrates its 2026 MICSA championship victory in the pool at Great Oaks Country Club Sunday, July 26.

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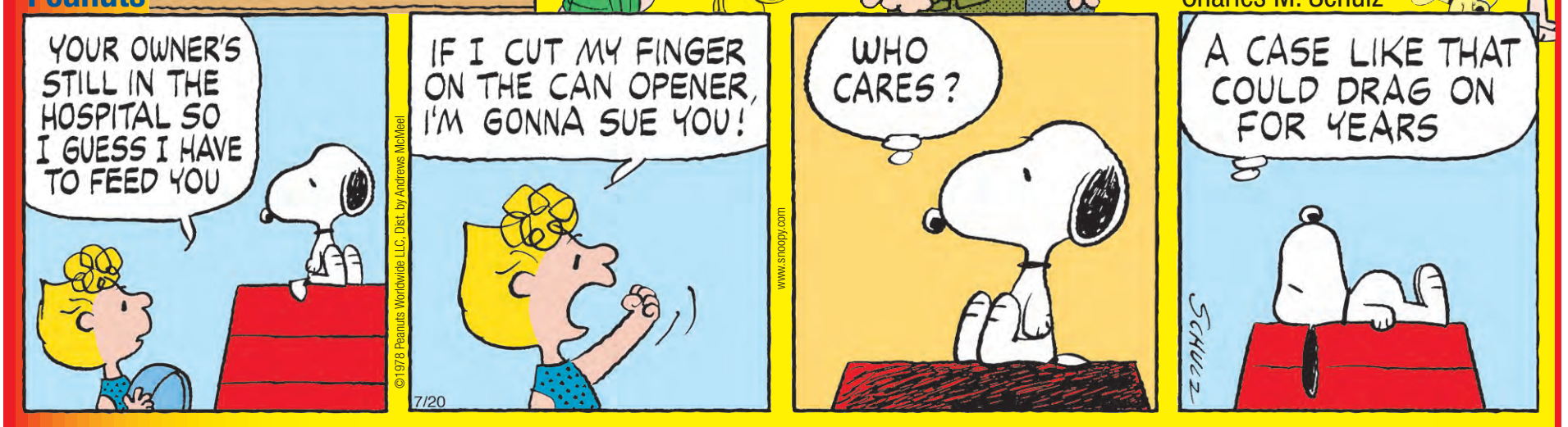
Grosse Pointe News THURSDAY COMICS

Peanuts

Charles M. Schulz



Bizarro

Dan Piraro and Wayno



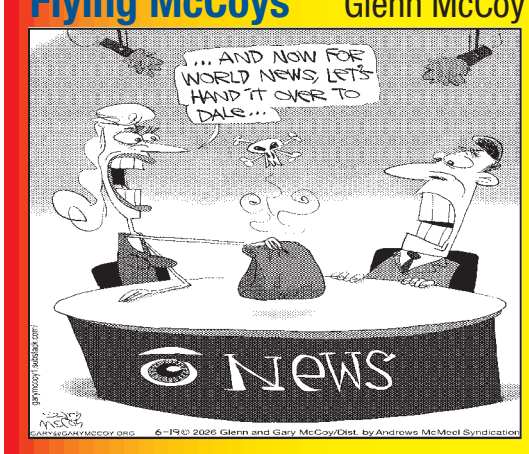
Andy Capp

Reg Smythe



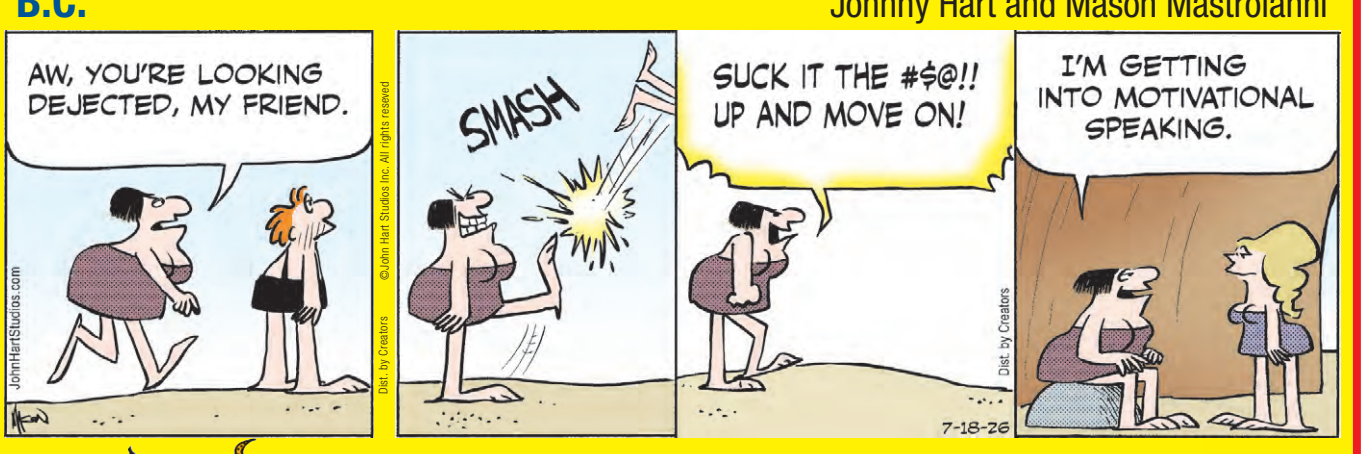
Flying McCoys

Glenn McCoy



B.C.

Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni



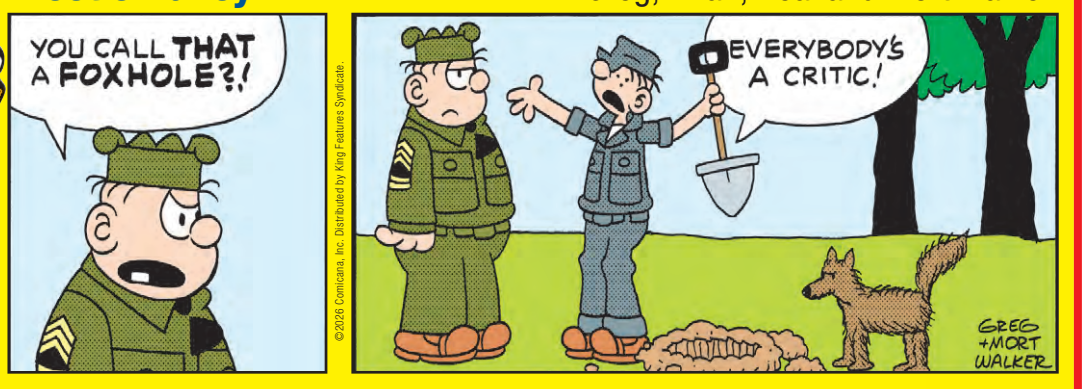
Reality Check

Dave Whamond



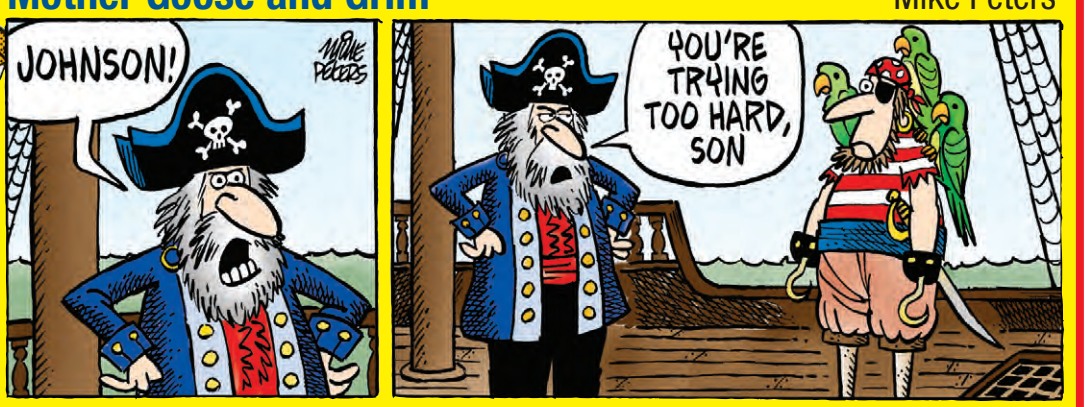
Beetle Bailey

Greg, Brian, Neal and Mort Walker



Mother Goose and Grim

Mike Peters



The Lockhorns

Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner



"FINE, YOU TWO CAN PLAY GOOD COP/BAD COP... AND I'LL BE THE COMMISSIONER."

Crankshaft

Tom Batiuk and Dan Davis



Dennis the Menace

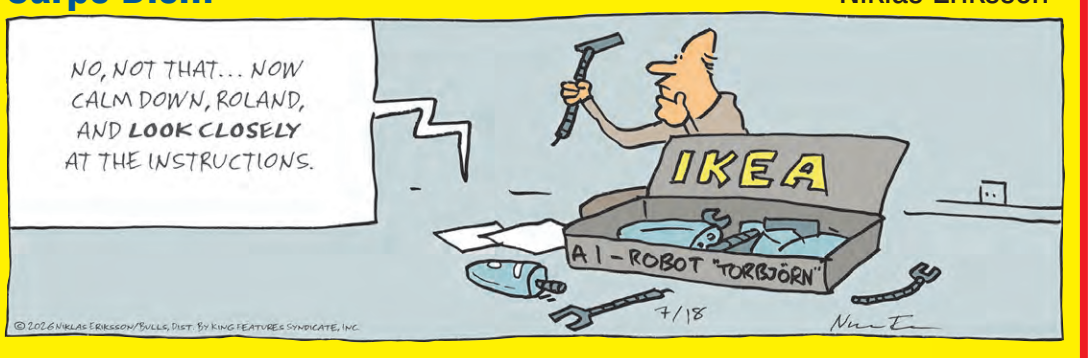
Hank Ketchum, Scott Ketchum, Ron Ferdinand and Marcus Hamilton



"THOSE LOOK LIKE THEY STILL HAVE SOME FUN LEFT IN 'EM."

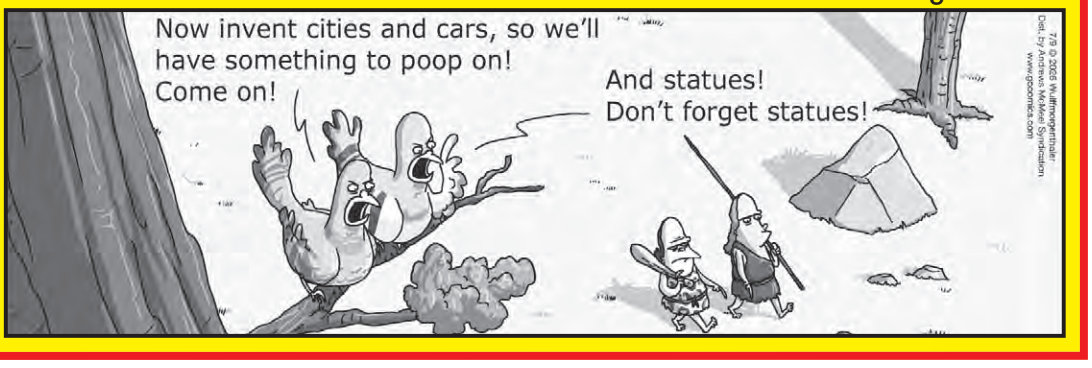
Carpe Diem

Niklas Eriksson



Wumo

Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler



Grosse Pointe News

THURSDAY COMICS

Garfield

Jim Davis



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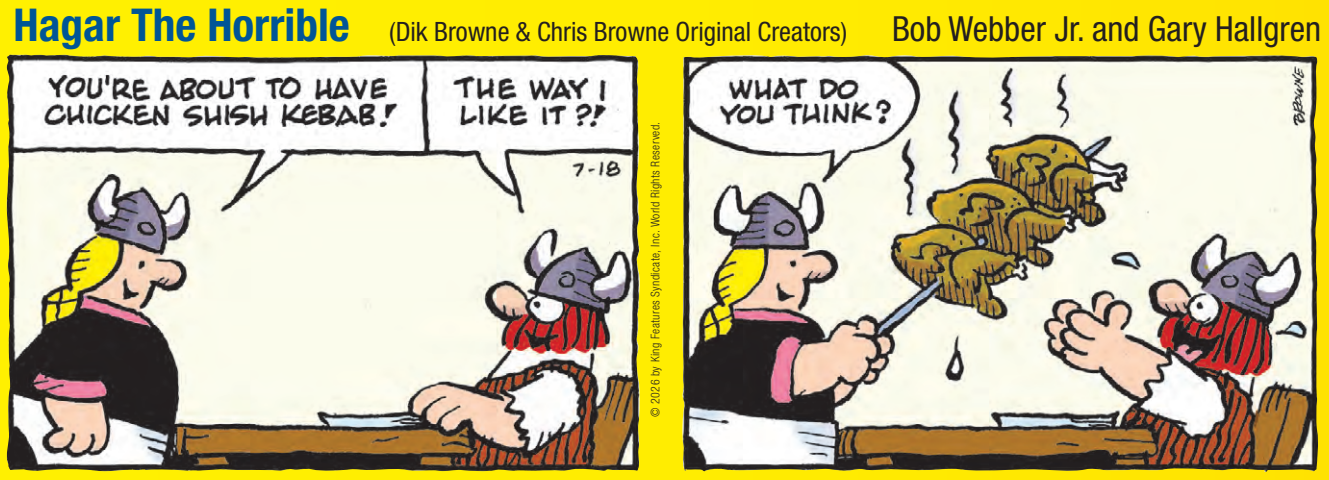
Hagar The Horrible

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



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Close To Home

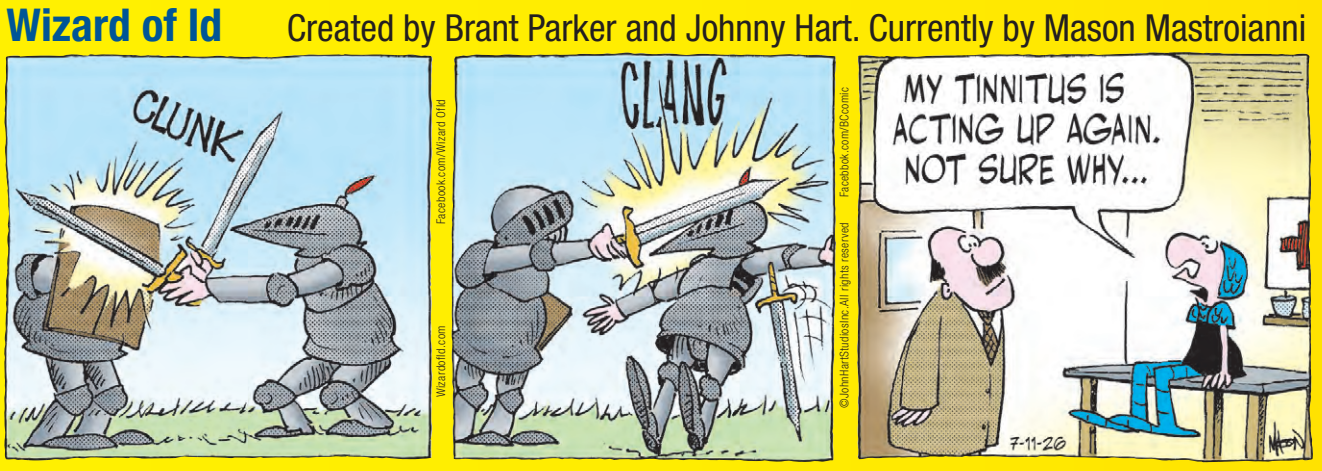
John McPherson



"I understand that one of you whined to my boss that there's a hair in your food."

Wizard of Id

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



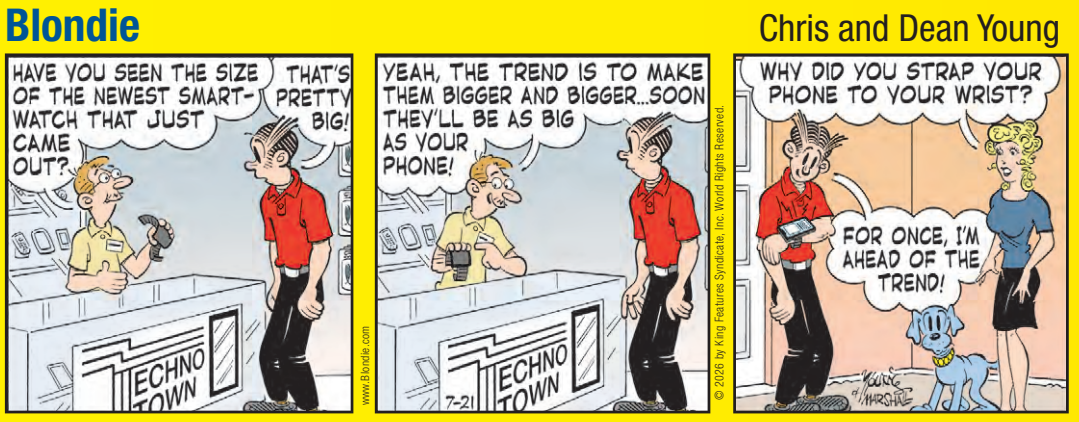
Ziggy

Tom Wilson



Blondie

Chris and Dean Young



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Marmaduke

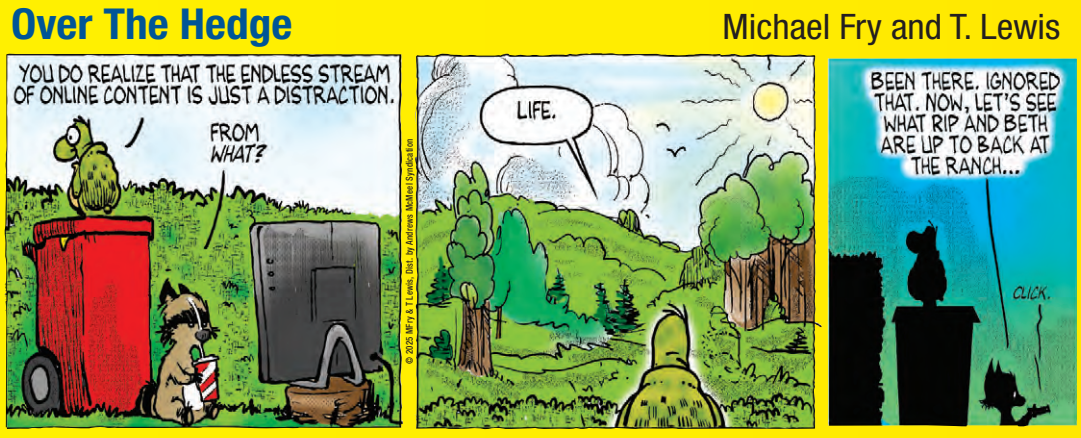
Paul & Brad Anderson



"Quiet! It's not going to run away from you."

Over The Hedge

Michael Fry and T. Lewis



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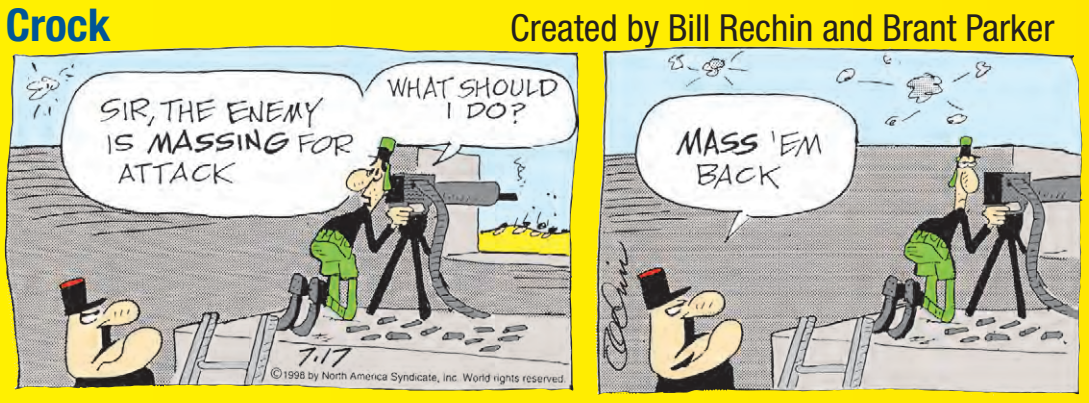
Crock

Created by Bill Rechin and Brant Parker



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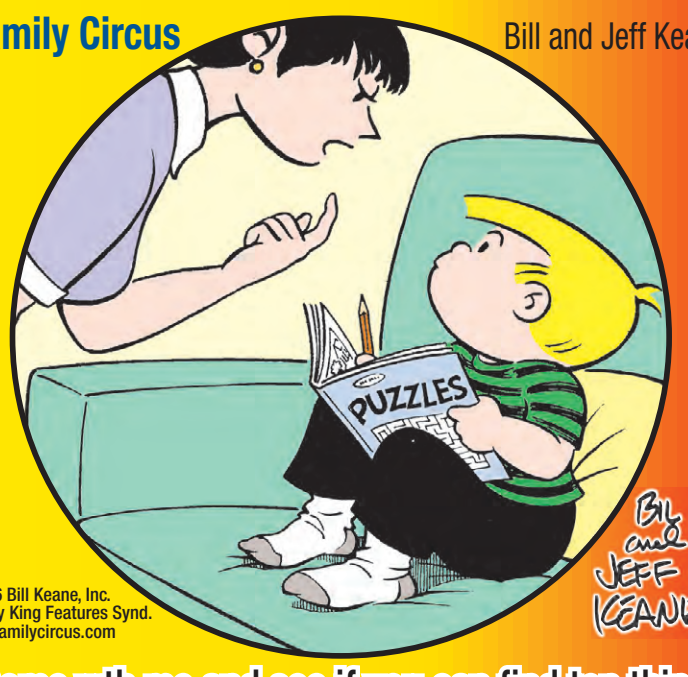
Family Circus

Bill and Jeff Keane



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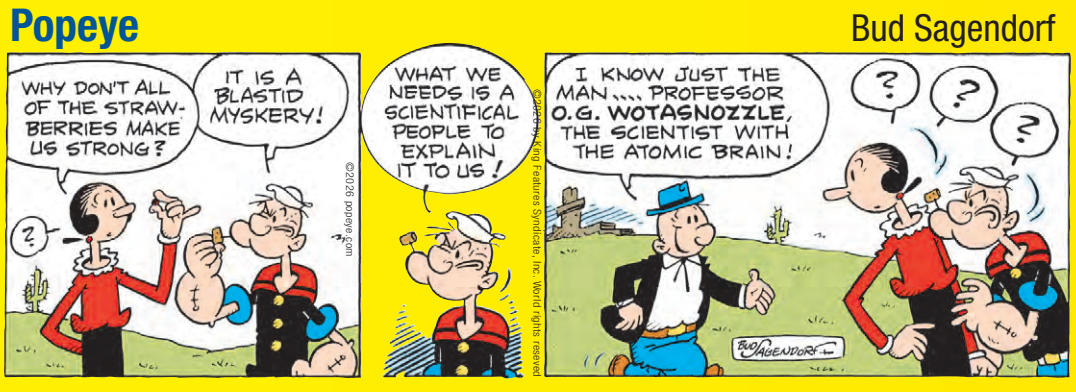
www.familycircus.com

"Come wth me and see if you can find ten things wrong with your room."

Popeye

Bud Sagendorf



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F Minus

Tony Carrilo







COURTESY PHOTO

Bachert wins gold at U23 Rowing Championships

Grosse Pointe South alumna and current Syracuse University rower Olivia Bachert, back row far right, and her USRowing teammates won a gold medal at the 2026 World Rowing Under-23 Championships Sunday, July 26, finishing first in the Women's Eight final. Bachert's teammates included Amy Werner (University of Texas), Lauren Dubois (Princeton University), Amelia Boes (Ohio State University), Quincy Stone (Stanford University), Elsa Hartman (University of Virginia), Joely Cherniss (Princeton), and Katherine Nordheim (Texas).



Quinn represents Liggett at MLB Hank Aaron Invitational

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

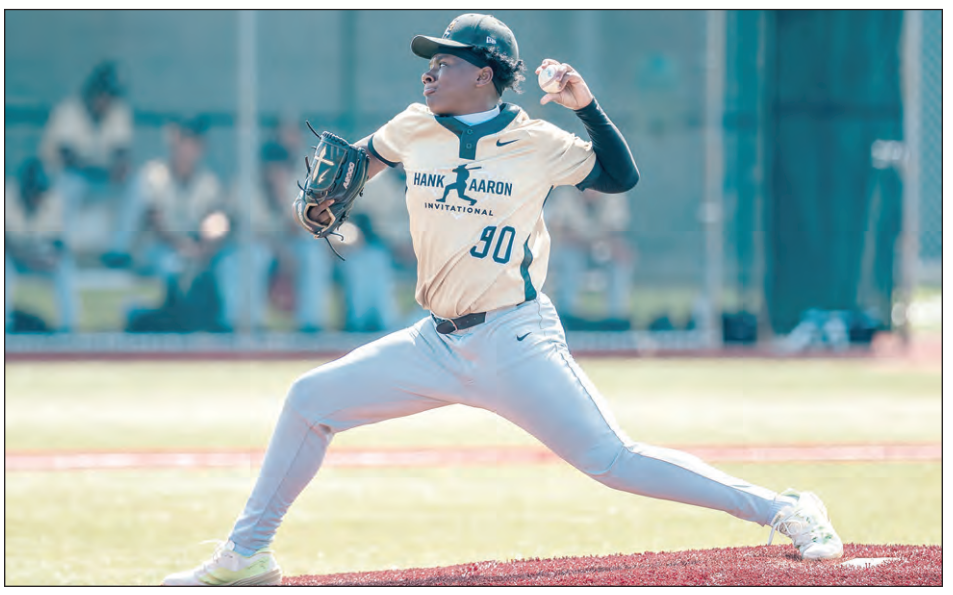

PHOTO COURTESY OF MLB

University Liggett School rising sophomore Miles Quinn pitches at the 2026 MLB Hank Aaron Invitational in Florida.

The baseball talent produced in the Pointes often is on display at the national level. One University Liggett School Knight recently showcased his skills and learned from baseball legends at one of the biggest development events of the year.

Liggett rising sophomore Miles Quinn represented the Knights at the 2026 Major League Baseball Hank Aaron Invitational earlier this month at MLB's Jackie Robinson Training Complex in Vero Beach, Fla.

The event was designed by MLB, along with USA Baseball and the Atlanta Braves, to give high school players from diverse backgrounds development for the next level of the game. During his time in Florida, July 19 to 22, Quinn trained alongside other top high school baseball prospects from around the country and learned from legends of the game such as Hall of Famer Ken Griffey Sr., Ken Griffey Jr., Reggie Smith, Eric Davis and more.

"I got to learn so much from them since they're all in the Hall of Fame and everything," Quinn said. "(I was) listening and learning what they did to be a better baseball player."

Quinn got there on the recommendation of former Liggett teammate Kanaan Taylor, who suggested he try out for the MLB ID Tour, another initiative that helps MLB identify talent for further development programming. After a strong showing at an ID Tour event, Quinn received his invite to the Hank Aaron Invitational.

While Quinn is no stranger to playing in big games at the high school level and competing against other top national talent in travel baseball, his experience at the Hank Aaron Invitational showed him there are still plenty of ways to improve his game. Four days of hitting, pitching and fielding drills taught by Hall of Fame players and top national coaches gave Quinn some ideas for what he can do better in his remaining high school seasons with the Knights.

"They were telling me to stand back (from the plate) to have more space for the inside pitch," he said. "They also taught me ideas on how to play the outfield and how to drop back more and play different angles in the outfield."

Some of the best memories from Quinn's time in Florida, however, came off the baseball diamond. The event brought together high school freshmen and sophomores from around the country who Quinn competed with or against at other national baseball showcases, many of them already his friends. The chance to get together with them, train at an MLB-level facility and enjoy a summer trip to Florida with friends is an experience that will stick with Quinn for a long time.

"We were playing basketball together and swimming and hanging out in the villas," he said. "There were more memories than just getting to play baseball together."

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