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Grosse Pointe News

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GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes





Right, Fresh Farms Market co-owner Steve Najjar, right, with one of the 200 local pizza reviewers, Anthony Petz. Below, Brooklyn and Riley review a slice of Fresh Farms Market pizza.

COURTESY PHOTOS

Lead line swap going citywide

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — The engineering firm that in recent years nibbled at the city's lead water pipe replacement program won a contract this week to finish the process in one big bite.

Members of city council on Aug. 10 awarded a $95,000 contract for the city's current consulting engineers, OHM Advisors, to extend their oversight of the design and development of construction plans for lead line replacement throughout the municipality.

"OHM has extensive knowledge of the infrastructure and what is needed to get this project done from start to finish," said Tom Jenny, director of public works.

"You're hired," Mayor Michele Hodges told Patrick Droze, an engineer and principal in OHM's municipal group, during the Aug. 10 city council meeting.

The Park has 1,800 lead service lines. All need to be replaced in compliance with a 2021 unfunded statewide mandate ordering jurisdictions to eliminate lead water service lines within 20 years. Compliance means lines must be eliminated by 2041 at a rate of at least 10 percent per year.

City officials had been obeying the order by contracting with OHM to oversee the swapping out of lead lines at a pace roughly tied to the amount of money available.

Yet the Park's receipt last month of a $19,855,000 combined grant and federal no-interest Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan to fund lead line replacements emboldened planners to think longer term.

"We have an active lead line program," said Councilman Max Wiener, chairman of the infrastructure committee. "This (grant and loan) allows us to accelerate."

See SWAP, page 3A

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Farms Fresh Market campaign continues

Market hopes Portnoy notices pizza

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — Tuesday, Aug. 11, marked Day 200 of Fresh Farms Market's social media campaign aimed at attracting viral food critic Dave Portnoy to review its locally celebrated, hand-tossed pizza.

Portnoy, the creator of Barstool Sports, visits pizzerias across the country unannounced for his "One Bite Pizza Reviews," during which he rates a plain slice of cheese pizza on a scale of one to 10.

"I would hope (he'd rate us) an 8.5," Manager James Najjar said, as Portnoy has only once given a score of 10 and scores of nine are similarly rare.

The team at Fresh Farms Market, without missing a day since the beginning of the year, has filmed a customer or community member reviewing a single bite of the market's cheese

See MARKET, page 5A

GPPSS holds 1st listening session

By Ted O'Neil
Associate Editor

THE GROSSE POINTES — About a dozen and a half people attended the first of five planned listening sessions hosted by Grosse Pointe Public School System Acting Superintendent Roy Bishop at Parcells Middle School Tuesday, Aug. 4.

"We can't answer every question, but we need to partner with the community to build trust," he told the group. "We have a positive intent of how do we best support students. We do that by monitoring, measuring and making things better."

When the sessions were announced in July, Bishop said, "The vision in our new strategic plan is to be 'the premier educational community where we innovate, learn, grow and thrive together' and these listening sessions provide an opportunity for our whole community to collaborate. We are on our way to the specific metric of five engagement opportunities under our first-year objectives."

He added that while it can be hard to find the "perfect system," sometimes the best thing to do is "just get started."

Bishop also noted the sessions are important because he thinks the community doesn't always believe information the district puts out.

Issues raised included AI and screen time, with

See LISTEN, page 10A

Back 2 School



Check out all of our picks for back to school essentials — plus see how to enter our
TEACHER APPRECIATION
$500 GIFT CARD BUNDLE
GIVEAWAY!
See Section C

Primary election results

THE GROSSE POINTES — Voters in last Tuesday's primary election across the Pointes largely tracked with the rest of the state in the gubernatorial and U.S. Senate races.

Jocelyn Benson and John James, Democrat and Republican respectively, received the most votes in their primaries for governor.

Abdul El-Sayed got the nod for U.S. Senate against Haley Stevens, winning four of the Pointes with Stevens coming out ahead in the Wayne County portion of Grosse Pointe Shores. The Farms was closest in that race, 1,164 votes for El-Sayed compared to 1,150 for Stevens. Mike Rogers is running unopposed on the Republican side of the race.

Incumbent Shri Thanedar fell to Donavan McKinney in the 13th congressional district, although Thanedar won in the Farms, 1,153 votes to 1,146.

In the race for the 12th

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Pointer of INTEREST



Danielle Caralis
Home: Grosse Pointe Park
Longtime GPT president on to new adventures

See story, page 4A

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Art with heart

Above, the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce hosted its sixth annual Grosse Pointe Art Festival Aug. 1. More than 3,000 people came to The Hill to view the works of artisans lining Kercheval. There were 90 vendors. Planning for next year's festival already has begun. Right, Izzy Donnelly takes pictures and has them printed on scarves, which are popular pieces. She plans to be back again next year.



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT



Annmarie Yago and her daughter, Matilda, had fun with props in the photo booth sponsored by Orthodontic Associates.



Grosse Pointe Farms Lt. Tim Harris and K-9 Rocco walked The Hill during the fair.



Gene Andrews makes wooden signs with funny, warm and memorable sayings on them and brought them to the art fair where they were a hit.

Socialists prevail in Park

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — The current election cycle rounded the final turn last Tuesday and entered the homestretch.

Voters culled the herd during the Aug. 4 primary. From the field came local preferences to be paired in final races for governor, U.S. Senate, House and more. The finish line is the general election Nov. 3.

Final tallies in the Park were still being ciphered by county and state officials when Clerk Bridgette Bowdler released results from her jurisdiction at 1:55 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 5, nearly six hours after the polls closed at 8 p.m. the day prior.

Bowdler said there were no problems gathering or compiling the results, which have to be certified.

"Just a long night," she said.

In gubernatorial races, Democrat and current Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson beat Christopher Robert Swanson 2,838 to 374.

Benson's Republican opposites were in the money with John James getting the most votes (498), Perry Johnson placing second (284) and former attorney general Mike Cox showing third (81).

For senator, Park voters on the Democrat side chose Abdul El-Sayed (1,958) of Ann Arbor. He beat Haley Stevens (1,246), a congresswoman from Oakland County. The race was of national interest due to El-Sayed being among Democrat Socialists holding the party's reins.

El-Sayed, endorsed by members of a left-wing congressional group known as the Squad, competes in November against Republican Mike Rogers. He received 824 votes and had no opposition.

In a municipal switcheroo for the Michigan 13th House District, incumbent Democrat Rep. Shri Thanedar — who two years ago obtained a nearly $1.7 million grant for the city to build flood control infrastructure — lost to challenger and current Democrat State Rep. Donavan McKinney 1,899 to 1,305.

McKinney, another democratic socialist, was endorsed by national Democrat Socialist heavyweight Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont.

Republican House candidate T.P. Nykoriak had no opposition and drew 702 votes.

Results of races for state and county offices were:

◆ Senate, 12th District

Democrat Kevin Hertel, incumbent, 2,729, unopposed;

Republican John Goldwater, 426. He beat four rivals.

◆ State House District 10

Incumbent Democrat Veronica Paiz of Harper Woods, 2,158;

Republican Peter Ochs, unopposed, 682.

◆ Wayne County Executive

Democrat Warren C. Evans, 2,331;

Republican Michael A. Evans, unopposed, 684.

Delegates

Lastly, voters selected their respective party's delegates to the county convention

◆ Precinct 1

Democrat Sarah Armstrong Coats (416).

Republicans Park Councilman Max Wiener (96), Lisa Jean Morreale, (70) and Cheryl Denman (66).

◆ Precinct 2

Democrats Jeffrey Greer (276) and Edward V. Keelean (225).

Republican Linda Malicki Abar (140).

◆ Precinct 4

Democrats Karla P. Keelean (244), Pamela Sharrow (241), Larry Lobert (229) and Kirkland W. Garey (214).

Republicans Planning Commissioner Michael Vethake (100) and Karole Steen (95).

◆ Precinct 5

Democrat and former councilwoman Darci E. McConnell (411) and Steve Wright (202).

Republican and Tax Increment Finance Authority board member James E. Robson (98).

◆ Precinct 6

Democrats Janet Stickney Burke (293) and Justin Counts (223).

Republicans Richard B. Atkins Jr. (88) and Sadie Bolos O'Neill (79).

◆ Precinct 7

Democrats Corinne Rogers (310) and Faustina Sandoval (277).

Republicans Kim Tocco (71), Vito Tocco (68), Terrence Collins (65), Darrell Finken (48), Walter Kolodziej (41) and William J. Simonson Sr. (34).

Transit millage

A proposed millage to fund and expand Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation (SMART) bus service won in the Park. Voters supported it 2,738 to 1,044.

The vote

Constituents got a good jump on Election Day.

By 12:30 p.m., 353 voters cast ballots early and 460 people had been to the polls in person.

"So far, the election has been going great," Bowdler said. "So far, we have 2,126 absentee ballots returned. We sent out 3,300."

She said absentee voting is becoming more popular.

"It gives voters time to be at home, study the candidates and cast their vote," she said. "They feel comfortable in their home. They don't feel rushed. Then they drop off their ballot at the drop box. I think people are concentrating more on the candidates now because they have the time to actually study them."

Bowdler turned the election into a teaching tool for her son and some of his classmates at Gabriel Richard Catholic High School in Riverview.

"I wanted the younger kids to learn about democracy and the responsibility of elections and the privilege of voting," she said. "So, I brought in students to work the polls. They're working as greeters. It's great experience to teach these kids and give them the opportunity to learn about democracy."

"I'm here to learn how voting works," said Walter Lipinski, 16, of Wyandotte, working as a greeter among polling stations in the Lavins Activity Center gymnasium. "People like seeing younger people here. They've been thanking me for helping."



PHOTO BY BRAD LINDBERG

Grosse Pointe Park Clerk Bridgette Bowdler shows the ropes to election greeter Walter Lipinski, 16.

RESULTS:

Continued from page 1A

district in the State Senate, incumbent Kevin Hertel collected more votes than the five Republicans combined.

In the 10th State House race, incumbent Veronica Paiz outdistanced two Democratic challengers and will face Republican Peter Ochs in November.

Stevens was the choice for Senate in the Shores, getting 242 votes to 202 for El-Sayed. Thanedar also was favored in the Shores, with 247 votes to 190 for McKinney. The rest of the races tracked the same as in the other Pointes.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition for Appointment of Successor Guardian has been filed by Consella Lee in the Wayne County Probate Court regarding Liddie Kennedy, Legally Incapacitated Individual. A Hearing will be held Thursday, September 03, 2026 at 9:45 A.M. before Judge David A. Perkins, at the Wayne County Probate Court, located at: 1305 Coleman A. Young Municipal Center, 2 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, Michigan 48226

Interested persons may appear at the hearing via Zoom and present any objections or concerns regarding the Petition.

This notice is being published pursuant to the requirements of the Michigan Probate Court rules. For additional information, contact John R. Urso of Urso & Associates, P.C., attorney for Petitioner Consella Lee, (313) 961-8400 or email: urplaw@aol.com

GPN:_8/13/26







PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

About a dozen dead trees currently line Kercheval in The Village.

‘Pardon us while we grow’

Village to draft three-year tree replacement plan

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — “It’s hard to be a tree in a downtown environment,” said Cindy Willcock, executive director of Main Street Grosse Pointe, paraphrasing a former Ferndale mayor, who was known to say, “It’s not easy being a tree on Woodward.”

The sentiment is the same.

Trees lining the sidewalk in The Village are subject to small tree wells suppressing root growth, a hotter environment against the pavement, salt thrown down in the winter, the exhaust from traffic and other pollutants that gather in congested areas.

The result is around a dozen dead trees currently lining Kercheval, in addition to several which were removed last year.

“We know we don’t want dead trees down here,” Willcock said. “We also know that we don’t have the budget to replace potentially all the trees that are dead or in poor condition at the same time.”

Those with a stake in Village trees — Main Street, the Urban Forestry Commission and City Forester Mike Gilmore — are formulating a three-year tree replacement plan, which ultimately should mean a net gain in trees in The Village.

“A couple years ago they pulled trees out and just cemented over the tree wells so that they were pedestrian safe,” Willcock noted. “We definitely don’t want that. We want to reopen those areas, too, and put trees so that we’re lining the street with as many trees as possible.”

Planners must consider growth rates and tree canopy — keeping in mind whether trees block business signage — as well as varying species to prevent future sweeping diseases like the emerald ash borer.

“We also know we need to expand those tree green areas because they just don’t have enough room for the root system to grow,” Willcock said. “So that would require cutting out some flags and looking at different (options) like, do we build planters around those areas.”

August is not the right time of year to plant trees. Beyond that, planners may stagger the plantings over three years so future replacements aren’t all necessary in the same year.

“I love the fact that we’re finally talking about a long-term plan and not just fixing things that need to be fixed immediately,” Willcock said. “I think this is an important part of a successful downtown and a successful collaboration with Main Street, the city, the Urban Forestry Commission and the city forester all coming to the table and offering different ideas and different areas of expertise, so that we have a long-term plan.”

In the meantime, as dead trees are removed, Main Street likely will partner with Posterity Gallery to create temporary art installations to be placed atop the empty tree wells.

“We’re looking at some creative ideas on what we can do,” Willcock said. “Let’s have a little fun with it while we grow instead of just being a construction (zone).”

Currently, globes from a past Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce street art project are decorating empty wells near the clock arch and CVS.



A ‘Shop Local’ globe from a past Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce street art project covers an empty tree well in front of CVS.

The Week Ahead

MONDAY, AUG. 17

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

TUESDAY, AUG. 18

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

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 19

- Grosse Pointe Park Downtown Development Authority meeting, 7 p.m

THURSDAY, AUG. 20

- Grosse Pointe Park Planning Commission meeting, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, AUG. 21

- Music on the Lawn, Grosse Pointe Woods City Hall, 6 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUG. 22

- Park Farmers Market, 9 a.m. to noon at Kercheval and Lakepointe.
- After 6 on Kercheval, 6 to 10 p.m. on Kercheval between Nottingham and Wayburn.

SWAP:

Continued from page 1A

OHM helped the city draft and submit the loan application, which reportedly increased the city’s odds of being awarded the funds.

“OHM has determined lines requiring replacement will be completed on a three-year timeline starting in the summer of 2027,” Droze wrote city officials in a bid for the engineering work.

Federal funding came with strings.

“To meet federal funding requirements, a SHPO and NEPA application must be submitted in advance of project bidding,” Droze said.

SHPO stands for State Historic Preservation Office. NEPA is the National Environmental Policy Act.

“OHM proposes completing the NEPA application in-house,” Droze said. “The SHPO application will be completed by SWCA, a partner that OHM has worked with in the past.”

SWCA is an environmental consulting firm based in Illinois, but with an office in Michigan.

“SWCA will conduct a cultural resources desktop review of the project’s area of potential effects,” according to a scope of work provided by a company representative. “This review will focus on identifying previously recorded archaeological sites and above-ground resources that are recorded in the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office Cultural Resource Information System and historical properties listed in or eligible for listing (in) the National Register of Historic Places.”

OHM will pay SWCA’s $25,000 fee, Droze said.

While SWCA fulfills its obligations, OHM’s employees will:

- organize a database of properties requiring lead line replacement,
- review conditions of properties based on a combination of site visits, street view imagery and recently obtained photographs from the city’s water meter replacement contractor,
- prepare maps of lead services requiring replacement,
- prepare technical specifications of the contract document,
- prepare a final engineer’s opinion of probable cost of (total lead line replacement) and
- develop standardized right-of-entry forms that allow the city to track signed agreements from property owners.





Stepping down, but not away from the spotlight

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

There's a dichotomy to Danielle Caralis comparable to Superman.

By day, she's all business at UBS Financial Services, serving as a senior wealth manager strategy associate. By night — and on weekends and pretty much any other time — she's a star of the stage, singing, dancing, acting or directing her way through Grosse Pointe Theatre productions.

Caralis, the oldest of three daughters of George and Marina Caralis, grew up in Grosse Pointe, first in the Park and then the Shores, where her parents still reside.

She attended Ferry Elementary, Parcells Middle and Grosse Pointe North High schools, before making her way west. She earned her undergraduate degree in economics from Kalamazoo College — spending her junior year in Athens, Greece — before earning an MBA from Miami University in Ohio.

"I wanted to sing songs and be on stage, but my mom made me get a degree," she said. "I used to sing around the house all the time."

Though she took tap lessons through Casali School of Dance, was in theater during high school and studied vocal performance in college, she followed her mother's advice and went the banking route.

"I've been in finance my whole career," Caralis said, noting her start in the mortgage industry, which led to a career in commercial banking and relationship management. "Three years ago, I changed to the private wealth side of the business, which was a new challenge."

Three years ago also marked her move back to the Park, after living in Birmingham and working in Troy. Now she's back "home" and working downtown, which makes a lot of sense for someone whose extracurricular life has been based in the Pointes more than 20 years.

Back in 2002, Caralis' neighbor, longtime Grosse Pointe Theatre member Theresa Selvaggio, told her the group was hosting auditions for "The Sound of Music."

"She said, 'They need a lot of nuns,'" Caralis recalled. "So I went to go play a nun and I've been a member ever since.

"Everybody comes to be in a show and once they get there, they find out Grosse Pointe Theatre is like one large family," she continued. "That's why you don't leave — the relationships you create, the projects you work on together. … That's the reason people stay; it's the bonds that we make and that we cultivate."

Not only has Caralis entertained theatergoers with her commanding stage presence, but she also has served on the GPT board since 2010.

"I never wanted to be on the board," she said. "The previous president was looking at the younger folks and I was in the room. They asked me to join as the social chair, so I started planning parties. That was 15 years ago. I've consistently been on the board in almost every other capacity, except treasurer."



PHOTO COURTESY OF PATRICIA ELLIS



PHOTO COURTESY OF DALE PEGG

Above, Danielle Caralis, front and center, during the opening of "Anything Goes." Right, Mario Simone and Caralis pose for an "Anything Goes" promotional photo.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Above, the Caralis family. Below, Caralis was a hit as Narrator during "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat."



The last eight years, she's served as president, a post she said was something she found hard to leave, especially given the "enormously controversial" last several years the theater company has had.

"When I picked it up, it was our first year in schools," Caralis said, recalling GPT being left without a home after decades of performing at The War Memorial. "I jumped in and we survived '18-'19 and did the school thing and it worked out. And then '20 was COVID and we learned all kinds of things. When you run a performing arts group, your job is to be with people. We had to learn how to operate a business without being around people."

Meeting via Zoom and coming up with alternate plans to keep the group alive became routine for Caralis, though she credited those around her for making it work.

"You find a brain trust and you move forward," she said. "That's how it was for me. It became just another thing in the calendar."

Once the A. Paul and Carol C. Schaap Center for the Performing Arts began to take shape and a new home for GPT was assured, Caralis maintained her presidency because, "I was determined to make sure to see this thing through and lead the charge through the door," she said. "When I saw it was on the horizon, I decided not to run for re-election after four terms."

The Schaap Center opened in spring, bringing "Cinderella" to the newly opened stage. The production was directed by longtime GPT member Tim Higgins, who as of July 1 has succeeded Caralis as president. She'll stay on as immediate past president and help where needed.

"I used to think the ultimate goal was a permanent home, but I'm most proud of the stuff that came before that — the sustainability of the group," Caralis said. "It's one thing to lead a group in regular times, but when the world outside is collapsing around you … I'm probably most proud of the work I did then, during the COVID years, and sustaining us through the school system years."

She also made sure to prioritize the organization's financial standing, as well as maintain and grow the support of donors. She thanked supporters for allowing GPT to not only survive the pandemic and its transient years through the school system, but for bringing it to the next level with the opening of Schaap Center, which came to fruition through millions of dollars in donations.

"Schaap is going to be great," she said. "We'll be able to stretch our creativity in ways we have never imagined, but if we couldn't have maintained during the prior seven or eight years, we wouldn't be this well-equipped to make us worthy of this big change."

Currently, Caralis is directing the theater group's 2026-27 season opener, "Les Miserables," which opens Sept. 18.

"We chose 'Les Mis' because the story is epic and deeply personal," she said. "The story is about sacrifice and human dignity, which is relatable for community theater actors. We're telling a story of ordinary people in extraordinary circumstances — regular people doing big things and making big changes. The theme is applicable now and will be applicable forever. It may be among the most powerful music ever written for the stage, but it all comes down to the story. The Schaap Center will allow us to share that story in grand fashion. I'm excited to bring this to Grosse Pointe Theatre patrons."

Caralis has been spending her off-the-clock hours directing the enormous production, which GPT hasn't performed since 2014, when Caralis played Fantine. She said she is honored to be a part of it again.

"It's going to be big," she said. "We had 200 auditionees over four days, which is unusual for us in terms of scope and scale. We ended up with 35 world-class talents, many of them new to Grosse Pointe Theatre. This is an opportunity to welcome folks to the house. And there are a lot of familiar faces, too, so there's continuity. It's going to be big in terms of costumes, big in terms of set. The special effects, we haven't been able to do them at this level for a minute. We're going to tell a very big story."

This is not her first turn as director, a position to which she gradually rose. Several years ago, she was asked to serve as assistant stage manager, which led to serving as stage manager, then assistant director.

"Finally, they said, 'You're ready,'" she recalled. "I directed 'Something Rotten' a handful of years ago. That was my first foray into directing the whole shooting match."

She also has directed "Groundhog Day."

"Like anything," she said, "it's the team that matters. It's having smart people around you. These are smart, creative folks who solve one problem at a time."

While Caralis still has more stage roles ahead of her — "I always thought I'd never repeat a role, but I've done it at least twice: Rizzo in 'Grease' and Reno Sweeney in 'Anything Goes,'" she said — she finds the time she spends behind the scenes a touch more rewarding.

"I have found that with backstage participation and directing opportunities, I had this sense of pride in the process and the product," she said. "That really hits home; it means more and I didn't expect that."

In addition to the GPT board, Caralis serves as a member of the Schaap Center board of directors. She shares her vocal talents as part of the choir at her church, St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox in Troy. She also sings at the occasional wedding, as well as performs the national anthem "around town."

"Grosse Pointe Theatre taught me everything; I learned from the leaders who came before me," she said. "I never took a production class in my life. I took tap dance with Anna Casali and did some high school theater, but everything else I learned at 315 Fisher Road. And I'm one of a lot of people who will tell you the same thing."

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PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

Grosse Pointe Farms

Home invasion

A long list of tools worth a total of $4,100 were stolen from a Lakeshore home under construction during the first weekend in August.

A contractor arrived at 7:15 a.m. Monday, Aug. 3, to find the door in the attached garage had been forced open.

A neighbor reported her dog barking at something around 2 a.m. that Sunday, which was not an ordinary occurrence.

Stolen Ram

A blue 2019 Dodge Ram was stolen from the first floor of the Henry Ford parking garage at 1 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 6.

Surveillance footage shows the suspect was wearing a dark baseball cap, cloth mask, dark-colored hoodie, pants with a white stripe down the side and white shoes. He could be seen crawling on the truck bed cover before breaking the rear window to gain entry.

Pick a lane

A 38-year-old Detroit woman was arrested for operating while intoxicated and open liquor transport at 1:30 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 9, after an officer spotted her driving along Lakeshore on the dividing line between lanes.

— Laurel Kraus

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

City of Grosse Pointe

Porch pirate

A juvenile boy last week turned himself in for porch pirating a Coney Island DoorDash order in late July.

Grocery theft

A 64-year-old Detroit man was arrested as he fled with $445 worth of groceries stolen from a store in the 16000 block of Kercheval at 3 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 6. He had several prior retail fraud convictions.

Open intoxicants

A 67-year-old Detroit man was arrested for having open intoxicants in his vehicle at Neff and Maumee at 1:55 p.m. Friday, Aug. 7.

Energy drinks

A juvenile boy was located after stealing several energy drinks from a store in the 17000 block of Kercheval at 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 8.

Suspended

After being stopped at Cadieux and Kercheval for an unreadable temporary license plate, which also was expired, a 39-year-old Detroit man was arrested for driving with a suspended license at 1:30 a.m. Monday, Aug 10.

— Laurel Kraus

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

Grosse Pointe Woods

Stolen vehicle

A resident in the 2100 block of Vernier reported his Dodge Durango was stolen between 10 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 4, and 1 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 5. The report did not indicate if the vehicle was locked.

Breaking and entering

A code enforcement officer discovered a house in the 1400 block of Sunningdale was broken into sometime before 2:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 7. It is unknown if anything was stolen.

—Ted O'Neil

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

Grosse Pointe Park

Vanished vehicle

On Wednesday, Aug. 5, a 2020 Jeep Grand Cherokee was parked curbside in the 1200 block of Devonshire. Then it wasn't.

"No evidence was located at the scene," police said. "The owner confirmed possession of both key fobs."

Shoos thieves

A woman living in the 1200 block of Lakepointe told police she prevented five youths wearing dark clothing from breaking into her parked car Thursday, Aug. 6.

"(She) observed (them) walking in the roadway," an officer said. "All five approached her vehicle. She observed from her residence window that they appeared to be attempting to gain entry. She yelled at the group. They fled on foot."

Police searched but didn't find them.

Boat found

Police recruited the U.S. Coast Guard to retrieve a boat adrift this week in Lake St. Clair.

The boat was falsely reported sinking around 4 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 9. Officers used their department's drone to spot the vessel "a significant distance offshore," they said. "A private tow service was confirmed to be en route to retrieve the boat."

Tips taken

An unnamed woman is suspected of stealing the tip jar at a restaurant in the 15800 block of East Jefferson, less than two blocks from municipal headquarters, at 6 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 9.

"(She) entered the restaurant and was recognized by staff," an investigator said. "She left in an unknown direction. The tip jar, containing as estimated $40, was reported missing."

Police described her as black, mid-40s, with short hair and wearing a yellow shirt.

Stolen auto

At 4 a.m. Monday, Aug. 10, someone stole a black 2016 Ford Edge with the keys inside while it was parked in the driveway of a house in the 1100 block of Devonshire, according to police.

Harper Woods authorities reportedly spotted the vehicle and gave brief chase without resolution.

— Brad Lindberg

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

Grosse Pointe Shores

Nothing to report per dispatch

—Ted O'Neil

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

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McKinley car fire

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — A number of 911 calls came into Grosse Pointe Farms dispatch around 12:45 p.m. Friday, Aug. 7, when neighbors heard a loud boom and reported a car on fire in the 400 block of McKinley.

The culprit was a father/son project gone wrong.

"It was a Mustang that (the homeowner) and his son had been working on," Deputy Director Andy Rogers said. "It was in the garage, (but they had) pushed it out of the garage to work on it."

While in the driveway, the car's fuel line ignited from a fuel leak, which started the fire. Flames were tall enough to burn an overhead utility line, dropping it to the ground.

"There was a fence that got scorched," Rogers added, "but there was another car in the driveway that was untouched and all the damage was 99 percent contained to the vehicle itself, which is a total loss."

No injuries were reported.

— Laurel Kraus

Sewer flood insurance maintained

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — The city's new insurance policy continues to provide $10 million in sewer backup coverage.

Sewer liability is part of the city's renewed policy for fiscal year 2026-27. The new $403,661.35 annual premium is $27,573.35 more than last time.

"The premium contains a $9 million express liability umbrella policy applied to general liability, public official liability, employment practices liability, law enforcement and auto liability," according to a summary by John Johnson, an agent with the carrier, Nickel & Saph.

Despite the increase, the policy cost nearly $2,400 less than budgeted, according to a memo Park Finance Director Ethan Haan wrote to city council.

"This coverage is critical for the city's protection and represents a level of coverage not offered by our previous insurer or the two statewide municipal government insurance pools," Haan said.

"This is the city's fifth year contracting with

See SEWER, page 8A

MARKET:

Continued from page 1A

pizza, which it then posts to Facebook and Instagram, tagging Portnoy's account.

"We wanted our pizza to be a little bit better and higher quality and a little bit more well-known," Najjar said, "and so we said, 'How can we do that?' We've been waiting for him to come for a little bit, so we said, 'Let's get Dave in here this year and go for it.'"

After studying Portnoy's reviews at the start of the year, the team altered its pizza recipe to improve flavor and add a level of crispiness. Its New York-style thin crust pizza is made with in-house dough and sausage, as well as fresh vegetables and produce for toppings.

"Our goal is to get Portnoy here," Najjar said. "I think he could bring us to the next level, bring us some new customers and allow for us to better our pizza."

Daily review videos feature Pointers and visitors of all ages giving genuine reactions.

At one point, the videos reached nearly 300,000 views in one month.

"For a period of time, we actually had a two- or three-week out booking a month or two ago where people would ask us if they could do it," Najjar said. "Now as you're doing more and more videos, it's a bit harder to find people, so we started asking throughout the day. It's cool because different people have different thoughts which have different reactions — and some people have never even tried it."

Come Day 250, the team at Fresh Farms Market plans to do a giveaway in celebration of the milestone.

Najjar said they've committed to continuing the effort to reach Portnoy for one year.

Next month, he intends to begin uploading the local reviews on TikTok as well.

"Just as much as we're doing the videos and promoting every single day," he added, "the people behind the counter are doing just as much if not more by making the pizzas, talking to the customers and putting out a great product."

2026 GREEKFEST
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SUNDAY 12 NOON - 7 PM
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POINTES OF VIEW

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

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OUR VIEW

Three cheers for us

Hardly a week goes by that an email does not come across our desk about some type of survey or study regarding an endless number of lifestyle issues. How much people are spending on Mother's Day or Father's Day gifts, dining-out habits, favorite fast-food restaurants, etc.

They can make for fun reader polls asking your opinions on the various matters. In newspaper parlance, that is called "localizing" the issue.

Some, however, actually do pertain to Grosse Pointe, such as one we recently received ranking the top 100 cities in Michigan in which to live.

The methodology used things such as median income, median home value, population density, crime and unemployment rates.

Two of the Pointes made the top 10, with Grosse Pointe Farms at No. 6 and Grosse Pointe Park at No. 10. The City of Grosse Pointe is No. 11 and Grosse Pointe Woods is No. 16.

The laughable thing is, Grosse Pointe Shores did not make the list. But the Upper Peninsula's Iron Mountain did. Puhhlease.

Although we are inclined to take the results with a grain of salt. The author actually wrote: "So, grab a cold Labatts, warm pasty and read on for more details on the top places to live in Michigan."

Labatts? Double puhhlease. He could not be bothered to Google "Michigan beer"? Atwater for us.

Rounding out the top 10 are:

- Huntington Woods
- Berkley
- Beverly Hills
- East Grand Rapids
- Birmingham
- Northville
- Plymouth
- Rochester

We will take any of the Pointes over those cities any day and twice on Sunday.

According to our reader poll, there are a lot of things to enjoy about living in the Pointes. Respondents said our great parks are tops at 37 percent. The people and the architecture/history were nearly tied at 24 percent and 23 percent, respectively, with schools coming in at 16 percent.

Not only do we have six great lakefront parks, but the inland ones are pretty cool as well, including Ghesquiere Park, Chene-Trombly Park, Kerby Field and Elworthy Field.

As we noted last month, work at Pier Park in the Farms is moving ahead with construction of its aquatic facility. Residents there, however, have not had to endure this sweltering summer without a dip in the pool, thanks to cooperative efforts by the Woods and Park.

But the people really are what makes the Pointes so special. Every week our pages detail the generosity, care, success and dreams of Pointers of all ages.

Not all surveys and studies are reason to cheer, however. In the past, we have written that parents in the Pointes are No. 3 in the state when it comes to stress and the 10 most essential household bills in the Pointes for a year are $2,800 higher than the national average.

On the other hand, Grosse Pointe was ranked No. 10 in the nation for having the most beautiful yards and No. 8 for the best place to retire.

The Grosse Pointe Public School System, and in particular our two high schools, consistently receive high rankings from a variety of sources both statewide and nationally.

A different study based on schools, housing, nightlife and crime put all of the Pointes in the top 10 places to live in Wayne County.

Last year, we were ranked as the second-most envied place to live in Michigan.

Here is how the survey takers described us: "Grosse Pointe sits like a lakeside whisper of old Detroit grandeur. With historic mansions, yacht clubs and tree-lined streets, it feels like a step back into a more refined era. The schools are popular, the community proud and the views of Lake St. Clair unforgettable. There's an understated wealth here — not flashy, just quietly rooted in tradition. It's the kind of place where generations stay put and outsiders always wonder how to get in."

But despite the clickbait nature of many of these surveys and lists, we know — and our readers know — the Pointes are in a class of their own.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Pure Grosse Pointe

Grosse Pointe Park resident Paul Fershee donated a fire hydrant to the Grosse Pointe Park Parks and Recreation Department specifically for the dog park at Patterson Park. To avoid any confusion that it might be a working hydrant, the Parks and Rec team came up with the idea to paint it to look like a dog. Grounds and maintenance duo, Sue Orlicki and her daughter, Katie Orlicki, painted the hydrant to resemble a fire house Dalmatian. The hydrant then was installed in the dog park by Parks and Rec Facilities Manager Sean Oxendine. Here, Katie Orlicki, left, holds a resident's rescue dog, Hope, while Sue Orlicki stands by.

GUEST VIEW By Bridgette Bowdler

Election Day lessons

Election Day is an opportunity to shape our community, but for me, it's also an opportunity to shape the next generation.

On Election Day, I make it a priority to bring my son, Michael Bowdler III, with me to the polls whenever possible. Last Tuesday, I brought him and some of his classmates from Gabriel Richard High School to work the election as greeters. While they may not be old enough to cast a ballot, they are never too young to learn the importance of democracy, civic responsibility and the privilege of voting.



Children learn by watching. When they see their parents, grandparents and neighbors participating in elections, they begin to understand that their voices matter and that every vote helps shape the future of their community. Those experiences can leave a lasting impression that textbooks alone cannot provide.

I want my children to grow up knowing that democracy isn't something we simply talk about. It's something we participate in. Standing in line, checking in with election workers, receiving a ballot and casting a vote all become meaningful lessons in citizenship. They learn that elections are peaceful, fair and built on the idea that every eligible voter has an equal voice.

As someone who believes in public service, I also want my children to see firsthand the dedication of the election workers who make our elections possible. These individuals work long hours to ensure every voter has the opportunity to participate. Their commitment is a reminder that democracy depends not only on voters, but also on the people who serve behind the scenes.

The future of our democracy depends on today's young people. By involving them now — even if it's simply accompanying us to the polls — we plant the seeds of civic engagement that can grow into a lifetime of informed participation.

One day my children will cast their own ballots. My hope is that when they do, they'll remember that these early trips to the polls with their dad and grandfather or working the polls with their mom is not just a right, it's a responsibility and a privilege.

Because democracy isn't just inherited. It's taught, experienced and passed from one generation to the next.

Bridgette Bowdler has been city clerk in Grosse Pointe Park since September 2023, and was deputy city clerk in River Rouge before that.

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.

Re: 'Fauci fails us again'

To the Editor:

I read your article (From the Owner column by Sean Cotton, published Aug. 6) regarding Fauci. I also read Barbara McQuade's Aug. 6 article on the same topic in Bloomberg.

As McQuade says, "If senators really wanted to learn more about the origins and response to the pandemic from Fauci, they had the trump card. Granting a witness immunity — a promise not to use statements against someone in a criminal prosecution — overrides the Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination and can be used to compel a witness to testify. A witness who refuses to testify after receiving immunity may be held in contempt."

Why didn't the senators grant Fauci immunity? Because they want Fauci's scalp

See LETTERS, page 7A

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Ellie Carter

GROSSE POINTE 7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST August 13 – 19 (LOCAL 4 Expect More.)

THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
83° / 63°	81° / 58°	79° / 63°	82° / 63°	80° / 67°	88° / 62°	85° / 60°
Partly Cloudy	Mostly Clear	Chance T-Storms	Chance T-Storms	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Clear	Cloudy
20%	10%	30%	40%	10%	10%	10%
SUNRISE 6:37 am SUNSET 8:36 pm	SUNRISE 6:38 am SUNSET 8:35 pm	SUNRISE 6:39 am SUNSET 8:33 pm	SUNRISE 6:40 am SUNSET 8:32 pm	SUNRISE 6:41 am SUNSET 8:30 pm	SUNRISE 6:42 am SUNSET 8:29 pm	SUNRISE 6:43 am SUNSET 8:28 pm

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

I SAY By Brad Lindberg



Can't avoid the blather

What is it about people who publicize their personal lives?

To wit:

◆ I want everyone to know that my loved one is ill and I'm altering my daily routine accordingly.

◆ I want everyone to know that I'm backing out of work to restore my mental health.

◆ I want everyone to know that I'm freezing my embryos.

◆ I want everyone to watch me have a medical procedure.

I wish those people well within the context of my not caring about them. Or, if I did care a little bit initially, I do so no longer because I won't insult myself by feeding their selfish appetites for attention.

I'm not wise enough about human behavior or knowledgeable enough about history to know if the social media craze of posting personal minutiae online is unique. It seems, however, that certain types of people — emotionally needy people, absurdly emotionally needy people, pathetically emotionally needy people — can't resist doing so.

Maybe because it's easy to post things. There's little effort. Clearly, there's little forethought. All it takes is typing something, often insipid, on a keyboard, or activating the selfie feature of a cell phone camera and posting the image online.

My theory is people do things for which they are praised or somehow rewarded. It's part of the positive reinforcement aspect of the stimulus-response chain college freshman learn about in introductory psychology: Someone does or says something to which others respond positively, prompting the someones of the world to continue doing more of the same.

If someone is enough of a sick-o, negative reinforcement or ridicule can be an inducement, I understand.

Apparently, airing personal information via social media generates enough responses to induce people to air personal information.

If only I could avoid being exposed to it.

Sherlock Holmes had the right strategy. He was right telling Dr. Watson in "A Study in Scarlet," chapter II, "The Science of Deduction":

"I consider that a man's brain originally is like a little empty attic, and you have to stock it with such furniture as you choose. A fool takes in all the lumber of every sort that he comes across, so that the knowledge which might be useful to him gets crowded out, or at best is jumbled up with a lot of other things so that he has a difficulty in laying his hands upon it. Now the skillful workman is very careful indeed as to what he takes into his brain-attic. He will have nothing but the tools which may help him in doing his work, but of these he has a large assortment, and all in the most perfect order. It is a mistake to think that that little room has elastic walls and can distend to any extent. Depend upon it there comes a time when for every addition of knowledge you forget something that you knew before. It is of the highest importance, therefore, not to have useless facts elbowing out the useful ones."

Also, if there's a better excuse for forgetting something, let's hear it.

Holmes had an easier time implementing his theory than we do now. He didn't have to battle the 24-hour news cycle. Media outlets that operate all day and night, every day of the year have to fill broadcast time with anything they can.

Hence tuning into the morning weather report and entering in the sights of a feature about an insecure oddball's emotional bloodletting and drivel. There's nowhere to hide.

Think, however, of what is worse: being a reporter assigned to cover all the blather.

And what is even worse: wanting to report the blather.

YESTERDAY'S HEADLINES

1951

75 years ago this week

ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS OBJECT TO WOODS PARKING LOT: Despite the objections aired at the Woods council meeting August 7 by residents whose property is adjacent to the new city owned parking lot, stretching one-half way between Anita and Hawthorne in the rear of the municipal building, the move is strongly defended by city officials. With the intention, expressed by a letter to City Administrator Philip F. Allard, of the Wayne County Road Commission to extend the widening of Mack Avenue, affecting the westerly pavement, the city felt obligated to provide a parking area for the convenience of those transacting business in the municipal offices.

SCHOOL BOARD SOLICITING LIBRARY BIDS: Bids for the new Ferry-Sales Central Library are being solicited and will be opened on September 10, it was announced this week. Ground for the new structure to be located at Kercheval and Fisher will be broken not later than September 26.

WIND WHIPS YOUNG ANGLER INTO LAKE: The young fisherman pulled from Lake St. Clair on August 10, was wet and winded, but still game, Chester F. Carpenter, City of Grosse Pointe councilman, one of his rescuers, said. Mr. Carpenter's aid was enlisted by the entreaties of a companion, who stopped him as he was driving west on Lakeshore Road, bound for his downtown office. He was hailed between Moran Road and St. Paul's Church, then flagged down another motorist. The two men rushed to the aid of the boy whose hold on the breakwater wall was slipping.

1976

50 years ago this week

CITY VIEWS CONSOLIDATION: Consolidation of the police and fire departments in Grosse Pointe City has come one step closer to becoming a reality as a Citizens Research Council of Michigan report, recommending that such a move be actively considered, was made public last week. About 70 City residents attended a meeting to both criticize and support consolidation.

YOUNG STARS CAPTURE FIRST FOR POINTE: The City-Farms Babe Ruth League All-Stars, 13-year-old division, captured a first for the Pointe by winning the State Championship August 5, while sporting a 7-0 record in the competition. The team defeated Belleville 3-2.

RETIRED POLICE CHIEF ROBBED: After serving 40 years as a law enforcer, retired City Police Chief Andrew Teetaert found out what it's like to be a victim last week as someone drove off with the family station wagon and camper, all loaded up for a trip to northern Michigan. Police arrested a suspect after a chase which resulted in severe damage to the Teetaert station wagon and a scout car.

2001

25 years ago this week

GP HUNT CLUB PLANS TO BUILD TEMPORARY BARN: Grazing horses perked their ears and looked up from nearby fields last week to see flatbed trucks hauling earthmoving equipment up the long driveway of the Grosse Pointe Hunt Club. Workmen arrived the morning of Aug. 1, to clear charred remains of the club's 2 1/2-story main barn that burned to the ground July 8. Hunt Club officials are rushing to prepare the grounds for the biggest event of the year, the Michigan Hunter Jumper Association Class B show, Aug. 10-12.

HW TEACHER WANTS TO BE A MILLIONAIRE: The "Hot Seat" will be holding a familiar person this Sunday, Aug. 12, when Harper Woods high school teacher Monica Lenhard sits down with Regis Philbin. Lenhard found out she was a potential contestant in a very exciting way on the last day of school before her summer vacation.

MARK WEBER CELEBRATES 20 YEARS AT THE WAR MEMORIAL: On July 24, Mark R. Weber, Ph.D., celebrated 20 years as president of the Grosse Pointe War Memorial. Weber, a lifelong resident of the Pointes, completed the coursework for his undergraduate, graduate and doctoral degrees at Indiana University. Returning to Grosse Pointe in 1981, he played an integral role in further promoting the development of the War Memorial into a center for lifelong learning and enrichment.

2016

10 years ago this week

JOINT LOCKUP DISCUSSED: Grosse Pointe Farms is in the Dumetella carolinensis sedes, or catbird seat, when it comes to negotiating its share of payments to operate a multi-city prisoner detention facility. Farms officials can afford to hold out for the best deal on the lockup, intended to yield operational cost savings from economies of scale.

ON THE MOVE: A recent purchase by the Grosse Pointe Historical Society has more than one significance to the area. The Stover property, at the corner of Kercheval and Lakeview in Grosse Pointe Farms, includes a family home and an adjacent former barn. The purchase allows the society to move to a space three times the size of its current home, located across Kercheval.

PARK SEEKS LONGTERM SOLUTION: Acknowledging it is the first step in solving the problem and not the ultimate solution, the city's public service committee recommended the city council approve grants to homeowners in the 1100 block of Bedford to allow them to install backflow preventers to alleviate flooded basements after major rainstorms.

Park's old truck headed for pasture

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — To farmers, a fallow field can be the precursor to abundant yield.

But to a public works director, idle and unwanted mechanical equipment does no one any good.

"The equipment is losing value as it sits," said Tom Jenny, head of the city's public works department.

He lobbied city council successfully this week to sell the department's worn-out, 23-year-old sewer cleaning truck. Specifically, the vehicle is a 2003 Sterling Vactor model used for years to unclog and clean sewers.

The truck is a Sterling chassis with a Vactor Manufacturing cleaner system attached.

"(It) needs extensive repair and renovation," Jenny said.

Vactors are nicknamed "super suckers."

"A Vactor can reach hard-to-access places, can dig holes as well as break through frozen ground," according to Elk Environmental Services of Reading, Pa. "A vacuum truck can only suck up liquids. It has a pump and air tank, but no water jetting feature."

Even while idle, a truck is subject to the equivalent of wear and tear.

"Heavy equipment doesn't appreciate being left alone for too long," according to "The hidden cost of letting heavy equipment sit," on the heavyequipment.com website, an online information hub and marketplace for durable assets. "Corrosion creeps in, fluids break down, seals dry out, batteries die, tires and tracks suffer."

Park officials intend to unload the truck through an online auction conducted by Metro Detroit

See TRUCK, page 8A

LETTERS:

Continued from page 6A

and not his testimony.

Fauci arrogant? Yeah, probably. Rand Paul? For sure. This is typical Rand Paul grandstanding.

DAVE MACDONALD
Grosse Pointe Farms

Re: 'Fauci fails us again'

To the Editor:

This is in response to Sean Cotton's editorial "Fauci fails us again" in the Aug. 6, edition of the Grosse Pointe News, which he owns. Dr. Fauci (who is an M.D. and was never acknowledged as such in the article) graduated first in his class from Cornell and served our country for more than four decades as director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID). He has NOT failed us and he certainly hasn't failed us "again." The editorial seems to have left out that Fauci kept the Ebola virus at bay, led the way during the HIV/AIDS crisis, navigated the Zika and the SARS viruses and then the COVID pandemic, a novel and deadly virus.

Why should the doctor subject himself (yet again!) to being questioned by people who are incapable of showing a scintilla of respect and who have permitted the integrity of their office to sink into playground vernacular? Besides, under the 10th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, things like quarantine orders, business closures, mask mandates and school closures were left to the states. If you have a problem with how those things were handled, do not look to the federal government, which offered guidelines, but to our state's authorities.

From where the virus originated is still highly contested. We may never know. It's understandable that living without a clear-cut answer is disturbing. We might do better to teach our children resilience in the face of uncertainty, a large part of the human condition.

NANCY SOLAK
Grosse Pointe Farms

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Grosse Pointe Garden Center's victory garden — a bountiful success

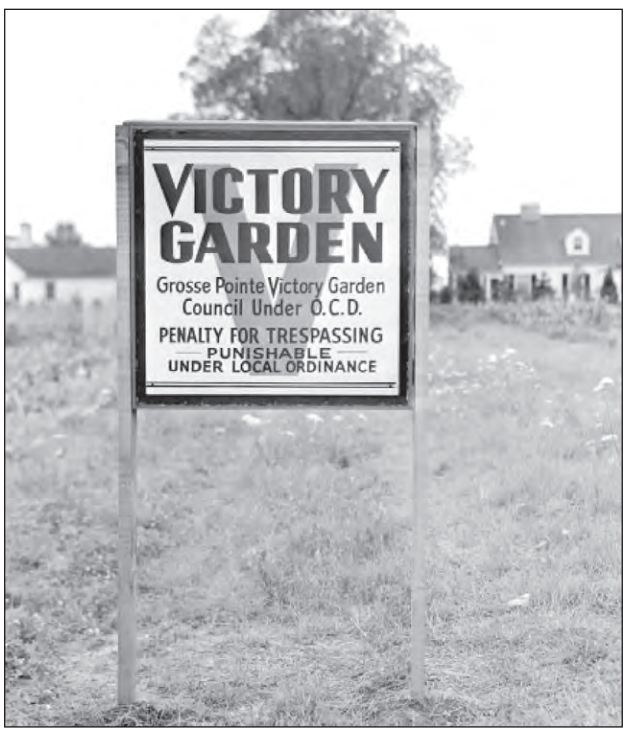
By Alaine Bush
Guest Writer

Victory gardens played a crucial role during World War I and World War II, in supporting the war effort and ensuring food security on the home front.

During both wars, agricultural workers were recruited into military service. It is estimated that at the height of WWII, more than 6 million "farm boys" had enlisted in the Armed Forces. This left no one to plant, care for, harvest and preserve fresh fruits and vegetables.

Commercially grown crops were diverted to feeding our military overseas. Furthermore, transportation focused away from distribution of fresh produce within the U.S. to the movement of troops and military supplies for the war effort. As farm fields in Europe became battlefields, the burden of feeding Allied soldiers as well as millions of starving Allied civilians fell to the United States.

During World War I, the National War Garden Commission encouraged Americans to plant, harvest and store their own fruits and vegetables. Citizens were urged to utilize idle land, including school grounds, parks, backyards and vacant lots. With food rationing in effect, the only way citizens could have fresh produce was to grow their own.



In Grosse Pointe, 115 victory garden plots were planted on Maumee between Washington and Roosevelt Place and there was one at Maire Elementary School.

As the United States entered World War II, victory gardens re-emerged. In Grosse Pointe, 115 victory garden plots were planted on Maumee between Washington and Roosevelt Place and there was one at Maire Elementary School. By 1944, an estimated 20 million victory gardens were responsible for producing 8 million tons of food — 40 percent of all vegetables grown in the United States. Throughout both world wars, victory gardens provided not only fresh food for civilian tables, but also boosted morale. They gave those on the home front a sense of helping with the war effort.

In 2025, the Grosse Pointe Garden Center, celebrating 75 years of service to the community, installed a victory garden in the Trial Gardens at The War Memorial. The 12-by-20-foot plot of land required creative planting methods to maximize production in the limited space.

Succession planting — growing early spring vegetables that are ready for harvest before the next crop reaches maximum size — was one of those methods. Early spring lettuces were grown among bouquets of herbs and edible flowers. A row of 40 garlic cloves, planted in late 2024, was harvested just as the tomatoes spilled into their space. Five tomato plants were staked to form a 12-foot-long, 5-foot-high wall that yielded 40 pounds of tomatoes. The five pepper plants grew to over 5 feet high and yielded 610 peppers (yes, we counted). Bags of Swiss chard and bunches of French breakfast radishes rounded out the vegetable harvest. It was discovered that those little French breakfast radishes were such flirts. When they were ready for harvest, they stuck their bare shoulders right out of the ground!

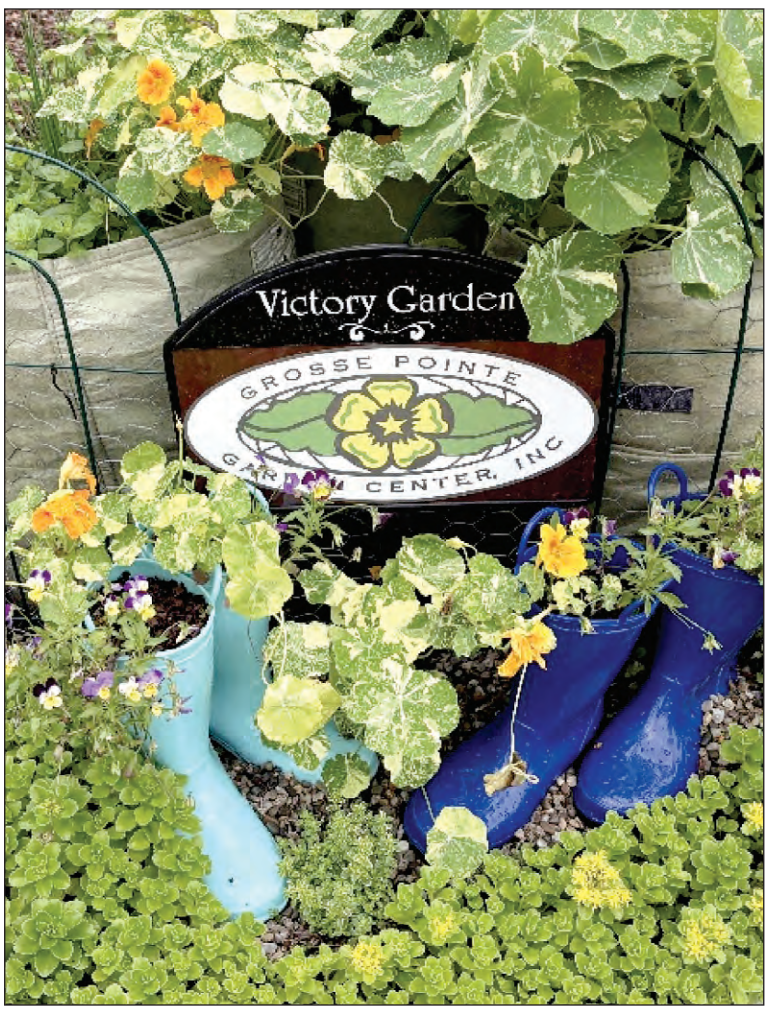


PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE GPGC

Victory gardens were popular during the world wars.

Companion planting was another method used in the 2025 victory garden. Companion planting is the practice of planting crops together for improved growing conditions and pest control. One very beneficial type of companion planting involves planting flowers and herbs that attract beneficial insects to the garden. The good bugs, or their larvae, eat the bad bugs. Ladybugs, lacewings and parasitic wasps thrive on eating those bug-a-boos that want to destroy the gardener's vegetable crop. In the 2025 victory garden, companion planting com-

See GARDEN, page 9A



The Grosse Pointe Garden Center created a victory garden in 2025 and is replanting a fresh one this year.

SEWER:

Continued from page 5A

Nickel & Saph," said Nick Sizeland, city manager. "We're very satisfied with their services. One of the bigger reasons (is) that after the 2021 flood, Nickel & Saph offered a $10 million sewer backup liability coverage."

"You guys are doing pretty well on the risk management side of things," Johnson told the council Aug. 10.

Reasons for the higher premium included an 8 percent rise in net expenditures and a 3 percent boost in property values, according to Johnson.

"The city had 19 claims since we took over the account in 2022," he said. "We have four open claims with a current reserve amount of $107,500. One is a general liability claim carrying a $95,000 reserve amount. Any liability claim can swing toward the benefit of the city if you are not found liable or, if found liable, costs associated with acclaim could be increased well above the reserve amount."

Some details of the policy are:

◆ $1 million each for cyber liability, bodily and personal injury, compromise liability, network security liability and electronic media liability;

◆ $100,000 cyber extortion and

◆ $25,000 drone aircraft coverage.

Councilman Tom Caulfield, an insurance professional, was concerned about the quality of cyber coverage.

Johnson said he's consulting with the city's information technology contractor to come up with a better plan.

"There are two things missing in the coverage that I feel could be way better," Johnson told Caulfield. "That would be under the cybercrimes section and e-crimes."

Regarding existing coverage, Johnson said the carrier arranged for Park employees and board members to enroll in distracted driver training.

"This was to protect your municipality as people start to use their phones more when driving," Johnson said. "There was a certificate granted to each of your employees that took the class. That certificate helped lower their personal auto insurance premiums. We're doing everything to not only help your municipality, but to help your employees save money."

Coverage extends to the municipal judge.

"If somebody was to file suit (against the judge), judicial liability gives him a second leg to stand on," Johnson said.

Municipal volunteers are covered through a goodwill policy.

"Essentially, you're bridging the gap between statutory coverage and no coverage," Johnson said. "The volunteer policy is going to pick up where the state tells companies they don't have to be."



TRUCK:

Continued from page 7A

Auctions at detroitauto auctions.com.

"A link for the auction will be posted on the city's website (grosse pointepark.org)," Jenny said. "We're putting it at a $25,000 re-service (price)."

Despite the vehicle needing an estimated $40,000 worth of repairs, Jenny said it's marketable.

"We just have to find the right person to buy (it)," he said.

The auctioneer adds 15 percent to the sale price.

"Proceeds from the entire value sale of the equipment will go to the Park," Jenny said. "The auctioneer's charge to the buyer does not take away from the sale the city receives."

"Standard commission and fees for the consignment is 0 percent of the winning bid," according to Detroit Auction's agreement letter with the city. "A 15 percent buyer's premium (is) added to the winning bid (and) paid by the buyer."

In 2024, Park officials used the company to unload a fleet of old public works equipment.

The sale consisted of a dump truck with a corroded frame due to being used primarily to spread road salt, vacuum truck with electrical problems, another dump truck with a "spent" transmission, an asphalt trailer that no longer met city needs, a functionally obsolete street sweeper and two 31-year-old riding lawn mowers for which parts were no longer available.

GARDEN:

Continued from page 8A

pletely eliminated the need for spraying pest-control chemicals. Not only did this save money, but it yielded safe, healthy, organic vegetables.

Visitors to the garden, garden volunteers and The War Memorial chef were the recipients of the garden's bounty.

As the Garden Center strives to fulfill the mission of education, numerous articles and pictures about the 2025 victory garden were posted on the website. Go to gpgardencenter.org, pull down the "Gardens" tab, and then the "Victory Garden" tab to see them. While there, please enjoy the "Garden to Fork" recipes from our test kitchens using the produce.

Crop rotation is a major factor in successful vegetable gardening, so the 2026 victory garden will be filled with an all-new cast of vegetable characters. Crop rotation is the practice of growing different crops in the same area over successive growing seasons. In other words, it means alternating what is grown each year and where it is grown. This is key to successful vegetable gardening for a number of reasons.

Different vegetables have different nutrient requirements. Planting the same crop year after year in the same spot can deplete the nutrients in the soil, leading to poor soils and lower harvests.

Crop rotation also reduces the recurrence of pests and pathogens by disrupting their life cycles. Many pests and diseases overwinter in the garden's soils. If what the pest ate last year isn't here this year, they'll move on to greener pastures and away from the new vegetable crops. Likewise, diseases mostly caused by fungi won't be able to reproduce as well if their usual host isn't present.





PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE GPGC

Left, a wall of tomatoes — part of the 2025 victory garden yield. Above, peppers were prevalent in the garden last year.

Planting crops with varying root systems benefits the soils by improving aeration, water retention and reducing soil erosion, thereby improving soil structure. Healthy soils equal healthy vegetables.

But quite possibly one of the most important reasons for using crop rotation is the reduction of the need for chemical fertilizers and pesticides. Not only does this make the garden vegetables healthier, but these methods save time and money.

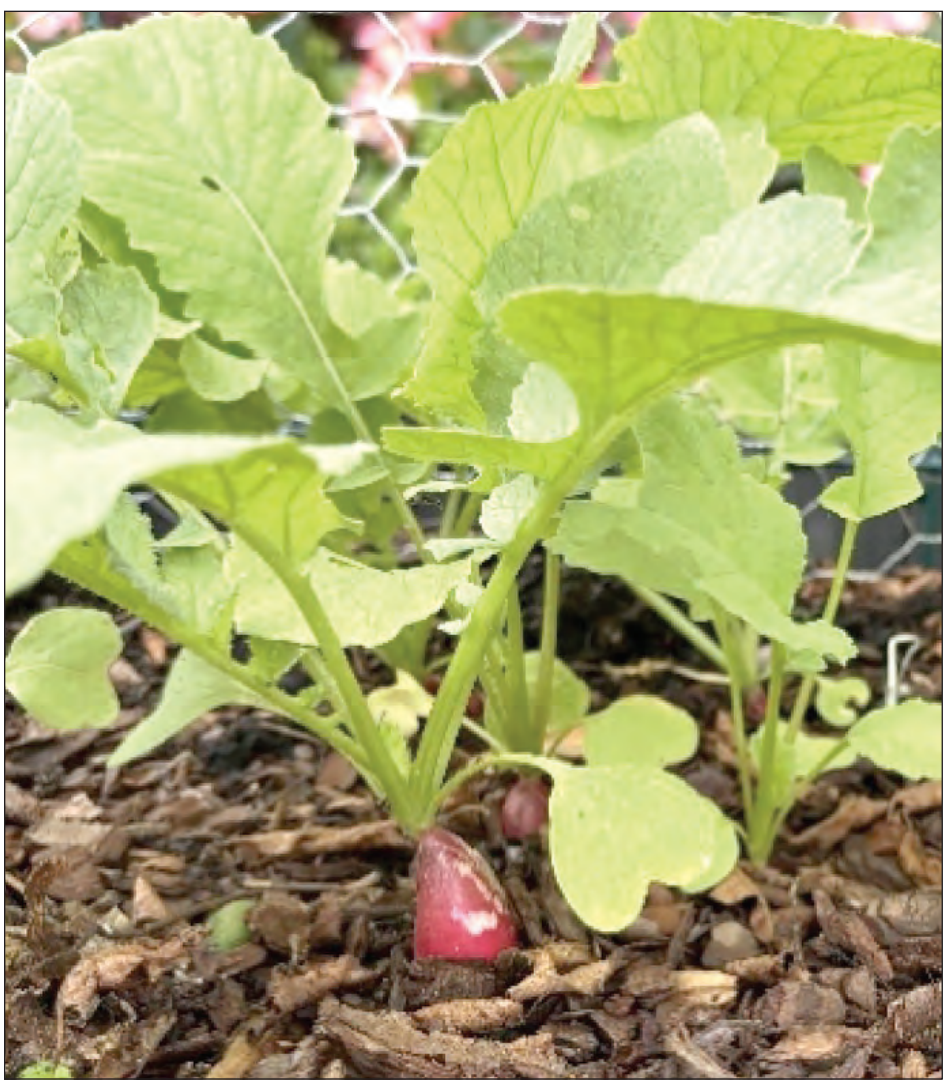
By using companion planting and crop rotation, the 2026 victory garden is shaping up to be another bountiful success.

Succession planting will be accomplished by growing the brassicas, specifically cabbage, cauliflower and kale. To promote "good bugs" in the garden, marigolds will be interspersed among these vegetables. Calendula, dill, fennel, sweet alyssum and yarrow also will be included to attract the "good bugs" who eat the "bad bugs."

As spring evolved into summer, sweet corn and sunflowers were added, as well as the root vegetables, beets and carrots. Many other herbs also were added to complement the recipes that will be shared in our Victory Garden "Garden to Fork" webpage section.

Please visit the Grosse Pointe Garden Center Trial Gardens and check out the new 2026 victory garden for inspiration in your own vegetable garden. New articles, recipes and pictures will be posted frequently to the website. For more information go to gpgardencenter.org and look under the "Victory Garden" tab.

Alaine Bush is a Grosse Pointe Garden Center trustee.



An abundance of French breakfast radishes grew last year.



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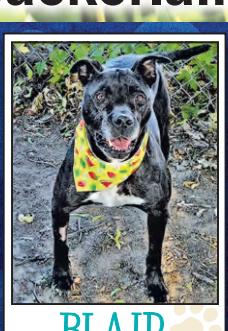

BLAIR
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DUTCH
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North grad earns prestigious MSU scholarship

By Ted O'Neil
Associate Editor

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — Peter Moe, a 2026 Grosse Pointe North High School graduate, is one of just 17 incoming freshmen at Michigan State University, out of a class of roughly 10,500, to earn an Alumni Distinguished Scholars award.

The scholarship covers tuition, room and board for four years and includes a two-year, paid assistantship doing research with a faculty mentor.

"I didn't expect to get it, but I'm happy I did," he said. "It's a great program and the right choice for me."

MSU invited top applicants to apply for the scholarship.

"We went to campus for a day and took a general knowledge test and wrote two timed essays," he added. "Then they invited the top students back for interviews."

Moe, one of a dozen students recognized late last year by the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education for being a top PSAT performer, plans to study neuroscience.

"I'm planning to become a psychiatrist, but neuroscience is very flexible for getting into med school if I pick something different," he said. "Those classes prepare you the best."

Moe said he'd like to do research focused on learning disabilities in young children.

Growing up in the Woods, Moe attended Ferry Elementary School and Parcells Middle School. He's been playing violin since fifth grade and was in North's choir his sophomore, junior and senior years.

Moe also was involved in KNOTS at North, which stands for Kids Need Opportunities To Socialize. The group connects general education students with special education students through shared activities.

"I have a younger brother with Down syndrome, so that's something that's pretty meaningful to me," Moe said.

He pointed to Colleen Byrn and Jennifer Weisbrodt as two North teachers who had a big impact on him.

"Ms. Byrn teaches AP chemistry, so she really got me interested in STEM, and Ms. Weisbrodt teaches AP psychology, which I learned a lot about from her."

Moe will be studying through MSU's Lyman Briggs College, a science-focused learning community where most classes are held in the same dorm where students sleep and eat.

"It has small classes and I had a great experience with that at North, so I thought it would be the best for me."



COURTESY PHOTO

Peter Moe

LISTEN:

Continued from page 1A

some parents saying there's too much — especially in elementary schools — while others said the district needs to better prepare students for a technologically advancing society.

Two other parents asked about metrics focused on closing the achievement gap between advanced learners and those who are struggling.

"I don't want to see the top come down to bring the bottom up," Bishop said while agreeing closing the gap is important. "That's why we talk a lot about the portrait of a graduate, making sure they have the tools they need."

Others asked if there were ways to measure achievement without so many interruptions to instruction for standardized testing.

And a retired teacher said she thinks there should be stricter dress codes for both students and teachers.

"When you dress appropriately, it's more conducive to learning," she noted.

"My dad always said dress for success," Bishop said. "We do have standards, but we want to enforce them in a way that doesn't body-shame anyone."

He also said any discussion regarding a dress code for teachers would be something in need of approval from the Grosse Pointe Education Association.

Remaining listening sessions are scheduled for:

◆ 6 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 27, Grosse Pointe South High School front lawn,

◆ 3:45 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 10, Mason Elementary School outdoor classroom,

◆ 6 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 17, Ferry Elementary School gym and

◆ 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 29, Pierce Middle School front lawn.

The strategic plan, passed in April, mapped out a quarterly schedule to achieve first-year goals in five key areas:

◆ academics and programs,
◆ culture,
◆ personnel,
◆ communications and
◆ operations.

It also includes:

Mission statement

"Our mission is to empower all students to reach their full potential through exemplary instruction, innovative experiences and collaborative community engagement."

Vision statement

"The premier educational community where we innovate, learn, grow and thrive together."

Belief statements

◆ Each student deserves an exceptional, innovative education that unlocks their full potential.

◆ A culture of unity grounded in respect, belonging and shared responsibility.

◆ Providing a wide range of opportunities for students to explore their interests and build self-confidence.

◆ Empowering every student to contribute positively to an ever-changing world.

Seating will be provided for the outdoor sessions or attendees can bring their own.

If community members have particular topics they would like to discuss, email info@gpschools.org and the district will add those to the topics already scheduled.



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PHOTOS COURTESY OF MONICA LOVELEY

Left, during the early days of Education Plus, volunteers taught students in the side yard of someone's home. Above, managing director and co-founder Jim Durham has fun with some students.

Building Education Plus

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

This is part two of a two-part series. In last week's issue, we met Monica Loveley, a Grosse Pointe-raised adoptee who veered away from a career with the United Nations to build a future for less fortunate children.

During what should have been a three-month vacation in Nicaragua, Monica Loveley met and fell in love with young students who needed her help. Instead of boarding her plane, she stayed behind to help others get ahead.

Loveley's own beginnings shaped that choice. Adopted from a Korean orphanage as an infant and raised in Grosse Pointe Farms, she long felt what she described as a sense of injustice — that a child could be given up simply because a family couldn't afford to keep them.

That conviction found its purpose in 2012, when she met a bright 8-year-old named Priscila Castillo on the street during what should have been school hours. Priscila wasn't in class because her family couldn't afford a pencil. When they offered a corner of their yard, Loveley started a makeshift school there — and Education Plus Nicaragua was born.

"When we started, we were in a local home; they let us use the dirt plot next to them," she said. "It was really hot and sunny, or sometimes very rainy. There's no roof. It was just a dirt floor. It was 20 little chairs and a whiteboard and three volunteers and a cauldron over a hot fire where we're making soup to give to all the kids."

The need for Education Plus Nicaragua was immediate — and great. At the start, the organization could only accept 20 students each year from a pool of 500 or 600 applicants.

"We didn't say we're going to take the 20 smartest ones," Loveley explained. "We took the 20 kids who were trying the hardest."

Loveley received help early on from American retiree Jim Durham, a former social worker who helped co-found Education Plus.

"Without him I wouldn't have had money to eat during the first few years we operated," Loveley said.

There was a lot of trial and error as Education Plus took flight.

"I thought it'd be so easy: school supplies, a few lessons and food," she said. "No. Then it was they don't have shoes to go to school."

Or worse, she added.

"That's when we started the psychology program and the home visit program."

Loveley and her coworkers would attempt to visit every child's house and follow up as often as they could with children facing the greatest difficulties.

Eventually Education Plus was given a piece of land with a partially built school. Slowly, money was raised to build a bigger school: Casa de los Sueños, or House of Dreams, opened in 2014.

Within five years, the school opened a computer lab, "because our kids started growing up and were in high school," Loveley said. "If you want to go to college, you need to learn these things or you're not going to be able to last your freshman year. We just felt like the kids should have the same opportunities if they're working hard."

Today, in addition to education and food, Education Plus provides support to eliminate malnutrition, instill core values and break the cycle of poverty. Amenities include a library, sports court and playground, counseling center and classes in English, computers and university prep, among others. Character development, mental health services, home visits, extracurricular activities and programs for students with special needs also are provided.



Loveley and two of her students during the kids' first trip to the beach.



A teacher works with students in Casa de los Sueños.

"We just tried to teach the kids the skills they need to be successful in life," Loveley said. "It's academic reinforcement, of course, but a lot of it is morals and values and how to treat each other. And I'm so proud because we've worked with a very limited budget and … we can't give the kids everything that they need. Now that we have kids going to university, we help them any way we can, but they still have to find their own way to eat. They still have to find their own way to clothe themselves.

"… These are the kind of hardships the kids are dealing with," she added. "So I always think no matter how hard it is for me to be raising the money or to be stressed because you have these crises, if they can do it, then I can do it."

The rewards exceeded Loveley's expectations.

"We have some kids that started out little kids and now they're teaching in the American school, in the capital city, which is a super elite job," she said. "They're teaching English in Montessori schools or working in tourism jobs that require English, but now they're supporting their entire families.

"But learning English or going to university is not for everybody, so we also have a program where we're sending kids to schools to learn how to be electricians or do different kinds of vocational jobs that they would make a good income with and that they can support their families with," she continued. "That's why we're taking the kids that are going to try the hardest."

A matter of survival

Despite Education Plus' growth and success, hard times hit in 2018, when civil protests against government corruption were met by force, resulting in the militarization of the streets. Inter- and inner-city travel was nearly halted. Local gangs took advantage of the chaos, setting up roadblocks to rob or assault people, making it difficult to earn a living.

"Even those with money were going hungry because food was not able to be delivered to the city," Loveley said. "At that point, the advice to

See PLUS, page 6B

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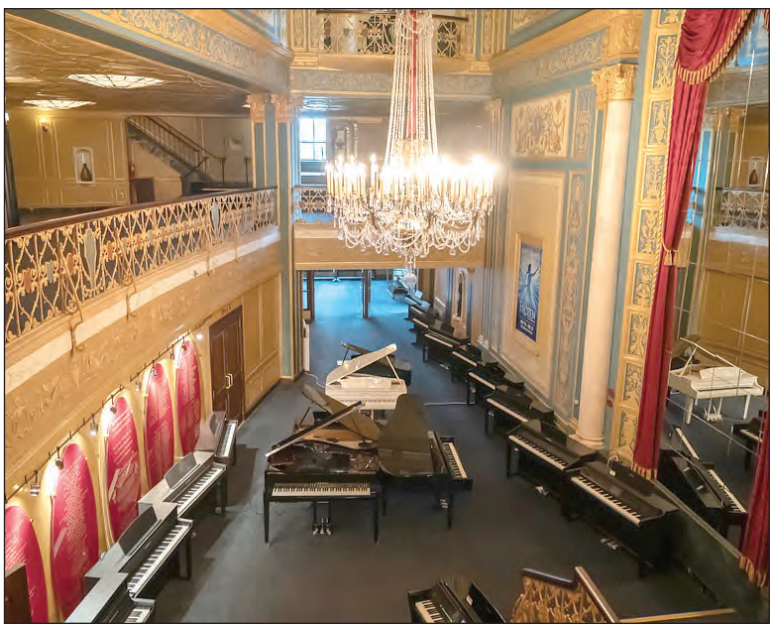


COURTESY PHOTO

Detroit Opera hosts piano sale Sept. 11–13

Detroit Opera will host its annual piano sale Sept. 11 to 13, at the Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit. The event is open to the public by appointment only at detroitoperapiano.org or by phone at (248) 756-6589.

More than 250 new and gently used pianos will be available for purchase; they will fill the main lobby and Detroit Opera main stage during the sale.

A wide range of grand, upright, digital, hybrid and Disklavier player pianos will be sold at significant discounts from their regular prices. Top-quality brands will include Yamaha, Bösendorfer, Clavinova, Baldwin, Schimmel, Estonia, vintage Steinway and more. Most pianos are less than one year old, come with a new manufacturer warranty and are tuned. Delivery and special financing will be offered and trade-ins are welcome.

All patrons who come to the sale may enter a drawing to win a free pair of tickets to Detroit Opera's 2026–27 productions of "Tosca" and "Fiddler on the Roof."

More information — including directions and appointment options — is available at detroitoperapiano.org/.

Exploring Michigan Central

The Grosse Pointe Sunrise Rotary Club recently welcomed guest speaker Mark Higbie, who shared about the transformation of Michigan Central Station during the club's weekly meeting at Ford House July 21.



From left, Leslie Mackey, Mark Higbie and Bob Grambo.

PHOTO COURTESY OF KATE TROST

Higbie explored the restoration of Michigan Central, highlighting the extensive renovations that transformed the long-vacant landmark into a vibrant center for innovation and community. He discussed the building's history, the challenges and craftsmanship involved in its rehabilitation and how its preservation honors Detroit's architectural legacy while preparing it for the future. He also examined the graffiti that once covered portions of the abandoned structure, explaining its place in the building's history before restoration, and showcased the new public art installations that complement the campus. His presentation offered members a look at how historic preservation, contemporary art and thoughtful redevelopment have combined to create one of Detroit's most significant revitalization projects.

The Grosse Pointe Run, sponsored by Sunrise Rotary, is a fundraising event for local high school students' college scholarships. The club reminds the community to support students Sept. 19, for the annual 5K/10K/walk. Register at grossepointerun.com

AREA ACTIVITIES

The Helm

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

◆ Courtyard Cookout, 5:30 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 13. Cost is $10.

◆ Morning Mingle & Learn: Steeped in Knowledge, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 19, with Naszreen Gibson, owner of The Rendezvous with Tea.

◆ Out To Lunch Bunch — Blue Goose Inn, noon to 2:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 20.

◆ The Novel Network Book Club, 5:30 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 20, featuring "Theo of Golden" by Allen Levi.

◆ Effective Estate Planning, 6 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 25, with attorneys from Rickard and Associates.

◆ Cooking Fall Delights, 5 to 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 25, with Olga Merametdjian.

◆ Friday Lunch & A Movie, "The Magic of Belle Isle," noon Friday, Aug. 28. Cost is $10.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

◆ Fitness center, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays; and 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

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

◆ Liquor & Lore: Forgotten Recipes from Prohibition, 6:30 to 9 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 13. Cost is $90.

◆ Vet-to-Vet, 6 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 20.

◆ Night Cap, featuring Aunt Comet, 7:30 to 9 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 20. General admission is $20 in advance, $25 at the door.

◆ Picnic & Play by the Lake, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 27.

◆ The Return of the Bald Eagle in Michigan: A presentation by Dr. Carl Palazzolo, 6 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 27.

Library

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

Central branch, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms

◆ Grosse Pointe Community Game Meet-up, noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 22.

Ewald branch, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park

◆ Brave Belle's Book Club, 6 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 13.

◆ Gettin' Crafty with Miss Mo, 4 to 5 p.m. Monday, Aug. 17.

◆ Marginalized Voices Book Club, 7 to 8 p.m. Monday, Aug. 17.

◆ Storytime Shuffle with Miss Mo, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. to noon Tuesday, Aug. 18.

◆ Emotional Release with a Yoga Flow, 10 to 11 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 19.

◆ 1,000 Hours Outside: Social Butterflies, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 19.

◆ Crafternoon @ the Library, 1 to 3 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 20.

Woods branch, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods

◆ Unpacking Odysseus 2, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 13.

◆ Detroit Guitar Trio, 2 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 15.

◆ Teen Crafternoon: School Supply Decorating, 2 to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 18.

◆ Reader Dog, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 19.

◆ Hustle for Health, 7 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 19.

◆ Playtime Pop-Ins, 10 a.m. to noon Thursday, Aug. 20.

◆ Poetry Workshop with M.L. Liebler, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 20.

◆ Nonfiction Book Club, 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 20.

Ford House

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

◆ Outdoor Summer Concert: Michigan Philharmonic: Let's Go to the Movies, 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 14. Ticket prices vary.

◆ Four Seasons Garden Lecture, 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 27. Admission is $12 for Friends, $15 for the public.

For tickets and information, visit fordhouse.org.

POST Detroit

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

◆ Screen Print: Print Your Own Gear, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 15. Cost is $75.

◆ Pressed Flowers: Botanical Collages, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 15. Cost is $85.

◆ Succulent Planter: Fairy Gardens, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 16. Cost is $70.

◆ Beginner Sewing: Drawstring Bags, 2 to 6 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 16. Cost is $75.

◆ Drop-In Workshop: Decorative Magnets, 2 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 16. Cost is $15.

◆ Two-Day Woodworking Workshop: Folding Lounge Chair, 5 to 9 p.m. Wednesdays, Aug. 19 and 26, OR 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 29, and Sunday, Aug. 30. Cost is $200.

Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

◆ 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.

◆ 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 25, Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church, 19950 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 25, St. Clair Shores Senior Center, 20100 Stephens, St. Clair Shores.

◆ 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 26, St. Clair Shores City Hall, 27600 Jefferson, St. Clair Shores.

◆ Noon to 6 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 27, First English Lutheran Church, 800 Vernier, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Aug. 31, Ford House, 1100 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Register at redcrossblood.org.

Rotary

The Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe hosts its next meeting at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 19, at Village Grille, 16930 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe. Dr. Joseph Daniel-Hoste, executive director of Crossroads of Michigan, speaks. Email grossepointerotary@gmail.com.

The Family Center

The Family Center of Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods offers The Healing Circle: Survivors of Suicide Loss Support Group, in collaboration with Kevin's Song, to help those impacted by suicide loss cope with their grief. The group meets at 4:30 p.m. the third Thursday of each month, beginning Aug. 20, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Learn more at familycenterhelps.org or RSVP to register@familycenterhelps.org.







Longtime city planner brings expertise to Detroit Legacy Tours

Walking tours highlight Detroit history

By Jody McVeigh
Editor



Rod Arroyo recently launched Detroit Legacy Tours, offering two walking tours that detail Detroit history.

Rod Arroyo is a lifelong researcher, interested in details about history, architecture and, his personal favorite, jazz.

"On vacations I'm always pointing things out," he said. "My wife predicted I'd be a tour guide one day."

Beth Arroyo was right: That day has come.

A retired city planner and partner at Giffels Webster, Rod Arroyo launched Detroit Legacy Tours this summer. He intends to share his years of research with those interested in Detroit history, bygone neighborhoods and the jazz clubs that dotted downtown.

"There are layers and layers of stories to tell," Arroyo said, noting he hopes the tours help people see the city differently — not only during the time before Comerica Park and Ford Field were giants of the cityscape, but also when black-owned businesses were prevalent in the city.

"In 1952, the Booker T. Washington Trade Association claimed Detroit had more black-owned businesses than any other city in the U.S.," he said.

Arroyo spent six months leafing through the directory, learning where those businesses and the neighborhoods that supported them fell on the landscape. The directory was just one area of research that led the former Wayne State University adjunct professor and occasional guest lecturer to create his new venture.

Inspired by historians and storytellers Jamon Jordan, Marsha Music and Tiya Miles, Arroyo's research also led him to read "Before Motown: A History of Jazz in Detroit, 1920-60" by Lars Bjorn and Jim Gallert.

"All of them inspired me," he said. "I have a real interest in jazz. When I read the book as a city planner, I felt compelled to map out where the jazz clubs had been."

Arroyo started researching the city of Detroit nearly two decades ago. He has since presented his findings — and his photography — to various groups at places like Ford House, the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History and the Detroit Public Library. The positive feedback he received fed his interest in continuing more research.

In 2017, author Karin Risko asked him to co-author a book with her. "A History Lover's Guide to Detroit" was published in 2018. It, and the promotional book tour, also were well-received.

When the APA National Planning Conference came to Detroit in April, Arroyo felt compelled to share his research. He spiced up his presentation by hosting a four-hour mobile workshop and three-hour bus tour, noting stops at Griswold Street — often referred to as "The Wall Street of Detroit" — and Paradise Valley, which, from the 1920s to '50s, was the business center and entertainment district serving the Black Bottom area of Detroit.

"I came back from the conference inspired," he said. "I told my wife, 'I want to do this.' I have a unique story to tell because of all the research I've done."

By June 4, he had leased an office downtown and by July 6, he had led his first walking tour.

"The response has been amazing," Arroyo said. "I'm grateful people enjoy what they're hearing and experiencing."

Currently, there are two tour options. The first includes a look at downtown from Griswold Street to Black Bottom, from the city's boomtown days to its bankruptcy to its resurgence. It explores early city plans, a forgotten theater where jazz history was made and skyscrapers built in the 1910s and 1920s.

The second tour includes some of downtown, including Campus Martius and Grand Circus Park, as well as the Paradise Valley and Black Bottom sectors that once were home to jazz and blues clubs, vibrant neighborhoods and black-owned businesses.

"That's where Comerica and Ford Field are now," Arroyo said. "Before what is standing there now, there were neighborhoods.

"... There are many locations where there's layers of history," he added. "There's the building that's there now, the building that was there before it and the building that was there before that."

An example, he noted, is the First National Building across from Campus Martius. Early in its history, it was the Russell House hotel before becoming the Pontchartrain hotel and later First National.

"All those buildings have different stories," Arroyo said.

He noted the politicians and automotive giants who frequented the Pontchartrain to conduct business over drinks in the hotel bar.

The building there now was designed by Albert Kahn, who worked with Wirt Rowland, who also designed Detroit's Guardian and Penobscot buildings.

"It's the same with the jazz clubs," Arroyo said of their history.

For example, Club El Sino opened on St. Antoine Street in 1947, with Dizzy Gillespie and his orchestra playing a two-week gig. Later that year, Charlie Parker did a two-week residency there, bringing with him a 21-year-old Miles Davis.

While he was in town, Parker recorded four tracks for an album at United Sound Systems Studios, featuring bebop songs "that people are still listening to today," Arroyo added.

Though his tours are mapped out, Arroyo doesn't mind a detour.

During a recent private corporate tour, out-of-town guests told him they wanted to take in more of the area's culture. That included a stop at Jacoby's Bar, Detroit's oldest biergarten.

"Those are the impromptu moments that really make a walking tour exciting," he said. "You can make a last-minute decision to take a detour. I have a route that I follow, but I'm open to changing it at the last minute to make it the experience people are hoping to have."

Even with established tours, Arroyo continues to research.

"I'm reading three different books now," he said. "It fuels my interest and it's good for my business, so why not?"

He does much of his reading during his commute; he takes a SMART bus from the Farms and reads until it drops him just blocks from his new office. The more he learns, the more he can expand his offerings, "as I see the market demand and as personal interest dictates," he said. "What I learn and what guests will like."

So far his guests — around half of them from outside the U.S. — say they enjoyed experiencing the city through Arroyo's eyes. He's received nearly a dozen five-star reviews for his tours.

"This really is the best job I've ever had," the Grosse Pointe Farms resident said. "I get to walk around Detroit, talk about my research and get my steps in."

Tours begin at 10 a.m. Monday through Friday, as well as 2 p.m. Monday and Friday. He occasionally offers a Saturday morning tour and hopes to expand later this month to offer 2 p.m. tours Tuesdays and Thursdays as well.

He will offer two special tours during Labor Day weekend — 9 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 6, and Monday, Sept. 7 — when the Detroit Jazz Festival is in full swing.

To keep the tours as personal as possible, Arroyo caps them at 14 people.

"That's the max I can have and still have conversations with people," he said.

With more than a mile and a half per outing at a modest to brisk pace, the tours are meant for adults only.

He plans to offer them year round, no matter the weather.

"As long as there's no ice and someone wants to go out, I'm available," he said.

For more information or to book a tour, visit detroitlegacytours.com, call (313) 228-2699 or scan the QR code.

"It's a lot of fun," Arroyo said. "The amazing thing is every time I walk the city, something has changed — there's a new performer in Spirit Plaza or a sidewalk is torn up and we have to go a different way. That's the excitement of an active downtown. Maybe a new building is being constructed. It's an adventure every time I go out. That's part of what makes it fun."



The McGraw Building, formerly Mechanics Hall, in this circa 1905 Library of Congress photo.



First State Bank to the right and Security Trust Bank to the left, both designed by Albert Kahn, in this 2026 photo by Rod Arroyo.



A photo of the Horse Shoe Bar and Band Box, 606 and 602 E. Adams, respectively, courtesy of the Detroit Public Library Burton Historical Collection.



The former site of Band Box and Horse Shoe Bar, now a plaza in this photo by Rod Arroyo.





Left, a photo from the Library of Congress of Campus Martius and Old City Hall around 1915. Right, Rod Arroyo's photo of present-day Campus Martius Park.

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.



Richard Lloyd Hurford



Michael V. Howe Sr.



Murdoch James Hertzog



Leigh "Flora Lee" Mott

Richard Lloyd Hurford

Richard Lloyd Hurford, 74, of Grosse Pointe Shores, passed away peacefully Thursday, July 30, 2026.

Dick was born Aug. 20, 1951, in Royal Oak, one of five children of Jackson and Janet Hurford (nee Potter). Seven years later (and one year after Dick's younger brother, Jim, was born), Jackson died suddenly and tragically.

Dick delivered newspapers and carried golf clubs to help support the family from a young age. He attended University of Detroit Jesuit High School, graduating in 1969. The Evans Scholars Foundation blessed Dick with a scholarship to attend the University of Michigan.

Dick was brilliant, an expert conversationalist and the most respectful, caring, considerate, fair and reasonable person many were lucky enough to know. He was tough and fought for every inch. Dick suffered no bullies and, in the most respectful way possible, would dispatch anyone who offended his sense of what was fair, reasonable, just and right.

During his college summers, Dick worked in hospitals as a surgical technician and met the love of his life, Judi Hurford, while working at St. Joseph's Mercy Hospital in Pontiac during the summer of 1973. They celebrated their 52nd anniversary this year.

One of the best words he used to describe himself was "curious." He was a lifelong learner and a voracious reader. Dick was passionate about U.S. history and became fixated on the impact of the Supreme Court justices. His first thought was to teach. He went to Oakland University to pursue a doctorate. After one and a half painful years of teaching (for both the students and Dick), he decided to forgo a Ph.D. and pursue law school. He never looked back.

He attended University of Detroit Law School and joined the law firm of Dykema Gossett. He later became director of litigation for Masco Corp., where he acquired an executive MBA, and a shareholder of Ogletree Deakins. Dick eventually opened his own alternative dispute resolution (ADR) practice.

As a litigator, Dick was an incredible trial attorney and fierce advocate. His son considers the tales of Dad's trial antics to be those of legend.

After Dick left the litigation trenches and moved in-house to manage litigation, as a testament to his curiosity and devotion to continuous learning, he reinvented himself by transitioning from an aggressive adversary in litigation to a trailblazing in-house counsel. Dick persuaded an entire corporation to change its philosophy and commit to ADR for settling both internal and external controversies.

In addition to his work, Dick was a prolific writer and speaker for lawyers and judges on the subject of ADR. The comprehensive ADR book he inspired, co-authored and co-edited, will be published posthumously. Dick served in numerous leadership positions in the legal and ADR communities. He is in the Michigan Lawyers Weekly Hall of Fame and received multiple distinguished service awards, including from the State Bar of Michigan ADR Section.

Recently, Dick scaled back his ADR work to spend more time with his son, Patrick, in his law practice. Dick often said he thoroughly enjoyed another career change if it involved working with his son. Dick left behind a lasting legacy wherever his path went. He will be missed but not forgotten in law.

Dick's love of community was most evident through his service. He was a Grosse Pointe Farms-City Little League manager for years, actively involved in St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church and athletic department, devoted to University of Detroit Jesuit High School and involved in Detroit organizations that helped children growing up without a father like he did.

Dick's personality and sense of humor cannot be replaced. Dick had a doctorate in sarcasm, a disarming quick wit, a love of storytelling, a real and true interest in whomever he was talking to and a degree of generosity and humility that is remarkably absent from the world today.

He was predeceased by his father, Jackson Shields Hurford; mother, Janet Hurford; brother, Jackson Hurford; and sisters, Nancy Angeles and Patricia Nickol.

Dick is survived by his wife, Judith Carol Hurford; son, Patrick John Hurford; three grandchildren, Ethan Joseph Hurford, Alexander Charles Hurford and Erin Lucille Hurford; and brother, Jim Hurford.

Services for Dick take place Wednesday, Sept. 30, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Visitation is at 9:30 a.m., followed by the funeral service at 10 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the University of Detroit Jesuit High School, tinyurl.com/4hspz5zt; or the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, tinyurl.com/3yv9wvcr.

Michael V. Howe Sr.

Michael V. Howe Sr., 78, of Grosse Pointe, passed away unexpectedly Thursday, Aug. 6, 2026. Mike was born March 30, 1948, in Detroit, to Leo II and Eleonora Howe.

He was the beloved husband of Ann for 30 years; loving father of Michael V. Howe Jr. (Erin), Carrie Howe (Mischa Heemskerk) and Julie Howe Van Tongeren (Drew); cherished father figure of Hallie Lamont (Max), Heather Pizzotti (David), Kristin Gross (David), Dan Burkhart (Laura) and the late Robby Burkhart; and devoted grandfather of 19 grandchildren. He also was a dear brother to Judy Marone Gilbert (Brian, Art), Carol Burgess (Mike) and the late Leo "Jerry" III (Pearl), James "Jim" (Robin) and William "Bill"; and loving uncle to countless nieces, nephews and extended family.

Mike grew up surrounded by loving parents, siblings, cousins, aunts, uncles and close family friends in the Gesu neighborhood of Detroit. He graduated from Assumption High School and John Carroll University, earning an MBA from Michigan State University. Over his lifetime, he was a member of the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, Sherwood Country Club, Otsego Ski Club/Hidden Valley and Detroit Racquet Club, as well as a lifelong member of the Detroit Athletic Club.

Mike was a collector of good people. He had a rare ability to make people feel welcome, valued and completely themselves. He was loving, kind, patient and remarkably nonjudgmental. He listened with intention and had great stories to tell. His relationships spanned the globe, decades and generations, and he loved and cared deeply for his family and friends.

Mike met Ann during his years at John Carroll University and although life took them down different paths, God had a plan to reunite them one day.

Later, Mike met Cindy Stimson (nee Brady) and together they built a family, raising Michael, Carrie and Julie. They shared nearly 20 years of marriage and remained connected through the lives and joys of their children.

Later in life, Mike and Ann found their way back to each other, building a deep and lasting marriage and true partnership. Together, they embraced a blended family of eight children and their partners and built a life filled with family, laughter and friendship.

Mike was a devoted husband, father, grandfather and friend who had a presence and an ability to make people feel supported in every endeavor. He believed in the people he loved and encouraged them to pursue their own paths and dreams. He brought humor, patience and playfulness to his 19 grandchildren, teaching many of them to play backgammon and, perhaps more importantly, how to laugh — at themselves, at life and at the moments that didn't go quite as planned.

The water was Mike's happy place. He loved boating on Lake St. Clair and often could be found simply "cleaning the boat," because being near the water was reason enough. He shared his beloved Boston Whaler with his brother, Jim, creating countless memories as they taught their children to water ski and enjoy every moment they could on the lake. In addition to the water, Mike loved handball and the friendships that grew on the court; he continued to play until the end.

Mike built a distinguished career in advertising, marketing and customer loyalty. Recruited by Lee Iacocca during Chrysler's historic turnaround, he became general manager of Chrysler-Plymouth and later chief marketing and product development officer, helping launch the K-Car and Plymouth minivan. He later served as CEO of Young & Rubicam and chief marketing officer at United Airlines, where he conceived and helped launch Mileage Plus, the airline industry's first major mileage loyalty program. He went on to lead Catuity Inc., as president and CEO before moving with Ann to Westlake Village, Calif., where he continued his career in health care with WellPointe.

After several years in California, Mike and Ann returned to Grosse Pointe, drawn back to the people and places that had always been home, including the Detroit Athletic Club, where Mike was a legacy member and eventually served on the DAC board. The DAC community was an important part of his life — a place where friendships, family traditions and handball all came together.

Mike was deeply committed to giving back and helping others achieve their ambitions. He served as chairman of the Michigan Heart Association and supported the National Heart Association, while taking great pride in helping his family and others pursue their dreams.

Mike's life ended while he was on the water, wake surfing with his handball friends, doing something he truly loved. At 78, he was still playing handball, wake surfing, skiing, traveling, surrounded by people he loved and finding joy in the places that had always made him happiest. The love he gave, the lives he touched and the memories he created will remain with all who were fortunate enough to be a part of his life.

Visitation takes place 4 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 13, with a 7:30 p.m. Rosary, at Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, 705 W. 11 Mile Road, Royal Oak. A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Friday, Aug. 14, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Mike will lie in state at the church beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Memorial contributions may be made in Mike's name to the American Heart Association, heart.org; or to John Carroll University, jcu.edu, in support of the Iota Chi Upsilon Alumni Endowed Scholarship, honoring Mike's commitment to heart health and education and the lasting impact both had on his life and family.

Murdoch James Hertzog

Murdoch James Hertzog, 100, passed away Tuesday, July 7, 2026, in St. Clair Shores.

He was born May 5, 1926, in Duluth, Minn., to Jerry and Marceline Hertzog.

After moving to Michigan, Murdoch graduated from Mackenzie High School in Detroit, in 1944. While stationed in Germany, Murdoch proudly served his country in the United States Army during World War II. He was awarded the Silver Star, Bronze Star and Meritorious Service Medal.

He graduated in 1951 from Detroit College of Law, opened his own family practice law firm and helped many until he retired in 2015. Mickey was a kind and generous person, as well as very giving of his time and legal expertise to his family and friends.

Mickey loved boating, deer hunting and fishing. One of his favorite fishing trips was with his fishing pal, Tony, to South America. He was a lifetime member of the Detroit Yacht Club; a 64-year member of Sokol Detroit, an educational, physical fitness and cultural awareness organization through which he participated in gymnastics and other athletics; a member of the National Guard, America's Boating Club, United States Power Squadron and National Ski Patrol; and an associate member of the Fraternal Order of Police. He wrote poetry and songs; one of his songs, "She is Around Again," was written for his wife, Jeanette.

In addition to his parents, Mickey was predeceased by his brother, Thomas Hertzog; and sister, Annette Hertzog Anderson. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Jeanette, and several nieces and nephews.

Cremation has taken place and an interment service will be held at 10:30 a.m. Friday, Aug. 14, at Great Lakes National Cemetery, 4200 Belford, Holly.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial contributions be made in Murdoch's memory to Sokol Cultural Center, 23600 W. Warren, Dearborn Heights, MI 48127.

Leigh "Flora Lee" Mott

Leigh "Flora Lee" Mott, 95, passed away peacefully Tuesday, Aug. 4, 2026, at home in East Tawas.

Born March 8, 1931, to Frank and Clara Gossett, Leigh lived a life full of devotion to her family and community. She was predeceased by her parents; sister, Vera; brother, Frank; stepsons, Dale and Paul; and beloved husband, Donald Mott, who passed away in 2008. She is survived by her sister, Dorothy Hess (the late Harvey) of Pittsburgh; as well as her grandchildren, nieces, nephews and a wide circle of adoring friends.

Leigh and Don spent many years living and raising their family in Grosse Pointe Woods. She earned an MFA from Wayne State University and operated a successful interior design firm for many years. In 1996, the couple left Grosse Pointe to pursue a new dream: moving to East Tawas to own and operate the East Tawas Junction Bed and Breakfast.

Leigh was devoted to providing clean water wells to people around the world, as well as to the ministries of her church.

A funeral service was held Aug. 7, at the East Tawas Junction Bed and Breakfast. Leigh was laid to rest at Greenwood Cemetery in East Tawas.

Memorial donations may be made to Samaritan's Purse International Crisis Response, samaritanspurse.org; the Samuel Omogo Foundation, samuelomogofoundation.org/donate; or Harbor Church, 311 E. Lincoln, East Tawas, MI 48730, harborchurchtawas.com/give.

Share a memory at bureshfuneralhomes.com.

Fall prevention offered at The Helm

Falls are one of the leading causes of injury among older adults, but many falls can be prevented. This August, The Helm is helping older adults reduce their risk through two fall prevention resources: A Matter of Balance, an award-winning program designed to build confidence and reduce the fear of falling, and free Falls Risk Screenings available by appointment through Friday, Aug. 14.

A Matter of Balance meets 1:15 to 3:15 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, through

See FALL, page 5B

GreekFest returns Aug. 21-23







COURTESY PHOTOS

Above left, Olympians Vadym Kolesnik and Emilea Zingas will be a part of the GreekFest festivities. Above, an assortment of Greek foods will be available for purchase. Left, traditional Greek dances will entertain those who attend GreekFest.

Assumption Greek Orthodox Church invites the community to experience the sights, sounds and flavors of Greece at its annual GreekFest, returning Friday, Aug. 21, through Sunday, Aug. 23. This year's festival joins communities nationwide in celebrating the 250th anniversary of the United States, honoring the spirit of freedom, opportunity and cultural richness that have shaped the nation.

GreekFest attracts more than 10,000 visitors each year for authentic Greek cuisine, live entertainment, traditional dancing, cultural exhibits and family activities. More than 250 volunteers work throughout the year to prepare everything that makes GreekFest memorable for all ages.

Festival-goers will be treated to traditional Greek music and dancing, marketplace shopping, church tours, cultural exhibits, homemade pastries, authentic Greek cuisine and more.

The band Enigma, with vocalist Niko Varlamos, will perform as Assumption dance groups provide entertainment with costumes and dances from the regions of Greece. Open dancing follows with Assumption dancers teaching the easy steps of Greek dancing throughout the weekend.

The grand-opening ceremony takes place 5 p.m. Friday, Aug. 21. The Grosse Pointe South High School marching band will entertain during the event, which also includes Olympic ice skaters Emilea Zingas and Vadym Kolesnik. They will be available for meet-and-greet appearances Friday and Saturday. Zingas, a member of Assumption Greek Orthodox Church, is a source of pride and inspiration for the parish.

Devin Scillian, retired WDIV-TV anchor, and his band, Arizona Son, will perform "A Salute to America" on Saturday afternoon.

Other festival highlights include:

Authentic Greek cuisine — Popular Hellenic menu items include kebabs, spinach pie, lamb shanks, stuffed grape leaves, pastitsio, flaming cheese, Coney dogs, gyros and more. Chicken tenders, hot dogs and fries are popular with kids. Homemade pastries prepared by the ladies of Assumption, including baklava, custard rolls, Greek breads and cookies and loukoumades (honey balls) will be offered as well. A taverna also is available for adults ages 21 and older.

Greek classic food dishes are available for carryout. Drive-thru hours are 4 to 8 p.m. Friday, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday and noon to 6 p.m. Sunday. Call ahead at (586) 596-6326 or (586) 779-8071. View the menu or order online at assumptionfestival.com

Something for kids of every age — Kids' activities include games, magic and puppet shows, jugglers, face painting, stilt walkers, a balloon man, giant slide, inflatables and more. Kids can have fun while parents sit, watch and take a break from the festivities. Detroit Tigers mascot Paws will be on hand as well.



Devin Scillian, retired WDIV-TV anchor, and his band, Arizona Son, will perform "A Salute to America" Saturday afternoon.

Marketplace shopping — An indoor marketplace with vendors from the U.S. and Greece provides a variety of items, including icons, art, photography, jewelry, oil paintings, handmade crafts, home accessories, imported women's clothing and more.

Church tours and iconography presentations — A highlight of GreekFest are tours of Assumption Greek Orthodox Church and the history and development of the iconography. Tours will be given daily.

The Hellenic Museum of Michigan, located in the Cultural Center of Detroit, will provide an exhibit in the Hellenic Room.

"Hellenic Footprints: Greek Stories from the Midwest and the Legacy of Olympia," presented in collaboration with the Consulate General of Greece in Chicago, offers a powerful exploration of Greek-American life across the Midwest. Through photography, video and personal histories, the exhibition traces the journeys, struggles and triumphs of communities that carried their heritage across generations while shaping the cultural fabric of the United States.

Complementing this exhibit is "The Legacy of Olympia," an exploration of the origins of the ancient Olympic Games. Visitors will discover how the Games began in ancient Greece and the traditions and ideals that shaped the competitions.

Grand raffle with cash prizes — The grand raffle takes place at 6 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 23. First prize is $10,000; second prize is diamond hoop earrings, valued at $3,750, donated by edmund t. AHEE Jewelers; third prize is $500; and fourth, fifth and sixth prizes are $200 each.

Raffle tickets are $10 each and may be purchased online at assumptionfestival.com or at Assumption's office.

"GreekFest is a wonderful event that our entire community looks forward to each year," GreekFest co-chairman Tom Thomas said. "More than 250 volunteers work together to create a memorable experience for every guest. Whether you come for the food, music, culture or family fun, there truly is something for everyone."

GreekFest co-chairs are George Dallas, Bob De Waele, Nick Moschouris, Achilles Papakonstantinou, Tom Giftos and Tony Marchiori.

"As we celebrate America's 250th anniversary, we invite everyone to join us in honoring both our Greek heritage and the values that unite us as Americans," they wrote in a joint statement. "Experience our culture, our music, our hospitality and our fantastic foods and desserts. We look forward to welcoming friends, neighbors and visitors from throughout metro Detroit."

GreekFest takes place 4 to 11 p.m. Friday; 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday and noon to 7 p.m. Sunday.

Admission is $3; children 12 and younger are admitted free. Free parking and valet and shuttle service will be available.

Proceeds benefit Assumption community programs, as well as Cops For Kids, Focus Detroit and Cass Community Social Services.

Assumption Greek Orthodox Church is located at 21800 Marter, St. Clair Shores.

For information, call (586) 779-6111 or visit assumptionfestival.com.



A rock-climbing wall is among the activities at GreekFest.

CHURCH EVENT

St. Clare

St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church, 1401 Whittier, Grosse Pointe Park, hosts a Blessing of the 100th Anniversary Tree, in honor of its centennial, at 5 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 15.

FALL:

Continued from page 4B

Aug. 26. Facilitated by Rosa Hunter and Judy Reasonover, this program helps participants view falls and the fear of falling as manageable while learning practical strategies to reduce their risk.

Throughout the course, participants set realistic goals to increase activity, identify ways to make their homes and surroundings safer and learn simple exercises to improve strength and balance. The program also provides encouragement and support from others who share similar concerns. Snacks are provided during each session.

In addition to the class, The Helm is offering free Falls Risk Screenings by appointment through Friday, Aug. 14. These screenings help identify individual risk factors and provide participants with information and resources to support safe, independent living.

Whether someone has experienced a fall, has become less active because of a fear of falling or simply wants to be proactive about their health, these fall prevention resources can help older adults remain active, confident and independent.

To learn more, schedule a falls risk screening or register for A Matter of Balance, visit HelmLife.org, call (313) 882-9600 or visit The Helm, 158 Ridge, Grosse Pointe Farms.



About Education Plus Nicaragua

In a community where less than 30 percent of children make it to sixth grade, Education Plus students often are the first in their families to finish high school, continue to university or trade school and have the skills and ethics to move on to successful professional careers.

THE CAMPUS

◆ Casa de los Sueños is a safe, drug- and violence-free campus where children attend classes, study, complete homework, read books, receive counseling, eat and play. It includes four classrooms, a computer lab, kitchen, outdoor eating space, two gardens, a sports court, library, counseling center, playground and staff office. It is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday.

◆ It serves one of the poorest communities in the poorest country in Latin America and is located in the state with the highest rate of teen pregnancy in all of Latin America.

THE KIDS

◆ One in four children live on less than $1 a day; nearly all live on less than $2.

◆ Thirty-four percent of Education Plus students live in households with more than 10 people in precarious situations.

◆ Sixty percent of students live in households that suffer from excessive violence.

◆ Zero have indoor plumbing.

◆ Zero have regular access to clean water.

THE PROGRAM

◆ Enrollment in 2021 was 317 students, ages 3 to 19.

◆ Twenty-eight classes are offered per day and more than 1,800 hot meals are served weekly.

◆ Subjects include literacy, primary and secondary reinforcement, professional development, computers and English.

◆ Clubs include dance/hip-hop, Bible, theater, soccer, arts and crafts and university mentorship.

◆ A library with more than 700 books and iPads allows students to do research.

◆ Learn more about Education Plus Nicaragua at eduplusnicaragua.org.



Paulina and Alfredo were with Education Plus for more than a decade. They still volunteer, but have now embarked on careers of their own. At age 9, Alfredo had dropped out of primary school to support his five siblings. He and his older brother carried sacks in the market to feed their family. Thanks to the hot meals provided by Education Plus, Alfredo was able to stop working and go back to school. Each year, his grades steadily improved. When his friends joined gangs and tried to get him to join them, he credits Education Plus with helping him make the decision to choose school instead. He has now finished university and is employed as a graphic designer. His girlfriend, Paulina, graduated from the same school and is an English teacher at the American Nicaraguan school.

PLUS:

Continued from page 1B



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MONICA LOVELEY

Loveley poses with the school's dance club.

all the foreigners was to leave town.

"Everyone was scared … but it made me want to stay there even more," she added, noting she paid two friends with food to serve as her armed guards. "I remember the thing I was thinking the most was I have to be able to feed our children."

Loveley noted the bravery of her staff and students.

"Some of my male students were offered money to fight, but none took the offer or joined any of the local gangs, despite their families going hungry at the time," she said. "Instead, they came to school, little kids of 12 or 13 years old, saying they wanted to defend the school in case anyone tried to rob it or burn it down.

"… Staff came every day to cook and teach and try to bring some semblance of normality to the lives of the children during this time," she continued. "Some said the school was the only place they felt safe, but getting there and back every day was a risk. We are lucky that the fighting only came near our school one time. Everyone was suffering from deep fear and trauma, but at least we were all in it together, which gave us the strength to survive."

Loveley said many people disappeared during the conflict; some came back changed while others did not return. By mid-2019, the conflict largely was over and order restored, but the economy was decimated. Most foreign-run NGOs closed for lack of staff and funding, as well as the inability to meet new government rules.

"Education Plus struggled with a lack of volunteers and visiting donors, but at least by the grace of God, the hard work of our staff and students and the generosity of our long-term donors, we managed to survive the turmoil and continue with our mission," she said. "That was an incredibly stressful time because every day you're hearing about another place that's been closed down and confiscated. We were just trying to do whatever we could with whatever connections we had."

Struggles continued when the pandemic hit, but Education Plus received the support it needed to pull through.

"During COVID, people really came together and they helped us," Loveley said. "Donors helped us a lot with food because a lot of people were starving to death at that point."

Students wrote essays during the pandemic when the school was partially closed, "so the children would have something to do, as a cathartic exercise and as a way to motivate them to help others," Loveley said. "The winners received a food basket for their family and a food basket to donate to another family in need they identified in their essays. These kids are truly amazing. They are the real-life superheroes in their communities."

New calling

By the time Loveley left Nicaragua, she was experiencing post-traumatic stress disorder.

"When I would hear loud noises, even if I was in a safe place, I thought it was gunfire," she said. "I would see people carrying guns even if they weren't, because I just got so used to living in that environment and I felt like I really needed to leave for my sanity."

She moved to nearby Mexico so she could easily go back to check in. There she met her husband, who received a job offer in Taiwan. That move made the distance and time difference difficult to handle.

"I was trying to do the same work, but I realized I wasn't the best person to do it anymore," Loveley said. "It took a long time and we hired finally an amazing local woman who was working for one of our former partner organizations, but hers was closed down. We're really lucky that she was able to come work with us. She's amazing and I feel so blessed because everything could have just been over, but it's not."

The hardship continues as raising money for the program has become an issue.

"Right now our greatest need is funding so we can continue our meal program," Loveley said. "If people would like to host a meal or meals — we can feed a child a hot, healthy meal for an entire school week for the equivalent of the price of a Starbucks Frappuccino — or sponsor a child, I would love to connect with them."

A side effect of not being able to raise the funds it needs to feed children every day is decreasing enrollment, she added.

"A lot of kids, the parents would only let them come if they were able to eat, but if they were not getting a meal there anymore, then the parents are like, 'OK, now you have to go out and sell some bread so you can earn your keep,'" she said. "But, we're still doing the best we can and we still have a lot of children that are trying really, really hard. And more and more kids are going to university and graduating.

"We haven't had a single child go to university and not be able to keep going," she continued. "We haven't had a dropout."

Loveley said she is proud of the organization she built and though she has handed off the reins to new leadership, Education Plus continues to be in her heart.

"When I went back there the last time, which was about a year and a half ago, I went to visit a family I've known for so long and I talked to the mom and she says, 'You know, we used to struggle so much.' There were so many nights they used to have to go to the dump to go through the trash to find things to clean and sell. She said, 'We used to not know where we're going to get our next meal and now my son comes home and says to me, Mom, what do you need?'

"… I remember him writing an essay about hearing his father crying because he couldn't feed the kids," she continued. "For him to be able to do that for his parents, more even than personal success, I feel really grateful because when I started out, I wanted to help, but I never knew it would end up like this."

Though Loveley likes to say she's retired, she currently is a part-time preschool teacher in Taiwan.

"I love it because all their main life beliefs are instilled in them by the age of 7, so you're really able to influence them as far as social interactions and morals and values," she said. "I tell the kids, my job is to teach you the skills that are going to make you happy in life. Maybe that's English, so you can travel around the world. Maybe it's ways to be friends with people."

It's that kind of impact Loveley hopes continues in the organization she founded.

"When you go to a country like Nicaragua and you start a grassroots foundation, you're seeing a difference every day," she said. "You're seeing the fact that kids that were miserable before are happy now … going to school and eating.

"… What our children are doing now is beyond what I could ever have dreamed of when I began my journey in Nicaragua. Maybe I started this thing, but it is the hard work, love and generosity of others that made it possible."

Contact Loveley directly at monica@eduplusnicaragua.org. For more information about Education Plus Nicaragua, visit eduplusnicaragua.org.



A group of volunteers shared circus tricks with students.



Loveley and one of her current students in Taiwan.

LIFE & LEISURE



2C GP GABBY | 2C MOVIE JUNKIE MARK | 3C MOMBEAU'S TABLE | 8C - 9C CLASSIFIEDS



Seven things to do before summer ends

By Charlotte McCracken
Guest Writer

As summer comes to an end, here are seven exciting things you can do to get the most out of the amazing weather and everything Grosse Pointe has to offer. Ranging from good food to fun activities with friends and family, this list includes things that feel best in summer for all ages.

Try out a new restaurant

The Pointes have many restaurant options, but there are a couple of new places to try that recently opened. One option is a quick stop for a delicious snack and another offers a sit-down, special occasion restaurant.



◆ Playa Bowls in Grosse Pointe Woods — The menu includes perfect, fresh options like acai bowls, smoothies and juices.

◆ Tavola Mia in Grosse Pointe Farms — Serving highly rated Italian house-made pastas and seafood, as well as brunch from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Ice cream crawl

Ice cream is a summer classic, but instead of just having one, why not try out a few? Visit these well-known spots and have a couple treats in one afternoon. Travel down Kercheval and stop at all the best ice cream places like JJ's Custard Company, TCBY, Cold Stone Creamery — and even vote on your favorites with your family and friends along the way. Here are some of highlights you may want to try next:

◆ JJ's: Salted Caramel Drumstick (vanilla custard injected with caramel, dipped in chocolate and rolled in waffle cone pieces) and viral Dubai Cookie Bowls

◆ TCBY: Black Cherry Tart soft serve, Strawberry Sunrise Sorbet and the classic chocolate chip cookie "Yogwich"

◆ Cold Stone: The limited edition "Our Dubai Chocolate" creation (chocolate ice cream with pistachio cream, kataifi and chocolate shavings) and the summer favorite, Strawberry Blonde

Book a concert or show

There aren't many things that compare to a night on the town to relax, listen and enjoy good music with friends and family. These options require a short drive, but are big memory makers. They also offer a chance to wear your favorite fan merch and make a statement. Take a look at upcoming concerts in the greater Detroit area.

◆ Little Caesar°s Arena: Megan Moroney (Aug. 18) and Disney on Ice (Sept. 17 to 20)

◆ Ford Field: Ed Sheeran (Aug. 29)

◆ Pine Knob: TLC (Aug. 23) and Pitbull (Sept. 9)

◆ Outdoor Summer Concert Series at Ford House (Aug. 14 and Sept. 18)

◆ The Schaap Center: Grosse Pointe Theatre presents "Les Miserables" (Sept. 18 to Oct. 11)

Go out on Lake St. Clair

Before fall begins and slightly cooler weather sets in, take a day to get out on the lake one last time. Noted here are different ways you can take advantage of the beautiful lake waters during the last weeks of summer. Make sure you wear a life jacket and take photos to document your day.

◆ If you have access to a kayak or paddleboard, start an outing at your local park and do a morning round trip when the waters are calm.

◆ Detroit River Sports is close by and offers rentals, lessons and guided tours on standup paddleboards and kayaks. Purchases of both kayaks and SUPS are available at Detroit River Sports or Half-Moon Outfitters on Kercheval.

◆ Find a friend with a boat and go tubing. The lake provides great waves and opportunities for tons of fun.

Get into shape

As we experience the best temperatures of summer, plan for a run or a bike ride down Lakeshore. For an even more enjoyable time, go early in the morning to catch the sunrise or in the evening to enjoy the sunset with the fireflies, sounds of the cicadas and moon reflecting on the lake. Or, if you prefer AirPods or headphones, put together the perfect playlist for your outing.

◆ For a bike ride, start at The War Memorial and go down to the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club (approximately four miles)

◆ For a run, start at Grosse Pointe Farms Pier Park and run toward the GPYC for your preferred distance.

Play pickleball

Grab your paddles and participate in an entertaining, stress-free way to burn a few calories with the option of singles or doubles. This popular sport has become trendy for a reason and pickleball in Grosse Pointe during summer is priceless.

◆ Head to one of the park's courts and play a game of pickleball with one, two or three friends and even challenge them to a mini tournament.

◆ Bonus: Stop by Lululemon or Village Palm in The Village to pick out a new athletic outfit before your game.

Go to the movies

There are some great movies coming out in the next few weeks and it's always better to get off the living room couch to get the full movie theater experience. Right now, find a relative or friend in the Park or the Farms and catch a movie at the Windmill Pointe Theaters as a plus-one guest. It's the best and most convenient way to watch a new release.

Buy a few snacks and refreshing drinks directly outside the theater in the lobby of the Lavins Activity Center, with options including popcorn, Skittles, Hershey's chocolate and Coca-Cola products.

Check the weekly Grosse Pointe Park resident newsletter or website, or the posters in the activity center lobby for this week's current movies.

National movie releases in August include "The End of Oak Street," "Insidious: Out of the Further" and "PAW Patrol: The Dino Movie."

Suddenly the last weeks of summer are upon us. Make the most of them and enjoy every moment of this amazing season in Michigan, whether it's with a tasty ice cream treat or a friendly game of pickleball. Here's to making memories and enjoying time with the people you love.

Grosse Pointe Library Board 2026-2027 officers elected

The Grosse Pointe Library Board of Trustees elected officers at its July 23 meeting. They are President Bob Allen, Vice President Tom Peck, Treasurer Marina Houghton and Secretary Susan Higman Larsen.

Tyler Shaw is the new member from the City of Grosse Pointe. Shaw replaces Megan Conrad Sczygielski. Michelle Fleming is the new at-large representative from Grosse Pointe Shores, replacing Sandra Ambrozy. Both were sworn in at the July 23 meeting. Their terms end in June 2030.

As an educator, Shaw started her career as a special education teacher and now is a nonprofit leader. She has experience in strategic planning, community engagement and organizational leadership. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from West Virginia University and a master's degree in teaching from Goucher College in Baltimore, Md.

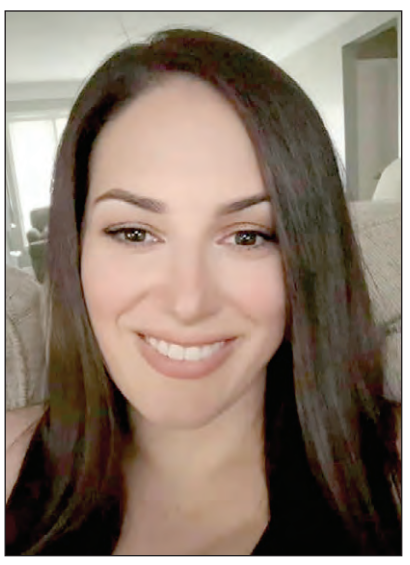
Fleming has lived in Grosse Pointe more than 35 years. She is a supervisory logistics management specialist for the Department of the Army at the Tank-automotive and Armaments Command in Warren with experience in managing large budgets and has led diverse, multi-functional teams. She's a graduate of the Naval Postgraduate School with master's degrees in program management and systems engineering.

"We're pleased to welcome Tyler and Michelle to the board of trustees," Library Director Jessica Keyser said. "Both are avid library users. We're looking forward to working with both of them."

Library trustees serve four-year terms. Each Grosse Pointe municipality and Harper Woods appoint representatives to the board with one additional at-large member. Board members are responsible for hiring and evaluating the library director, as well as overseeing the fiscal management and policies of the library.



Tyler Shaw is the new library trustee representing the City of Grosse Pointe.



Michelle Fleming is the new at-large library trustee representing Grosse Pointe Shores.



GROSSE POINTE Gabby



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

Parenting is no popularity contest

Dear Gabby: My high school junior came home insisting that "literally everyone" in his friend group is going up north to a friend's family cottage for a long weekend, completely alone. The parents are staying back home, trusting the kids to be responsible.

My gut says absolutely not, but my kid claims I'm ruining his social life and making him look like a baby.

Are other parents really allowing 17-year-olds to run wild alone or am I being manipulated? — Nervous in the Shores

Dear Nervous: "Everyone else's parents are doing it" is the oldest trick in the teenager handbook!

Your gut instinct is typically correct. Put a group of 17-year-olds in a house near water without adult supervision and even the most responsible kids can fold to peer pressure. However, you know the kids your child hangs out with. Ultimately, how you feel about their morals should help you make a final decision.

Pick up the phone and call the parents directly to clarify: "Hi! Johnny mentioned the weekend trip to the cottage. Will you two be up there with the kids or are you having adults pop in?" Often, parents don't realize their kids framed the trip as a free-for-all.

If there's no supervision, hold your boundary. Offer an alternative, like hosting a bonfire at your house or letting him bring two friends on a family day trip.

Your kid may be upset now, but keeping them safe is always worth it.

— Gabby

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



Tired of watching her choose heartbreak



Dear Annie

by Annie Lane

DEAR ANNIE: My granddaughter has a boyfriend who keeps cheating on her — three times now, and those are only the times I know about. Each time, she takes him back, swearing he's changed. I'm old enough to know how that story ends.

She's smart and kind, and I hate watching her with someone who doesn't treat her the way she deserves. I've bitten my tongue up until now — it's her life, after all, and she's entitled to her own decisions — but I don't have the heart to sit quietly through this when it inevitably happens again. How do I get her to see what I see before she wastes any more years on him? — Watching From the Sidelines

DEAR WATCHING: You can share your opinion, but you can't control someone else's actions — and with a granddaughter, you especially can't order her heart around. Tell her once, plainly and without repeating it every visit: You see a pattern, and you worry about her. Then let her draw her own conclusions on her own timeline.

You're better off saving your energy for being there for her when she's ready to see it herself.

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

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PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE POPULATION, UNTAPPED, TAIWAN MOBILE MYVIDEO AND LA TIMES STUDIOS.

Above, Lucy Liu as Irene and her son Joe played by Lawrence Shou in the 2025 movie "Rosemead," directed by Eric Lin.

Movie Junkie Mark

by Mark Domin

"Life is too short to watch mediocre movies"



MOVIE REVIEW
"Rosemead"
2025 - Rated R
1 hr 37 min
★★★★☆

"Rosemead" is a quietly powerful and sad tale based on actual events that took place in 2017. It's from cinematographer turned director Eric Lin and is his feature film debut. The movie was written by Marilyn Fu and was inspired by an L.A. Times article. It's an honest look at schizophrenia and how we have a natural tendency to ignore mental illness in general, hoping if you ignore it, it will simply go away. The film is hard to watch at times, but the writing and acting grab you from the opening minutes and never lets you go.

A great deal of the credit to the film's impact is due to the incredible performance of Lucy Liu. She's been acting for years now and is best known for films like "Kill Bill: Vo1. 1," "The Devil Wears Prada 2" "and the movie based on the hit television show "Charlie's Angels." Here she pulls out all the stops and delivers what is arguably her finest work. She certainly has matured over the years and the emotions she displays with her subtle facial expressions are incredible. Equally impressive is the performance from newcomer Lawrence Shou. He plays the character of a troubled youth to perfection. Along with Ms. Liu, they're a totally convincing family.

Irene (Liu) works at her printing shop and is raising her son Joe (Shou) by herself. Her husband passed away just a few years earlier and his death has had a devastating effect on the family. Joe is a model 17-year old high school student and is also a champion swimmer. He's recently been diagnosed with schizophrenia and visits a therapist several times a week.



A therapy session with Dr. Hsu (James Chen).

Irene takes him to his appointments but she's somewhat in denial about just how serious her son's condition is. There's a bit of a stigma attached to mental illness in general, but it's even more apparent in Asian-American society.

Making matters even more difficult is the fact that Irene has been diagnosed with stage-four cancer. To protect her son from any further anguish, she keeps the news from him. At one office visit, her doctor tells her that she has less than a year to live – perhaps as little as a couple of months. Further complicating the situation is the fact that Joe doesn't like the effect his medications have on him and he frequently only takes half the pills he's been prescribed. It soon becomes apparent that this is making his condition grow progressively worse.

In response to Joe's increasingly bizarre behavior, Irene does a little bit of investigating. While checking up on his internet searches on his computer, she discovers he's been reading articles involving high school mass shootings. He's also been reading up on assault rifles. And she finds his sketchbook, which is filled with violent and disturbing images he's drawn. When she visits a local gun dealer, she's shocked to find out he has been by the store as well and has shown interest in some of the firearms.

Another thing Irene has to do is make plans for her son. He's about to turn 18, and she's informed she'll have limited say in what happens to him when he becomes an adult. Then things take a turn for the worse when Joe goes missing. Irene is afraid to notify the authorities and she ends up searching for him on her own. When she finds him, he's a total mess. He's living in a dumpster and is so out of it, he barely recognizes her. He's way over the deep end and you wonder if he'll ever return to being anything resembling normal again. After a healthy dose of motherly love and a steady dose of his meds, he does return to his old self.

See MOVIE, *page 3C*

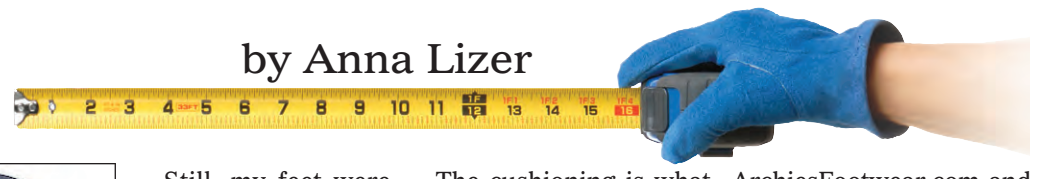


Movie poster for "Rosemead."



We Tried It!

by Anna Lizer



Last weekend, I flew to Boston to visit one of my best friends and we packed as much into three days as possible. We wandered through Beacon Hill, walked the Freedom Trail, explored the North End and somehow managed to log well over 20,000 steps each day. Between the heat and Boston's charming but unforgiving cobblestone streets, I quickly realized my usual flat sandals weren't going to cut it.

By the time I got home, my feet were definitely feeling it.

As the Instagram algorithm tends to do, my feed immediately started serving me ads for Archies Arch Support Flip Flops. The company says they're designed with built-in arch support, a secure strap that helps keep your foot in place and a cushioned footbed that's meant to be comfortable enough for all-day wear.



I'll admit, I was skeptical.

I've never been much of a flip-flop person. They usually feel flimsy, offer little support and somehow make my feet more tired than if I had just worn sneakers.

Still, my feet were recovering from Boston, so I figured I'd give them a try.

I couldn't have been more impressed.

The first thing I noticed was the arch support. Unlike traditional flip-flops, these actually feel supportive without being bulky. The straps are a little more snug than what I was used to, but after wearing them for a few minutes, I appreciated that they stayed in place instead of sliding around with every step.

The cushioning is what really won me over. They genuinely feel soft underfoot and I've found myself reaching for them every time I head out the door, whether it's to run errands, walk the dog or just spend time outside. They're comfortable enough that I've started choosing them over several pairs of sandals already sitting in my closet.

At around $40, they're more expensive than your average pair of flip-flops, but in my opinion, the comfort makes them well worth it.

I bought mine from ArchiesFootwear.com and they have officially converted this flip-flop skeptic.

Rating: 5 out of 5 alligators.

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

5 Out Of 5



Street corn salad

Courtesy of Mombeau's Table

We are a week into corn season and my daughters are already rolling their eyes when I walk through the door with yet another bag of corn ready to be shucked. Simple hot buttered corn on the cob never gets old for me but my kids get sick of it pretty fast.

So the last couple days, I've been trying to amp it up. My first attempt was making the viral "corn rib" recipe. Corn ribs are ears of corn that are quartered lengthwise. You boil them, then grill them. When cooking, they curl like meat ribs. While fun to eat, the amount of effort it took to cut through the cob deemed them not worthy of making again.

So for this recipe, I used all of the ingredients in Mexican street corn and made it into a salad. This recipe is so versatile. In fact, the night I made it, we used it as a side dish, a dip and a topping for a grilled pizza. In short, this is good with anything.

The corn is grilled until charred and smoky then cut off the cob. I used Tajin to season it, which is a smokey, chili-based spice with lots of lime flavor. If you don't have Tajin, you could substitute it with smoked paprika and extra lime juice. Just start with a teaspoon of smoked paprika, then add more after you check the taste. Or you could use the Trader Joe's Chili Lime seasoning as well. Scallions and jalapeños are added for fresh heat. All the spice is offset by a delicious cooling dressing that is a mixture of sour cream and mayo.

You can leave out the jalapeños if you want given the recent recalls.

I then add lots of fresh lime juice that cuts right through the unctuous mayonnaise and Cotija cheese. If you can't find Cotija cheese, substitute feta. Nobody will know the difference. It just gives another layer of salty richness that cuts through the spice.

My original thought was to spin this as a side for grilled chicken. This dish has so much flavor and texture happening that it would be a perfect accompaniment to a simple chicken breast. But the next thing I know, we are all standing around the platter digging our tortilla chips in.

The dressing holds the corn together to make perfect scoops. And yes, we even spread a layer over a flatbread on the grill and it was delicious. However you choose to eat this, know that it will be an absolute hit. It's a flavor bomb on a platter that you don't want to miss out on.

Sweet, juicy Michigan corn is flooding the markets right now, so go buy some and forget about the hot, buttered cob. Try this savory, irresistible and creamy dish instead.

Cheers, Mombeau

Street Corn Salad

8-10 ears of corn, shucked

Avocado oil or olive oil

1 jalapeño, minced

4 scallions, chopped

½ cup crumbled Cotija or feta cheese

3 tbsp sour cream

2 tbsp mayonnaise

1 ½ tsp Tajin seasoning

1 lime, plus 1 for garnish

2 tbsp fresh chopped cilantro



PHOTO BY KAREN FERGUSON

Preheat your grill to medium-high heat. Brush each ear of corn with the oil. Grill for about 12 to 15 minutes or until the kernels get charred on all sides. Use tongs to turn the corn every few minutes. Remove and let it sit until cool enough to handle.

Stand each ear of corn in the center of a large bowl and begin to cut the kernels off the cobs. Discard the cobs. In a small bowl, whisk together the mayo and sour cream, juice of one lime and Tajin. Pour over the corn.

Fold everything together then mix in the cheese, jalapeño and cilantro. Garnish with a couple of lime wedges, more Tajin, a fresh squeeze of lime juice and any extra cheese and scallions.

Enjoy as a side or a dip.

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

Keep on trocken



Some people adore chardonnay. Sauvignon blanc has become very popular. Rosé wines have an increasingly loyal following and sparkling wines are selling as well as any refresher.

During the hottest days, cooling beverages are an absolute joy, from soda to iced tea, from beer to iced coffee to fruit-flavored preparations that are intended to be tasty while they hydrate the body.

Despite all the popularity of other liquids that are usually chilled, my favorite potable is riesling. It is a grape variety that purists (moi?) argue is one of the world's finest grapes and produces some of the most sublime wines in history.

Using the word history was no accident. Some of the finest examples of riesling are 30 years old and are still lively. They are refreshing when they are chilled and deliver nuances of flavor that almost no other white wine grape can deliver. But it does require understanding, which normally comes from years of trying different styles of riesling.

Those styles are frequently connected to where the fruit was grown. Riesling prefers a cool climate, which is one reason that some of the finest in the world come from Germany. It is a nation that adores its contribution to the world of wine.

Riesling lovers know it is a wine that may be made in a wide variety of styles, with an enormous range of aromatics, from floral to honey, to spicy to earthy.

My favorite riesling is called trocken, the German word for dry. Most consumers believe that all rieslings are sweet and that certainly was the case for decades, but Germany has several of the world's greatest wine research centers and has focused on making dry rieslings.

The greatest trocken rieslings from Germany come from unique vineyards that are extremely difficult to farm because so many of them are on treacherous hillsides. And making such wines calls for tiny crops. The best wines are in extremely short supply.

Some trocken rieslings actually have a trace of residual sugar, so they're not austere. What keeps them dry is high acidity. This trait allows them to be served with delicate foods.

The good news is that the 2025 vintage in Germany was rated to be excellent, so the wines I have tried are exciting. But the bad news is that prices for the best wines have gone up to account for the small crop.

Still, there are plenty of remarkably good wines that represent excellent values in the $12 to $22 price range. And among the alternative districts, consumers can find great value in Australia's Clare Valley rieslings almost regardless of vintage.

Wine of the Week:

2023 Jim Barry riesling, "Watervale" ($16): The striking aroma of this wine starts with lime, lavender, Meyer lemon zest and a hint of peach blossoms. The first sip is tart, with a slightly minerally aftertaste and it obviously is better with delicate finger foods. A great wine and an excellent value.d.

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

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MOVIE

Continued from page 2C

As the film progresses, there's an overwhelming sense of dread. The tension never really lets up and it's a bit like driving by a horrible traffic accident. You want to look away, but you also feel compelled to witness what unfolds. I definitely won't give away the ending, but I have to admit, I sure didn't see it coming. If you're looking for one of the best movies of 2025, I strongly urge you to watch this fine film. But you've been warned, by its very nature, it isn't the most cheerful movie you'll ever see.

Currently streaming on Kanopy (free with your library card) and Hulu. And to rent on Apple TV, Fandango, YouTube, and Prime. .

My rating system:

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

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

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

★★★★ One you'd recommend to friends.

★★★★★ So good you'd actually buy it!

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

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





A



B



C

Back 2 Schoo



D



E

Kick off the school season with cool looks, tools and accessories

By Meg Kelly
Editorial Intern

There truly is something about the August heat dying down and the back-to-school season creeping up on us leaving you with a feeling of a need for a reset. A new routine, new goals and the perfect excuse to refresh those spaces and essentials that you use everyday. It's a period of transition, whether that means stepping into a new grade or school, adjusting to the new morning schedule or into a new environment altogether.

The preparation goes beyond school supplies. The right tools, spaces and everyday items can really influence your productivity, focus and even your confidence. A perfectly packed bag, a personalized workspace or a comfortable room to come back to at the end of the day can make the transition into a busy academic season feel smoother and a bit more manageable.

This guide brings together the most functional finds and elevated basics designed to make your routine simpler while adding some flair and personal style. Starting fresh isn't just about what's on your schedule; it's about how you set yourself up for the change.

A well-designed backpack or tote can set the tone for your entire day, offering structure and ease. Inside, the details are essential. Planners to manage deadlines, notebooks that make note-taking feel fun and writing tools that give you that satisfying beautiful handwriting. Even the smallest of upgrades like a durable water bottle can make every day feel more put together.



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Cotopaxi lunchbox brings a vibrant burst of color to the cafeteria. Sustainable, durable and uniquely designed, it makes packing a daily lunch feel like a treat! From ***Half Moon Outfitters.***





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***A) Oversized white Swig thermos is crisp, clean and generously sized for enough hydration or fuel to power through your day. From* Small Favors.**

B) Stay hydrated from your first lecture to your late-night study sessions with a pretty woodgrain water bottle from **The Spice & Tea Exchange.**

C) Pink Swig thermos is a sleek, temperature-locking companion designed to keep your favorite smoothies, iced coffees or warm soups fresh for hours while you tackle your to-do list. From **Small Favors.**

D) Start your mornings on a bright note with a charming floral mug. From **Small Favors.**

E) Blend crisp functionality with a clean, minimalist aesthetic in a leaf design from **The Spice & Tea Exchange.**

F) Colorful Corkcicle straw water bottle makes hands-free sipping easy during fast-paced transitions between classes. From **Small Favors.**

G) Stanley travel mug was created for the morning commute. Cupholder-friendly and entirely leak-proof, it ensures your morning brew stays piping hot from your front door to the office or classroom. From **Half Moon Outfitters.**

H) Stanley classic water bottle is built to withstand the daily hustle. Rugged yet sleek bottle ensures your favorite drinks stay ice cold all day long. From **Half Moon Outfitters.**

I) The ultimate academic backpack by The North Face. With superior back support and dedicated pockets, it handles heavy textbooks with absolute ease. From **Half Moon Outfitters.**

J) Make a bold statement on day one. This vibrant orange pack combines iconic North Face durability with a standout color. From **Half Moon Outfitters.**

K) Dakine lunchbox is insulated to perfection and built to last while sliding seamlessly into any school bag. From **Half Moon Outfitters.**

L) Scout pencil pouch holds your favorite writing tools. Designed to keep your bag clutter-free and your essentials within arm's reach. **From Small Favors.**

M) Aloha pencil pouch keeps your pens, highlighters and tech cords perfectly organized. This splash-proof pouch adds a bright, carefree pop of style to the inside of your backpack. From **Half Moon Outfitters.**

The everyday essentials

Looking great starts the year with an air of confidence! These pieces move with you from class to class and from day to day — they're just as reliable as they are stylish. Back-to-school essentials have evolved beyond basic functionality with students increasingly looking for pieces that fit their personal style while keeping them comfortable.

When shopping for this fall, look for items that balance practicality with individual personality. Clean color palettes, subtle patterns and cohesive-looking mix-and-match sets.



Hatley pleated knit dress

100% cotton cable-knit dress, above, takes little girls through the first crisp days of fall in style. Set the tone for a fashionable year ahead with this adorable piece from ***Connie's Children's Shop.***



Hope and Henry shoulder bow swing dress

Linen dress, above, feels fresh and fun for the early days of school. Features adorable bows at the shoulders, V-neck silhouette, a full organic cotton lining and a side zipper for easy dressing. From ***Connie's Children's Shop.***



Bonnie Jean pink flutter dress

Comfortable to play and move in, this dress, above, has a beautiful and flattering silhouette that could be dressed up for a special event. Designed for all-day comfort and style. From ***Connie's Children's Shop.***

Mayoral scooter print shirt

Your boy will cut a handsome profile in this great blue-green short-sleeved shirt, below, with an adorable scooter print line art design. Kicks off the start of school when the sky still says summer even though the books say school time.

Pair it with Mayoral basic denim jeans for a look that says, "cool kid!" Both from ***Connie's Children's Shop.***



Andy & Evan pumpkin sweater

This striped sweater, below, brings autumn vibes with a fun monster truck-and-pumpkin knit that's perfect for hayrides, pumpkin patches and cozy days at home. Soft and comfy with just the right amount of stretch, it's a festive fall favorite for your little one. 100% cotton.

Elderwear dry-fit shorts have hook-and-eye closure. Both pieces from ***Connie's Children's Shop.***



Noki full-zip hoodie jacket

Soft blue heather hoodie, below, is 60% cotton/40% polyester. Front zipper makes it easy for little hands to put on and take off. Hood helps carry kids through school weather changes.

Tom Sawyer/Elderwear shorts have moisture-wicking, quick-dry material, featuring a hidden adjustable waistband. Both from ***Connie's Children's Shop.***









Florsheim Crossover Moc

Sleek slip-on moccasin, right, for the utmost style and functionality. Fully cushioned Comfortech footbed gives kids all-day ease and movability. From ***Connie's Children's Shop.***



L'amour Willow Mary Jane

Cute khaki classic, below. Leather upper with ankle-strap Velcro closure, buckle accent and scalloped trim. Breathable lining and rubber sole. From ***Connie's Children's Shop.***

L'amour - Colette Hi Top

The metallic glitter leather adds texture and a little extra to an otherwise casual shoe, right. Perfect for some daily sparkle that will help school days shine. From ***Connie's Children's Shop.***





The desk reset

Where your productivity matches the aesthetic

A productive school year oftentimes starts with the right environment, whether it's a dedicated desk or a small corner of a room, having a space that feels special to work or studying can have a great impact on focus and motivation.

Today's study spaces are less about utility but reflect the trend of romanticizing productivity, where your organization and atmosphere go hand in hand. A thought-through desk with accessories, organizers and good lighting can transform a cluttered surface into a workspace that encourages productivity.



*Burning the midnight oil? Use a **scented candle**, left, in your study space for relaxation and focus as you go through homework. From **CVS.***



Jellycat croissants,** below, from **Small Favors.



Hot Belly tea infuser,** left, from **The Spice & Tea Exchange.

When you build this space, you should consider items that aid in your routines. Think organizers that reduce visual clutter, calendars or big boards that keep your schedule visible at all times and good lighting makes long study sessions more comfortable. Tech accessories also play a key role in helping students stay connected and efficient this school year. The goal is to create a workspace that feels elevated and can show that even small changes can make studying feel like less of a chore and more of an investment.



*Never study alone again with **Eilik,** left, the companion bot that will keep you company through every cram session. Eilik will let you know when it's time for a break, interact with you and give you a giggle when you need it most. Find him at **robotshop.com.***







PlanAhead large-size monthly planner,** top left, makes your desk your scheduling headquarters when apps don't do the trick. **Caliber magnetic dry-erase board value pack,** top right, helps with brainstorming your next big paper. Both from **CVS.

Sticky note folios** from Rifle, above left, include a tear-off pad for making lists plus sticky notes for flagging pages and more. From **Small Favors.** **U Style Ecokind floral mouse pad,** above right, brightens your workspace. From **CVS.

The dorm refresh

Small and easy upgrades that make a big impact

Your space should feel like a place to reset after long days of classes, activities and commitments. Having a comfortable and personalized space to come back to can make all the difference.



*Transform your study corner into a cozy sanctuary. Soft curtain string lights, left, add a warm atmosphere that makes sitting down to study feel inviting. From **Amazon.***

Dorms and bedrooms benefit from small upgrades with soft bedding, layered textures and neutral tones to create a calming vibe while functional storage solutions can help keep your smaller spaces organized and livable. Even the smallest decorative elements like frames or accents can add so much personality.



Fresh rosette pillow,** left, is the pop of pretty pink your dorm needs. Add your stamp of personality to make your room more "you!" From **Small Favors.



Scout storage box,** right, hides the clutter, from **Small Favors.

Take the opportunity to find items that strike a balance between style and function. Think pieces that have a purpose and also contribute to the aesthetic, storage that looks intentional, decor that feels cohesive and essentials to make your daily routine easier. It's ultimately about making a space that supports your rest and reset time — and also your productivity — to offer some stability during a demanding time of year.



TWAL Grosse Pointe coasters,** above left, protect your dorm tables with familiar charm. **Barefoot Dreams throw,** above right, keeps you cozy on cool study nights. Both from **Small Favors.



*Dorms can be chilly, so come prepared with soft, comfy solutions. **Feather-soft Circle Cardigan** from Barefoot Dreams, left, is a warm hug from home.*

Barefoot Dreams CozyChic socks,** below, soothe feet after a day of walking the campus. Both from **Small Favors.



TEACHER APPRECIATION GIVEAWAY!

Your chance to WIN a $500 gift card bundle







Educators — we value all you do! For all you are and all you do, we'd like to give you a chance to win some great prizes in our **Grosse Pointe Teacher Appreciation Giveaway.**

We're helping one lucky local teacher kick off the school year in style with a bundle of gift cards to treat themselves and their classrooms. We want to help one of the best teachers in the world start the year off strong.

To enter, Grosse Pointe teachers can email us with your answers to some easy questions at: **media@grossepointenews.com** or DM us via **Facebook** or **Instagram. DEADLINE: September 5, 2026.**

- **Your name**
- **School**
- **Grade or subject you currently teach**
- **Why you love teaching in Grosse Pointe**
- **What you are most excited about this school year?**

Let's shine a light on the amazing teachers who make our community so special. The winner will be featured in an upcoming issue of the Grosse Pointe News. Know a great teacher who deserves this prize? Be sure to let them know.

INCLUDED IN THIS INCREDIBLE GIFT BUNDLE:

- **$100 gift certificate to Small Favors**
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TOTAL $500 in gifts!

Don't miss out! You are all superstars, and this is your chance to feel the love. Email or DM us today! **For more information, call (313) 882-6900 or email media@grossepointenews.com.**



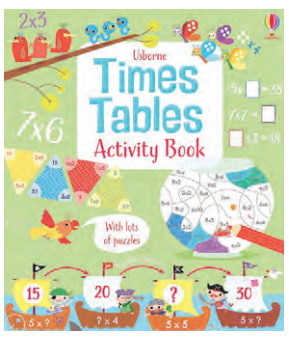
Grosse Pointe News

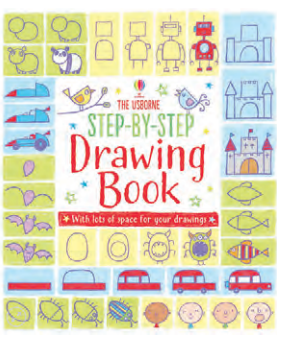
Add more fun to school's return

By Donna Zetterlund
Special Writer

Customers flock to Whistle Stop Hobby & Toy for toys, toys, toys! This beloved local gem is known for its broad inventory of toys for all ages.

But beyond the amazing toy selection and fantastic customer service, this award-winning shop also delivers some of the best educational toys, kits and tools you won't find anywhere else. From flash cards to workbooks, discovery toys to math tools, Whistle Stop has all the great stuff that can help make learning more fun.





A is for activity!

Activity workbooks are a fun way to supplement homework that help children easily understand subjects. A multiplication workbook, above left, gives students a little jump on learning math.

The Step- by- Step Drawing Book, above right, breaks pictures into shapes so that kids can quickly master how to draw.

With over 10,000 square feet of space filled with aisle and aisles of quality products, every parent will be able to find something to help sharpen kids' grades — or maybe even reward them!

We are highlighting a few items that will intrigue children and inspire a love for learning — but the store is chock-full of so many more cool items to fascinate students — you simply must see them all in person!

Stop in at the colorful and immaculate St. Clair Shores store to check everything out for yourself.



Fidget mechanical pencils, above left, make homework more interesting and fun! Pencil Pushers come in bright colors and the fidget attachment keeps everyone calm as they study.

Bright and cheery, Shelley's notebooks, above right, come in a 3-pack in a variety of prints to help kids organize subjects.







Math dice, top, turn work into play for your students. Fun for the family.

Portable letters and numbers chalkboard kit, above, starts your little one on the path to learning, starting with the fundamentals like ABCs and 123s.



WHERE TO SHOP:

Connie's Children's Shop
23240 Greater Mack Ave.
St. Clair Shores
(586) 777-8020
shopconnies.com

CVS
17120 Kercheval Ave.
Grosse Pointe
(313) 886-3300
cvs.com

Half Moon Outfitters
17145 Kercheval Ave.
Grosse Pointe
(313) 498-5287
halfmoonoutfitters.com

Small Favors
17112 Kercheval Ave.
Grosse Pointe
(313) 887-1774
shopsmallfavors.com

The Spice & Tea Exchange
17037 Kercheval Ave.
Grosse Pointe
(313) 499-8572
spiceandtea.com

Whistle Stop Hobby & Toy
21714 Harper Ave.
St. Clair Shores, MI 48080
586-771-6770
whistle-stop.com

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

PHONE: 313-882-6900 EXT. 4 | **FAX: 313-882-1585** | **WEB: GROSSEPOINTENEWS.COM**



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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.

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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

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$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: _____

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NAME: _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____

CARD NO: _____ EXP. DATE: _____

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

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121 GENERAL SERVICES

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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

Help Wanted

200 HELP WANTED GENERAL

BOOKKEEPER
Small local business looking for part time bookkeeper.
(313)909-5354 for inquiries.

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.
Starting Salary $19.01.

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.

200 HELP WANTED GENERAL

Edwin Paul Salon
is hiring a very part time receptionist.
Simple computer skills and people skills. Sats. and maybe a half day during the week.
Upscale happy place.
(313)885-9001
Thank you! Edwin

202 HELP WANTED CLERICAL / OFFICE

FINANCIAL
Services
Part-time
Must be familiar with Microsoft Windows, Salesforce, Adobe, Teams, etc.
Client service representative.
Digital and electronic filing
Preparation for client reviews
Pay $18-$20 based on experience.
Email resume to Patrick.Lane@equitable.com

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

208 HELP WANTED NURSES AIDE / CAREGIVER

COMPASSIONATE CAREGIVER
Assist with cooking (small meals), bathing, grooming, remind to take meds, doctor's appointments, errands, (will drive his vehicle) & housekeeping.
Must be able to work flexible hours.
He lives in Harrison Township.
Please Contact Yolanda
(313)826-2403

210 HELP WANTED RESTAURANT



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hiring
COOKS
Please apply in person any day after 5pm.
18666 Mack Avenue
Grosse Pointe Farms

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

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409 GARAGE / YARD / RUMMAGE SALE

YARD SALE
August 13- 14
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
1596 Hawthorne, Grosse Pointe Woods
Many vintage, antique, and unusual items, including artwork, pottery, etc.

409 GARAGE / YARD / RUMMAGE SALE

GROSSE POINTE WOODS MOVING/ GARAGE SALE!
Friday, August 14
10am- 3pm
19780 Edshire Lane (Cook & Morningside)
Featured:
Solid wood end/ coffee tables; vintage dining suite; acoustic guitar; Thule bike rack; misc. home/ holiday decor.

415 WANTED TO BUY



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Attached garage, central air, hardwood floors, all appliances, close to Village and Jefferson.
Must see.
$1,600 per month.
Call (313)820-8837 for an appointment.
NO PETS

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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.
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800 REAL ESTATE



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Grosse Pointe City
Charming
3 bedroom,
1 1/2 bath
1952 bungalow, hardwood floors, fireplace, sunroom, 2 car brick garage.
Photos on Zillow for sale by owner page.
$350,000.
Open Sunday 2- 4.
(313)410-0154

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Grosse Pointe News Yard & Estate Sale Map

THIS WEEK: August 13, 2026

1. 1596 Hawthorne Rd., GPW | 2. 19780 Edshire Ln., GPW

= YARD SALE = ESTATE SALE
See Classifieds for more details

Weekly Challenge

UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

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

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

Previous puzzle solution

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

8/6 Solution

8/13

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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.

CORAL
COAST
CRAB
DOLPHIN
EEL
FISH
LOBSTER
OCTOPUS
SHARK
STINGRAY
URCHINS
WHALE

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

Royal Stars Weekly Horoscopes

Moon Alert: After 6:45 a.m. EDT today (3:45 a.m. PDT) there are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions. The Moon is in VIRGO.

Happy Birthday for Thursday, August 13, 2026: You're original, practical and innovative. You have revolutionary ideas about society, and you're fueled by your desire to benefit others. This is a year of work and construction. You will build foundations. Take charge of your health. Stay grounded and levelheaded.

ARIES
(March 21-April 19)

This is an excellent day to make plans about your domestic needs as well as social occasions, vacations and matters related to kids. You can accomplish a lot at work today because you have the necessary mental energy to get things done. Tonight: Work and get organized.

TAURUS
(April 20-May 20)

You've been focused on home, family and real estate. Today is the perfect day to goof off and have fun! Sports, fun outings, playful activities with kids and romance are beautifully favored! Tonight: Socialize!

GEMINI
(May 21-June 20)

This is a fast-paced week! Today you might need a breather. Put yourself first. Set aside some time to relax and get things in perspective. However, romance related discussions and flirtations will take place for many of you. It's a great day to schmooze! Tonight: Relax at home.

CANCER
(June 21-July 22)

With Mars in your sign, you have lots of energy and drive today. Furthermore, Mercury in your Money House could trigger moneymaking ideas, especially for beautiful things like jewelry and art. Tonight: Conversations.

LEO
(July 23-Aug. 22)

This is a marvelous day to give a lecture, talk or schmooze with others, because Mercury is in your sign dancing with fair Venus, which sweetens your words and makes you entertaining, charming and diplomatic. Tonight: Maintain your belongings.

VIRGO
(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

This is a restless day for you. Nevertheless, your ruler Mercury is dancing beautifully with fair Venus. Be on the lookout for surprise dealings with authority figures — bosses, parents, teachers, VIPs and the police. Tonight: You win!

LIBRA
(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

This is an excellent day to make choices, especially about your romantic life. It's certainly a popular day for you! You're also ambitious to achieve something. Tonight: Enjoy quiet times.

SCORPIO
(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

You continue to make a great impression on everyone this week because the Sun, Mercury and Jupiter are all at the top of your chart. Interactions with groups and friends today will be energized, perhaps competitive. Tonight: Be friendly.

SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

You're high-viz today and people can see you mean business. In fact, this puts you in a good position to direct the affairs of others and make decisions. It's also a great day to study, make travel plans. Tonight: You're admired.

CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Do something different today. You feel the need for adventure! Shake things up a little! Travel plans will appeal. In fact, a lively discussion with a friend, spouse or partner might generate adventurous ideas. Tonight: Explore and learn something new.

AQUARIUS
(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Enjoy conversations with members of the general public, as well as spouses, partners and close friends. Travel plans and political ideas might appeal. Banking and shared property could yield unusual ideas or surprises. Remember to get more rest. Tonight: Check your finances.

PISCES
(Feb. 19-March 20)

Be accommodating with others today; they will be grateful. It's a great day to socialize. Flirtations will appeal. In fact, new love or discussions about romance are highly likely. Something unexpected might interrupt your home routine. Tonight: Listen and cooperate.

BORN TODAY

Actor Sebastian Stan (1982), director Alfred Hitchcock (1899), actor John Slattery (1962).

Contract Bridge

BASIC CARD-READING

West dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A 9 7 4 2
♥ Q J 9
♦ Q 8
♣ J 6 2

WEST
♠ 5
♥ 10 8 6
♦ 10 7 3
♣ A K Q 10 8 3

EAST
♠ K 6
♥ K 5 3
♦ J 9 6 5 4 2
♣ 9 4

SOUTH
♠ Q J 10 8 3
♥ A 7 4 2
♦ A K
♣ 7 5

The bidding:

West	North	East	South
3 ♣	Pass	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	4 ♠		

Opening lead — king of clubs.

The aim of an elimination play is to compel a defender -- when he is given the lead late in the play -- to make a return that costs his side a trick. Take this case where South is in four spades and West leads the K-Q-A of clubs, declarer ruffing the third club.

South leads the trump queen on which West plays the five. It would be wrong to finesse, considering West's three-club bid, because West would have opened one club, not three, had he held the guarded king of spades and A-K-Q-10-8-3 of clubs.

So South goes up with the ace, hoping either to catch the singleton king or develop an endplay against East later on. After East follows low to the ace, South cashes the A-K of diamonds, eliminating that suit, and then leads a trump to put East on lead.

East is now endplayed. If he returns a diamond, South ruffs it in his hand, discarding the heart nine from dummy. A subsequent heart finesse brings home the contract. If East instead returns a heart at trick eight, South follows low, winning West's ten with dummy's jack, and takes a second heart finesse to make the contract.

Note that if South takes the trump finesse at trick four, he goes down one. East wins with the king and returns a trump, and East-West score a heart trick eventually, assuming they defend correctly.

Oddly enough, the contract can be defeated if East makes the extraordinary play of ruffing his partner's ace of clubs with the king of spades at trick three and returns a trump or a diamond. Declarer is helpless against this defense.

It just goes to show that it sometimes pays to trump partner's ace. The trick is to know when to do it.

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by Steve Becker

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg August 13, 2026

ACROSS
1 Merchandise lines?
4 Dinner and others
9 Bit of sports info
13 Quilting meetup
14 Tool for small incisions
15 "King of the Hill" patriarch
16 Unit of corn
17 Off the right path
18 Range below soprano
19 Hockey team that's one side in the Battle of Alberta
22 Round roofs
23 Caustic cleaners
24 Playful bite
26 Police procedural with LA and New Orleans spinoffs
27 "OMG, stop sharing!"
29 More adorable
31 Dog show org.
32 Soccer team that's one side in the Brimstone Cup
35 Pop star Chappell
36 Old standby
37 Basketball team that has faced the Los Angeles Lakers in 13 playoffs
41 Top exec
44 National park in Alberta
45 Playground game
46 Let sit in water
47 Gateway Arch city, for short
48 Flatpack furniture store
51 "Green Eggs and Ham" author
52 Show based on Rachel Reid's "Game Changers" series ... or something 19-, 32- or 37-Across is involved in?
56 Green legumes
57 "Mating in Captivity" author Perel
58 Off ___ on
60 Sitarist Shankar
61 Former speaker of the house Nancy
62 Slime
63 Laudatory poems
64 Napped, perhaps
65 She's a sheep

DOWN
1 Purple yam
2 "The Traitors" streaming service
3 Made of baked clay
4 Corn flour dough
5 ___'acte (interlude)
6 Fake nail material
7 Like kale
8 Fashion
9 Counterfeit
10 Gelato brand
11 More anxious
12 MMA bout result
14 Internet delays
20 "___ Miserables"
21 Fancy neckwear
22 Genetic material
25 Post-opposite
27 Pad see ew cuisine
28 Flirtatious young woman
30 Flying saucer
32 Meat cooked in its own fat
33 Contents of un lago
34 Asian percussion instrument
35 NBA whistle blower
37 "Finding Your Roots" network
38 Mussed-up hair from a beanie, say
39 Taking an extended break from work
40 Cause to jump
41 Bravery
42 "Hold your horses"
43 Approves
46 Condiment paired with poivre
49 Maintains
50 Ford flop
51 That's a wrap!
53 Condition of a sale
54 Denny's rival
55 Part of a three-piece suit
56 One who plays for pay
59 She's a deer

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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

8/6 Solution

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8/13

Hotly Contested *by Glenn Cook*

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

SPORTS


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4D COACH'S CORNER | 2D-3D COMICS

Zanshin shines at karate world championships

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Students from a local karate dojo made waves on the international stage in late July. Three students from Zanshin Karate Dojo in Grosse Pointe Park made their way to Cluj-Napoca, Romania, for the 2026 World Union of Karate-Do Federations (WUKF) World Championships, with one earning a gold medal as a world champion.

Fourteen-year-old Michael Farnsworth won a gold medal in short weapons for the male 14-15 age group to bring a world championship to Zanshin.

"It was almost like a dream," Farnsworth said. "I didn't fully grasp it at first. It took a little while to sink in, but it was incredible."

Farnsworth won his gold medal in short weapons by competing with kama (sickles) and the sai. His gold was one of three medals he earned at the competition. He won a bronze medal in Shotokan Kata and a bronze in long weapons, where he competed with the eku, an oar-like weapon.

In Romania, Farnsworth was joined by fellow Zanshin competitors Sally Hecker and Eliot Block. For Zanshin owner and sensei Sean Farnsworth, it was an incredible honor to have not just one, but three of his students selected to compete on the international stage.

"When we got the invite, I was beyond the moon," Sean Farnsworth said. "Michael has been trying to be on the U.S. team for years now and he really stepped up his level. ... When I saw that several of my students had made the team, I was elated. It's an incredible honor to even make it to the team, let alone have so much success. They're competing against the world's best athletes in their age groups, so we were extremely proud."

Sean Farnsworth watched his students compete on the biggest stage in international karate and got to see his son become a world champion. The road there for Michael Farnsworth was long and included help from more than just his father. Other coaches and mentors like Alex Bailey and sensei John Wasilini of Butoku Karate Dojo in Macomb, as well as sensei Brian Ricci of the Zen Bei Butoki Kai International, played key roles in the younger Farnsworth's development.

Winning gold in Romania was the culmination of what has been a successful year for Michael Farnsworth and Zanshin. He also won gold medals in short weapons at the AAU Karate Nationals earlier this summer and at the North American Open, two of the most prestigious competitions held in the United States.

See KARATE, page 4D



COURTESY PHOTO

Michael Farnsworth holds his medals at the WUKF World Championships in Romania. He won gold in the male 14-15 age group for short weapons and bronze in both Shotokan Kata and long weapons.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Coaches address the team on the first morning of practice for Grosse Pointe South football Monday, Aug. 10.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Grosse Pointe South senior quarterback Sam Rouleau hands the ball off to Andrew Wilson during a drill.



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

The offensive and defensive lines for Grosse Pointe North line up for a running drill.



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Grosse Pointe North senior receiver Peter Rheaume bursts off the line while practicing catching passes.

Are you ready for some football?

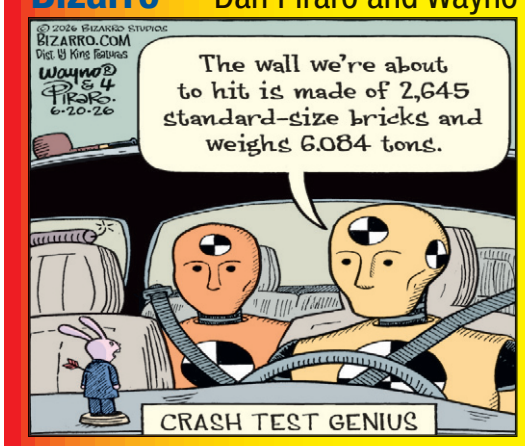
The fall high school sports season officially began Monday, Aug. 10, with the first day of practices for several sports, including football. The varsity and JV football teams from Grosse Pointe South and Grosse Pointe North took the field for their first day of fall training camp, with the regular season set to begin Thursday, Aug. 27. The Grosse Pointe News Gridiron Guide football preview will have everything fans need to know about the teams from South, North and University Liggett School ahead of the 2026 season, and will be released Aug. 27.

Grosse Pointe News THURSDAY COMICS

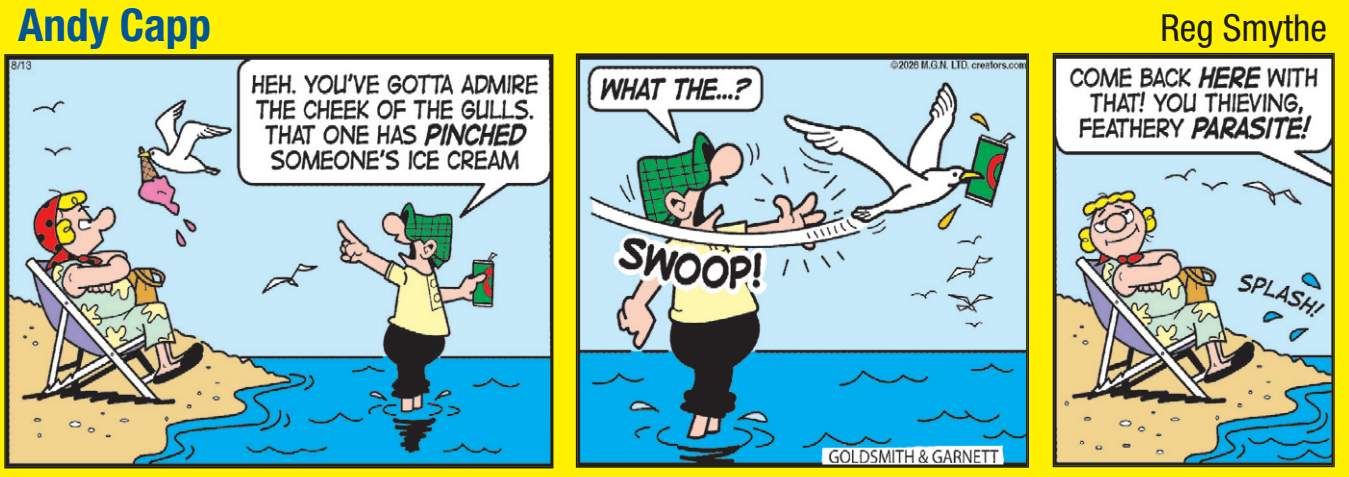
Peanuts
Charles M. Schulz



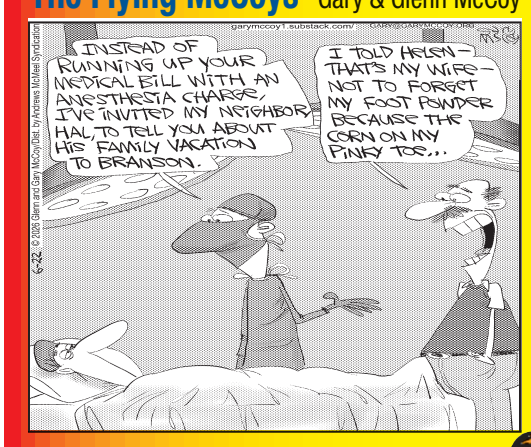
Bizarro
Dan Piraro and Wayno



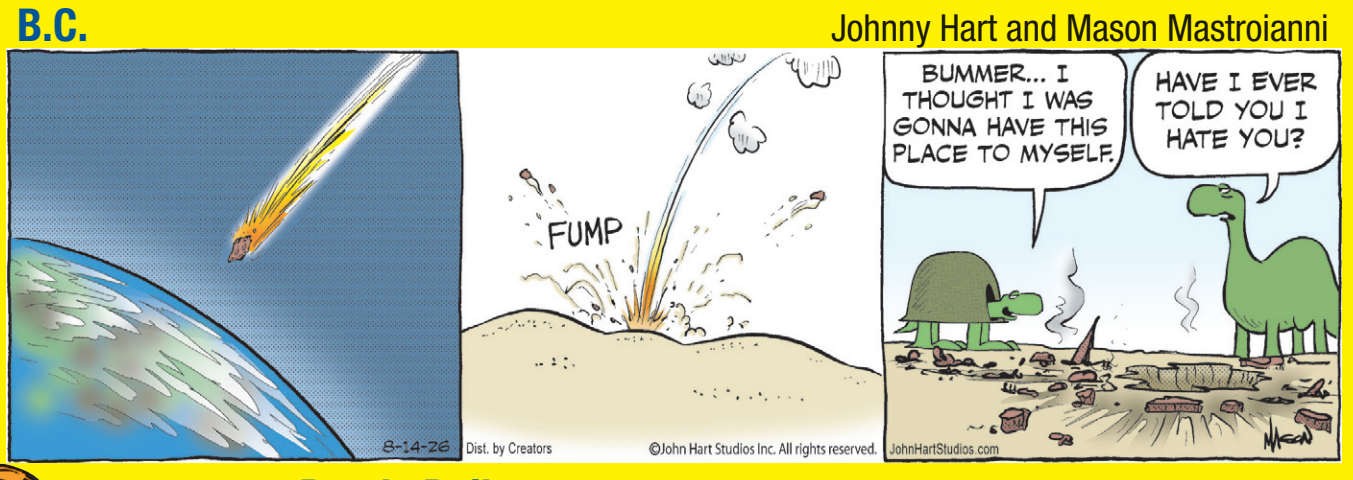
Andy Capp
Reg Smythe



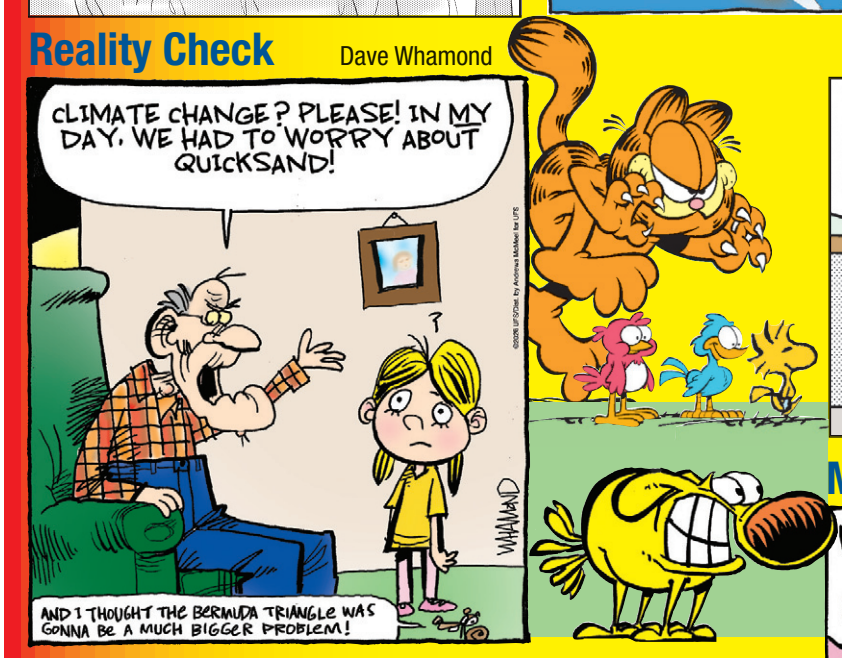
The Flying McCoys
Gary & Glenn McCoy



B.C.
Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni



Reality Check
Dave Whamond



Beetle Bailey
Greg, Brian, Neal and Mort Walker



Mother Goose & Grim
Mike Peters

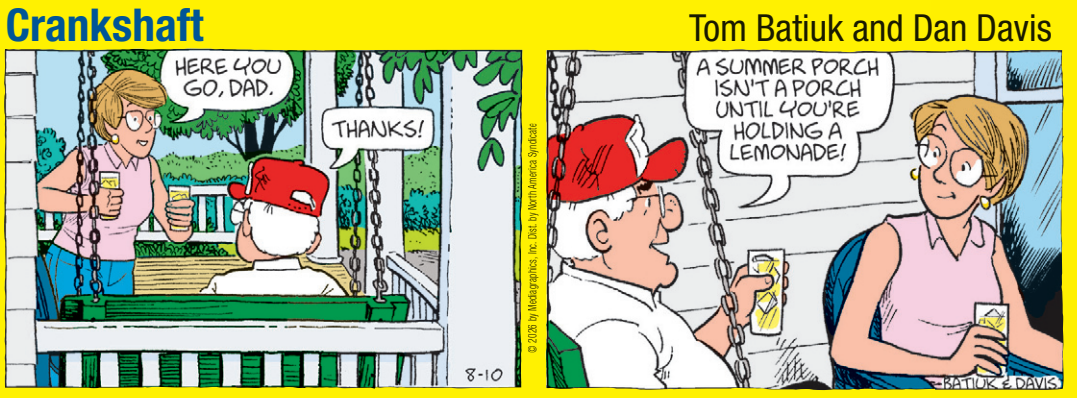


The Lockhorns
Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner

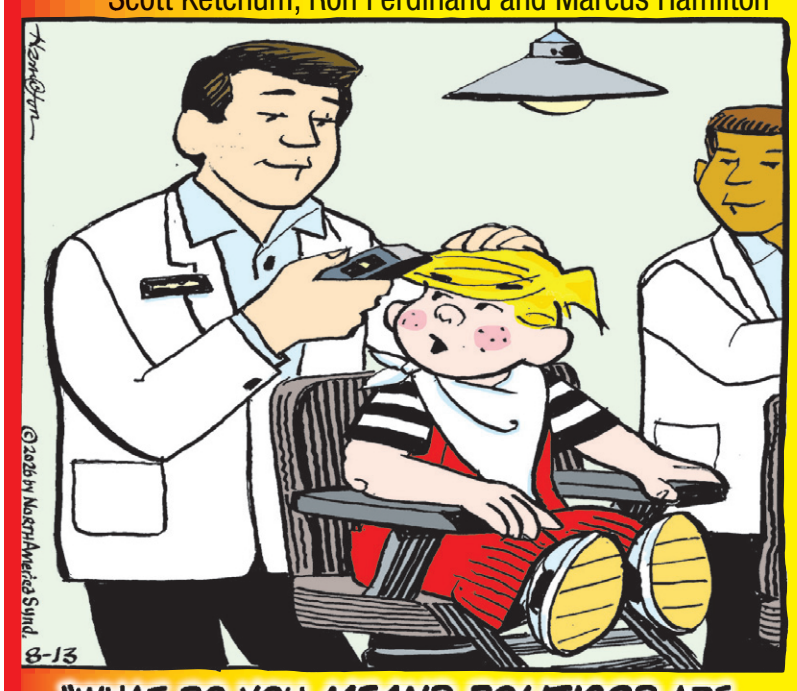


"THERE ARE NO PRICES ON THE MENU... HOW DO WE KNOW WHAT'S CHEAP?"

Crankshaft
Tom Batiuk and Dan Davis



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

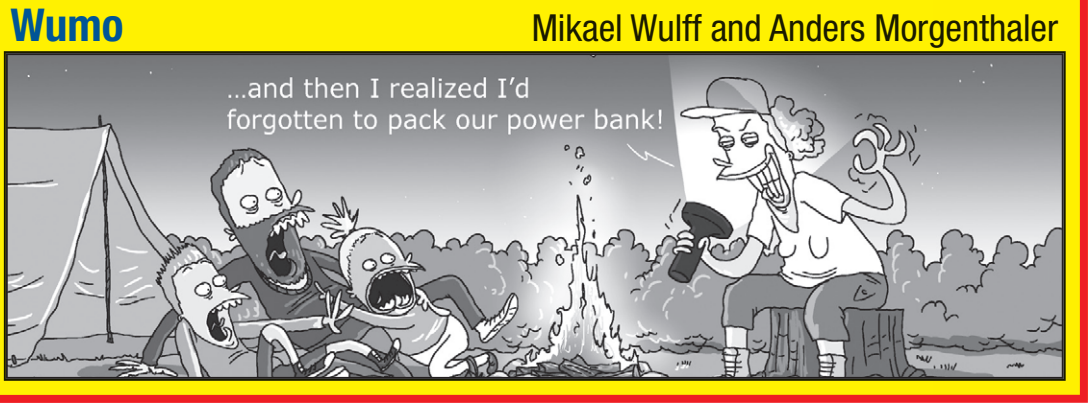


"WHAT DO YOU MEAN? POLITICS? ARE THEY IN MY HAIR? CAN YOU GET 'EM OUT?"

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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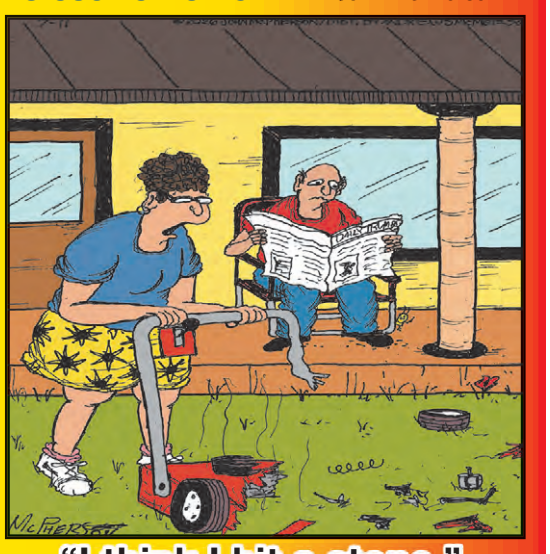
Close To Home

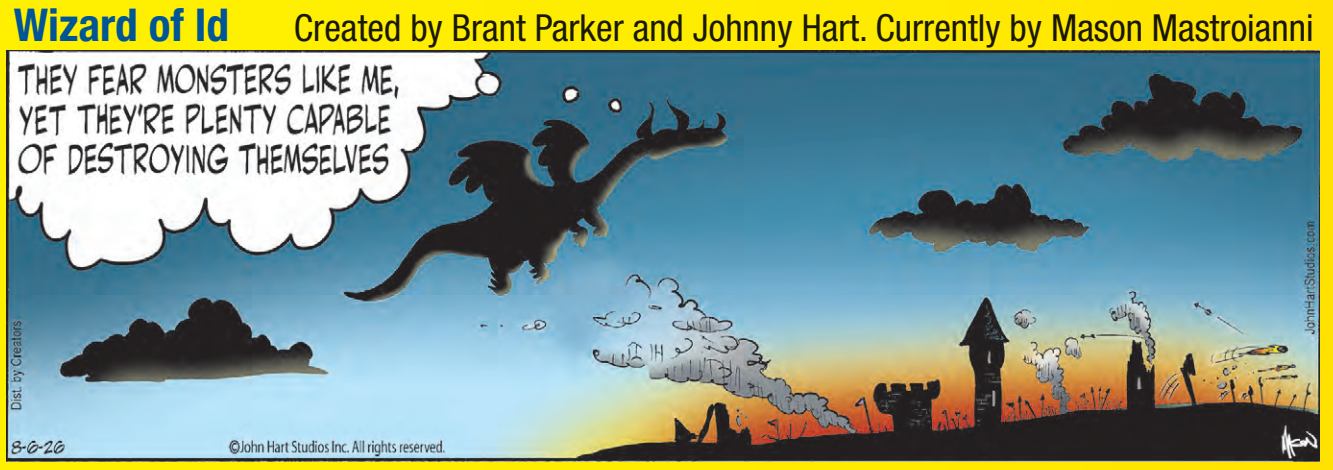
John McPherson



"I think I hit a stone."

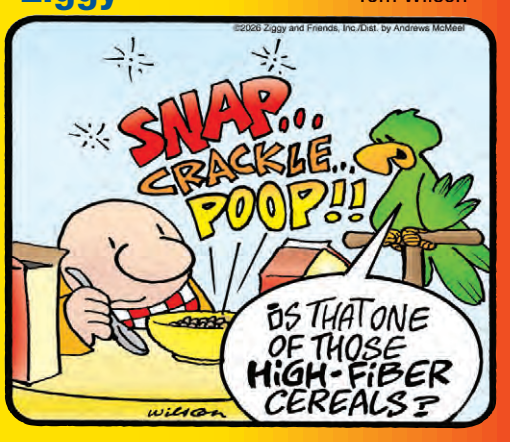
Wizard of Id

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



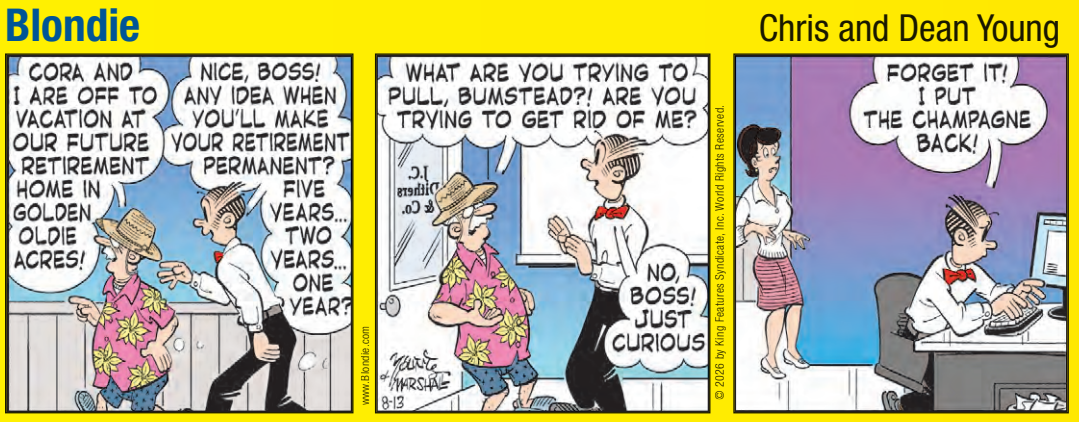
Ziggy

Tom Wilson



Blondie

Chris and Dean Young



www.Blondie.com
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Marmaduke

Paul & Brad Anderson



"I'll cuddle with you next, OK?"

Over The Hedge

Michael Fry and T. Lewis



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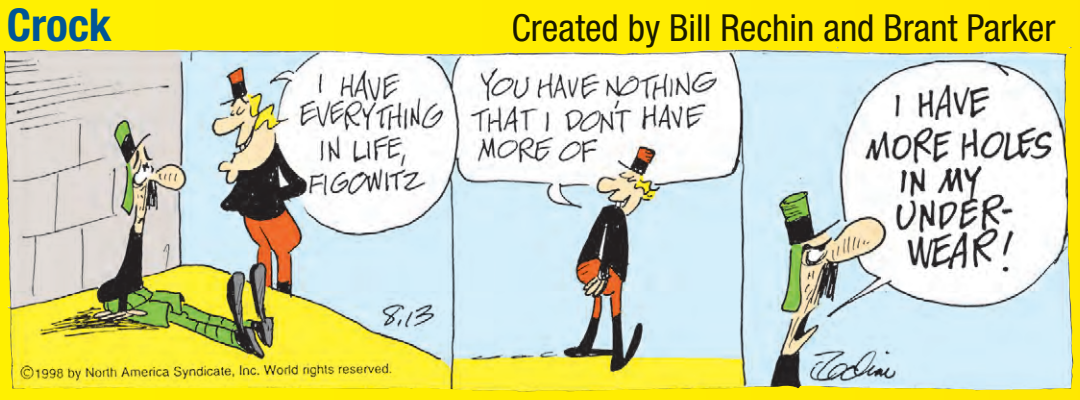
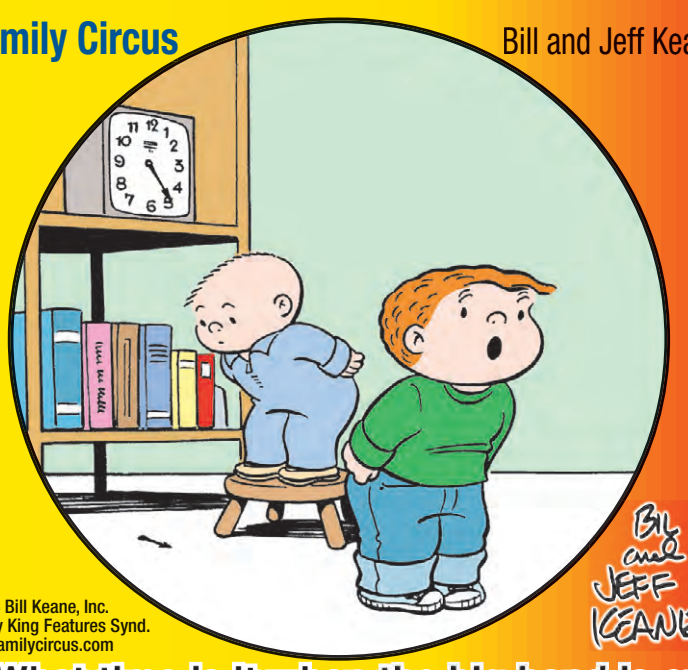
Crock

Created by Bill Rechin and Brant Parker



Family Circus

Bill and Jeff Keane



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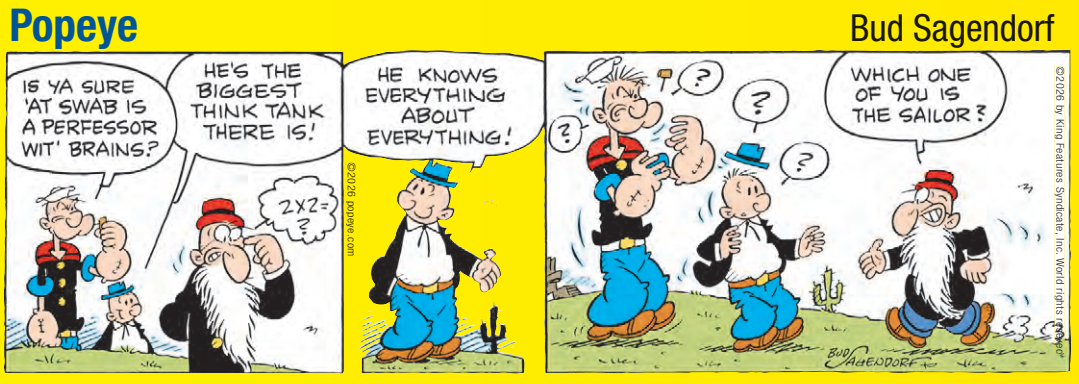
www.familycircus.com

"What time is it when the big hand is on five and the little hand is on the floor?"

Popeye

Bud Sagendorf



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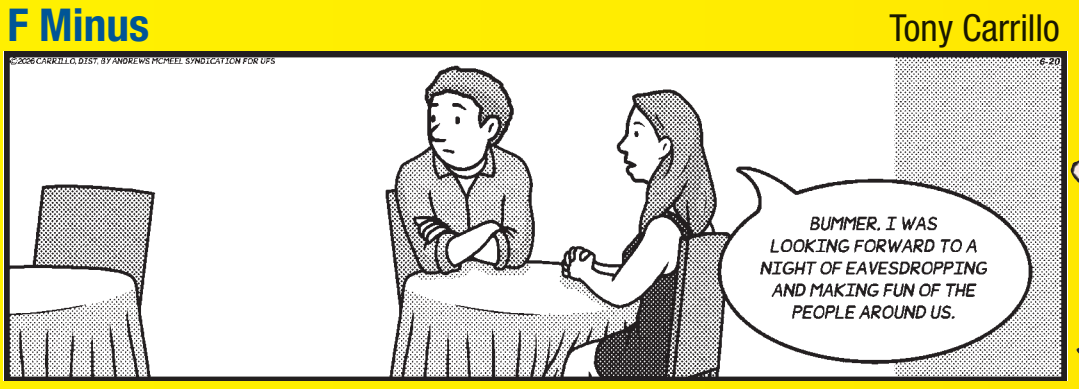
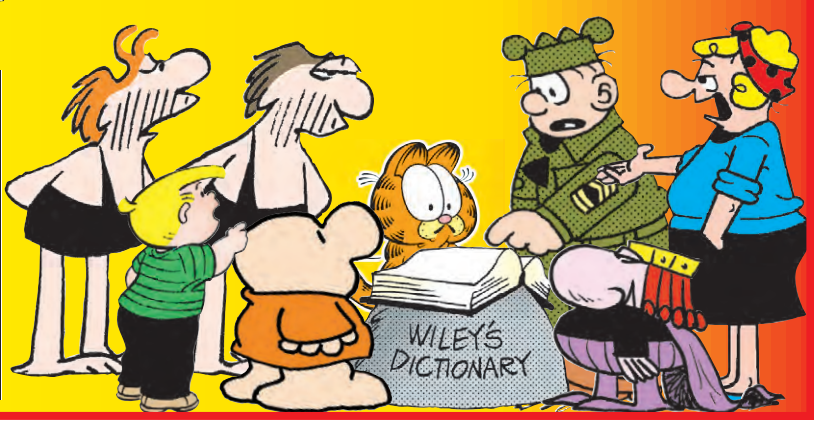
F Minus

Tony Carrillo





Pointer leaves impactful legacy with U-M tennis

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

When Lily Jones used to dream about one day being a University of Michigan Wolverine, she may not have expected she would become one of the best tennis players to wear the block "M" in recent memory. The Grosse Pointe South alumna played her final season with the women's tennis program at Michigan earlier this year, wrapping up a decorated career that was everything she wanted it to be and more.

The journey to becoming a Wolverine began on the courts in the Pointes. Jones' love for the sport grew through lessons and competing in tournaments before winning a state championship with the varsity girls tennis team at South in 2019, followed by her dreams of playing Division I tennis becoming a reality.

"My parents started to take tennis lessons, and they would bring me along, and I started to get into it as well," Jones said. "My first coach who taught me how to play was Joe Shaheen. I bounced between academies and coaches, but he was always my main coach. I started playing junior USTA tournaments and then played in high school at South, and I started to seriously look at colleges."

As she got closer to college, Jones was ranked as high as 11th nationally in prospect rankings by TennisRecruiting and was the No. 1 ranked player in Michigan her senior year. She had her choice of practically any school she could have wanted, receiving interest from places like Notre Dame, the University of Illinois and more, but there was never any real question of where Jones wanted to go.

"Michigan was always my dream," she said. "… When they offered me (a scholarship), I took it right on the spot."



COURTESY PHOTOS

Grosse Pointe South alumna Lily Jones during a match with University of Michigan women's tennis.

Jones made an impact at Michigan right away, being named Big Ten Freshman of the Year her first season in 2023. It was only the beginning of several accolades that followed over the course of Jones' career as a Wolverine.

By the time her senior season finished this spring, Jones was a four-time Big Ten Sportsmanship honoree. She twice earned All-Big Ten recognition and was an All-American this season after advancing as far as the Round of 16 in the NCAA Singles Championship. Jones also sits fourth on Michigan's all-time leaderboard for singles wins with 117.

"Being able to play there was the best four years of my life," Jones said. "The girls became my family and I made memories for a lifetime. In my junior year, we made the Final Four of the NCAA tournament, which made it a record-breaking year. We had never done that before. I'll always remember winning with that group of girls. My senior year, we won the Big Ten tournament as underdogs and beat Ohio State in the finals. … It was a very fun time to be able to show what we can do with me as a leader."

Jones' decorated career at Michigan finished after she graduated this spring, but she will be remembered in the record books for what she helped the school's women's tennis program achieve. Jones moved to Texas after graduating to begin her career in recruitment.

From the courts in Grosse Pointe to some of the biggest stages in collegiate tennis, Jones made her mark everywhere she went. She is proud of the things she accomplished as a tennis player and the people she shared those experiences with. Most importantly, Jones wants the next generation of tennis players to know that no hurdle is too big to overcome in a sport that can be both physically and mentally demanding.

"There are so many ups and downs," she said. "Always believing in yourself and putting the work in is key. Before I had a big match or anything, what helped me was putting extra time on the courts. Confidence is all about preparation."



Lily Jones finished her tennis career at the University of Michigan with several accolades, including becoming an All-American, being a two-time All-Big Ten honoree and finishing fourth all-time in singles victories for the Wolverines.

COACH'S CORNER

A changing approach to youth sports

By Dean Therriault
Guest Writer

If I could change one thing about youth sports, it would be the growing obsession with trying to create a professional athlete at 8 years old. After coaching for several years, I have experienced the full spectrum of parents, from incredibly supportive to passionate to completely over-involved. One thing has become clear: If you want it more than your child does, you have already lost.

Too often, the parents become the story instead of the kids. Coaches are not focused on proving parents right or wrong. We are focused on helping athletes develop, both as players and as people. Unfortunately, that can be overshadowed when parents text coaches about playing time, gossip with other families or coach from the stands or in the car by telling their child to do things completely different from what the team is coached to do.

The best thing a parent can do is not fight their child's battles, but to prepare them to handle those moments themselves. Encourage them to have conversations with their coach. Teach them to ask what they need to improve, how they can earn more opportunities and how they can become a better teammate. Those are life skills that extend beyond sports.

Youth sports need more emphasis on building habits, character, resilience and teamwork, and less focus on year-round tournaments, parent-managed social media accounts and chasing "exposure" before a child is even old enough to enjoy the game.

Having coached players through their draft years, I understand the pressure families can feel. My advice to every parent is simple: Be your child's biggest supporter, not their agent. If they're good enough, the opportunities will come. And if they don't reach the highest level, they'll still leave the game with discipline, accountability, confidence and friendships that will benefit them for the rest of their lives. In the end, that is what youth sports should be about.



COURTESY PHOTO

Dean Therriault is a former captain of the varsity boys hockey team at Grosse Pointe South. He is the founder of Purpose Driven Development and is an assistant coach and director of player development for the Sioux City Musketeers of the United States Hockey League.



KARATE:

Continued from page 1D

All of Michael Farnsworth's accolades have been incredible milestones for his father to watch him achieve. Standing atop the podium at the world championships was the best yet — and what they hope is the first of many moments where Zanshin shines on the world stage.

"I was proud as a sensei and coach, but even more so as a father," Sean Farnsworth said. "When we saw the final scores go up in the division where he placed gold, it was one of the best feelings I've ever experienced."