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Grosse Pointe News

MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR - 2021 - 2022 - 2023 - 2024 - 2025

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SEPTEMBER 3, 2026
GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

No Flock cameras in the Pointes

By Ted O'Neil
Associate Editor

THE GROSSE POINTES — Despite spirited discussion lately on a few social media platforms, the license plate readers installed across the Pointes and Harper Woods are not made by Flock.

"We vetted the two major suppliers, Flock and Motorola, and went with Motorola," said Dan Jensen, executive director of the Grosse Pointe/Harper Woods Public Safety Foundation and former Grosse Pointe Farms public safety director. "The terms were better to buy them instead of lease them and we preferred Motorola's security policies better."

The foundation raised money to give all six cities $55,000 each to buy the LPRs, with the municipalities responsible for the $8,000 annual maintenance cost.

The Motorola LPRs cannot be used for nefarious purposes.

"Motorola is connected to the Law Enforcement Information Network, which is heavily monitored by the Michigan State Police," Jensen said. "It gets audited all the time. We have not had one case of abuse since we've had them."

Only two or three officers in each department have access to the information, generally detec-

See CAMERAS, page 2A



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

From left, Madeline Davis, first year at Barnes; Mikayla Schiller, first year at Barnes; Andrea Gruenwald, Parcells teacher and Schiller's senior year advisor at North.

Still no teachers union contract

By Ted O'Neil
Associate Editor

THE GROSSE POINTES — On the day Grosse Pointe Public School System teachers returned to the classroom, starting with a welcome breakfast at Brownell Middle School, the district provided an update Tuesday, Sept. 1, regarding ongoing contract talks with the Grosse Pointe Education Association.

The statement said the district and union have met 19 times without a resolution, finally entering mediation on Thursday, Aug. 27. The previous contract expired Saturday, Aug. 15.

In its offer from Aug. 27, the district proposed for the current school year:

- a step increase for all eligible employees (equivalent to a 4 percent pay raise),
- a 2 percent salary increase for steps 1 through 14,
- a 3 percent salary increase for those at step 15 and
- longevity bonuses ranging from $2,500 to $3,400, depending on years of service in total and in GPPSS. Current bonuses range from $1,800 to $3,580.

The 2027-28 year would see a one-step increase for all eligible employees and a 3 percent salary increase for all steps.

According to the district's statement, the GPEA proposed for 2026-27 one-step increases for all eligible employees and a 4 percent salary increase, plus the longevity pay offered by the district, and one-step increases and a 3

See UNION, page 9A

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Kids on e-motos lead police on chase

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — Felony charges are pending for three Grosse Pointe juvenile boys — two of whom are 14, the other 15 — for fleeing and eluding police on electric motor bikes throughout the late afternoon Friday, Aug. 28.

One of the 14-year-old boys, in particular, led police on a lengthy chase beginning around 4 p.m. when he was spotted driving at a high rate of speed down McKinley.

Being that his e-moto did not have the necessary equipment — turn signals, horn, etc. — it is not legal to drive on the street. The state classifies e-motos as motor vehi-

See CHASE, page 5A

GP PorchFest returns next weekend

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — Grosse Pointe PorchFest is back for its second year and already has doubled in size.

The inaugural year hosted 12 bands on 11 porches. This year, 24 bands are scheduled for 18 porches.

"So many residents volunteered their porches this year and so many musicians stepped up that we are scheduling acts in 15-minute intervals to fit them all in," said Sheila Tomkowiak, mayor and co-chair of the event, alongside resident Gretchen White.

GP PorchFest takes place noon to 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 12, immediately followed by an afterparty in The Village at 6 p.m.

Bands will play 45-minute sets, inviting residents to stroll from yard to yard with lawn chairs or simply drop by the acts in their neighborhood.

"What I wanted was for people on a Saturday afternoon to be working in their yards, running an errand (or) going for a walk, hearing the music and going, 'Oh, that's really cool,' and then walking over," Tomkowiak said. "That was the whole hope and it's worked."

Many performers from last year are returning. Genres include a mix of country, '70s, rock, pop, acoustic and folk.

Just Joyce, at 12:45 p.m. at 849 Notre Dame,

See FEST, page 2A



PHOTO COURTESY OF GEORGE YOUNG

Passersby gather to hear The Six Shooters play on a porch on Washington during last year's inaugural Grosse Pointe PorchFest.

Game day
HOSTING
DECOR
FOOD



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Pointer of INTEREST



Xavier Erskine
Home: Grosse Pointe Park
Pool manager and college student

See story, page 4A

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Redevelopment still in works

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Efforts to qualify the city as a redevelopment ready community are wading through the bureaucratic process.

Becoming a redevelopment ready community through the Michigan Economic Development Corp. is intended to strengthen municipal zoning, planning and development practices, according to Park administrators during the months it has taken to reach this point in the process.

The goal is to make development practices clear, efficient and predictable.

Standardizing municipal forms is part of simplifying procedures.

"Applications for various requests for zoning, rezoning, even as far as business licensing — anything that involves applicants trying to work their way through the system — I want to make sure everything is completely cookie cutter so (applicants) know what to expect," said Cindy Paparelli, assistant city manager. "All applications will look similar. They'll have a similar internal review process."

In the Park's quest for attainment, officials are guided by a 46-page toolkit published by the MEDC.

"I'll be able to use that as a guidepost to develop our own community engagement," Paparelli said.

The toolkit has sections about orienting municipal representatives to the planning process, engaging the public and writing summary reports.

"I've had a chance to do some work on orientation letters and packets," Paparelli told members of the planning commission last month. "I'm doing an overview to each body that has any involvement with development to the city. I'll also include references to applicable statutes, laws and bylaws. All of that will then be in a comprehensive packet current members will get."

Her update was a regular part of commission business.

"We're keeping this on the agenda as we continue to progress through the process," she said.

Commissioners had no questions.

City Manager Nick Sizeland said last spring the redevelopment ready program is voluntary and has no direct financial cost.

"It helps communities strengthen their zoning, planning and economic development practices," he said at the time. "Our goal is to make the community more attractive to business investment by clear, efficient and predictable development practices. This better positions us for grants at the state and federal levels, partnerships and technical assistance where need be."

Family fun at Neff Park this Saturday

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — In the wake of a summer pool season with a few unanticipated hiccups, the team at Neff Park will host an End of Summer Resident Appreciation afternoon Saturday, Sept. 5.

Festivities encompass a free hot dog and ice cream sandwich per person from 4 to 6 p.m., followed by an 8 p.m. showing of the movie "The Sandlot" at the pavilion.

"We were thinking of ways to thank the residents," Parks and Recreation Coordinator Chad Murphy said. "We had some unique challenges this summer and, for the most part, all the residents were super supportive of staff and understanding of what we were faced with this summer. So just thinking of ways to give back and keep it affordable, yet meaningful to them — that's kind of the genesis of it."

The pool was shut down several times for incidents including glass goggles breaking in the pool and unsafe air quality from Canadian wildfires.

"A lot of that was kind of out of our hands," Murphy said, "but it still doesn't take away from the fact that it took the pool away for longer than we usually anticipate in the summer."

— Laurel Kraus

FEST:

Continued from page 1A

offers a sing-along performance.

The Six Shooters, returning from last year, will perform country music at 12:30 p.m. at 547 Washington; Rosetta Pebble plays guitars, mandolin and percussion at 1:45 p.m. at 411 Neff; MUDHOUNDS, also returning from last year, performs loud rock at 4:30 p.m. at 17150 Maumee; and Jack Gorham, at 4:15 p.m. at 599 St. Clair, is a keyboardist with original songs hailing from Dunleaf, N.C., where White, his aunt, first witnessed a PorchFest and had the desire to bring it to Grosse Pointe.

"It's going to be ongoing, but we've sort of scattered them around so that they're in different locations and aren't drowning each other out," Tomkowiak said. "… It's like a jigsaw puzzle."

An afterparty starts at 6 p.m. in The Village on St. Clair in front of The Whiskey Six. It features Erich Goebel & the Flying Crowbars. Goebel has shared the stage with the likes of The Black Crowes, Lenny Kravitz and Patti Smith.

"The afterparty is designed as a relaxed, welcoming capstone to the day — a chance for the community to gather in one place, enjoy a final performance and celebrate the spirit of PorchFest together," said Cindy Willcock, executive director of Main Street Grosse Pointe. "The Village provides a kind of a communal gathering space where neighbors, musicians and porch hosts can come together to celebrate a full day of music and community."

Funding for GP PorchFest again was provided by the City of Grosse Pointe Foundation. Rather than being paid, performers will receive Grosse Pointe PorchFest 2026 T-shirts.

"At some point we might come up with a website so people can buy PorchFest T-shirts, but we're doing it little by little," Tomkowiak said. "This is a big undertaking, so we're trying to be careful that we do what we can handle."

The GP PorchFest Committee includes White and Tomkowiak, co-chairs; Councilman Seth Krupp, M.D., porch procurement; Bill Kalmar, music coordinator; George "Buzz" Young, promotion; and Willcock, administrative support and afterparty coordination.

GP PorchFest takes place rain or shine.

"All we have to do is really pray for good weather, because we're rain or shine and if it's horrible storms, we call it off and there's no rain date," Tomkowiak noted.

Follow GP PorchFest on Facebook for updates and a performance map.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF GEORGE YOUNG

The Six Shooters, pictured during the 2025 GP PorchFest, will return this year at 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 12, at 547 Washington.

Performance schedule

- noon at 515 Fisher — Go Tiger Go
- 12:15 p.m. at 466 Rivard — Merge
- 12:30 p.m. at 547 Washington — Six Shooters
- 12:45 p.m. at 849 Notre Dame — Just Joyce Sing-Along
- 1 p.m. at 733 St. Clair — The Guinns
- 1:15 p.m. at 533 St. Clair — Neighbors
- 1:30 p.m. at 539 University — Ben Allemon
- 1:45 p.m. at 411 Neff — Rosetta Pebble
- 2 p.m. at 44 Cranford — The Normandies
- 2:15 p.m. at 733 St. Clair — Tin Foil Hats
- 2:30 p.m. at 571 University — Christian Adenaas
- 2:45 p.m. at 533 St. Clair — ARCH Entertainment
- 3 p.m. at 760 Lakeland — Franklinn Sane
- 3:15 p.m. at 856 Loraine — Mike Ressler
- 3:30 p.m. at 686 University — Normandy & Crooks
- 3:45 p.m. at 548 St. Clair — Poor Player
- 4 p.m. at 736 Notre Dame — Justin Carrier
- 4:15 p.m. at 599 St. Clair — Jack Gorham
- 4:30 p.m. at 17150 Maumee — MUDHOUNDS
- 4:45 p.m. at 571 University — Jef Fisk
- 5 p.m. at 736 Notre Dame — Ean Williams
- 5:15 p.m. at 599 St. Clair — Tom Keating
- 5:30 p.m. at 438 St. Clair — Robert Kolinski
- 6 p.m. in The Village — Erich Goebel & the Flying Crowbars



CAMERAS:

Continued from page 1A

tives and chief.

"You have to log in with an established case number and the reason for the search," Jensen said. "These are only used in cases of a crime or missing person."

Jensen explained that if an officer attempted to access the LEIN system or camera footage without using an established case number, that would be flagged by the MSP audit and the person would face disciplinary action and criminal charges.

A first offense is a misdemeanor punishable by up to 93 days in jail and/or a $500 fine. Subsequent violations are a felony punishable by up to four years in prison and/or a $2,000 fine.

The LPRs, placed at strategic intersections, only capture license plate information.

"There's no facial recognition," Jensen said. "People think officers can sit in their cars and access information to track an ex-girlfriend or something, but that isn't the case. And in the office, we don't have the time or manpower to sit and watch them."

When a report is generated that includes a license plate number in a given area, the system eliminates every other vehicle that passed by that camera.

"Between the plate and a vehicle description, departments can put out a BOL (be on the lookout) to neighboring departments," Jensen said. "Information in the system disappears in 30 days."

He also said Flock is looking at reconfiguring its security measures to be more similar to Motorola.

"I think they just grew too big too fast."







PHOTO COURTESY OF THE WAR MEMORIAL

Author Ed Zier delivers the keynote address at The War Memorial's 9/11 Service of Remembrance last year.

War Memorial to hold ceremony for 25th anniversary of Sept. 11

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — Within the same year the country celebrated its 250th anniversary, it now prepares to solemnly remember the 25th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

"As we mark the 25th anniversary of Sept. 11, we come together to honor the lives that were taken, recognize the extraordinary courage of those who answered the call to serve and reaffirm the resilience that has defined our nation ever since," said Maria Miller, president and CEO of The War Memorial, in a release. "This ceremony is an opportunity to remember not only the profound loss we experienced, but also the compassion, unity and strength that emerged in its wake. We owe it to those we lost, the survivors, the families and the first responders, to ensure their stories continue to be remembered by future generations."

The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, will hold the annual Service of Remembrance at 8:30 a.m. Friday, Sept. 11, on the lakefront lawn of the historic Alger house.

"When planning for this year, being the 25th anniversary, we were thinking internally, 'What can we do to make it an even more special program and add an element or two?'" said Alex Szwarc, patriotic programming and communications administrator. "It'll be a little longer ceremony this year. It's a big milestone. (We want to) take the time to properly remember 9/11 and come together as a community."

The national anthem will be sung by students from Grosse Pointe North High School, followed by two musical performances. Kisma Jordan and Gary Johnson will perform "Rise Up" and JC Whitelaw will perform "Can't Cry Hard Enough."

Alongside a reading of the Michigan lives lost in the attacks, three moments of silence will be held — one each representing when American Airlines Flight 11 and United Airlines Flight 175 crashed into the North and South towers of the World Trade Center, in addition to one representing when American Airlines Flight 77 crashed into the Pentagon and United Airlines Flight 93 crashed in a field near Shanksville, Pa.

The program will culminate in a personal reflection given by Farms Mayor John Gillooly, a color guard procession by the Navy Reserve Center Detroit Honor Guard and remarks from the Rev. Andrew Van Culin of Christ Church Grosse Pointe.

Following the service will be a coffee social hour in the Alger Center Community Room.

"The old adage with 9/11 is 'Never Forget,'" Szwarc said, "and at The War Memorial, we're doing our part to make sure that we don't forget and those in the community can come on out and remember with us."

The Service of Remembrance is free and open to the public, though registration is requested at warmemorial.org/events/911service2026.

The service also will be livestreamed on The War Memorial's Facebook and YouTube pages.

Rezone now, lot split later

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Rezoning a large residential parcel below Jefferson lets the owner proceed with intentions to split it in two.

Plans are to divide the currently vacant parcel and build a single-family house on each of the newly designated pieces of property.

Members of the planning commission voted unanimously Aug. 20 to recommend city council rezone the property from ER (estate residential) to NR-A (neighborhood residential).

"We will forward our recommendation to council that this zoning request be approved," Commission Chairman Patrick Coletta said.

"Council has the final authority," said Cindy Paparelli, assistant city manager.

The vote ended commission involvement. Commissioners have no say in upcoming discussions about splitting the lot.

"A split would be the second stop of the process," Paparelli said.

Divisions are handled administratively, not by the commission.

"My son and I (want to) build homes next to each other down there," said applicant and property owner Owen Maher. "So, we're here to petition to get the lot split and move forward. My son will be the architect on both projects."

Commissioners ruled in part on a recommendation by the city's planning consultants, McKenna.

"This project came on our radar because the applicant was interested in applying for a division of this parcel," said Laura Mangan, McKenna vice president and senior principal planner. "As it's zoned today (as) estate residential, subdividing it is not possible without seeking variances because the two resulting parcels would not comply with dimensional standards of the NR-A (neighborhood residential) district."

She said rezoning puts the parcels in line with the neighborhood pattern.

"Rezoning does not change the allowable usage," she said. "These properties will remain residential. It's still an option for the applicant at a later date to apply for a land division. That will be entirely reviewed separately. There's no acting on that tonight."



Farms End of Summer Bash is this Saturday

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — Since the pool isn't open this year, the Farms End of Summer Bash will feature a waterslide, alongside a host of other family-friendly activities.

The festivities take place Saturday, Sept. 5, at Pier Park, similar to years past despite ongoing construction of the pool complex.

"The majority of the event in years past took place in the picnic area, so there are no real changes for the event," Parks and Recreation Director Chris Galatis said via email. "The only thing is parking will be limited because of the construction. We anticipate the north lot of Pier Park to fill up quickly. Once it's full, we encourage people to park across the street in the overflow lot, down Grosse Pointe Boulevard or at city hall and walk to the park."

The full event schedule is as follows:

- 8 a.m. check in for fishing rodeo
- 9 a.m. fishing rodeo begins
- noon Detroit Wing Co. food truck and beer tent
- noon to 3 p.m. climbing rock wall, water slide, bounce house, face painting
- 1:30, 2:30 and 3:30 p.m. magic shows by Amazing Clark, Puppets and Magic
- 3 p.m. inflated boat races
- 3 to 5:30 p.m. American Ages Band
- 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Persuasion Band
- dusk fireworks

"The firework show is amazing with how close to Pier Park it is," Galatis said. "Residents can expect an up-close experience with the fireworks lighting up the sky and Lake St. Clair."

The End of Summer Bash is open to Farms residents and up to two guests per park pass, which is strictly enforced.

"We ask that all residents make sure they bring their 2026 park pass to be able to enter the park," Galatis said.

The event is sponsored by Barton Malow, McCarver Mechanical Heating and Cooling and Pernicano Law.

— *Laurel Kraus*

The Week Ahead

MONDAY, SEPT. 7

- *Labor Day*
- Labor Day Bridge Walk at Lake Front Park, 9:30 a.m.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 8

- Grosse Pointe Woods Citizens Recreation Commission meeting, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 9

- Grosse Pointe Shores Finance Committee meeting, 9 a.m.
- Grosse Pointe Woods Beautification Advisory Commission meeting, 7 p.m.
- Grosse Pointe Park Recreation Commission meeting, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 10

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

SATURDAY, SEPT. 12

- Park Farmers Market, 9 a.m. to noon at Kercheval and Lakepointe.
- Grosse Pointe Park Community Conversation, 10 to 11 a.m. at city hall.



Teen is ahead of the game

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

He's 19 going on 24, a college sophomore with the poise of a graduate.

Since his middle teens, he worked a job requiring protecting others and standing up for himself. Doing so meant overcoming peer pressure and facing down people multiple times his age.

But, alluding to a quote errantly attributed to John Adams, don't confuse his passion for ego, nor his conviction for arrogance.

He's just a kid maturing ahead of time, someone eager to accept responsibility and meet obligations.

"I feel I do really well under pressure," he said. "When circumstances are being thrown at me, I feel that's when I'm at my best."

For Xavier Erskine, of Grosse Pointe Park, leadership came naturally. He has five younger siblings.

"Being the oldest is a lot of responsibility but an awesome experience," he said.

At 15 he started working as a lifeguard at Windmill Pointe Park. This year, four years later, he wrapped up another summer as pool supervisor.

"I've grown up a lot working here," Erskine said. "One of the big things is I'm not afraid to talk with people or have conversations, even if it's one I don't necessarily want to have."

The job is more than caring for kiddies. Sometimes parents and adults need putting in line.

"If people aren't happy about things, it's my job to see what's going on and resolve their problems," Erskine said. "I don't mind exposing myself to those conversations anymore."

With the academic year resumed, he's back to his second year studying construction engineering at Michigan Technological University.

"Originally, I was studying aerospace engineering," he said. "But, after about a semester, I realized it wasn't where I wanted to be. A big reason was because I found out being an aerospace engineer means you're sitting at a desk or office most of your career."

That doesn't jibe with his way of doing things.

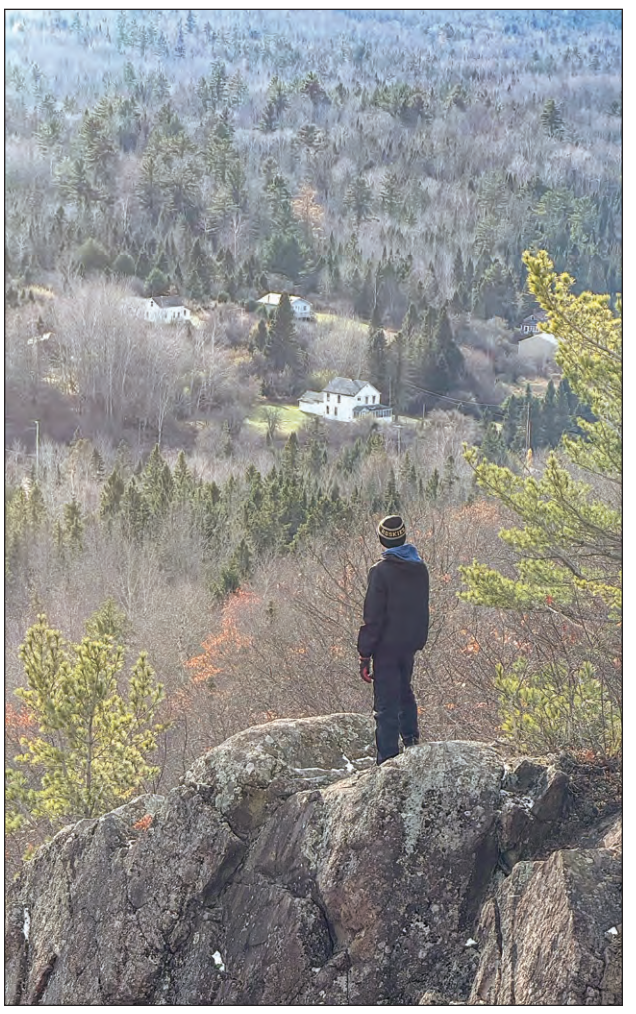
"I like to move around," Erskine said. "That's when I started looking into construction. I'll definitely be in an office, but I'll have opportunities to go out on job sites."

Erskine is setting himself up for a career in which, like lifeguarding, there's no room for error. He remembered the first time he rescued a struggling swimmer.

"The first time is a little scary," he said. "I saw a kid and thought, 'Oh boy, I may have to get that kid.' Sure enough, he turned around trying to swim back to the wall, but wasn't going to make it. So, I jumped in to get him. What makes it rewarding is kids going from scared to, after helping them out, being fine."

Getting it right in construction is vital, too. There are no acceptable reasons for do-overs when building something.

"It's a huge responsibility," Erskine said. "I'll be at my best when stakes are high."





COURTESY PHOTOS

Xavier Erskine enjoys hiking the wilds of the Keweenaw Peninsula while studying construction engineering at Michigan Technological University.

Some management methods he uses with the pool's five head lifeguards and staff are precursors to the business world. An example is handling multiple projects at once.

"There are different things I'm working with — lifeguards, patrons, my managers," Erskine said. "I'm bringing all of that together and making sure everyone stays healthy and happy. I find that super cool because I'm able to take feedback from so many different groups, work with a bunch of different people and bring it all together to get the product that residents know and love."

He anticipates similar things happening in his profession.

"Construction management focuses on being able to combine a bunch of different aspects of a project and bring them all together to get the finished project," Erskine said. "You're balancing plans from engineers with people excavating a foundation, people pouring cement and people raising beams. The job of a construction manager is to bring that all together and make sure the finished project is what you're looking for at the beginning."

Erskine likened managing the pool to coaching. Running practice drills with the lifeguard staff is one of his favorite parts of the job.

"We do practice drills multiple nights per week to keep our skills fresh," he said. "Then, when an emergency happens, everyone does their job and the outcome is what you're hoping for. It's really like that, where you draw up the play, practice it and get to see the benefits of all that hard work and practice."

Afterward they debrief, as he will in construction when assessing performance.

"We talk about what we did well and what we could have done better," Erskine said. "The goal is for errors to be made when it's a drill. That way, when it's real life, it goes perfectly according to plan. It's great when running a drill and something doesn't go perfectly, talking through it and seeing, as a group, how we can improve what we're doing well."

Michigan Tech is located in the middle of the Upper Peninsula's Keweenaw Peninsula.

The area is subject to serious lake-effect snowfall. Some 315 inches fell last year, according to the college's website, which boasts, "For Michigan Tech students, alumni and friends, the region's prodigious snowfall is a point of pride and a rite of passage."

All of which is fine with Erskine.

"I love skiing," he said. "Michigan Tech has a skiing area free to students. It's a four-minute drive off campus. Winter is my favorite season. I'm not a big hot-weather person."

Capital campaign underway for new Shores pool

By Ted O'Neil
Associate Editor

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — Every household in the city recently received a packet of information about fundraising efforts as plans for a new pool and community center at Osius Park continue to take shape.

"The employees actually hand-delivered them to make sure everyone got theirs," said Rob Satler, president of the Grosse Pointe Shores Improvement Foundation. "We didn't want any issues with the mail."

The foundation has committed to raising $1 million toward the overall $14 million project.

"I wasn't sure at first, because I thought a lot of people might say that's the city's responsibility," Satler added. "But the consensus of our trustees was, just look at our name. What better improvement could we participate in?"

Around $4 million already has been donated or committed. That includes a $1.2 million gift the city received in late 2023 from the estate of Carole Ann Williams, who passed away earlier that year at age 84. She was a graduate of Grosse Pointe University School (now University Liggett School) and the daughter of Jack G. and Gwen B. Williams. Her father was mayor of the Shores from 1954 to 1964. Williams required the money go toward improvements at Osius Park.

Donation levels will include various forms of recognition, including naming rights for those giving between $250,000 and $2 million.

"Gifts don't have to be given all at once," Satler said. "This campaign will be going on over a number of years."

The pool was closed half a dozen times this summer for mechanical issues.

"That's been happening more and more the last few years," Satler said. "It outlived its design life at least 20 years ago."

Plans show the pool will have Olympic-standard 25-meter lanes, a recreational diving area, a multi-speed lazy river and a fenced children's pool.

"We can't host the Lakefront Swimming Association finals because the current lanes aren't long enough," Satler said, "and we can't use starting blocks because the pool isn't deep enough."

The community center will include a 2,236-square-foot second level with a food-prep and warming area that can be used for things like family gatherings, game nights, yoga and educational presentations.

City council voted unanimously in May to approve a resolution for a notice of intent to issue up to $10 million in bonds to pay for the project.

"This is a multistep process," Pat McGow of the Miller Canfield law firm told council. "This is just the first step and allows the clerk to issue that notice of intent by publishing it in the Grosse Pointe News."

The general obligation limited tax bonds means council cannot raise taxes to pay off the bonds, McGow added.





Grosse Pointe News

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PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

City of Grosse Pointe

Ran red

After running a red light on Mack at 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 25, a 51-year-old Park woman was stopped and cited for driving with a suspended license.

Warrants

A 69-year-old Detroit man was stopped at Mack and Fisher for driving while license suspended and for several warrants at 8:26 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 27.

Generator thief

A black man wearing a Detroit Lions hat and black tracksuit was captured on camera removing a generator from the side of a home on Grosse Pointe Court at 12:30 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 29.

The man blocked his face from appearing on camera.

— Laurel Kraus

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

Grosse Pointe Farms

Home invasion case update

The home invasion case against Charles Earl — a 38-year-old homeless man charged with entering a Farms home while fleeing police and barricading himself in a bedroom with two young children, who were unharmed — likely will not conclude for some time.

Following a probable cause conference Wednesday, Aug. 26, before Farms Judge Charles Berschback, the case will be adjourned for two months while Earl is referred to criminal competency and responsibility evaluations.

"I was having a mental illness episode when this happened. I was not in my right mind," Earl said, while attempting to fire a court-appointed attorney for the second time. "I am diagnosed with schizophrenia and bipolar I."

Berschback agreed to the referral, but declined to appoint a new attorney for now.

"I think that if he's given the proper treatment and medication, he can then effectively assist in his own defense," Earl's attorney, Christopher Quinn II, said.

The next court date will be Wednesday, Oct. 21.

Jaywalker

A 22-year-old Monroe man was seen jaywalking at Mack and Moross with such ill timing that a vehicle had to slow to avoid hitting him at noon Monday, Aug. 24.

The man already was on a tether from a burglary case in Lincoln Park and had drug paraphernalia with him.

Almost delivered

Camera footage showed a Best Buy delivery driver place a package containing a $1,000 computer on a Beacon Hill porch at 4:38 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 25, before taking a photo of it, picking it back up and walking away.

Best Buy has agreed to replace the computer.

— Laurel Kraus

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

Grosse Pointe Park

Bike stolen

The owner of a mountain bike didn't see who stole it last week while parked near a fence on the Nottingham side of the Defer Elementary School campus.

Police said the incident happened at 3:45 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 25.

Missing is a women's teal Cannondale model valued at $250.

Tosses grill

Two women, 36, of the Park and Farms, got into it shortly after 11 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 30, at a house in the 1000 block of Beaconsfield.

"(One of the women) formerly resided at the residence," police said. "While leaving, (the subject) tossed a BBQ grill top on a vehicle causing damage."

— Brad Lindberg

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

Grosse Pointe Shores

Nothing to report per dispatch.

—Ted O'Neil

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

Grosse Pointe Woods

A clean shave

An unknown male stole $100 worth of cleaning supplies and razors from a store in the 20400 block of Mack Monday, Aug. 24.

Stolen bike

A black bike was stolen from a garage in the 1500 block of South Renaud sometime Friday, Aug. 28, while a boy was visiting his friend at the house.

—Ted O'Neil

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

Carjacking cases headed downtown

By Ted O'Neil
Associate Editor

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — Charges against two men accused of an attempted carjacking in late July are heading to Wayne County Circuit Court following a preliminary exam Wednesday, Aug. 26, before Municipal Judge Theodore Metry.

Police say Robert Lee Bates Jr., 37, of Detroit and Skylar Carlisle, 28, of Eastpointe, attempted to steal an SUV from the driveway of a house in the 2100 block of Anita around 5 a.m. Tuesday, July 28.

They were scheduled to be arraigned in circuit court at 9 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 2, after press time.

Detective Miles Adams said when the two were arraigned in late July they had pulled up to the house in a gray Chevy Equinox as a man and his daughter were loading luggage into the SUV for a trip.

"Bates had a handgun and they ordered the man and the daughter to the ground, demanding his keys and wallet," Adams said. "The girl ran back inside to alert the family and the victim drew his own handgun, which he legally possesses."

The defendants retreated to their vehicle as the victim fired, hitting the Equinox. Neither of them were shot.

Although original information released after the incident indicated one of the defendants fired at the victim, two officers testified during the preliminary exam that when the

See CASES, page 8A



Police image of a boy speeding past a woman pushing a baby stroller on Lakeshore.

COURTESY PHOTO

CHASE:

Continued from page 1A

cles rather than standard e-bikes.

Though officers terminated the first pursuit when the boy fled across a field at Brownell Middle School, he was spotted again driving recklessly alongside two other boys on e-motos on Fisher around 6:20 p.m.

Officers a second time put on their lights and sirens, to which the boys responded by fleeing on sidewalks behind Comerica Bank and toward the Grosse Pointe South High School baseball diamonds, where patrol cars could not follow.

The boys then split up and the second two led officers at approximately 45 mph along Grosse Pointe Boulevard before they eventually voluntarily pulled over.

The initial troublemaker stopped momentarily on Fair Acres, but as the officer was exiting the patrol vehicle he took off. Throughout the pursuit, he also nearly ran over — at close to 40 mph — a woman pushing a baby stroller along Lakeshore and got up to 50-plus mph on Kercheval going through The Hill.

"This is the same boy that fled at 4 o'clock and also had fled from other officers within the last week," Detective Roger Wierszewski said.

He got away, but later was identified and found at home.

"It was quite a long, long time (officers) were out there trying to get them to stop," Wierszewski said. "They had obviously no care for the public, especially the one that fled on Lakeshore."

The boys' parents were cited for allowing an unlicensed driver to drive and all e-motos involved were impounded.

— Laurel Kraus



Game Ready: Sports Physicals Help Keep Student Athletes Safe and Healthy



By Melissa Jennings, M.D

As stores fill up with families picking up school supplies, our Family Medicine Center sees an increase in visits from children and adolescents coming in for sports physicals. We know that participation in sports can improve self-esteem, mental health, and physical well-being, and we're eager to help young athletes stay healthy and play safely.

In Michigan, student athletes are required to complete a pre-participation physical examination each year. According to the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA), a physical examination must be completed on or after April 15, 2026, to be valid for the 2026-27 school year.

So, what exactly does a sports physical involve?

In many cases, a sports physical can be completed as part of a child's annual preventive care visit, though it can also be scheduled as a separate appointment. Before the visit, families should complete the required medical history questionnaire available on the MHSAA website. Filling out the form ahead of time helps maximize time with your physician and ensures important information isn't overlooked.

The questionnaire focuses on symptoms or conditions that could affect safe participation in sports, including heart and breathing concerns, previous bone or muscle injuries, and relevant family medical history.

The goals of a pre-participation physical are to assess a child's overall physical and emotional health, identify any conditions that could put them at risk during athletic activity, and promote healthy habits. During the visit, physicians review the athlete's health history and perform screenings for vision problems and high blood pressure. A structured physical examination is also conducted to identify any concerns related to strength, mobility, balance, or pain.

If potential issues are identified, additional evaluation may be needed before an athlete is cleared to play. This could include laboratory testing, imaging studies such as X-rays, or consultation with a specialist. In some cases, athletes may be cleared to participate with temporary restrictions and a plan to safely return to full activity.

A sports physical is about more than meeting a school requirement. It is an opportunity for children and teenagers to take an active role in their health care, ask questions, and build a strong relationship with their physician. Just as they work with teammates and coaches to succeed on the field, young athletes can partner with their health care team to stay healthy, safe, and ready for the season ahead.

Dr. Melissa Jennings is a board-certified Family Medicine physician and serves as Chief of Family and Community Medicine at Corewell Health Beaumont Grosse Pointe Hospital.

Dr. Jennings and her colleagues are currently accepting new patients at their clinic, located in the medical office building on the hospital campus. Appointments may be scheduled by calling (586) 498-4400.

Corewell Health™

POINTES OF VIEW

GROSSE POINTE | GROSSE POINTE PARK | GROSSE POINTE SHORES | GROSSE POINTE FARMS | GROSSE POINTE WOODS

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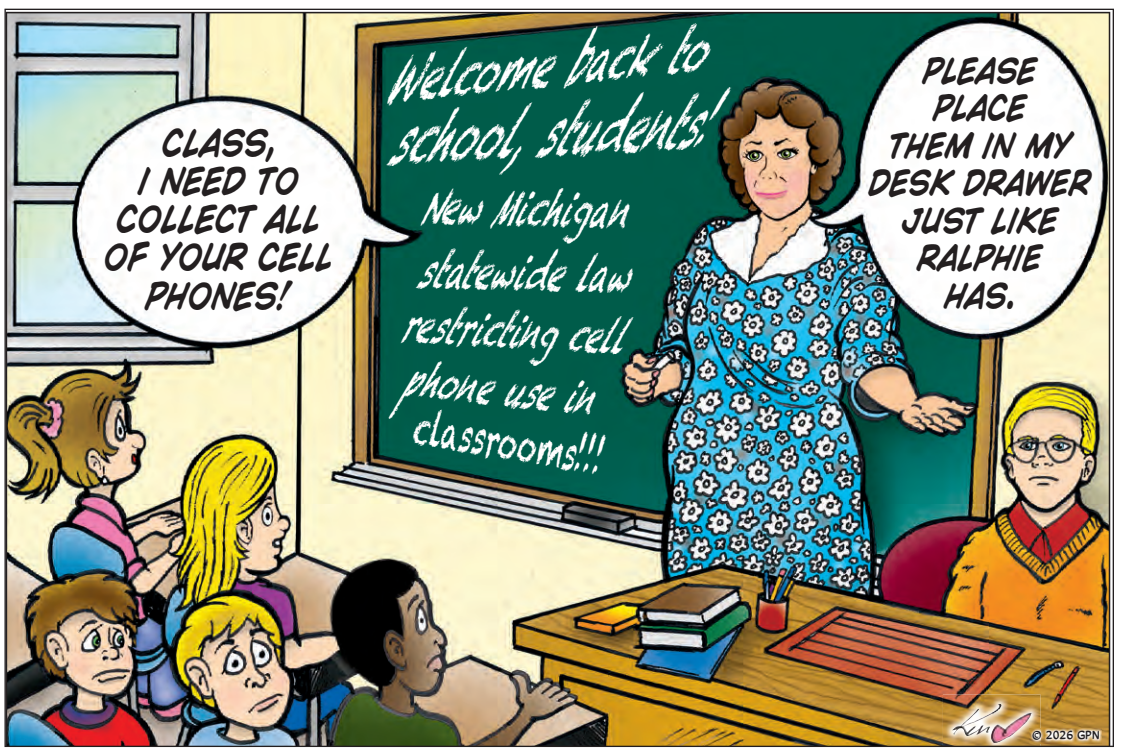

ILLUSTRATION BY KEN SCHOP

OUR VIEW

Communication breakdown

As The Beatles sang on "Abbey Road," "You never give me your money, you only give me your funny paper, and in the middle of negotiations, you break down. I never give you my number, I only give you my situation, and in the middle of investigation, I break down."

That very well could sum up the current bargaining situation between the Grosse Pointe Public School System and the Grosse Pointe Education Association.

The board in June approved four-year contracts with the Grosse Pointe Educational Paraprofessional Association, Grosse Pointe Educational Plant Association (maintenance) and Grosse Pointe Educational Office Association that include 3 percent raises each year, step increases for eligible employees and hourly longevity raises for paraprofessionals after their fifth year of employment starting at 55 cents and topping out at $2.30 after 25 years.

The board last month approved a three-year contract with the Grosse Pointe Administrators Association, which is made up of principals, assistant principals and special education directors.

It includes 1 percent raises the first two years and a 2 percent raise the final year. It also includes a reduction of the last five working days for administrators in June 2027 and the first five in August 2027, an effective pay raise of 2.1 percent for 11-month administrators and 1.9 percent for 12-month administrators. Contributions to each administrator's tax-sheltered account will go from a flat $2,000 annually to 2 percent of their base salary. A new eight-step pay scale for administrators includes yearly raises ranging between $5,019 and $5,990, depending on position.

Perhaps this means the GPEA should not have waited so long to settle? There is only so much money in the pot and it appears the other bargaining units got theirs while the getting was good.

As outlined in this space last week, the cumulative impact of the settled contracts over the next four years will be $1.8 million. But as they say, the devil is in the details. The compounded cost will be slightly higher than $4.4 million.

If the district were to agree to similar terms with the teachers union, the compounded cost could approach $19.9 million.

We would be willing to bet dollars to doughnuts the GPEA wishes it had a time machine right about now. In the 2024 school board election, the union chose to endorse Colleen Worden, Clint Derringer, Tim Klepp and Laura Hull, all of whom won four-year seats. They, along with Valarie St. John, effectively make up a supermajority.

How did that work out for the GPEA?

If only we could borrow Marty McFly's DeLorean and travel back to the summer of 2024. Under the leadership of former Superintendent Andrea Tuttle and trustees Ahmed Ismail, Lisa Papas, Terry Collins, Ginny Jeup and Sean Cotton, the district and union agreed to a two-year contract that included 2 percent salary increases and step increases both years, with step increases basically being a 4 percent pay raise. The contract also ditched the much-despised "formula" and eliminated three teacher work days each year. With each day being equal to 0.5 percent of salary, that was an in-kind raise of 1.5 percent both years.

A statement released by the district the morning of Tuesday, Sept. 1, outlined recent offers both it and the teachers union have made at the bargaining table. Things have gotten so bad, the two sides now are in mediation, meaning a third party will be brought in to help settle the dispute.

It is more than a little ironic the district would decide to reveal such information on the same day teachers returned to the classroom, beginning with a welcome breakfast.

There have been 19 bargaining sessions so far, including three in the past week. It was unfortunate to learn the district offered four additional dates in the coming weeks, but the GPEA said it was "unavailable" on those days. That means the next scheduled session is Wednesday, Sept. 16. It is time to get this resolved.

OUR VIEW

School daze

One last full week of freedom.

It is hard to believe the calendar has flipped to September already. It seems like that Memorial Day backyard cookout was just last week.

For students, particularly in K-12, another school year is about to start.

Publisher Anne Gryzenia was spot-on in her I Say column last week, likening August to the Sunday night of the calendar.

Most adults probably recall having what she called the "Sunday Scaries" while growing up. That feeling at bedtime on a Sunday during the school year; coming to the realization that the fun is over.

As she wrote, for parents it usually starts innocently enough with an email from school. Then another. Then 47 more. Forms need to be filled out. Physicals scheduled. Sports registered for. School supplies purchased. Calendars synchronized. Kids need shoes, clothes, folders, a new lunchbox and God knows what else. Everyone has grown 6 inches overnight. College kids need to be moved in. Everything they have ever owned packed like Jenga into a car. Fall sports begin. Practices begin. Booster clubs begin. And suddenly the vacant squares on the family calendar look like air traffic control at O'Hare. Oh, and don't forget the fundraisers, speaking of squares.

But here is what she did not include: Chromebooks, school supply lists, haircuts, school picture outfits, uniform orders, spirit wear, new cleats (or skates or shoes), carpool plans, tutors, homecoming plans, college applications, lunch accounts that need money and schedule changes.

For high school athletes playing a fall sport, summer ended much sooner with the onset of practices and competitions. Our Aug. 20 and 27 editions had previews for all those sports for Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South high schools and University Liggett School. If you missed it, Aug. 27 also included "Kickoff!" The award-winning gridiron guide has everything you need to know for the upcoming season. And, speaking of football, be sure to see our Life & Leisure section today for everything you need to host the perfect tailgating get-together.

As everyone is aware, the Grosse Pointe Public School System resumes classes Tuesday, Sept. 8. While several schools, both private and public, in the area have already started the new school year, GPPSS and the Grosse Pointe Education Association stick to a post-Labor Day start, regardless of when it falls.

Although it did not affect GPPSS, there was a time when the Michigan Legislature passed a law that public schools could not start classes until after Labor Day. Legislators mistakenly thought it would boost tourism spending via late summer vacations. When they crunched the numbers, however, they found out people were not spending more; they were simply shifting the timing of their vacation. Lawmakers ended the experiment and returned the decision to districts, where it belongs.

We are curious to learn a bit more about changes within GPPSS once the new school year gets rolling.

How many parents, for example, will choose the option of not allowing their students to leave South and North during lunch? It could be used as a behavior modification tool or as a way to get Johnny's or Susie's grades up.

When the issue of a virtual school was discussed last spring, administrators said they were hoping to enroll 30 students who live in the district but attend virtual school elsewhere. There were 500 such students during the 2024-25 school year.

The district also is partnering with Wayne RESA, the county's intermediate school district, to add more Great Start Readiness Program classrooms. Those seats not only pay slightly higher than the K-12 per-pupil funding; administrators believe students who enter the district that early will stay until graduation.

We hope everyone has a great first day of classes and a successful, enjoyable year.

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GROSSE POINTE 7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST September 3 – 9 — LOCAL 4 Expect More.

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Chance T-Storms	Chance T-Storms	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Clear	Mostly Clear	Windy	Cloudy
50%	20%	20%	10%	20%	10%	10%
SUNRISE 6:58 am SUNSET 8:05 pm	SUNRISE 6:59 am SUNSET 8:04 pm	SUNRISE 7:00 am SUNSET 8:02 pm	SUNRISE 7:01 am SUNSET 8:01 pm	SUNRISE 7:02 am SUNSET 7:59 pm	SUNRISE 7:03 am SUNSET 7:58 pm	SUNRISE 7:04 am SUNSET 7:56 pm

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

LETTERS

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

I SAY By Laurel Kraus

Turning the page to September



Dark, shadowed paths aren't so unnerving when you have good company.

There's an obvious truth about life in there, but also a literal observance.

My brain is still running on summer time: when you can spontaneously step out for a walk at 9 p.m., there is still half a day left to live after leaving work and we're free from thoughts of whether or not to bring a jacket.

(Actually, always bring a jacket; restaurants are deceptively cold.)

Earlier this week, I set off for a quiet evening walk along a forested trail around 8 p.m. and was quickly met with the reality that we have now turned our calendars to September. By the time I got back to my car, it was nearly pitch-black within the trees — so much so that I never even saw the fork in the path I had initially taken and thought I still had a ways to go when I popped out in the parking lot.

And yet, I was nowhere near alone. There were couples carrying flashlights while walking their dogs, bikers speeding along with headlights and fellow casual walkers simply making use of their iPhone flashlight applications — all also unwilling just yet to surrender to evenings spent indoors or to forfeit the lingering summer warmth.

The good news is that while After 6 on Kercheval may be over for the year, there are still plenty of upcoming opportunities for Pointers to get outside and enjoy a bit of community.

Mark your calendars for these upcoming events and ceremonies:

Straight away this weekend, the City and Farms will celebrate the end of the summer season at the park. The Pier Park End of Summer Bash is all day Saturday, Sept. 5, culminating with a fireworks show at dusk. The Neff Park End of Summer Resident Appreciation event is a more low-key evening Saturday, Sept. 5, with a showing of "The Sandlot" at 8 p.m.

Next weekend, Grosse Pointe PorchFest in the City triumphantly returns for its second year with a packed lineup featuring double the bands from its inaugural year in 2025. Music will drift through neighborhoods from noon to 5:30 p.m., followed by an afterparty and additional band performance in The Village at 6 p.m.

Next Friday also poignantly is the 25th anniversary of the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001. Pointers have several opportunities to remember the lives lost and heroes of that day, between The War Memorial's Service of Remembrance at 8:30 a.m. on the lakefront lawn of the historic Alger house and the AMVETS Post 57 25th Anniversary 9/11 Ceremony at 6 p.m. at 19730 Harper, Harper Woods.

Further into the fall, several Pointes will hold fall festivals for their residents:

In the City, the Fall Harvest at Neff Park is 3 to 6 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 26; the Farms Fall Harvest at Pier Park is Saturday, Oct. 10; and the Woods has Fall Fest at city hall from 5 to 8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 3.

The Village also is set to host an inaugural Family Fun Day & Tailgate Party prior to the Lions game noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 11.

"And all at once, summer collapsed into fall."
— Oscar Wilde

YESTERDAY'S HEADLINES

1951

75 years ago this week

CITY LICENSING FOUGHT IN SUIT: A suit was filed August 31, against the City of Grosse Pointe by Attorney James N. McNally on behalf of the Grosse Pointe Men's Business Association and other plaintiffs. The plaintiffs take the position that the ordinance for the licensing of stores and businesses in the City of Grosse Pointe, adopted April 18, is not a licensing ordinance but a taxing ordinance.

ARMY LEASES TRACT IN CHALFONTE FROM SCHOOL BOARD: The Army has leased the 16-acre tract of land owned by the Board of Education and held for future building requirements, on Chalfonte Road between the Congregational Church north of Lothrup Road and Belanger Road, it was learned just as the NEWS was going to press. While attempts to contact both military and school officials were unsuccessful, it is understood that a statement will be made shortly giving details of the transaction and the exact use to which the property will be put by the Army.

SEVEN CASES OF DUTCH ELM DISEASE REPORTED IN POINTE: Seven positive cases of the Dutch elm disease have been discovered in the Pointe area, with the possibility that there may be more, it was learned through a canvass of the various municipal offices. All of the seven diseased trees have been cut down and burned.

1976

50 years ago this week

GPEA PICKETING TO CONTINUE: Grosse Pointe Education Association officials, who are pessimistic about the possibilities of settling their contract in the seven days left before the opening of school, say they are now "not certain

See HEADLINES, page 8A

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Gold & Diamond Dangle Earrings



Star Sapphire & Diamond Ring



44.5ct Tanzanite Unmounted Gem



18k &14k Gold Diamond Earrings



Marc Chagall (1887-1985)
'Take Up Again, Muses...Theocritus'



Alexander Calder (1898-1976)
'Compsition With Circles'



Gerome Kamrowski (1914-2004)
'Animal'



Charles McGee (1924-2021)
'Untitled (Abstract Composition)'



Jim Dine (B. 1935)
'Eight Hearts'



Clement Meadmore (1929-2005)
Bronze Sculpture

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AMVETS to unveil memorial plaque at Sept. 11 ceremony

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

HARPER WOODS — The AMVETS Post 57 annually holds a service remembering the lives lost in the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.

This year, for the 25th anniversary, it will be attended by Cecilia Jean DuPont, who was the first child born in Michigan on Sept. 11, 2001.

"She was born at 9:03 a.m. on Sept. 11," said Kathy Sarvis-Adamski, ceremony organizer. "She'll be 25 that day and will lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance. She's from St. Clair Shores and she was born at St. John Hospital."

The AMVETS Post 57 25th Anniversary 9/11 Ceremony honoring victims, first responders and veterans takes place at 6 p.m. Friday, Sept. 11, at 19730 Harper, Harper Woods.

"Everybody's invited," Sarvis-Adamski said. "Bring a lawn chair."

The ceremony will feature the unveiling of a memorial plaque — donated by the Fox Creek Questers #216 — which contains the names of nine individuals with direct connections to Michigan who died in the 9/11 attacks but were not known to be associated with the state until updated research in 2022.

It will be placed, alongside the original plaque of names, on the post's permanent 9/11 memorial — a 4-foot, 2,001-pound steel beam recovered from the North Tower of the World Trade Center.

"Among the nine names is Todd Beamer," Sarvis-Adamski said. "He was the one from United Flight 93 who is known for saying, 'Are you guys ready? OK, let's roll,' as he helped lead the counterattack against the hijackers. He was born in Flint."

Sarvis-Adamski will share with attendees the story of Sept. 11, 2001, before former Harper Woods fire chief Sean Gunnery introduces keynote speaker John Hall, a retired U.S. Army colonel who lives in Grosse Pointe Farms.

Musical performances will include "Amazing Grace" by the St. Andrew's Society of Detroit Pipe Band; the national anthem and "God Bless America" by Rhoby Rausch, a voice instructor at Grosse Pointe Music Academy; "Let There Be Peace on Earth" by the AMVETS Post 57 Ladies Auxiliary; and "God Bless the USA" by Affinity Music.

The ceremony also will include a reading of the Michigan lives lost on 9/11, playing of taps and a ceremonial bell ringing by Harper Woods Firefighter Eddie Jujaka for the 343 firefighters who died that day.

Following the ceremony, attendees may gather for food and a cash bar.

Donors for the ceremony and food include Winter Sausage, Kroger, Jillian's Coney Island, Josef's European Bakery, the Knights of Columbus and Gilbert's Pro Hardware.



FILE PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

The 9/11 memorial at AMVETS Post 57 was dedicated in 2017, and features a 4-foot, 2,001-pound steel beam recovered from the North Tower of the World Trade Center.

HEADLINES:

Continued from page 7A

the teachers will go back to the classroom on September 9." Charging the Board of Education negotiation team is "just killing time" at the table, the union began what they call a "public information campaign" last week with an open letter to the community, picketing in front of the St. Clair Avenue board offices and a challenge to administrators for a public debate.

FIREMEN SET TO OPPOSE GPC MERGER: Grosse Pointe City firefighters walked out of contract negotiations August 25, protesting the City's proposals on consolidation of their police and fire departments. Firefighters association spokesmen said the group refused to discuss consolidation, but would instead fight it through arbitration sessions, which should begin next month.

NEW OWNERS OF P AND J OPTIMISTIC OVER FUTURE: The new owners of the Punch and Judy Theater are determined to keep the sturdy red brick landmark at 21 Kercheval Avenue from becoming a casualty of progress. Considering the competition the old theater faces — mammoth multiple auditorium movie houses — the survival of this Pointe institution of almost 50 years depends on the many people who would hate to see it close, but never patronize it.

2001

25 years ago this week

SEARCH FOR NEW SOUTH PRINCIPAL IS DEMANDING, ELUSIVE: The search is open, but has not quite started, for a principal of Grosse Pointe South High School. Since Benjamin Walker announced his resignation in June, the Grosse Pointe Public School System has posted the opening with a number of professional organizations on the district's website, but is not yet actively recruiting.

SOUTH QUARTERBACK PERFECT IN HIS FIRST VARSITY START: Perfection isn't often present in the opening game of the football season. But Grosse Pointe South junior quarterback Kyle Hacias had a perfect day throwing the football last week as the Blue Devils opened with a convincing 41-13 non-league victory against Detroit Southeastern. Hacias completed 11 of 11 passes for 203 yards, all in the first half, in his first varsity start.

2016

10 years ago this week

NEW DIRECTOR, FAMILIAR FACE: If you think the new director of public safety looks familiar, you're right. John Kosanke, a 26-year veteran of the department, took over the role of director this week, following his predecessor Bruce Smith's move to city administrator. Since joining the department in 1990 as a public safety officer, Kosanke has risen through the ranks to the top spot, with just a brief break earlier this summer, when he retired with the rank of lieutenant.

CRAIG APPOINTED P&R SUPERVISOR: Chad Craig has one of the best offices in all of the Pointes. As the new supervisor of the Parks and Recreation department in Grosse Pointe Park, Craig can step out of his office at Windmill Pointe Park and see the lake and marina to his right and the swimming pool and Lavins Center to his left.

FOUNDATION AND PSOS ON A ROLL: There's something disarming about a policeman on a bicycle. "It's not as intimidating as being in a police car," said John Shook, president of the City of Grosse Pointe Foundation. "They just blend in and are part of the community." For those reasons and more, the foundation donated two mountain bikes plus related equipment to the public safety department.

Women's empowerment focus of Rotary meeting

The Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe welcomed guest speakers Dina Sidhom and Hani Seif to its Aug. 26 meeting. The pair shared information about several community programs supported through the Rotary Club of Cairo Sunrise in Egypt. The presentation focused on how education, health and economic opportunity can work together to strengthen communities and improve the overall quality of life.

Sidhom has been involved with Rotary since 2016. Originally trained in architecture, she later changed careers and moved to journalism. Seif specializes in laboratory work and has a degree in engineering. They spoke about Rotary's work in Egypt, as well as how they used their educational backgrounds to make a greater change and lasting impact in Egypt.

The Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe has partnered with and funded the Rotary Club of Cairo Sunrise to support proj-

See ROTARY, page 10A



PHOTO COURTESY OF LYLA KIM

From left, Grosse Pointe Rotarian Eva Habib, Club President Dave Colton and guest speakers, Dina Sidhom and Hani Seif.

CASES:

Continued from page 5A

defendants were arrested, the 9mm pistol did not have any bullets in it and showed no signs of use.

Bates and Carlisle were arrested on Kercheval near Fisher after their Equinox jumped a curb and struck a light pole.

Adams testified both defendants waived their Miranda rights and agreed to speak to him after their arrest, admitting they were with each other at the incident on Anita.

Adams said Carlisle, who does not have a criminal record, told him the two only met earlier that night while drinking at a bar on Gratiot in Roseville. After attending an after-hours club, Carlisle told him Bates said he "had to see his peeps first" to get some money owed to him. Officers did not say whether that meant Bates and the victim were related or knew each other.

Carlisle also told Adams that Bates forced him to take the gun because he does not have a record or children. Sgt. Joshua Ina from the City of Grosse Pointe told the court Carlisle had the gun in his pocket when he arrested him, while Public Safety Officer Andre Jones, also from the City, said Bates had two sets of keys on him when he searched him, one containing a Cadillac logo and the other a Chevrolet logo.

The two are facing several serious felony charges, including carjacking, which is punishable by up to life in prison. Michigan law treats an attempted carjacking the same as a successful one.

Bates also faces habitual offender charges for prior felonies and currently is on parole. His bond was set at $500,000, 10 percent cash/surety.

Metry previously lowered Carlisle's bond from $50,000, 10 percent cash/surety to $35,000.

If Carlisle makes bond, he will be placed under house arrest with a tether but would be allowed to leave the house to go to work if his attorney provides the court with proof of his client's employment and hours he'd be working.

Correction

The story "Being coy about the millage" should have read: If passed, the millage is forecast to raise $3,934,000 revenue at a cost of $308.75 per year for owners of property with taxable values of $475,000.







PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

The bargaining team for GPEA. James Fisher, Ferry magnet; Pam Albrecht, Monteith; Taryn Loughlin, South; Jackie Shelson, South; and Heather Albrecht, Pierce, Defer, Richard and Ferry.



Teachers catch up with other teachers and grab a bite to eat before the welcome-back-to-school meeting began.

UNION:

Continued from page 1A

percent salary increase for 2027-28.

"The district was within its right to publish table proposals; however, it's unfortunate that they were selective about what they chose to publish as it does not reflect the comprehensive package the GPEA is trying to bargain for all its members," GPEA Co-Presidents Taryn Loughlin and Jackie Shelson said in a statement. "We are not going to let a communication with incomplete context from the district paint a negative picture of the good-faith efforts the GPEA has brought to the process. The GPEA has been transparent with its members these last four months. The district's attempt to suggest otherwise is unhelpful. We have several dates on the calendar to bargain with the district and we will continue to do so in good faith."

The board in June approved four-year contracts with the Grosse Pointe Educational Paraprofessional Association, Grosse Pointe Educational Plant Association (maintenance) and Grosse Pointe Educational Office Association that include 3 percent raises each year, step increases for eligible employees and hourly longevity raises for paraprofessionals after their fifth year of employment starting at 55 cents and topping out at $2.30 after 25 years.

The board last month approved a three-year contract with the Grosse Pointe Administrators Association, which is made up of principals, assistant principals and special education directors.

It includes 1 percent raises the first two years and a 2 percent raise the final year. It also includes a reduction of the last five working days for administrators in June 2027 and the first five in August 2027, an effective pay raise of 2.1 percent for 11-month administrators and 1.9 percent for 12-month administrators. Contributions to each administrator's tax-sheltered account will go from a flat $2,000 annually to 2 percent of their base salary. A new eight-step pay scale for administrators includes yearly raises ranging between $5,019 and $5,990, depending on position.

"Across GPPSS, educators are already hard at work preparing classrooms, planning lessons, organizing materials, meeting with colleagues and getting ready to welcome students back," the GPEA posted on social media Monday, Aug. 31. "At the same time, beginning a new school year without a settled contract brings uncertainty for educators and their families at a time when the focus should be on students and a strong start to the year.

"We remain hopeful that a fair and competitive agreement can be reached before students return."

The district's statement said it proposed four dates over the next two weeks to continue bargaining, but that the two sides do not plan to meet again until Wednesday, Sept. 16.

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South choir raising money for choreography, costumes and travel

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — Boosters for the Grosse Pointe South High School choir are conducting a shoe drive to raise money through an organization called Funds2Orgs.

The organization, based in Florida, collects gently worn, used and new shoes and pays groups based on the total weight of shoes collected.

The shoes are then redistributed throughout the Funds2Orgs network of micro-enterprise and small business partners, particularly working to help create, maintain and grow small businesses in developing countries where economic opportunity and jobs are limited.

"We are excited about our shoe drive," said Renee Jakubowski, fundraising chairperson for the South choirs. "We know that most people have extra shoes in their closets they would like to donate to us. By doing so, we raise money for the choir students and we have the chance to help families in developing nations who need economic opportunities. It's a win-win for everyone."

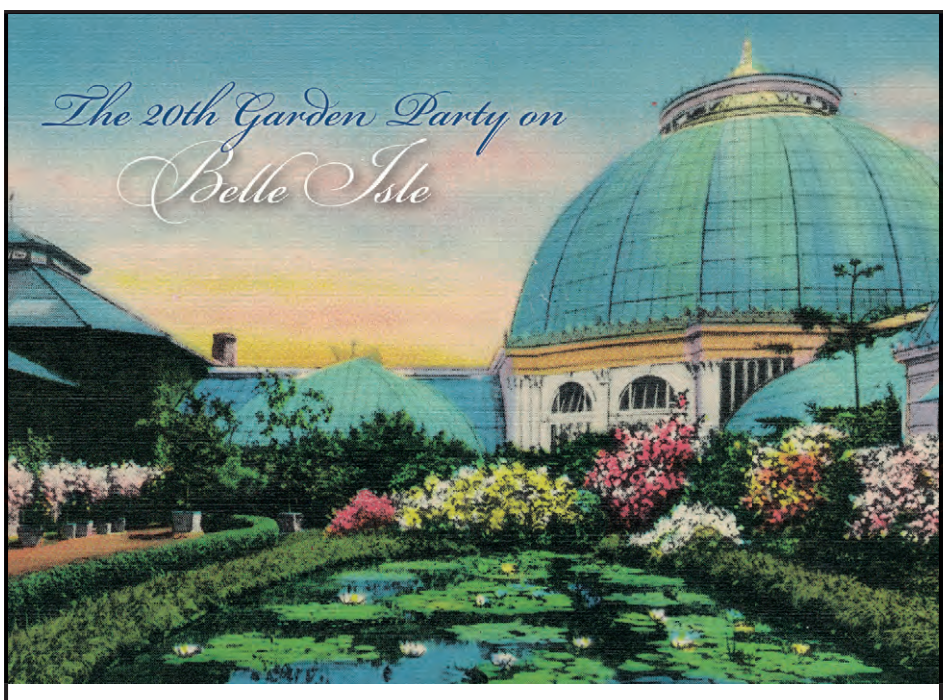
Shoes can be dropped off at the main gym doors off the S lot near Door L. Go to gpsouthchoir.org to find information about upcoming shows and how to purchase tickets.



COURTESY PHOTO

Botmasterz thanks AAUW for decade of support

Botmasterz, the all-girls robotics team from Grosse Pointe South and Grosse Pointe North high schools, made a surprise presentation to the Grosse Pointe chapter of AAUW at the final Kercheval After 6 Saturday, Aug. 22.
AAUW provided financial support to get the team started 10 years ago and give girls more access to STEM activities.
From left, Marla Nemanic, AAUW scholarship chair; Roseanne Horne, AAUW program chair; Maureen Anthony, AAUW member; Botmasterz team members Evie Goerlich, Aria Burrascano, Helen Haindl and Isabella Chaptini.



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DDA grants return

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — As with Hostess reissuing Suzy Q's, the Downtown Development Authority is bringing back an old favorite.

The DDA's Business Improvement Grant Program resumes next month.

"We didn't have it last year," said Nick Sizeland, DDA director and city manager.

Applications are accepted starting Sept. 1. Awards are issued on a first-come, first-served basis.

Grants up to $3,000 per property are available within DDA boundaries along both sides of Jefferson from the Detroit border to Somerset, including the municipal campus. Funding for the authority comes from capturing district property taxes that must be spent within the same area.

"The program is designed to leverage DDA funds with private investment while supporting visible, lasting improvements to the commercial district," according to a memo Sizeland sent Aug. 19 to the DDA board.

Funds are restricted.

Recipients are required to post a dollar-for-dollar match. In order to receive a $3,000 grant, the applicant must agree to put up $3,000 of his or her own.

"Eligible projects must be permanent exterior improvements that provide a visible enhancement to the property," Sizeland wrote. "Examples include façade and entryway improvements, doors and windows, awnings, architectural details, façade lighting, qualifying fencing and limited landscaping or hardscaping associated with a façade or entryway."

Not eligible are projects considered routine maintenance.

"The program will not fund routine maintenance or general repairs, including tuck-pointing, power washing, roof work, driveway or sidewalk repairs, correction of code violations, mechanical systems, interior renovations or parking lot improvements," according to the memo.

"The program is pretty similar to the old one," Sizeland said. "The only amendment or change I'm going to make to it is to allow tuck-pointing to be considered an expense on a front-facing façade. That typically had been ineligible. We can now consider that an enactment because you're keeping the integrity and infrastructure of the building."

The DDA budget has $7,000 for grants.

"Pending interest, we have enough fund balance (savings) to go back and add more to the grant program," Sizeland said.

Marina plans roll along

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Marina renovations are nearing the end of the planning stage.

Final design drawings and specifications are due mid-October. An invitation for contractors to bid on construction is scheduled for distribution early January 2027.

Efforts are proceeding along the "measure twice, cut once" way of thinking.

City representatives are holding biweekly meetings with Abonmarche, the marina consulting firm responsible for the preconstruction drawings and specifications.

Another underwater assessment of the marina will be scheduled. So will another underwater dive investigation.

Chad Craig, director of parks and recreation, said Park Operations Manager Mike Krause met with Abonmarche's team July 31.

"They went through the marina to look at everything the project was going to involve — the timeline, piers, the bulkhead and elevations (for docks)," Craig said. "We followed that with a one-hour meeting (Aug. 19)."

Discussions concerned locating buried utility infrastructure near the inner seawall at Windmill Pointe Park. Also being coordinated were nearly one dozen preparatory borings throughout the marina.

As final designs are still in the works, planners are considering changes to the final product.

"We've gone back and forth for a while about putting seven or so floating docks for Jet Skis in a space on Pier 3 that we've never been able to use," Craig said.

He said pods would generate extra revenue for the marina fund, which is built by boat slip rental fees, not general property tax receipts.

Money from the fund will be used to pay for the marina project.

"As of now, Abonmarche is only contracted through the bidding process," Craig said. "We have not hired them yet for (the construction process). I'm not saying we're not going to."

"City council has not declined to hire Abonmarche," said Michael Hindelang, chairman of the recreation commission. "Council wanted to develop bid specs first and hold off approving construction supervision until we get a contractor identified and a construction schedule."

The latest schedule sets September 2027 as the period for the construction contractor to mobilize and stage equipment and supplies at the park. Work ensues with completion prior to Memorial Day 2028.

"Abonmarche has asked us if we have contractors that we want them to (consider)," said Tom Fraser, harbormaster. "I've identified three or four."

Fraser said he recommended the firm that recently rebuilt the marina entrance breakwall.

"Those guys were great," he said.

ROTARY:

Continued from page 8A

ects focused on education, health and empowerment. Through its literacy programs, more than 1,150 women have learned how to read and write, helping decrease the rate of illiteracy in Egypt. Another initiative targets smoking and drug use: In neighborhoods where drug dealing is common, the club offers educational programs to steer children — some as young as 12 or 13 — away from addiction.

Another recent project is the Women's Empowerment Project, which provides women with medical care, training and equipment to produce and sell food products. In Egypt, many women are not given the option to learn how to read, write or support their families financially. To combat this, the Rotary Club of Cairo Sunrise has worked to eliminate these struggles by helping women in rural areas increase their income and improve their knowledge and skills on proper nutrition, food processing and food conservation. Through these opportunities, 33 women have received medical checkups; were given access to food production machines such as stoves, grinders and mixers; learned how to sell and package products; and have gained access to clean water.

On the educational side, the club has created programs assisting those who struggle with disabilities, helping children overcome psychological, behavioral, social or educational problems to reach their full potential. Some of the club's support systems include a carpentry workshop for youth, specific academies for the visually impaired, equipped computer centers and access to Montessori classrooms.

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Celebrations set at St. Clare of Montefalco

Project Hope 5K & Pray is Sept. 12

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church hopes to strengthen community while supporting two of its parishioners through its annual Project Hope event, 5K & Pray, which takes place Saturday, Sept. 12, at the church, 1401 Whittier, Grosse Pointe Park.

The "5K" portion of the event begins at 9 a.m.

"It's more of a fun run," said John Vismara, who is co-leading this year's event with his wife, Lisa. "We're doing a two-loop route this year. All abilities are welcome; anybody can run, walk, walk the dog, bring a stroller."

Face painting, a drawing contest, playground access and other activities for children also are part of the fun.

The "Pray" portion begins at 8 a.m., when church doors open to the community for adoration. Parishioners and the public are welcome to stop in, light a candle and say a prayer. Adoration culminates with 4 p.m. Mass, followed by dinner.

"We ask people to light a candle for anyone facing any difficulties," the Rev. Andrew Kowalczyk said. "… That is St. Clare: supporting people as a community that prays together and refuses to let anyone face challenges alone."

Two parishioners — this year's Project Hope recipients — will be honored during the dinner.

"Bruce Hubbell is a longtime member of St. Clare," Vismara said. "He was head of the parish council when the transition from the Augustinian to the Michaelite Fathers happened, which brought us Father Andrew. He was active during a very tumultuous time in our parish.



COURTESY PHOTOS

The Project Hope 5K & Pray invites the community to run, walk or roll through the neighborhood to raise money for two St. Clare parishioners.

"A year ago, his symptoms began," he continued. "He was diagnosed with a rare cancer called pericardial mesothelioma, which attacks around the heart."

Hubbell underwent surgery in New York and is receiving chemotherapy and proton radiation therapy locally.

"He's had a tough road," Vismara said. "It's a rough cancer that's debilitating, but he's got a beautiful attitude and is really working through a hard treatment and hard diagnosis."

The second recipient is Jamie Dempsey, perhaps better known as Jamie Edmonds, a longtime sports anchor for WDIV-TV Channel 4 and co-host of "'JR Morning" on WJR-AM.

"She's a young mother who was diagnosed with breast cancer earlier this year," Vismara said. "She got regular mammograms. Six months before her diagnosis, her mammogram was completely clear. Then, six months later she's diagnosed with this super aggressive form of cancer.

"She's such a good person," he continued. "She does a podcast, 'Angels Along the Way,' documenting her journey. It's really opened my eyes to issues happening with people going through chemo that you never think about. … She's been really open about her journey. She does the podcast with people who've helped her through the process. I think she's doing it to help others who are going through something similar."

All proceeds — and all prayers — during the 5K & Pray will benefit Hubbell and Dempsey.

"We as a parish are helping parish families who are facing life challenges," Kowalczyk said. "This is our expression of support for parishioners.

"… Project Hope is not only for people of St. Clare," he added. "It's for anyone struggling with life challenges. At the 4 p.m. Mass, we pray for all these people. It's quite a view to see 200 candles in front of the altar."

"It's all about community," Vismara said. "Sometimes when you get a diagnosis, people don't know how to react to you. You might feel lonely or awkward. If we can help break that awkwardness, we can create an environment that shows you're not an outsider, you're not weird or different. We're here to support you however we can.

"… It's our little way of showing you you're not alone," he added. "You have a community behind you. These are scary times. What little support we can provide hopefully helps on the journey, helps you feel less alone and feel cared for."

To register, become a sponsor or donate, visit projecthopeofmichigan.com

To watch an episode of "Angels Along the Way" featuring Kowalczyk, visit tinyurl.com/mresf2z

About the recipients



Bruce Hubbell

Bruce Hubbell and his wife, Maureen, moved to Grosse Pointe Park from Chicago 25 years ago with their three children, just as their oldest was beginning kindergarten. Bridget, Aidan and Mary Claire went through religious education and confirmation at St. Clare; Bridget was married there in 2022.

Hubbell was active in the St. Clare community many years before joining the parish council as a member at large in 2006. He served as vice president in 2007-08, then as president from 2010 to 2016, during which time St. Clare transitioned from the Augustinians to the Michaelite Fathers. His activity on the council was during a pivotal time for St. Clare and included many challenges and changes.

Following his time on the parish council, Hubbell became a Eucharistic minister, though he stopped those duties due to ongoing cancer treatment.

In summer 2025, Hubbell started to have cardiac symptoms that appeared related to previously diagnosed atrial fibrillation. A cardiac ablation revealed enlarged lymph nodes in his chest that turned out to be cancerous. By February 2026, it was confirmed he had pericardial mesothelioma. The treatment plan for his cancer is multimodal: removing the pericardium via open-heart surgery, completing adjuvant chemotherapy and finishing with proton radiation.



Jamie Dempsey with her husband, Ryan, and their daughter, Olivia.

Jamie Dempsey moved to Michigan in 2007 and has been a visible and active member of the community, reporting on the local Detroit sports scene since 2013 with WDIV-TV and WJR-AM.

She met her husband, Ryan, in 2014 and moved to the Grosse Pointe area. She joined St. Clare in 2016. She has been a participant since then and her daughter, Olivia, was baptized at St. Clare in 2022.

Dempsey has an aggressive form of breast cancer (triple-negative) that was discovered seven months after a "clean" mammogram. She is currently undergoing chemotherapy and is expecting to have surgery and possibly radiation therapy following chemo treatments.

She is actively sharing her experience on her podcast, "Angels Along the Way." She decided to start the podcast to connect with other women who have gone through breast cancer or are going through similar battles. Her hope is others will feel less alone in their fight.

Masses commemorate 45th anniversary of Pope Leo's ordination

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church has a special connection to Pope Leo XIV.

On Sept. 10, 1981, the future pope was ordained into the diaconate at the Grosse Pointe Park church by Bishop Thomas Gumbleton.

To celebrate the 45th anniversary of the ordination, the church will host special Masses the weekend of Sept. 12 and 13.

"We are giving thanks to God for the gift of Pope Leo's ordination to the diaconate," said the Rev. Andrew Kowalczyk, pastor of St. Clare. "He was a deacon at St. Clare in 1981 with the Order of Augustinians."

Though now in the care of the Order of Michaelites, St. Clare was founded by the Augustinians, who oversaw the parish until 2012.

To help celebrate the 45th anniversary, retired Bishop Daniel Turley, OSA, will take part in the weekend Masses, which take place at 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 12, and 9 and 11 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 13. Receptions will follow the Sunday Masses.

Turley shares a connection with Pope Leo XIV, who joined the Augustinian mission in Peru in 1985, serving as an aide to Bishop John McNabb, who also later served as a priest at St. Clare. McNabb was replaced in Peru by Turley.

"Both of them knew Holy Father, who was a priest when he ministered there," Kowalczyk said.

Turley will bless a commemorative plaque created in Pope Leo XIV's honor that will be displayed at the church.

"It's quite an honor for our parish, of all the parishes in the U.S., that Holy Father was ordained as deacon here in our neighborhood," Kowalczyk said. "God, in mysterious ways, works through our local community, our local priests, to bring something beautiful to the larger world.

"This is a wonderful testament to his ministry that was started here," he added. "It's a beautiful connection and we want to give thanks to God for that."

The 45th anniversary celebration falls under the larger umbrella of St. Clare's 100th anniversary, which has been celebrated at various events throughout the year.

"We've had fantastic celebrations so far," Kowalczyk said.

Following its kickoff in February, the church has hosted special concerts, a parish picnic, a centennial tree dedication and other events.

Following the anniversary celebration of Pope Leo XIV's ordination, St. Clare will host its main event — a single Mass at 10 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 11 — "so all the community can come together," Kowalczyk said.

A 100th anniversary dinner at The War Memorial that follows the Mass has sold out.

"We're grateful for that," he added, noting Augustinian and Michaelite Fathers, as well as priests who previously served at St. Clare, plan to be in attendance.

For more information, visit stclarem.org/100th-anniversary



New AAUW event celebrates students, raises funds

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

The American Association of University Women of Grosse Pointe wants to celebrate its commitment to the community by hosting a first-time event open to all.

The Celebrating STEAM Stars of Tomorrow fundraiser takes place 4:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 20, at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, 788 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Shores. The program will spotlight scholarship winners from Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South high schools; members of the high schools' all-girls robotics team, Botmasterz; and winners of the Listen to Women art contest.

"To celebrate all the girls that we help, we're hosting Celebrating STEAM Stars of Tomorrow," said Marie DeLuca, event chairwoman. "These are three programs we're very proud of."

Scholarships

Since 2020, the AAUW has provided scholarships to high school senior girls who plan to pursue a career in science, technology, engineering or math. Each application includes letters of recommendation, the student's grade-point average and a statement about their involvement in the community and their school.



Dr. Suja Sukumar

The 2026 scholarships were awarded to:

Grosse Pointe South — Sigrid Schwartz, who plans to pursue aerospace engineering with a focus on thermal propulsion; Riley Burgess, who will study biochemistry with a focus on psychiatry at Michigan State University; and Eleanor Sahutske, who will study biomedical engineering at the University of Michigan.

Grosse Pointe North — Alessia Morreale, who will study molecular biology at U of M; Cailey Hard, who plans to pursue biology/pre-med; Sadie Dugan, who will study biochemistry with a focus on oncology at U of M; and Kendal Bradley, who will study biology with a focus on cardiology at the University of Detroit Mercy.

Schwartz, who was accepted to multiple universities, was the recipient of the Spitzley Family Scholarship, on behalf of AAUW Grosse Pointe.

"Marion and John Spitzley give us a scholarship every year that's $1,500," DeLuca noted.

Botmasterz

In 2016, AAUW Grosse Pointe helped launch a robotics program at Defer Elementary School and continued supporting the team as members progressed into high school.

"The girls went through Pierce (Middle School), then to South, where they are now," DeLuca said. "They've been pretty successful."

In addition to financial support, AAUW Grosse Pointe has provided students with mentorship, leadership opportunities, community visibility, connections with female role models and access to STEM opportunities.

To honor the support they've received from AAUW Grosse Pointe, the Botmasterz are researching the lineage of branch founder Lilian Pear. They plan to invite her family to Celebrating STEAM Stars of Tomorrow.

Art contest

AAUW Grosse Pointe expanded from STEM to STEAM by adding art into the mix. It began hosting its Listen to Women art contest for students in 2021. Teens ages 14 to 18 are invited to submit artwork — paintings, drawings, sculptures, mixed media, collage or other forms — that explores the life of a woman, whether celebrating achievements, predicting the future or portraying issues women currently face.

First-, second- and third-place winners earn $200, $150 and $100 cash prizes, respectively, for their work.

The 2025 winners were:

First place — Fu'ture Knight for "Select Your Character"

Second place — Hanna Jansen for "The Smile That Lies" and Violet Sarcona for "Spelling It Out"

Third place — Lucy Foster for "The Riot" and Anna Scott for "Penitence"

Honorable mention — Lilyanna Burden for "Identity," Ashlynn Stemmerich for "Tapping," Isabelle Zuehike for "That Long Term Goal" and Claire Schienke for "Growing Up (Still a Kid)"

Andrea Comerford earned Artist to Watch accolades for "Battle Scars"

The event

In addition to heavy hors d'oeuvres and beverages, Celebrating STEAM Stars of Tomorrow will feature honorary chairwoman Dr. Suja Sukumar, a Grosse Pointe Woods resident and senior staff physician at Henry Ford Health.

"She's an internist but also deals with chronic diseases," DeLuca said. "In addition to that, she's an author of young adult thrillers. She won the Anthony Award for 'When Mimi Went Missing.' She really embodies all of what we do."

Additionally, AAUW scholarship and art contest winners have been invited to attend.

"We're going to have Botmasterz there, giving demonstrations on what their robot does," DeLuca said. "The art winners' work will be displayed as well.

"It's going to be a gathering of people to celebrate all the girls, with good food from the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club and decorations that reflect our theme, which is STEAM."

Ellen Chapin, who started the Botmasterz, and Kathy Conlon, who chairs the art contest, also will speak.

The event is being sponsored by Strattec.

Tickets are $125 and may be purchased online at aauwgp.net. Checks also may be mailed to AAUW-GP, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236.

Proceeds benefit the very programs being celebrated.

"We'd like to continue the programs we sponsor, but it requires money," DeLuca said.

About AAUW

Established in 1944, AAUW Grosse Pointe was created to advance gender equity through research, education and advocacy.

DeLuca has been a member for 20 years.

"I joined because there's such a disparity in salaries," she said. "Women are overlooked so much. I decided to get involved with AAUW for my three granddaughters. I want the very best for them.

"… I want to encourage young girls to reach for the stars and not be hampered by factors put in their way to stop them from reaching for what they want," she added. "I would like for them to do what makes them happy."

Membership in AAUW Grosse Pointe costs $115 annually, a portion of which supports the national and state branches. The chapter hosts regular board meetings, as well as events that are open to all members. Its annual meeting takes place in May. It also includes subgroups that serve special interests, including fine arts, mystery writers, mahjong, sewing and other interests.

"There's something for everyone," DeLuca said, noting the chapter is a member of the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce. "We have very nice parties for members."

For more information, visit aauwgp.net

League hosts 'Public Library Millage: Get the Facts' program

The League of Women Voters Grosse Pointe will host a panel discussion about the public library millage renewal that will appear on the Nov. 3 ballot.

The discussion takes place 7 to 8:15 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 16, at St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 20475 Sunningdale, Grosse Pointe Woods.

Panelists include:

◆ Jessica Keyser, director, Grosse Pointe Public Library

◆ Robert Allen, president, Grosse Pointe Library Board of Trustees

◆ Paige Domzalski, executive director, Grosse Pointe Library Foundation

◆ Tracy McGee, president, Friends of the Grosse Pointe Library

The Grosse Pointe Public Library is asking voters to renew the current millage at the same rate for the next 15 years. The panel will explore the different aspects of how the public library is funded, followed by questions from the audience.

The Grosse Pointe Public Library offers books, magazines, newspapers and videos in both physical and digital formats, as well as story times, free classes for all ages, the DREAM Lab with 3D printers, live music and more.

The program is free, but registration is required by Thursday, Sept. 10. To register, visit lwvgrossepointe.org.





PHOTO COURTESY OF KATE TROST

Pictured from left are Renee Yancy, assistant district governor; Wayne Manchester, public relations chairman; Kim Spirou, district governor; and Bob Grambo, president of Grosse Pointe Sunrise Rotary.

A commitment to serve

Grosse Pointe Sunrise Rotary welcomed guest speaker longtime Rotarian and District Governor Kim Spirou to the club's Aug. 18 meeting at Ford House.

The community leader and founder of Spirou and Associates shared about her 35 years of Rotary service, including serving in numerous district and club leadership roles, leading more than a dozen humanitarian missions to Ghana, helping build health clinics and drill more than 100 water wells and raising $1.4 million to improve lives and create lasting impact. She also is a recipient of Rotary's Service Above Self Award.

Her presentation centered on a simple idea: Difference makers aren't superheroes. They are ordinary people who choose not to walk away.

Spirou shared stories about her childhood, her sister and her humanitarian work in Ghana, reminding club members that people don't have to be rich, famous or powerful to make a difference; they simply have to care enough to help the person standing right in front of them.

Spirou also presented Rotarian Wayne Manchester with the Difference Maker Award, recognizing his work with the Grosse Pointe Sunrise Rotary Club, as well as his humanitarian efforts in Honduras.

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, during the annual 5K/10K/walk. Register at grossepointerun.com

AREA ACTIVITIES

Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

◆ 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, Sept. 4, University Liggett School, 1045 Cook, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ Noon to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 9, Holy Innocents-St. Barnabas Parish, 26100 Ridgemont, Roseville.

◆ 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, Sept. 11, Recreation Authority of Roseville & Eastpointe, 18185 Sycamore, Roseville.

◆ Noon to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 16, Jefferson Masonic Lodge No. 553, 22000 E. 11 Mile, St. Clair Shores.

Register at redcrossblood.org.

The War Memorial

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

◆ Fold & Relax Origami, 5 to 7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 5.

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

◆ 9/11 Service of Remembrance: 25th Anniversary, 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Friday, Sept. 11.

◆ 2nd Saturdays: Dino Discovery, 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 12. Tickets are $10.

Library

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

Ewald branch, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park

◆ Storytime Shuffle with Miss Mo, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. to noon Tuesday, Sept. 8.

◆ Brave Belle's Book Club, 6 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 10.

Woods branch, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods

◆ Sensory Time, 9:30 to 10 a.m. Friday, Sept. 4.

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

◆ Library Bigs & Littles, 10 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 12.

◆ Reader Dog, 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 12.

◆ Teen Tabletop Game Club, 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 12.

Ford House

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

◆ Storytime: "A Color of His Own," 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays in September.

◆ Sip & Savor: Tequila Sunset, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 10. Tickets are $175.

◆ Story Festival, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 12.

Ya gotta LAUGH!

It pays to keep your sense of humor as you age — the benefits are no joke!

By Donna Zetterlund
Special Writer

George Bernard Shaw once said, "You don't stop laughing when you grow old; you grow old when you stop laughing."

In the spirit of being "only as old as you feel," humor can be one way to keep a youthful mindset — or to at least avoid letting some of the unwelcome changes that age brings get you down.

It's no secret that laughter makes you feel better, according to the experts at UCLA Health. Their research suggests that a regular giggle also helps seniors connect with others and can wash away stress — along with working magic within the body and mind to positively affect physical, emotional and mental health.

The science behind laughter and its benefits is shared by the Mayo Clinic's Dr. Edward T. Creagan. He notes that staying healthy isn't just about diet and exercise, but finding moments of humor, joy and human connectedness. During these times — like when you laugh with a friend or watch a funny video online — Dr. Creagan says the body is flooded with feel-good hormones like dopamine, oxytocin and endorphins.

"These are the love and chocolate hormones," said Dr. Creagan, meaning these are the same hormones that activate in the brain when falling in love or eating chocolate.

More, please.

Laughter also strongly supports healthy aging by stimulating many internal organs, like the heart and lungs. It can also help by strengthening immune system function and assisting with pain relief. In a nutshell, regular humor helps older adults stay mobile, sharp and resilient.

But ... how to bring more humor into your life?

Immerse your life in happiness. Hang out with your funny friends. Buy a few joke books and read some daily. Collect cartoons and read the comics (the Grosse Pointe News has an incredible weekly comics section!). Make a scrapbook of items that make you chuckle, including photos, greeting cards or classic comics. Exchange funny memes and TikToks online with friends and family.

Watch comedy movies and sitcoms regularly. Read the biographies of famous comedians you like, then see their videos or comedy specials. Listen to humorous podcasts. Visit a comedy club or take an improv class. Create game nights where laughter is sure to flow. Do bad karaoke.

Build humor into your life as regularly as possible and you will find your overall mood and outlook improving — along with your blood pressure, if you're lucky.

Remember, there is always something to laugh about if you don't sweat the small stuff, embrace that life is as much a comedy as it can be a tragedy — and that you can find humor in lots of little things along the way.

To keep the funny flowing, we've compiled a few hilarious quotes from some of the funniest people who have ever lived, along with a few cartoons about the lighter side of aging.

Let's get laughing!

"The older you get, the better you get. Unless you're a banana."
— Betty White

"The secret of staying young is to live honestly, eat slowly and lie about your age."
— Lucille Ball

"I want my children to have all the things I couldn't afford. Then I want to move in with them."
— Phyllis Diller



"So sorry to call you at 8:00 p.m. on a Saturday night...You probably already have plans"

"I'm at an age when my back goes out more than I do."
— Phyllis Diller

"Middle age is when you're faced with two temptations and you choose the one that will get you home by 9 o'clock."
— Ronald Reagan

"Whatever you may look like, marry a man your own age – as your beauty fades, so will his eyesight."
— Phyllis Diller

"The trouble with retirement is that you never get a day off."
— Abe Lemons



"Now that I'm retired and home all day – I'm so glad I married Mrs. Right. I just didn't realize her first name would be "Always."

"Don't let aging get you down. It's too hard to get back up."
— John Wagner

"'Old' will always be 15 years older than I am."
— Oliver Wendell Holmes

"The first sign of maturity is the discovery that the volume knob also turns to the left."
— Jerry M. Wright

"I've discovered that the key to aging well is lowering your expectations one birthday at a time."
— Jim Harper

"Inside every older person is a younger person wondering what the heck happened."
— Jennifer Yane

"My golden years are full of adventure. Every day I get to hunt for my reading glasses."
— Bob Newhart

"After 30, a body has a mind of its own."
— Bette Midler



"I've decided whatever age I am is the new 30."

"Don't worry about avoiding temptation. As you grow older, it will avoid you."
— Joey Adams

"Age is an issue of mind over matter. If you don't mind, it doesn't matter."
— Mark Twain

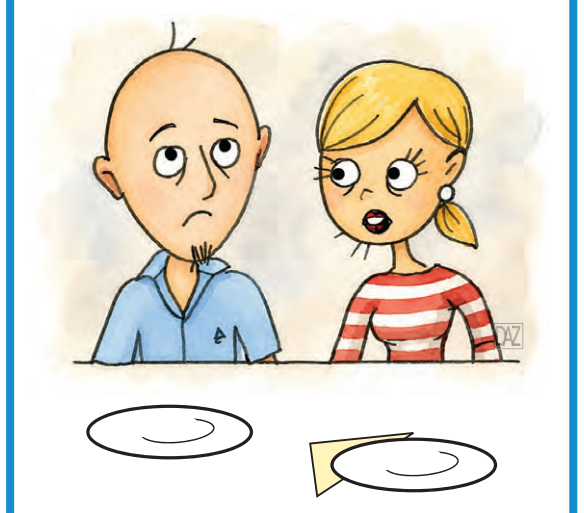
"When you are dissatisfied and would like to go back to youth, think of algebra."
— Will Rogers

"Looking 50 is great — if you're 60."
— Joan Rivers

"You know you are old when people no longer view you as a hypochondriac.
— Unknown

"You are only young once, but you can stay immature indefinitely."
— Ogden Nash

"I figured I was truly past middle age when I tried to flatten out the wrinkles in my pants — and discovered I wasn't wearing any."
— Unknown



"Honey, I think I have more hair on my chin than you have on your head."

"Wisdom doesn't necessarily come with age. Sometimes, age just shows up all by itself."
— Tom Wilson

"There are three stages of man: He believes in Santa Claus, he does not believe in Santa Claus, he is Santa Claus."
— Bob Phillips

"You know you're getting old when the candles cost more than the cake."
— Bob Hope

"The older I get, the better I used to be."
— Lee Trevino



" Grandpa, what kind of dinosaur are you?"

ILLUSTRATIONS BY DONNA ZETTERLUND

"I'm 60 years of age. That's 16 Celsius."
— George Carlin

"Old age is no place for sissies."
— Bette Davis



Second Time Around

By Margie Reins Smith

Childhood fears

When I was a preschooler, I sat between my parents in the front seat of our car. (Bucket seats hadn't been invented yet.) If the driver — my father, always — had to jam the brakes suddenly, he extended his right arm across the front seat.

My father was my seat belt. I was not afraid of crashing.

Fear is a universal childhood experience, however. Some fears are legitimate; others, in retrospect, are ridiculous, even humorous. When I was very young, I was afraid a tiger would escape from the zoo and terrorize our neighborhood. I also feared the slimy green monster that waited under my bed or in my closet at night.

Later, I worried about returning my library books. If the books were overdue, I imagined a policeman would knock on our front door and demand I hand then over, pronto, or I would go to jail. Jail was scary.

I was afraid to look directly at a burning lightbulb. My cousin (who was two years older and worldly wise about everything) said if you look directly at a burning lightbulb for more than five seconds, you'll go blind.

I was afraid of lightning; thunder; tornadoes; bees, wasps and hornets. I was afraid I'd drown in a swimming pool or disappear under a wave in Lake St. Clair.

The furnace in my grandmother's basement terrified me. I refused to descend the cellar steps because of the monster that lived in her utility room. The big black coal furnace had a half dozen outstretched overhead tentacles that created a maze of shiny metal ducts and pipes that were hot to the touch. When the furnace door was opened to shovel coal inside, I could see a roaring fire crackling and popping and threatening to burn the house down.

I was about 8 years old when my father took me to see a movie called "Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein." Abbott and Costello? Surely it would be funny. Much of it was humorous, but the film also depicted a man's face as he morphed into a werewolf. First, his face fills the screen. Then, accompanied by increasingly scary music, the audience watches as his face grows hairier and scarier. His lower jaw gradually protrudes and his teeth grow larger, sharper, wolf-like. I was so frightened, we had to leave the theater.

I was afraid of polio. During the month of August my parents insisted we avoid crowds because transmission of the polio virus was thought to be worse in hot weather and in crowded places. No movie theaters. No Sunday school or church. No playdates. I had seen photos of people in iron lungs and children with braces on their legs. Polio was a legitimate fear.

But I was ignorant of a multitude of bigger, scarier threats that loomed over all of us in the '40s and '50s. Every summer, a chemical cloud — DDT — was sprayed over our entire neighborhood. Nobody told kids to go inside until the cloud dissipated. We played tag and Red Rover while trapped in a toxic fog that was supposed to kill mosquitoes.

When my mother took me to the store for new school shoes, I looked forward to sliding my feet into the lower opening of a large cabinet that displayed a real-time X-ray of my feet inside the new shoes. It had an eyepiece at my level and when the salesman turned on the juice, I could watch the bones of my toes wiggle inside the shoes. I loved that.

But. I never heard of the atomic bomb. I didn't know what communism was. I was not aware of civil unrest, environmental pollution or toxic cigarette smoke. My dad smoked a pipe and my mother and dad both smoked Lucky Strikes.

Luckily, my dad never crashed the car, tigers stayed inside their cages, the library eased up on overdue fines and somehow — so far — I have escaped the consequences of DDT, cigarette smoke, X-rays and polio.

Opportunities to learn, connect and explore at The Helm

The Helm at the Boll Life Center is offering a variety of programs this September, giving older adults opportunities to learn something new, focus on their well-being, explore the community and connect with others.

The month begins with Lunch & Learn: Travels with Rufus from noon to 1 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 3. After 45 years of teaching at Brownell Middle School in Grosse Pointe Farms, Rufus McGaugh has traded the classroom for a passport full of adventures. Having explored 252 countries and territories, McGaugh will share stories and experiences from some of his recent travels, taking attendees on a journey across continents without leaving The Helm.

Health and wellness take the spotlight from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 10, with Sleep Education for Everyone, presented by Lisa Tams, LMSW, ACSW, a veteran staff member at Michigan State University Extension. Developed by sleep researchers, a certified sleep medicine specialist and MSU Extension educators, the program helps participants better understand their sleep patterns and learn practical, research-based strategies to improve sleep quality and overall well-being.

For those looking for a day out, The Helm will head to Great Lakes Crossing from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 16. Participants will have the afternoon to explore Michigan's largest outlet mall, shop and enjoy lunch at their leisure.

The Helm will host its Bonfire Bash from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 22. The evening will feature a barbecue dinner, s'mores and live entertainment by The Neighbors, offering an opportunity to gather around the fire and enjoy an evening with friends.

Additional classes, activities, travel opportunities and social programs are offered throughout the month.

Registration is required in advance for most programs and space may be limited. To learn more about September programs or to register, visit helmlife.org or call (313) 882-9600.

FOOTBALL SATURDAYS: MID-CENTURY EDITION





Vintage Grosse Pointe High football flyers from the 1950s capture the colorful spirit of the day—cheerleaders, marching bands, team rosters, and Coca-Cola advertisements all packed into vibrant designs. These flyers (part of our GPPSS Collection) offer a nostalgic glimpse into school traditions and community pride.

Score more fun facts the Pointes by scanning the QR code or visit **gphistorical.org**!

Grosse Pointe Historical Society

The hub for history in the Grosse Pointes

375 Kercheval Ave.
Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236
(313) 884-7010
www.gphistorical.org
development@gphistorical.org

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

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

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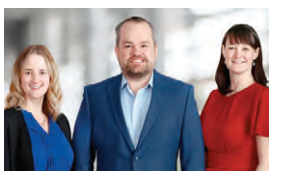

charles SCHWAB

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

Investing involves risk, including loss of principal.

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OBITUARIES

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

George Fielding Clark III

George Fielding Clark III, 90, passed away surrounded by his children Monday, Aug. 24, 2026.

George was a devoted husband for 64 years to the love of his life, Letitia, with whom he is reunited after just three short months apart. He was the proud father of Mark (Tracey), Craig Enrico (Reham), Jeff (Laura) and Kasey (Matt); and the proud grandfather of 12 grandchildren, known to him as Nos. 1 through 12: Brad, Andrew, Charlie, Ben, Annie, Mitch, Echo, Lindsey, Kaitlin, Fielding, Apollo and Bridget.

George was a partner and trial lawyer at Secrest Wardle law firm during his long and successful career. He loved sailing on the Dragon Lady, skiing in Otsego and participating in all the activities of a busy family life while raising his family in Grosse Pointe.

After retirement, he enthusiastically led the way into 30 years of adventure. He loved riding in the front car of roller coasters — especially with his grandchildren — as well as sailing, skiing, hiking, biking and any cliff he could jump off. He loved his friends and neighbors in Grosse Pointe, Punta Gorda, Fla., Port Sanilac and most recently American House Grosse Pointe. He was always planning a gathering, bringing people together and making new friends.

Side by side with Letitia, he bravely fought Parkinson's disease for many years, coping with its challenges with his trademark tenacity and good humor. Despite his recent health struggles, he lived a big and beautiful life.

George was an incredible husband, father, brother, grandfather, dog dad and friend. His positive spirit, sense of adventure, love for people and sense of humor are his legacy. He had a signature smirk that proved he found irony and humor in just about any situation; those who knew him well saw it often.

George was a role model for everyone he met and was deeply loved by his family and friends. He lived every day to the fullest and will be missed by many.

A celebration of life will take place in Port Sanilac at a future date.

Memorial donations may be made to the Michigan Parkinson Foundation, 31440 Northwestern Highway, Ste. 185B, Farmington Hills, MI 48334, bit.ly/4wVLig6.

Arrangements entrusted to Chas. Verheyden Inc.

Share a memory at verheyden.org.

Virginia Ditty

Virginia Ditty, 77, passed away Saturday, Aug. 22, 2026. She was a beloved mother, family member and friend who leaves behind a legacy of love, kindness and joy.

To know Virginia was to know warmth, humor and a fun-loving spirit who brightened the lives of those around her. She made people feel welcome and valued, offering care through thoughtful words, gentle encouragement and a steady presence.

Virginia's greatest joy was her family. As a mother, she offered guidance, comfort, encouragement and unconditional love while living the values she hoped to pass on: patience, compassion, resilience and devotion. She placed the needs of others before her own and taught by example that love is shown most clearly through everyday acts of kindness.

She loved all things Scotland and carried that affection with pride and delight. She found peace working in her garden, was an avid reader, enjoyed playing golf whenever she could and had a tender heart for animals, especially dogs.

Virginia is survived by her loving family, including her sons, James and Chris (Ericka); brother, Jim; sister, Laureen; and her siblings-in-law, nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her husband, Jeffrey A. Ditty; and youngest son, Sean Ditty.

Visitation was held at A.H. Peters Funeral Home in Grosse Pointe Woods. A funeral service was held at First English Evangelical Lutheran Church in Grosse Pointe Woods.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the St. Andrew's Society of Detroit, 2363 Rochester, Troy, MI 48083, detroitscots.com/donate/; First English Evangelical Lutheran Church, 800 Vernier, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236, feelc.org/give; Semper K9 Assistance Dogs, 1776 Semper K9 Way, Catlett, VA 20119; semperk9.org/donate/; or by sharing kindness with someone in need.

Arrangements entrusted to A.H. Peters Funeral Home.

Share a memory at ahpeters.com.

Randa Agnes Hooven Ball

Randa Agnes Hooven Ball, 79, of Grosse Pointe Woods, passed away Thursday, Aug. 20, 2026.

Randa was born Aug. 19, 1947, to John and Ina Hooven. She grew up on Detroit's northwest side and graduated from Cooley High School in 1965. Randa was the first in her family to receive a college degree, graduating from Wayne State University with a degree in elementary education and a minor in music with an emphasis in voice. After graduation, Randa taught school and performed with the Michigan Opera Theater (now the Detroit Opera House). While spending a summer singing in New York City, she met William Otis Ball Jr. They were married June 20, 1976, on Block Island, R.I., and raised a family of three children.

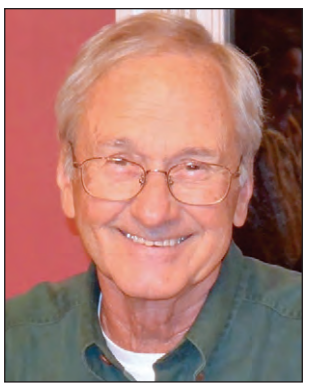
Randa is remembered by all who knew her for being a strong advocate for her three blind children, Edward, Nicholas and Katharine. She always was supportive and encouraged their dreams and aspirations. She persevered in spite of resistance from the educational authority, as well as some community ostracism. Without her unrelenting spirit and dauntless struggle against the status quo, her children wouldn't have received the quality of education they did. Her support of her children continued throughout their educational careers, including but not limited to ensuring they attended their extracurricular activities, such as wrestling practices, tournaments and music events.

She was proud of her children's achievements, such as Edward being on the front page of the Detroit Free Press for being a blind wrestler and a graduate with honors from Harvard University, as well as Katharine's accomplishments as an opera singer with low vision, including her recent role debut in "Iolanta," her undergraduate degree from the New England Conservatory of Music and her master's degrees from New York University and University of Michigan. Randa did everything she could to make sure Nicholas, who is both blind and autistic, could lead a meaningful life. She also was proud of her granddaughter and Edward's daughter, Afifah Ball, for her early admission into Princeton University in 2024.

Randa was predeceased by her parents, John and Ina Hooven; and brother, David Hooven. She is survived by her husband, Bill Ball; sisters, Marcia Bunday and Christine MacRae (Bob); sisters-in-law, Karen Hooven and Martha Ball; children, Edward Ball, Nicholas Ball and Katharine Meagher (Andrew); and her lovely granddaughter, Afifah "Fifi" Ball.

Randa would go the extra mile for anyone who needed help. She was a tireless champion of the underdog. Throughout her life, she dedicated herself to encouraging people in various ways, including a wide range of artists and artistic causes, even working as an artist model for several universities in the Detroit area. Randa was larger than life and made her presence known whenever she entered a room. With a camera always with her, Randa captured her family's special moments. The memories she made and the spirit and happiness she provided will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

Visitation will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 23, at A.H. Peters Funeral Home, 20705 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods. A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 24, at St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 20475 Sunningdale, Grosse Pointe Woods.



George F. Clark III



Virginia Ditty



Randa Agnes Ball

Arrangements entrusted to A.H. Peters Funeral Home.

Share a memory at ahpeters.com.

Mark Donald Jahnke

Mark Donald Jahnke, 73, of Grosse Pointe Shores, passed away Sunday, Aug. 30, 2026, after an extended illness.

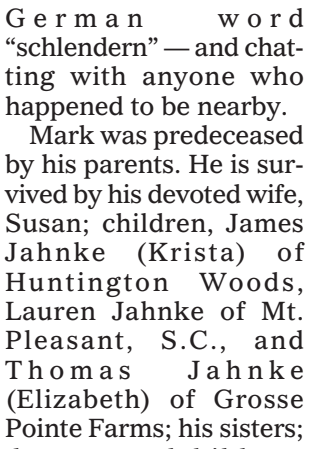
Mark was born Oct. 18, 1952, in Oswego, N.Y. He was the youngest child of Gust and Doris Jahnke. He was raised mostly in western New York with his sisters, Gail and Judy, and graduated from Bennett High School in Buffalo in 1970. He started his postsecondary education at State University of New York at Oswego before transferring to Wayne State University, where he completed a bachelor's degree and then a master's degree in business administration and management.

Mark met Susan de Sostoa in 1975 and married her in 1977. Together they enjoyed nearly 49 years of wonderful marriage and raised three children in Detroit and Grosse Pointe Farms. Mark was a terrific husband and father; he loved coaching his kids in baseball and basketball and watching them and his five grandchildren in their other activities.

During his youth, Mark worked as a church janitor, learning skills that carried over into the rest of his life, when he could be relied on to fix a host of household problems. His professional career began in Cincinnati, then carried him back to Detroit, where he had a long career in liability investigations for county road commissions. In 2005, he opened a successful small business, Specialty Claims Services Inc., in Macomb County. His sometimes morbid work experiences inspired many cautionary tales, earning him the nickname "Mr. Safety" from his family.

When his parents retired to Orange City, Fla., the Jahnke family made annual road trips to New Smyrna Beach, Daytona Beach and other locales near Orange City for vacations.

Mark loved taking photos on his old-school film camera at every family function and continued to take his film to get developed in a world gone digital. The hard copy photos he produced are priceless to his family and friends. He also enjoyed playing golf and tennis with his friends, managing his fantasy baseball team for 40 years, gardening, listening to classic rock and the blues, being a member of the Grosse Pointe Men's Club and organizing the family's annual Father's Day tennis tournament and picnic at Pier Park.



Mark Donald Jahnke

Mark never let his Buffalo roots fade and was an ardent fan of the Bills and Sabres, which required significant mental fortitude through the years. He also was an aficionado of Buffalo chicken wings, perfecting his own (hot!) recipe and passing it along to be enjoyed by his family every year on Super Bowl Sunday.

He will be remembered by those who knew him for his kindness, acceptance of all, charming tendency to "schlutter around" — based on the German word "schlendern" — and chatting with anyone who happened to be nearby.

Mark was predeceased by his parents. He is survived by his devoted wife, Susan; children, James Jahnke (Krista) of Huntington Woods, Lauren Jahnke of Mt. Pleasant, S.C., and Thomas Jahnke (Elizabeth) of Grosse Pointe Farms; his sisters; dear grandchildren, Luke, Jack "J.J.", Carmen, Liesl and Magnus; as well as many nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be held from 4 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 9, at Chas. Verheyden Inc., 16300 Mack, Grosse Pointe Park. A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 10, at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries, bit.ly/4zN3hYF, or the Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society, 20542 Harper, Harper Woods, MI 48225, gpaas.org/donate.

Arrangements entrusted to Chas. Verheyden, Inc.

Share a memory at verheyden.org.

See OBITS, page 6B

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Holiday deadline

Deadline to submit obituaries for the Sept. 10 edition of the Grosse Pointe News is 3 p.m. Friday, Sept. 4, due to the observance of Labor Day. Submit obituaries directly to Kyla Bazzy at kbazzy@grossepointenews.com

OBITS:

Continued from page 5B



Jean Evelyn Schmekel



Clay Christopher Rabaut



John E. Pierce



Jane Ann Ottaway Dow

Jean Evelyn Schmekel

Jean Evelyn Schmekel, 101, passed away peacefully Thursday, Aug. 27, 2026. She was a devoted mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend.

Jean was born Dec. 3, 1924, in Detroit, to Raymond and Ella Schalter. After working at General Motors as a secretary, she met and married Frederick Schmekel in 1947. Together, they built a family that remained the center of her world throughout her long life.

Jean lived a life rooted in faith and devotion to family and church. She attended Mt. Zion Lutheran Church in Madison Heights and Cross of Glory Lutheran Church in Detroit before attending Christ Lutheran Church of Sterling Heights after moving to Clinton Township.

In her later years, Jean was an active member of the Clinton Township Senior Center, playing a very formidable table tennis game, bowling, golfing and enjoying concerts and fundraising for Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, where Fred played violin.

Jean proudly followed her many grandchildren in school and sporting events and bestowed her competitive spirit to them all. She and Fred traveled extensively for yearly Florida vacations and other trips with friends and family over the years. She was always ready for a great adventure, even taking a Caribbean cruise at 88 years old.

Known for her culinary skills. Jean cooked delicious meals, pies and cookies, especially at Christmastime. She will be remembered for the warmth she brought into the lives of others and the importance of the traditions she created for her family. Though she will be deeply missed by all who knew her, the example she set throughout her long life will remain a lasting comfort to all who knew her.

Jean is survived by her children, Raymond Schmekel (Jayne) of Carlsbad, Calif., Diane Smale (George) of Grosse Pointe Farms, William Schmekel (Carol) of Kansas City, Mo., and Gary Schmekel (Mary Beth) of Metamora. She was a cherished grandmother to Karli Golde (James), Kim Smale (Brandon Markiewicz), Kristen Smale (Marc Meclellad), Megan Beierwaltes (William), Marc Smale (Samantha), Matthew Schmekel (Jessica), Marian Schmekel, Nichole Felton (Andrew), Lauren Hirn (Erik) and Brett Schmekel (Bryanna). She also is survived by her great-grandchildren, Asher and Bram Golde, Ellory "Ellie" Smale, William, Charlotte "Charley" and Bennett Beierwaltes, Liam and Charlie Felton and Cooper and Beckett Hirn.

Jean was predeceased by her husband of 54 years, Frederick Schmekel; loving sister, Virginia Gnuscke; brother, Donald; and beloved granddaughter, Kara Rae Schmekel.

Visitation will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, Sept. 4, until an 11 a.m. funeral service at Christ Lutheran Church of Sterling Heights, 12500 Canal, Sterling Heights.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Christ Lutheran Church of Sterling Heights homebound team, 12500 Canal, Sterling Heights, MI 48313, christsterling.org/give.

Clay Christopher Rabaut

Clay C. Rabaut, 43, passed away Monday, July 20, 2026. He was a blues guitarist whose music proved that passion can turn life's challenges into beauty.

Despite being born with a severe heart and lung deformity that doctors felt would limit his life to around eight years, he surprised them all by living to 43, even with oxygen levels in the 70s. Over the course of his life, Clay accepted his limitations and grew a sense of spirit that showed itself brilliantly to all who had the pleasure of knowing him. He was the person in whom everyone confided their problems, knowing Clay would lend a knowing ear and offer support or encouragement when needed.

Despite many hospitalizations over the years for shunts, stents, neurosurgeries, vision loss and other issues, Clay maintained a positive outlook. His spirit touched so many people, including the many doctors, nurses and caregivers at Children's Hospital of Michigan and the Cleveland Clinic who came to know him over the years, many of whom knew him for decades. The affection they had for him, along with the memories and kind words they shared with his family, testify to the kind of person he was. They came to know Clay not just as a patient, but as a friend.

Music was a defining part of Clay's life. He shared that passion with his father, Bob, who predeceased Clay in 2025. Clay joined his father's band, The Jukes, many years ago as lead guitarist. He played guitar for more than 30 years. Clay was multitalented and taught himself to play the piano and drums. Since his father passed, Clay also was learning Bob's instrument, the blues harmonica.

Clay was born June 4, 1983, in Detroit, to Robert J. Rabaut and Sandra (nee Lantagne) Rabaut. He was the oldest of three children and is survived by his mother, Sandy; brother, Douglas Rabaut; sister, Dr. Leslie Rabaut (Dr. Spencer Printen); nephew, Declan Rabaut; and niece, Julia Printen. He also is survived by 13 sets of uncles and aunts, 30 cousins and his cats, Mojo and Willy.

Clay graduated from Grosse Pointe South High School in 2002 before attending Wayne State University and working as a computer draftsman and bookkeeper.

Clay requested a green burial, which was fulfilled at The Preserve at All Saints Cemetery in Waterford, followed by a celebration of life. He was as generous in death as he was in life; while Clay himself was denied a heart and lung transplant during his life, he was able to donate some of his own organs. Although he had heart and lung issues his whole life and limited eyesight later in life, Gift of Life Michigan was able to use his corneas and heart valves.

Memorial donations may be made to Gift of Life Michigan, giftof lifemichigan.org/become-a-donor, or by registering as an organ donor.

Arrangements entrusted to Chas. Verheyden Inc.

Share a memory at verheyden.org.

John E. Pierce

John E. Pierce, 84, of Largo, Fla., passed away peacefully Friday, Aug. 21, 2026.

John was born March 7, 1942, in Detroit. He lived most of his adult life in Grosse Pointe. A devoted sports fan, John enthusiastically followed the Detroit Tigers, Lions and Pistons. Sports were more than something John watched; they were a way for him to connect with the people he loved.

John had a creative spirit and enjoyed many hobbies throughout his life. Painting was his favorite artistic pursuit and he took pleasure in bringing his creativity to life through art projects. He also loved golf, tennis and pickleball, which he enjoyed playing long before it became cool. John loved his family and friends and treasured time spent with the people closest to him. Whether attending an event, playing cards or sports or simply relaxing at a friend's house, John was happiest in good company. Of course, no gathering was quite complete without his traditional 5 p.m. martini.

John was predeceased by his wife, Susan M. Pierce. He leaves behind a loving family who will cherish his memory, including his sons, John D. Pierce and Brit Pierce; stepdaughters, Julie Brennan and Jennifer Wickersham; stepson, Jeff Witzke; grandson, Braden Pierce; granddaughter, Ansley Pierce; step-granddaughters, Sydney and Hannah Wickersham; and stepgrandsons, Alex and Connor Wickersham.

John will be remembered by all who knew him for his love of family and friends, competitive spirit, creativity, passion for sports and the joy he found in simply being together with those he cared about. His presence will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.

No service is scheduled at this time.

Condolences may be shared at nationalcremation.com.

Jane Ann Ottaway Dow

Jane Ann Ottaway Dow, 93, died Saturday, Aug. 29, 2026, after a long illness.

Jane was born April 24, 1933, in Ann Arbor, where her father, Dr. John P. Ottaway, was in medical school. She grew up in Grosse Pointe Farms and graduated cum laude from Grosse Pointe Country Day School (now University Liggett School) in 1951, where she was a Terrill Newnan Scholar, co-president of the Athletic Council, an all-star basketball player and an all-city field hockey player. In 1955, she graduated from the College of William and Mary, where she was president of her sorority and elected "May Queen" her senior year.

After college, she worked for the J.L. Hudson department store in Detroit and Jordan-Marsh in Boston. In 1958, she returned to Detroit and taught fifth grade in St. Clair Shores.

She married Peter Anthony Dow in 1959. The couple were married for 67 years and had three children, Jennifer Dow Murphy (Devin), Peter Kinnersley Dow and Thomas Anthony Dow (Dr. Agata), as well as six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

After her children were in grade school, she took up tennis and won the Detroit News Novice Tournament her first year, followed by years of tennis and platform tennis victories.

One of the defining moments of Jane's life took place on a farm in West Virginia during World War II. At the beginning of the war, her father, Dr. Ottaway, enlisted in the U.S. Navy after his best friend from the University of Michigan Medical School was captured at Bataan, Philippines. Dr. Ottaway handled casualties at both Tarawa in the Pacific Theatre and at the landing in Sicily. Every summer during the war, Jane's mother, a native of West Virginia, took the children to a 100-year-old family farm that still had an outhouse and kerosene lamps. Jane fell in love with the place, had her own horse and taught children's Bible school at a local chapel. The farm had its own graveyard, where the oldest family member buried there was born on Jane's birthday in 1776.

Jane was an avid gardener and belonged to several clubs. She was a member of Tau Beta and Junior League of Detroit. She and Pete were members of Grosse Pointe Memorial Church for more than 50 years, during which Jane served as both an elder and trustee.

Jane was predeceased by her parents, Roberta Flinn Ottaway and Dr. John P. Ottaway; brother, John P. Ottaway Jr.; infant brother, Joseph W. Ottaway; and niece, Mary Catherine Dykhouse (Joe Stulligross). She is survived by her children, Jennifer Dow Murphy (Devin), Peter Kinnersley Dow and Thomas Anthony Dow (Dr. Agata); brother, Robert F. Ottaway; grandchildren, Eliza Murphy Chang (Jake), Emilie Murphy Smith (C.J.), Margaret "Molly" Murphy, Tomek M. Dow (Dr. Katie), Dr. Jane Ann Ottaway Dow ("Ania") and Alexander F. Dow; as well as her dear nieces and nephews and their spouses, John P. Ottaway III (Elizabeth), Michael F. Ottaway (Tamra), Andrew W. Ottaway (Jessica), Amanda Ottaway Zambetti (Kirk), Robert F. Ottaway Jr. (Nicole), Edward V. Ottaway, Gregory Dow (Kim), Elizabeth Dow (George), William H. Dow (Chika), Stephen P. Ashurkoff (Ellen), Catherine A. Parnell (Terry), David J. Dykhouse, J. Douglas Dykhouse (Vivian), Sarah Dow Reimers (John) and Laura Dow Coon (Zac).

A memorial service will be held at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church in the future.

St. Paul's annual rummage sale returns Sept. 11–12

St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church hosts its annual 10,000-square-foot rummage sale 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Sept. 11, and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 12. Known for its wide selection, affordable prices and exceptional organization, the sale has become a favorite tradition for shoppers throughout the community.



COURTESY PHOTO

Visitors can expect well-organized departments at the sale.

Every department is carefully organized, making it easy to browse a variety of items. Shoppers will find clothing sorted by size, along with boutique items, children's goods, furniture, linens, electronics, sporting goods, tools, kitchenware, small appliances, holiday decorations, gardening supplies, crafts and fabric, baskets, office items and more.

One of the sale's most popular features is the clothing department, where shoppers can fill a grocery bag with clothing for $10.

Whether searching for everyday essentials, unique treasures or household items, there is something for everyone at great prices.

On Saturday, everything is half price.

Cash and charge are accepted.

Beyond the great deals, every purchase supports important work. Half of the proceeds help fund St. Paul's ministries and programs, while the other half is donated to local, national and international organizations selected by the volunteers who make the sale possible.

St. Paul is located at 375 Lothrop, Grosse Pointe Farms.



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Grosse Pointe Gathering to benefit Corewell initiatives

Tickets and sponsorship opportunities are available for the annual Grosse Pointe Gathering, which takes place 6 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 16, on the waterfront lawn of The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Guests are invited to join Grosse Pointe community leaders for a relaxed and inspiring evening benefitting heart and vascular and breast care initiatives at Corewell Health Beaumont Grosse Pointe Hospital.

"This gathering is a great opportunity to support patient programs at our community hospital," said Ed Russell, event co-chair and host sponsor. "Health care is vital to all of us and I strongly encourage others to join us for a fun evening that will help many."



COURTESY PHOTO

Darrene Baer and Gene Gargaro at the 2025 Grosse Pointe Gathering benefit for Corewell Health Beaumont Grosse Pointe Hospital.

In 2025, the event raised nearly $300,000 for the Grosse Pointe Spiritual Care Endowed Fund in Honor of Fr. Richard Bartoszek at Corewell Health Beaumont Grosse Pointe Hospital.

Event co-chairs and host sponsors of the 2026 event include Darrene Baer, Jana and Steve Brownell, Mary Kay and Keith Crain, Gene Gargaro and the late Mary Anne Gargaro, Susan and George Haggarty, Marcia and Ed Russell and Molly and Mark Valade.

In addition, a fundraising committee comprised of Grosse Pointe community leaders is helping make this event a success. The committee includes Anne and Christopher Blake, Fr. Rich Bartoszek, Susie and Lewis Cooper, Powell and Greg Corbett, Ilona and Brad Lukas, R.N., Cheryl and Rob Kilpatrick, Anne and Paul Gryzenia, M.D., Lisa Vallee-Smith and Jeffrey Smith, Liz and J.P. Ottaway, Laura and John Peabody, Margaret Peabody, Robert Peabody, Jodie Rappe, M.D. and Brian Dimmer, M.D., Beth and Pete Rentschler, Betsy and Frank Schulte, Nancy Susick, R.N., and Al Susick.

Corewell Health Beaumont Grosse Pointe Hospital has earned national and statewide recognition in the 2026-27 U.S. News & World Report Best Hospitals ranking as the No. 10 best hospital in Michigan, highlighting the exceptional care provided by Corewell Health teams.

This will be a fun-filled night to meet community leaders and visit neighborhood friends. Sponsors and guests will enjoy a cocktail reception, strolling dinner and live entertainment. Event tickets start at $300 and sponsorship opportunities are available.

For more information or to register, visit corewellhealth.org/grossepointegathering

ASK THE EXPERTS By Dr. Arshpreet Saraan

America's loneliness epidemic

As a young physician, I attended the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) conference in Anaheim, Calif., in October 2025, where I had the opportunity to hear former U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy speak about what he has termed the "loneliness epidemic" and its growing impact on public health.

Until that talk, I had not fully appreciated the extent to which social disconnection has become a significant driver of poor health outcomes. Dr. Murthy emphasized that over recent years, the decline in meaningful social connections has had, and will continue to have, significant effects on both physical and mental health. His message challenged me to reflect more deeply on my own clinical practice and the patients I care for.

In a typical clinic day, I see patients across the lifespan — children, teenagers, adults and the elderly. One thing I have started to notice more and more is how often there is a phone in hand, even in the brief moments between questions. Outside the clinic, I think about how much of daily life has shifted to screens and social media. People argue that the digital world we live in has made it easier to connect with people, but is that true? Do we feel more connected or do we feel more lonely behind the screens? In generations past, the more formal social groups — such as church groups, volunteer groups, sports teams and neighborhood gatherings — no longer seem to be as common, but this is what we need to bring back.

Dr. Murthy has pointed to growing evidence that social isolation carries serious health risks, including a 29 percent increased risk of heart disease, a 31 percent increased risk of stroke and up to a 50 percent increased risk of dementia in older adults. In addition, the lack of social connection is linked to depression and anxiety.

Clearly, this is a major call to action not just for healthcare professionals, but for society as a whole. Restoring meaningful social connections will require a broader cultural shift — one that values presence and community over the digital world. As a healthcare professional, I feel a responsibility to bring attention to this growing epidemic. I want patients to be more aware of the impact social isolation can have on both mental and physical health. Just as we routinely counsel patients on diet, exercise and other health goals, I now see social connection as another essential component of preventive care. In my practice, this will now be a major point of discussion. My hope is that it also becomes a part of conversations in other clinics, communities, schools and homes, so together we can rebuild a culture that values the role of social connection.

Dr. Arshpreet Saraan practices family medicine at Corewell Health East-Grosse Pointe. For more information, visit corewellhealth.org.

The Family Center provides free programs and resources that help build happier, healthier families. Learn more at familycenterhelps.org.

Community Joiner Fair coming soon

Building on the tremendous success of its inaugural event, The Family Center is proud to partner with the Grosse Pointe Public Library and The War Memorial to host the 2026 Community Joiner Fair featuring keynote speaker Priya Parker, in conversation with WDET's Ann Delisi, on Wednesday, Oct. 7, at The War Memorial.

The Community Joiner Fair will feature dozens of local nonprofits, civic organizations and clubs, along with a special keynote conversation featuring bestselling author and renowned gathering expert Parker, author of "The Art of Gathering: How We Meet and Why It Matters." Parker will be joined by Delisi for a conversation exploring how meaningful gatherings and community connections can help address today's growing sense of isolation.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m., the conversation with Parker and Delisi is from 6 to 7 p.m. and the Joiner Fair runs from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Visitors can meet representatives from local organizations, discover volunteer opportunities, explore new hobbies and learn how to become more engaged in the community.

This program is free. The War Memorial, the Grosse Pointe Public Library and The Family Center have joined together — in a shared mission to create meaningful opportunities for people to connect — to present this program as a gift to the community. For more information and to register, visit warmemorial.org/events/community-joiner-fair

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GROSSE POINTE Gabby



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The driveway dilemma: When guests impede

Dear Gabby: We live on a street where everyone has their own driveway, but our neighbors throw casual weekend summer parties pretty frequently. Almost every time they have people over, one of their guests parks on the street and completely or partially blocks our driveway entrance.

Last weekend, I was stuck waiting in my running car for 20 minutes while my neighbor hunted down the owner of a SUV so I could pull into my own garage.

I do not want to be the police, but I am exhausted by the constant driveway blockades. How do I address this politely before I lose my patience? — Blocked in the Park

Dear Blocked: There is nothing quite like pulling up to your own home after a long day only to find a giant SUV parked across your driveway. It is one of those inconveniences that can make anyone's blood boil after a long week.

Since you want to keep things friendly on the block, the key is to talk to your neighbor directly during a calm moment, not while you are in the street blowing your horn in frustration.

Go over on a quiet evening, keep it light and say, "Hey, we love seeing you guys enjoy having friends over on the weekends, but we've had a few times recently where guests parked across our driveway and blocked us in. Could you do us a huge favor and just remind your folks to leave a little extra clearance around our driveway apron when they arrive?"

If they are good neighbors, they will be embarrassed and happily drop a note in their group chat or put out a friendly traffic cone next time. You keep the bond, keep the peace and will have a clear path home every weekend.

— Gabby

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



Leave your worries for tomorrow



Dear Annie

by Annie Lane

DEAR ANNIE: Wishing you all a very happy Labor Day. The expectation of this holiday is to take the day off, put our feet up and enjoy the last stretch of summer.

How many of you are actually able to take the time to reset and rest today?

We say we are going to relax, and then we answer a few emails. We clean the kitchen. We run to the grocery store. We start thinking about everything that needs to happen in September. Before we know it, our day off has turned into another day of checking things off a list.

Maybe this Labor Day, we try something different.

Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote, "Live in the sunshine, swim the sea, drink the wild air." There is something wonderfully freeing about that idea. There is no mention of being productive, getting ahead or improving ourselves. It is simply an invitation to step outside and enjoy the world around us. That may be exactly what many of us need.

We spend so much of our lives rushing from one thing to the next. We wake up thinking about what needs to be done. We fall asleep thinking about what we forgot to do. Even when we are sitting still, our minds are often somewhere else.

Nature has a way of interrupting all of that.

Take a walk without worrying about how far you go. Sit outside with your morning coffee and actually taste it. Notice the trees moving in the breeze. Listen to the birds. Watch the clouds. Feel the sun on your face.

These are small things, but small things have a funny way of becoming the moments we remember.



Henry David Thoreau wrote, "Heaven is under our feet as well as over our heads." I love that thought because it reminds us that beauty is not always somewhere far away. We do not need a plane ticket, a perfect vacation or some dramatic change in our lives to feel peaceful.

Sometimes we just need to notice where we already are.

Labor Day, after all, was created to honor work. And maybe one of the best ways to honor our work is to allow ourselves to stop working for a little while.

Rest does not have to be earned by overworking. Emerson wrote, "Adopt the pace of nature: her secret is patience." Whether we are watching a garden grow, leaves begin to turn or the light fade at the end of a summer evening, nature never seems to be in a hurry. Maybe we can learn something from her. So, this Labor Day, let a few things wait until tomorrow.

There will always be another email to answer and another errand to run. But there will never be another late-summer afternoon exactly like this one.

DEAR ANNIE: I'm an 18-year-old woman who just started my freshman year of college out of state. Everything is going well, and I'm meeting new people with different perspectives.

One thing I'm experiencing is my "I don't know" phase, which is new for me. Especially with relationships, I don't know if I like certain boys because they're convenient or if I really like them.

For context, there were two boys who lived on the same floor as me before I changed rooms because of roommate issues. They were attractive, and I thought I liked both of them, but I wonder if it was just out of convenience. I distanced myself after asking each of them to grab food. Both said yes, then stood me up. I waited almost 90 minutes and even texted them, with no response. Lesson learned. I WILL NEVER wait that long again for anyone.

A few weeks later, I started eyeing a sophomore in one of my classes. I think he's cute, but then again, I DON'T KNOW! We've talked a couple of times, mostly about schoolwork.

Lately, I've been thinking about him a lot. I finally asked if he wanted to hang out, and he agreed, but he was leaving campus for the weekend, so he said we'd have to figure out another time.

Afterward, I was so nervous! I really wanted to give him my number but didn't get the chance. Talking to him felt different from the boys who stood me up, and I thought about him for the rest of the day.

I've never been in a relationship or even been kissed, so maybe all this uncertainty comes from lack of experience. I don't want to like a boy just because he's convenient because that feels wrong, and I wouldn't want someone to do that to me.

Am I wrong for feeling this way, or is this normal? I think I'm starting to like him, but, yet again, I don't know. Please help! — Uncertain Student?

DEAR UNCERTAIN STUDENT: The way you're feeling is totally normal! You might not know what — or who — you like yet, and that's OK. At 18, you're not supposed to have all the answers, so take some pressure off yourself. College is as much about learning who you are as what you study.

Don't worry so much about whether a crush starts out of "convenience." Most relationships begin because two people happen to cross paths. What matters is what develops from there.

As for the boy in your class, grabbing coffee doesn't have to mean anything more than that. Talk to him, spend some time together and see if you like the person in front of you, not the one who made you laugh in your dreams. You've already learned one lesson from the boys who stood you up, and there will be plenty more to come.

Everyone has been in your shoes at one time or another. You live, you learn, and little by little, "I don't know" becomes "now I know."

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

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We Tried It!

by Anna Lizer



Spending $80 plus tip at the salon every four weeks was draining my bank account, but having bare nails makes me feel unpolished. And, as a chronic nail biter, I need something to keep my hands busy.

I kept seeing the Beetles Gel-X Nail Kit on my feed with claims that you could get salon-quality, full-cover extensions at home for super cheap. I am not naturally crafty, so I was convinced I was going to glue my fingers together or end up with crooked nails.

My first attempt definitely required some patience, but once you figure out the flash-cure method under the mini UV lamp, it is surprisingly addicting. The kit comes with literally everything you need: the glue, the prep tools, the lamp and dozens of tip sizes.



The tips went onto my natural nails effortlessly and, once I cured them, they felt rock solid. I wore my first set through a week of aggressive typing at work, dishwashing and workout classes — and not a single nail popped off for one whole month.

Fair warning: The learning curve is real. If you put too much gel glue under the tip, it will flood your cuticles, which gets messy fast. You definitely need to watch a couple of YouTube tutorials before diving in. But once you get the hang of the angle, you can literally do a full fresh set while watching Netflix in your pajamas.

Another warning: You will get addicted to doing your nails and want to try out a new design every week.

I would rate this kit a 4.9 out of 5. It saves hundreds of dollars a year and makes you feel like an absolute DIY genius. You can find it on Amazon here: tinyurl.com/3cavb5t3

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.

4.9 Out Of 5



Late summer overflow

Courtesy of Mombeau's Table



PHOTO BY KAREN FERGUSON

This past Saturday, I went strolling through the Eastern Market where the produce is practically overflowing in the stands. Not only was the quantity almost overwhelming, the size of the late summer produce was unmatched.

There were giant eggplants, zucchinis and cucumbers. Piles of Michigan corn at every turn and peaches and peppers stretching as far as the eye could see. I kept thinking, this is such a treat. Though I also went with a friend of more than 20 years and was kid-free, so that was a treat in itself.

I enjoy going to the market with no plan. Just go and buy what looks good, then go home and spread it all out on the counter to assess the goods. If you go home and scratch your head, odds are a salad is your best bet. And that's exactly what I did.

My haul consisted of a quart of jalapeno peppers, both green and red, cucumbers and sweet corn. Cucumbers and jalapenos are a dynamite pairing, especially in a margarita but since I don't drink, I decided to make a salad instead.

For this recipe, I wanted the cucumbers to shine as much as the corn. So I added equal parts. I diced everything to be about the same size so each bite had a refreshing crunch. The corn is charred on the grill, which lends a smokey element making the salad a bit more complex. The jalapeno gives a bit of heat and a wonderful pepper flavor. You could even char the jalapenos on the grill with the corn for some extra grill flavor. For richness, I tossed in a couple of avocados. Avocados made it special for sure. In my house avocados make everything special. A sprinkling of fresh cilantro and a light lemon and honey dressing finish it off.

I served the salad alongside some simply marinated chicken thighs and it was a hit. So much so that my daughter said it was "bussin.'" Even I knew that was a compliment. Also try serving with tortilla chips as an appetizer before the main course.

This is an end-of-summer must make recipe, light, refreshing and an absolute crowd pleaser.

Cheers, Mombeau

Cucumber, Jalapeno and Corn Salad

2 ears corn, shucked

1 large cucumber, peeled and diced

¼ cup red onion, diced

2 avocados, peeled and chopped

1 jalapeno, seeds removed and chopped finely

2 tbsp cilantro, chopped

Juice of 1 lemon

1 tbsp honey

2 tbsp olive oil

Salt and pepper to taste

Preheat your grill to high heat. Coat the corn with cooking spray and grill for about 15 minutes or until the sides get slightly charred and the kernels are bright yellow. Set aside while you prep the rest of the salad.

Add the cucumber, jalapeno, avocados, cilantro and red onion to a large bowl.

Lay the corn cobs on their side and gently cut the kernels off. Add them to the salad.

In a small bowl, whisk together the lemon juice, honey and olive oil. Season with a generous pinch of salt and a few cracks of pepper. Add to the salad and gently toss everything together.

Serve as a side or with tortilla chips for scooping.

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Grosse Pointe News

Sauvignon blanc is hot



In spite of the fact that there is so much wine in the world that wineries everywhere don't know what to do with it, one grape variety seems to be in such high demand that grape prices are rising and consumers may experience shortages of their favorite brands.

Sauvignon blanc is that wine and its current success is quite a turnaround from decades ago when almost no one paid any attention to it. Over time its name has been changed so it could sell better and it has gone through so many variations that some consumers may be confused as to what it's supposed to be.

The grape has natural components in its aroma that are distinctive, such as elements of grass, newmown hay, lemon peel, kiwifruit, fresh olives, cilantro and several others that can be slightly like fresh bell peppers.

Not all of these elements will be found in every version of SB. Indeed, it would be a rare wine that had more than just a few such components. But the fact that they are unique to this variety makes the wines we see identifiable by aroma alone. Or, rather, they should be.

Winemakers in warmer regions often have found tactics in both the vineyard and winery that can rob the wine of most if not all of its distinctive aromatic fingerprints. Which is sad. Quality SBs should show some persona, not hide it.

This makes sense when you begin to realize how fascinating this grape is when it is grown in different climates and soils. New Zealand's version is the most distinctive of all with aromas of gooseberry, green tea and tropical fruit.

There is a slightly similar profile in Sonoma County's Russian River Valley, but where the New Zealand style of wine is slightly sweet, most RRV versions are drier and can take on a bit more cellar aging. They can also be more floral.

Napa Valley can also grow exceptionally fine sauvignon blanc, but because people seem to want a much richer style of wine, many of these are aged in oak barrels, which ends up making wines that are slightly more like chardonnay, with richer textures and a noticeably oaky finish.

Some of the best places to grow sauvignon blancs that carry not only high quality but reasonable prices are cooler areas of Chile. Most of the best New Zealand SB can be found for between $10 and $17 per bottle, but Chilean sauvignon blancs usually are offered between $7 and $14.

The classic example of European SB comes from the eastern Loire Valley, where the wines' personality is more oriented toward completely dry, sometimes even austere wines that are clearly best when served beside delicate seafood dishes.

Sauvignon blanc really prefers climates that are cooler than most locations in Australia. Down under, semillon (which smells like a distant cousin of SB) is more popular than SB. Semillon never really has caught on in the United States, although it's occasionally blended into high quality SBs here and the result can be sensational.

With all the excitement being generated today by alternative grape varieties such as vermentino, grenache blanc, pinot blanc and viognier, it's heartwarming to find as many interesting sauvignon blancs today as we do.

One more thing that makes it so enjoyable is that even if you buy a few too many bottles and don't consume them all immediately, most SB will actually improve with a little bit of time in the bottle. It is not well known, but the wine changes slowly and can be fascinating when it reaches an extra two years in the bottle.

Wine of the Week: 2022 Artesano de Argento White Malbec, Agrello Vineyard, Mendoza, Argentina ($15) — For people who prefer more traditional aromatics, this unique example of white malbec has delicate hints of pear and nectarine and offers a lovely dry mid-palate and finish. Only 12.5 percent alcohol. Imported by Pacific Highway, American Canyon, California.

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

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Party TIME!



Sweet zone

Tackle dessert with an impressive decorated cake from Sweet Life Cake Shop. This beautiful tiered cake, right, has all the elements to entertain both eyes and taste buds! A gorgeous themed cake can also serve as party decor, putting guests in the mood to watch a great game. Sweet Life also has cupcakes, cookies and other baked treats, at far right, to enhance your party table. Football balloons from Michaels.

Score points with family and friends on game day

By Meg Kelly
Editorial Intern

As fall settles in, entertaining shifts indoors and onto the patio with an emphasis on comfort, ease and seasonal gathering with the family. From game day essentials to cozy home accents and simple recipes, these details highlight everything that makes hosting feel fun without being too complicated.



Game day bottle opener

A practical staple for any fall gathering that adds to the festivity. Designed for game weekends and casual hosting, these spirited bottle openers add a subtle themed touch along with their functionality. From Small Favors.



Tex-Mex spice set adds flavor to football

A tasty sampler that elevates casual hosting. These spices make it easy to create shareable dishes with minimal effort. From The Spice & Tea Exchange.

Fall home + cozy living

Seasonal shifts naturally extend into the home. These pieces focus on warmth, texture and subtle updates that make spaces feel refreshed for fall.



Sunny and sporty football hat shows your team spirit

Adorable yellow hat, above, is a casual accessory that reflects fall weekend culture. It blends everyday wear with seasonal game day spirit. From Village Palm.



Home team advantage

A soft and comfy community-rooted staple sweater, above, that highlights local identity. It adds a nostalgic personal connection to your seasonal wardrobe updates. From Village Palm.



Warm team support

Cozy up at home or at the stadium with this plush football-print blanket, above. Perfect for fall tailgates, game day watch parties and more, this soft brown blanket will become prized team gear. From Michaels.



AstroTurf coasters

Handy coasters, above, handle all the drinks at your next gathering with sturdy style! From Michaels.



Fun stuff

Visit Small Favors, left, for a variety of the most charming football-themed items for your next pigskin gathering. From servingware to decor, snacks and more, Small Favors adds personality to your party.



BBQ assist

Hit the grill in style to serve up home-cooked BBQ treats for your guests. From Small Favors.

Table huddle

Food is always the centerpiece of a football watch party. Serve your menu up in style with the creative and adorable stadium serving tray set, below. Holds charcuterie, chips and dip, sandwiches and more. Festive football-print paper plates, right, make sure everyone gets to enjoy their meal with a side of whimsy. Both from Michaels.







Bowl action

Football-shaped molded paper bowls, left, give your favorite snacks and treats the perfect presentation. From Michaels.



D



E



A



B



C



F



G

Trader Joe's favorites make hosting a breeze

When hosting is last minute or needs to be convenient, these Trader Joe's staples make entertaining easy without sacrificing taste.

A) Creamy Spinach and Artichoke Dip: A warm, ready-to-serve classic that works for any casual gathering.

B) Unexpected Cheddar Cheese Spread: A bold, versatile staple that anchors any grazing board.

C) White Cheddar Corn Puffs: The perfect addition to a shareable bowl to go in the middle of the table.

D) Dark Chocolate Peanut Butter Cups: A simple sweet finish that balances savory hosting spreads.

E) Triple Ginger Snaps: The perfect bite-sized treat to enjoy as your favorite team crosses into the end zone.

F) Spanakopita: A flaky, savory appetizer that elevates any snack spread with minimal effort.

G) Mini chicken tacos: A bite-sized, crowd-friendly option that's easy to serve and share.







COURTESY PHOTOS

Fresh Farms Market

Need a filling meal for the whole table? Check out Fresh Farms Market for the perfect party this game day season. At the store or online you'll find the perfect menu for the whole crowd. Treat the family at their hot bar with an array of the best fresh game day essentials like appetizers, entrees, sides, pizza, at right, salads and more! For larger crowds, choose from their catering menu.

DELICIOUS GAME DAY RECIPES THAT GO LONG ON FLAVOR

Casual entertaining often begins with simple, shareable dishes. It's fun to include some memorable appetizers that bring guests together to mingle and talk some smack! We've gathered a few tried-and-true menu options designed for ease, flavor and crowd appeal. Dig in and have the best game day celebration ever!

Hot honey and pepperoni pizza dip adds spice to your festivities



A modern twist on comfort food that combines sweet heat with familiar flavors. Designed for sharing and minimal prep.

Ingredients:

1 block cream cheese

1 cup marinara

1½ cups mozzarella

Pepperoni

Hot honey

Directions:

Layer cream cheese, marinara, mozzarella and pepperoni. Bake at 375°F for 20 min, drizzle with hot honey and serve with bread, crackers or pretzels. EXTRA POINTS: Decorate with pepperoni in the shape of a football and create details with mozzarella cheese.

A winning Buffalo dip that is sure to draw a big crowd



A classic game day staple known for its creamy, spicy flavor and easy preparation. A reliable centerpiece for any casual gathering.

Ingredients:

2 cups shredded chicken

8 oz cream cheese

½ cup ranch dressing

½ cup hot sauce

1 cup shredded cheddar

Directions:

Mix everything, bake at 375°F for 20 minutes in a casserole pot or baking dish. Serve with your favorite chips, crackers or celery and carrot strips.

Salted caramel chocolate pretzel bark



A sweet and salty snack that works as both dessert and party treat. Simple to prepare and easy to serve. Decorate the top or serve plain. Pre-crack and serve in bowls or break off at the party for group fun.

Ingredients:

1 bag pretzels

1 lb melted milk chocolate

1 bag unwrapped, melted caramels

Coarse sea salt

Directions:

Layer pretzels, pour on the melted caramel, then top with melted chocolate. Sprinkle lightly with coarse sea salt. Chill 2 hours and break into pieces.

Sweet honey sriracha meatballs



A sticky, flavorful appetizer that balances heat and sweetness. Ideal for warm, social gatherings.

Ingredients:

1 package frozen chicken meatballs

¼ cup honey

2 tbsp sriracha

2 tbsp soy sauce

Roasted sesame seeds (optional)

Fresh chopped chives (optional)

Directions:

Whisk honey, sriracha and soy sauce. Bake meatballs as directed, toss in sauce then broil 3 min for sticky glaze. Top with sesame seeds and chives if desired.

WHERE TO SHOP:

Fresh Farms Market
355 Fisher Rd.
Grosse Pointe
(313) 822-5100
freshfarmsmarket.com

Michaels
32471 Gratiot Ave.
Roseville
(586) 519-9300
michaels.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

Sweet Life Cake Shop
27317 Harper Ave.
St. Clair Shores
(586) 350-0303
IG: sweetlife_cakeshop

Trader Joe's
17028 Kercheval Ave.
Grosse Pointe
(313) 640-7794
traderjoes.com

Village Palm
17131 Kercheval Ave.
Grosse Pointe
(313) 882-7256
shopvillagepalm.com



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SALARYMAN FILMS.

Hideki in the saddle, played by Arata Iura, in the 2025 movie "Tokyo Cowboy," Story by Marc Marriot and Brigham Taylor and written by Dave Boyle and Ayako Fujitani. Directed by Marc Marriott.

Movie Junkie Mark

by Mark Domin

"Life is too short to watch mediocre movies"



MOVIE REVIEW
"Tokyo Cowboy"
2023 - Rated PG
1 hr 58 min
★★★★☆

As the title indicates, this film revolves around the classic "fish out of water" theme. In this case, it's about a culture clash between American and Japanese worlds. But don't let that mislead you, it's not your typical Hollywood treatment of the subject. While it will invariably be compared to the film "City Slickers," it doesn't devolve into slapstick and goofy antics. Instead, it's a touching, believable and realistic story.

That's due in large part to the life experiences of the film's creators. Director Marc Marriott studied under the legendary Japanese director Yoji Yamada. It was penned by Dave Boyle, ("Man from Reno"), who lived and worked in Japan, and was co-written by Ayako Fujitani ("Mozart in the Jungle"), who was born in Japan but moved to the United States.

Fujitani also stars in the movie.

It's this cross-cultural background that makes this film such an authentic and engaging story.

The tale revolves around Hideki (Arata Iura, "After Life"), who's your stereotypical salaryman. He's a buttoned-down businessman who isn't comfortable unless he's wearing a suit and tie and has a briefcase and laptop in his hand. You can tell he has a difficult time loosening up, especially out in public. He works for a large Japanese food conglomerate and is responsible for handling acquisitions. He also works for his longtime fiancée, Keiko (Ayako Fujitani). The two have been engaged for several years and they think no one else in their office knows about their clandestine affair.

After the company buys a large American corporation, they plan on splitting it up and selling it off for profit. When Hideki discovers one of the subsidiaries is a cattle ranch in Montana, he concocts a plan — what if he transformed the ranch into a highly profitable Wagyu beef producer? Needless to say, his proposal is met with a great deal of skepticism. However he's given an opportunity to visit the ranch and see if it's indeed a possibility. But he's given a limited time frame to work out all the details.

In order to help facilitate this venture, Wada (Jun Kunimura, "Kill Bill: Vol. 1") is to accompany Hideki. Wada is just about as different from Hideki as you can get. He's an outgoing, worldly sort who enjoys partying with the best of them and has an excellent command of the English language. He's also a Wagyu beef specialist, and one of the reasons he looks forward to the trip is he absolutely loves Hardee's hamburgers! So he's all in.

When they arrive in Montana, instead of doing the smart thing and going to bed and starting fresh in the morning, they decide to go out drinking with Peg (Robin Weigert, "Deadwood"), the interim manager and former owner of the ranch, and a bunch of the ranch hands.

This is the pivotal point in the film. After numerous rounds of shots and beers, Wada is talked into riding the bar's mechanical bull. Big mistake. He ends up getting thrown off said bull and breaks his leg. He's sent to the hospital to recuperate and is totally out of commission. So Hideki is now tasked with making the presentation to Peg and her crew by himself. Not only is his English lacking, he's not the most self-assured salesman. His pitch underwhelms his audience and it appears his plans have been dashed.

But all is not lost. Hideki is approached by one of the cowboys Javier (Goya Robles, "Get Shorty"), who tells him he needs to understand his audience in order to be successful. He takes Hideki under his wing and introduces him to all things cowboy. He outfits him with the proper duds, teaches him to ride a horse and even how to use a lasso. There are some amusing bits that'll surely put a smile on your face. He also invites Hideki to be a guest at a quinceanera, which is one of the most entertaining scenes in the film. It's a lesson to Hideki that America is a lot more diverse and complicated then it appears on the surface.

A good portion of "Tokyo Cowboy" deals with Hideki maturing as a person and coming to terms with his inner feelings. It also opens up his eyes about the reality of his relationship with Keiko. I really enjoyed the way the story slowly unfolds and seeing what a masterful job Arata Iura did playing Hideki. He could easily have presented him in a comical fashion, but instead delivered a beautifully nuanced performance. Actually, all the leads followed suit and were quite natural. After seeing this first film from Marc Marriott, I look forward to seeing what he does for an encore.

I'd be remiss if I didn't mention the fine camerawork of cinematographer Oscar Ignacio Jimenez. He did a commendable job capturing the stunning beauty of Montana. You can clearly see why it's nicknamed "Big Sky Country." I should also mention about two-thirds of the film is subtitled.

Currently streaming for free (with your library card) on Kanopy, and to rent on Apple TV, YouTube, Prime, and other services.

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.

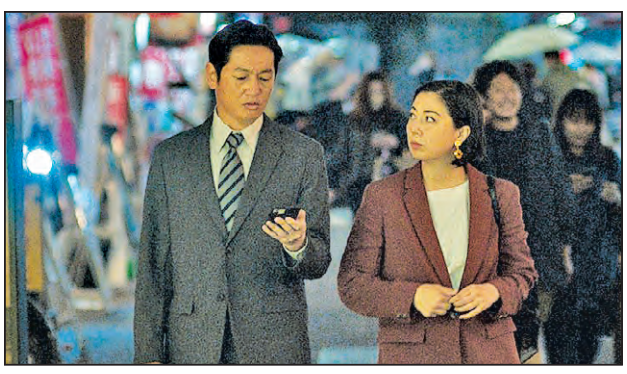
Also, if you're looking for more recommendations, be sure to check out my blog: moviejunkiemark.blogspot.com.



Ready for the cattle drive.



Movie poster for "Tokyo Cowboy."



Hideki (Iura) & Keiko (Fujitani) in Tokyo.



Big sky country.



Peg played by Robin Weigert.



Hideki meets with Peg.



At the saloon.



Arata Iura plays Hideki.



Beautiful Montana scenery.

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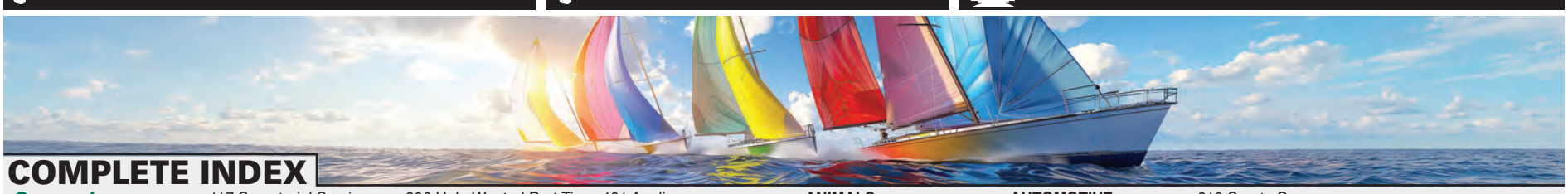

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Help Wanted

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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 per hour

A detailed job description and Employment Application can be obtained at **www.gpwmi.us**. Email your application to **cityadmin@gpwmi.us**; drop it off at City Hall; or mail it to:
City of Grosse Pointe Woods
20025 Mack Plaza Drive
Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236
Attn: City Manager

Questions?
Contact School Resource Officer Jeffry Martel at **jmartel@gpwmi.us** or **(313) 343-2410**.
Application deadline is open until filled.

The City of Grosse Pointe Woods is an EOE, FMLA, and ADA compliant employer.



202 HELP WANTED CLERICAL / OFFICE

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Seeking an office assistant in the Grosse Pointe area for answering phone calls and basic billing data entry. We will train individual on industry specific billing software and databases. Must be a multi-tasker with good customer service skills and proficient with computers (windows, word, etc.). Will also train on entry level fire and burglar alarm business. Perform other office tasks as needed. Full and part-time positions available. Immediate openings available. Send resume to: radarsecurity@comcast.net No phone calls please.

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(313)882-6900 ext. 1

Merchandise

409 GARAGE / YARD / RUMMAGE SALE

ANNUAL MULTIFAMILY BLOCK SALE
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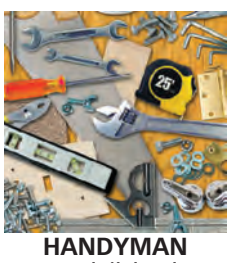

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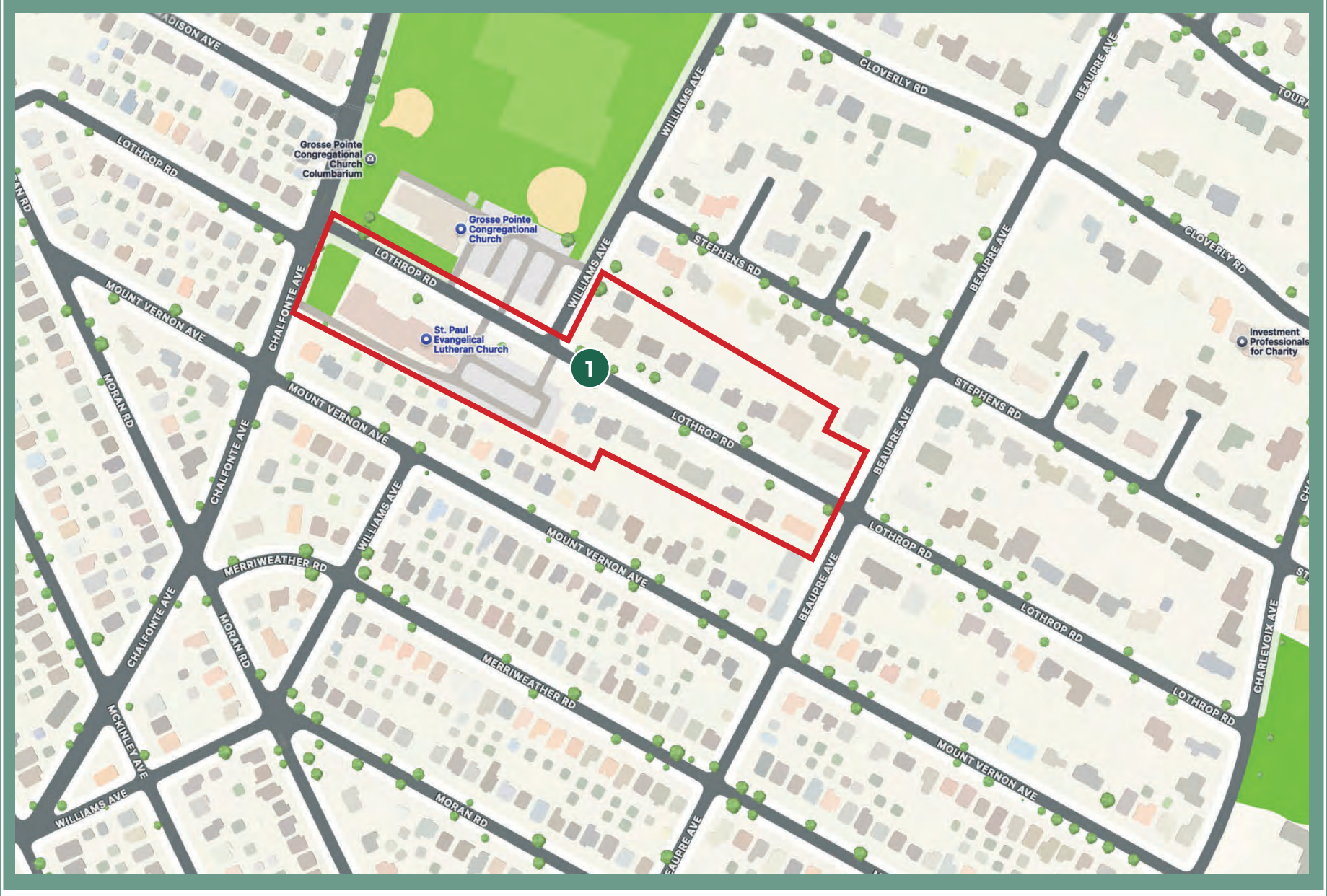

NEXT WEEK: September 11 & 12, 2026

1. St. Paul Annual Rummage Sale & Lothrop Rd. Multi-Family Block Sale
   Both events on the same street and same time!

= YARD SALE = ESTATE SALE
See Classifieds for more details

Weekly Challenge

UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

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

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

Previous puzzle solution

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

8/27 Solution

9/3

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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.

ARGON
BORON
CARBON
COPPER
GOLD
IODINE
HYDROGEN-
MERCURY
NICKEL
OXYGEN
PLATINUM
SILVER
URANIUM
ZIRCONIUM

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

Royal Stars Weekly Horoscopes

Moon Alert: After 8 a.m. EDT today (4 a.m. PDT) there are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions. The Moon is in GEMINI.

Happy Birthday for Thursday, September 3, 2026: You're clever, thoughtful, independent and determined. You appear to be conciliatory and affable to be effective. It's time to build foundations in your life, both external and internal. Take charge of your health. Physical exercise will be important. Explore martial arts or yoga. Stay grounded.

ARIES
(March 21-April 19)

You're impulsive and highly creative. Today you might have an original idea that surprises everyone. Don't hesitate to share what you think, even if it sounds a bit touchy-feely or too "out there." Meanwhile, keep working hard, busting your buns. Tonight: Conversations.

TAURUS
(April 20-May 20)

You might have some unusual ideas about making money or increasing your earnings. Therefore, guard your possessions against loss, theft or damage. Strive to be clear in your thinking and communications today. Tonight: Check your belongings.

GEMINI
(May 21-June 20)

This is an unusually powerful day for you. You'll be an effective communicator who might inspire a friend. lKeep your eyes open! Tonight: You win!.

CANCER
(June 21-July 22)

You might feel restless today. Make no assumptions when dealing with authority figures, because there is a possibility of confusion or misunderstandings. Today you have strong ideas about shared property, inheritances and debt. Tonight: Enjoy privacy.

LEO
(July 23-Aug. 22)

A friend might say or do something that catches you off guard today, or perhaps a member of a group. Meanwhile, conversations with partners and close friends could be intense. Tonight: Be friendly.

VIRGO
(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Keep your eye on authority figures today, including parents. They might do something that you least expect. Some of you will look for ways to improve your health or your job. Tonight: You're admired.

LIBRA
(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Travel plans might be interrupted today. Romantic exchanges as well as interactions with kids might be intense. You might even feel jealous. Meanwhile, you'll want to help a partner or someone close to you. Tonight: Explore!

SCORPIO
(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Think twice before you make an important financial decision today, especially if giving someone else money or sharing something. Also, guard against an obsession! Tonight: Check your finances.

SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

A partner or close friend might throw you a curveball today. Be ready for something unexpected. Fortunately, you make a great impression on everyone. Tonight: Be cooperative.

CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Your work routine will be interrupted today. Guard against being obsessed about something. Stay flexible. In the passage of time, will this really matter? Keep things in perspective. Tonight: Get better organized.

AQUARIUS
(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Parents should be extra vigilant about their kids today because this is an accident-prone day for your kids. Furthermore, information about social outings, your kids and sports events might be confusing or misleading. Tonight: Have some fun!

PISCES
(Feb. 19-March 20)

Your home routine will be interrupted today. Someone might appear at your door. Stay cool. Confusion about money and possessions is likely. Get all your facts before you have a reaction or decide to take action. Tonight: Relax at home!

BORN TODAY

Actor Charlie Sheen (1965), snowboarder, skateboarder Shaun White (1986), chess prodigy Tanitoluwa "Tani" Adewumi (2010).

Contract Bridge

ONCE IN A LIFETIME

West dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 9 5 4
♥ —
♦ 10 8 6 5 4 2
♣ A Q 10 3

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

EAST
♠ K Q 10 6 3
♥ A 8 4
♦ K J 9 3
♣ 8

SOUTH
♠ 8
♥ 7 6 3
♦ A Q
♣ K J 9 7 6 5 2

The bidding:

West	North	East	South
1 ♥	Pass	1 ♠	2 ♣
4 ♥	5 ♣	6 ♥	7 ♣
Dble	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead — seven of diamonds.

The International Matchpoint scale used in most team contests reflects swings of anywhere from 20 points (1 IMP) to more than 4,000 points (24 IMPs). In practice, about 98% of all gains are between 1 IMP (for an overtrick) to 17 IMPs (usually for a vulnerable small slam bid and made at one table and defeated at the other). Swings of 18 IMPs or more are extremely rare.

Consider this deal, then, on which one team gained 21 IMPs for making a vulnerable doubled grand slam at one table and a game in the opposite direction at the other table!

The bidding shown took place at the first table. North's five-club bid was intended primarily as a sacrifice against East-West's game. Vulnerable sacrifices against nonvulnerable games are highly uncommon, but on this occasion, North (this writer) felt that five clubs would not go down more than one and might even make.

South (Richard De Martino) then saved against what he thought was a makable slam, figuring he would go down no more than 500 or 800 and thus come out ahead.

West thereupon led a diamond, one of only two cards in his hand (a club was the other) that would allow the grand slam to make. De Martino took East's nine with the queen, cashed a trump and the ace of diamonds, then ruffed a heart, a diamond, a heart and another diamond, establishing dummy's diamonds. Dummy's remaining trump provided the necessary entry that allowed declarer to get rid of his spade loser on a diamond. Making the doubled grand slam came to 2,330 points.

Adding insult to injury, North-South's teammates bid and made five hearts at the other table to add another 450 points to the team's total, good for a rare 21-IMP gain.

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by Steve Becker

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg September 3, 2026

ACROSS
1 "Kung Fu ___"
6 "My turn!"
10 Atlantic Ocean, informally
14 French for "love"
15 Actress Flynn Boyle
16 Poke party
17 *White wine grape (In this answer, note the first letter + the last 2 letters)
19 Pretenses
20 Citrus drink suffix
21 Thin
22 Balm endorsed by Shaq
24 Birthplace of Antoine de Saint-Exupery
25 Subjects of some eerie videos
26 Duelist's sword
29 *Ohio home of the first paid professional fire department (First 2 letters + last 2)
34 So far
36 Cheer for Spain
37 App symbol
38 Contains
39 "Can't sugarcoat this"
42 Ireland's largest county
43 Critical hosp. area
44 Manicure target
45 Hardly verbose
46 *Phrase to end many a night out (First 2 letters + last 3)
50 Nonverbal yes
51 Fifth in an MLB division, e.g.
52 $0.01
54 Like some peanut butter
57 Alphabetically first U.S. national park
59 They might be glossed over!
60 North Carolina resort area, and a theme hint
64 Payment long before a raise?
65 Historic British school
66 Name that sounds like the neighbors of "S"
67 "___ Side Story"
68 En route
69 Follower of Jah

DOWN
1 Dad
2 Among
3 Zip
4 Owl in a language-learning app
5 Like many creatives
6 "Fighting" team named for a Midwestern state
7 Hat tipper's address
8 Large tea holder
9 Appeased
10 Is kind and follows the rules
11 Cry of pain
12 Western mil. alliance
13 Clean, as a bookcase
18 Congressional Black Caucus, for one
23 ___ game (scam)
24 An August birth sign
25 Jackie Robinson's Golden State sch.
26 Set of principles
27 Egg-cooking verb
28 Come after
30 The "N" in B&N
31 Future oak
32 Trunk
33 Signed
35 Acknowledge cheekily
40 They often click as a pair!
41 Delta buildup
45 Fill drink orders
47 Place to hang your hat
48 Regional way of speaking
49 Blacken
53 Item on Wonder Woman's head
54 BBQ side
55 Extract from the earth
56 Isn't indecisive
57 Lots and lots
58 Raisins on a celery "log"
61 Four Corners native
62 Drummer's collection
63 ___ urchin

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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

8/27 Solution

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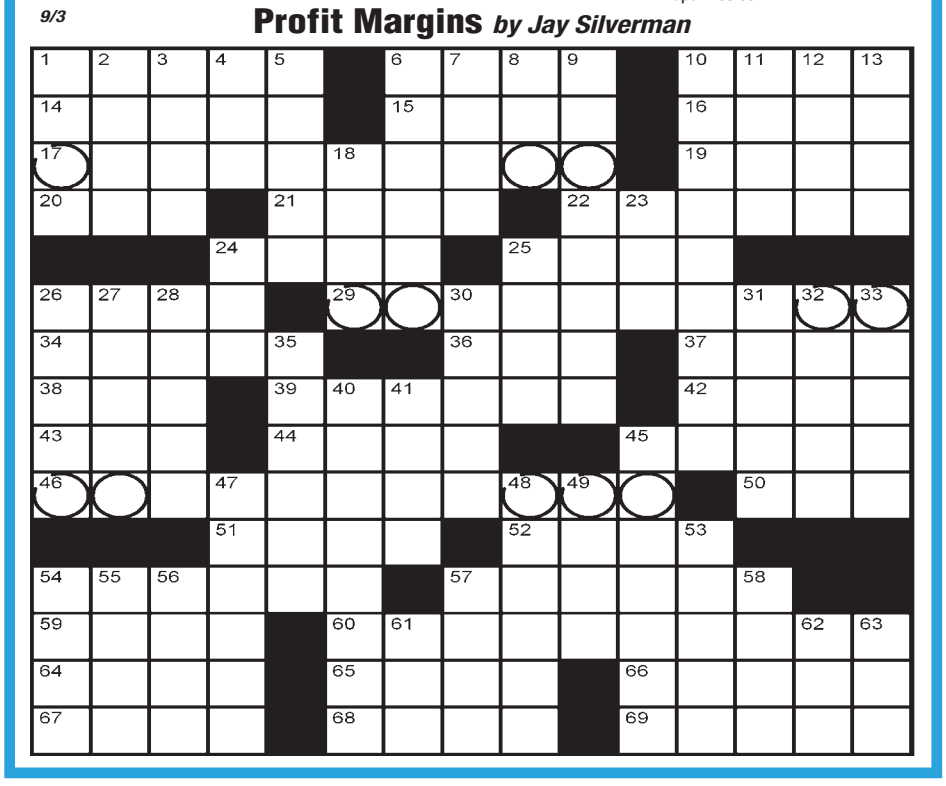
9/3

Profit Margins *by Jay Silverman*



SPORTS



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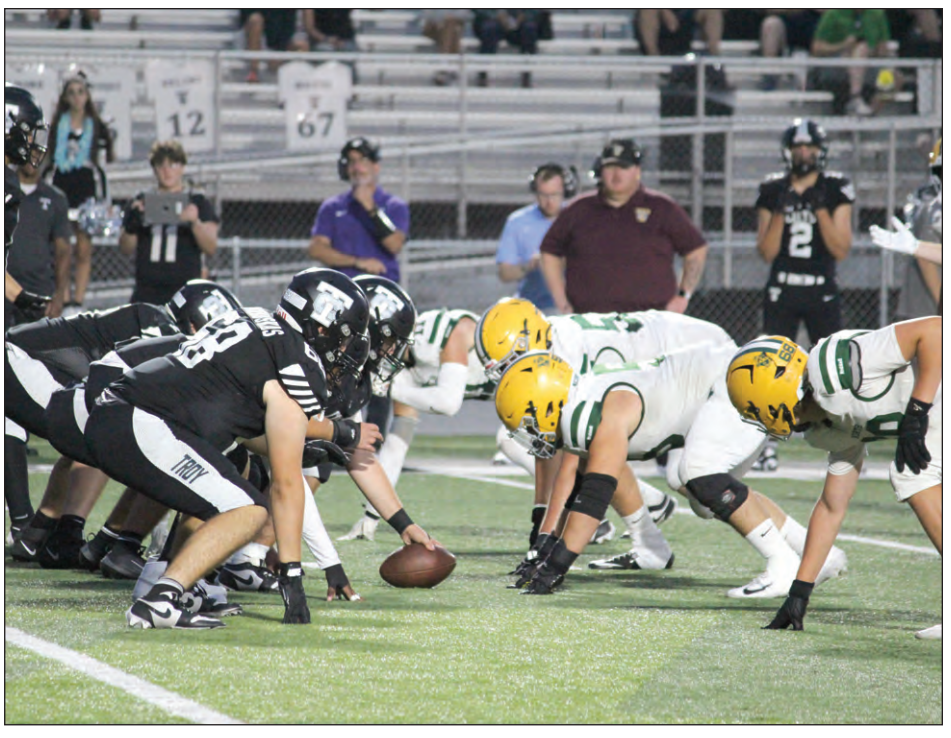
Norsemen earn close win over Troy to open football season

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The first week of high school football can be full of excitement for a new season, but it also can have good and bad moments for teams that are still getting back up to speed. Things were a little rough at times for Grosse Pointe North and Troy Thursday, Aug. 27, as the two teams faced off to open the 2026 season. However, the good ultimately outweighed the bad enough for the Norsemen to escape with a 13-6 win over the Colts on the road, in a game that was slow at times but came down to an exciting finish.



Senior quarterback Edward Macaulay drops back to pass for the Norsemen. Macaulay threw for 195 yards and one touchdown in his varsity football debut.



PHOTOS BY MIKE ADZIMA

The Grosse Pointe North defense lines up across from the Troy Colts' offense in the first game of the 2026 high school football season Thursday, Aug. 27. North defeated Troy 13-6.

"Our mantra is Valhalla — effort, enthusiasm and toughness," North football head coach Joe Drouin said after the win. "I told them we have to play hard and be hard to play against and that's what they did."

Both teams took time to get things going in last Thursday's game. The first quarter ended with the game still scoreless. The only points of the first half came about midway through the second quarter when North's Marshall Pata made a field goal to give the Norsemen a 3-0 lead.

That three-point lead for North lasted through halftime. It was not until late in the third quarter that North put more points on the board. Senior quarterback Edward Macaulay threw the first touchdown pass of his high school career, which was impressively caught in the back corner of the end zone by senior receiver Peter Rheaume, one of his five catches for 110 yards on the night. That extended North's lead to 10-0. Macaulay finished the game completing 13 of his 23 passing attempts for 195 yards.

"The lights were not too bright," Drouin said about Macaulay, who joined North as a senior this season after not playing football since eighth grade. "... He's very calm and cool. He's got the intangibles. There were a couple of mistakes here and there and we can fix them. I think he did a really good job out there as a field general and I can't commend him more for not playing for so long and then coming out here."

Troy got on the board early in the fourth quarter. Teddy Moore III ran into the end zone for the Colts to bring the score to 10-6. Ben Savich helped North bring its lead back up to a touchdown with a field goal later in the final frame.

That field goal came with just under four minutes left, leaving things in the hands of North's defense to close out the victory. The Norsemen got a key stop on fourth down with just over two minutes left to put the ball back in the hands of the offense, looking to run out the clock and end the game.

However, North's offense fumbled while trying to run out the

See NORTH, page 2D

Blue Devils boys varsity tennis picks up big wins over weekend

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The Grosse Pointe South varsity boys tennis team has had a strong start to the season and earned some of its biggest wins last weekend. The Blue Devils traveled to Grand Rapids Forest Hills Central Saturday, Aug. 29, for an invitational that featured some of the top-ranked Division 2 programs in the state. South finished the day winning two of its three challenging matchups.

The highlight of the day was a 5-3 win for the Blue Devils over Grand Rapids Forest Hills Northern, currently ranked No. 2 in the state for Division 2 by the Michigan High School Tennis Coaches Association. Matthew Bartoszewicz earned a big win for the Blue Devils in No. 1 singles by defeating Vikram Krishnan, earning some revenge for his loss to Krishnan in last year's Division 2 No. 2 singles state semifinal.

"Seeing (Bartoszewicz's) offseason work translate into a win against one of the state's best players was especially rewarding," South boys tennis head coach Brian Kean said.

Zaffran Bharucha earned another key victory for South in No. 2 singles by defeating Forest Hills Northern's Daniel Jin. The Blue Devils sealed the win by earning victories in three of the four doubles matches. The pairs of Henry Logan and Oscar DeLuca, Max Prather and Luke Brennan and Weston Jerabek and Davis Gryzenia all won their doubles matches.

South earned another victory for the day by defeating Forest Hills Central 7-2, the No. 10 team in the MHSTeCA Division 2 rankings. Bartoszewicz and Christian Azoury made up the Blue Devils' singles winners, while the team dominated by winning all five doubles matches. Logan and DeLuca, Prather and Brennan, Jerabek and Gryzenia along with the teams of Nate Yeamans and Peter Struck and William Stines and Jacob Mitchell were dominant in doubles for South.



PHOTO BY KATE BRENNAN

South boys tennis senior captain Matthew Bartoszewicz competes during a match for the Blue Devils at Grand Rapids Forest Hills Central Saturday, Aug. 29.

The only loss of the day for South was to No. 3 Midland Dow, with the Blue Devils falling 6-2. Bartoszewicz was South's only singles winner in the match, while Yeamans and Struck gave the team another win in No. 4 doubles.

"We still have a lot of season ahead of us, but we're moving in the right direction," said Kean. "Our goals remain to win the MAC Red, win regionals and finish in the top five in Division 2. We've already reached that top-five ranking, and each year this program has taken another step toward our ultimate goal of competing for a state championship."

South visited Romeo for a MAC Red Division match after press time Wednesday, Sept. 2. The Blue Devils head on the road Friday, Sept. 4, for a matchup against Traverse City Central.

South dominates Renaissance in football season opener

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

After months of waiting, a new season of Grosse Pointe South varsity football kicked off Thursday, Aug. 27, and the Blue Devils hit the ground running. South traveled to face Detroit Renaissance in its season-opening matchup and had little trouble earning its first victory of the season by beating the Phoenix 55-22.

"The way we executed, especially on offense, was encouraging," South football coach Chad Hepner said. "We've got a lot of skill players returning from last year, so it was a bit expected, but to see them being strong with their assignments and their techniques on offense right away was definitely a bright spot."

The offense for South was firing on all cylinders right out of the gate last Thursday. Senior quarterback Sam Rouleau ran for a touchdown and completed eight passes for 95 yards. Three of those passes went for scores, caught by Charlie Bedsworth, Nolan Gross and Trey Grabowski.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GROSSE POINTE SOUTH ATHLETICS

South football players and coaches gather after defeating Detroit Renaissance 55-22 to begin the 2026 football season Thursday, Aug. 27.

Brody Vinyard, Bedsworth and Andrew Wilson all added rushing touchdowns of their own on a dominant night for the Blue Devils.

South's defense contributed to the scoring as well with an interception returned for a touchdown by Parker Simpson. Throop Linnell, Liam Willson and Matt Duso each recorded a sack on defense for the Blue Devils as well.

While starting the new season with a dominant victory does not seem like much to complain about, there are plenty of things the Blue Devils know can still be improved. Some hiccups are expected in the first game of the year, but South wants to make sure things are ironed out before some of the tough competition that lies ahead in the coming weeks.

"There's still a long list of things we need to improve on," Hepner said. "The win was nice and we kind of had them overmatched. We definitely need to work on our tackling on defense and our coverage technique. We had some special teams breakdowns that need to get cleaned up. The way we're getting off the ball, we need to play a bit more determined on defense and get to the ball and finish tackles."

South hosts Roseville in Week 2 Thursday, Sept. 3. Kickoff is scheduled for 7 p.m.

NORTH:

Continued from page 1D

clock, giving the Colts another chance to tie or win the game. The Colts were faced with another crucial fourth-down play with 90 seconds left in regulation, when Troy quarterback Brayden Selimi connected with receiver Cole Oury. Oury caught the ball and made a break toward the end zone, but just before crossing the goal line, the ball was punched out by North's defense. The ball bounced out of the back of the end zone, resulting in a fumble and touchback that gave the Norsemen possession and the ability to ice the game away and seal the victory.

The win was not pretty, but the Norsemen are content with beginning the new campaign 1-0. There are plenty of things North still wants to clean up, particularly when it comes to turnovers and procedural penalties at the line of scrimmage, but it believes those are things that can easily be straightened out as the season gets going.

"A lot of them were procedural," Drouin said. "... There was nothing egregious. Nothing too bad. It was all procedural stuff in the first game that we need to take care of."

The Norsemen have their first home game of the season in Week 2, hosting Warren Cousino at 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 3.





PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

North senior running back Brayden Kozlowski looks for an opening against the Troy defense.

South accepting nominations for first Athletic Hall of Fame class

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Generations of influential athletes, coaches and teams have come through Grosse Pointe South High School. Now, the school is coming up with a way to preserve those legacies across all sports. The South athletic department is accepting nominations for the inaugural class in the Grosse Pointe South Athletic Hall of Fame.

"We're beyond excited to honor the fantastic athletic history here at Grosse Pointe South," South Athletic Director Andy Rishmawi said. "Honoring the past will be something that we hope is so special to everyone involved."

The idea for the Hall of Fame is to be a "lasting tribute to those whose achievements, leadership and dedication have made an enduring impact on our school and community," Rishmawi said.

South is inviting alumni, families, friends and community members to nominate potential honorees in the inaugural Hall of Fame class in different categories.

The first category is for athletes. This includes any South graduates and varsity letter winners. Examples include All-State athletes, state champions, All-Americans, collegiate and professional standouts and more. Nominees in this category are not eligible until at least 10 years after gradution.

The Hall of Fame also will honor iconic Blue Devils coaches. This is open to coaches who have 10 or more years of coaching experience at South and have been retired at least three years, or active coaches with 20 or more years of service.

Historic teams may also be nominated and are eligible 10 or more years after their season. Additionally, the Hall of Fame includes a category for distinguished contributors, recognizing individuals with extraordinary service and dedication to the advancement of South athletics, including volunteers, staff members, administrators, media members and community supporters.

The deadline for nominations is Oct. 1. Posthumous nominations are welcome in all categories.

The link to submit nominations may be found on Grosse Pointe South Athletics' social media page, facebook.com/GPSouthAthletics.



PHOTOS BY MIKE ADZIMA

Liggett senior receiver Devon Abbott attempts to break through a group of Bradford Academy defenders.

Liggett football kicks off new era with win

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The University Liggett School varsity football team began a new era with its first game under new head coach Vincent Phillips Jr. Thursday, Aug. 27. The Knights hosted Southfield Bradford Academy to open the season and has already matched its total number of wins from last fall by starting the year with a 28-14 victory over the Bulldogs.

Both teams started slowly in last Thursday's matchup, with no points scored in the first quarter. It was not until more than halfway through the second quarter that the first points were put on the board as the Bulldogs scored a touchdown to take a 6-0 lead. Liggett tied things up before halftime as sophomore quarterback Jason Rascoe ran for a touchdown that evened the score at 6-6 ahead of the break.

Liggett's offense seemed much more explosive after halftime, coming out of the locker room for a huge third quarter. Running back Armond Jones scored to help the Knights pull out to a 14-6 lead. Jones scored again later in the quarter to make it 22-6 in favor of the Knights before Bradford Academy answered with another touchdown of its own.

Jones' big second half was capped off with a 45-yard touchdown run that served as the final score of the game to make it 28-14 Liggett. The Knights' defense then stepped up to hold off the Bulldogs in the fourth quarter, shutting them out in the final frame to seal the win.

After starting the season 1-0, Liggett is at home again for its Week 2 matchup. The Knights host Mount Clemens Thursday, Sept. 3, with kickoff at 4:30 p.m.





Above left, Knights quarterback Jason Rascoe waits for the snap.
Above right, Liggett running back Armond Jones carries the ball for the Knights. Jones rushed for three touchdowns in Liggett's 28-14 win over Bradford Academy Thursday, Aug. 27.

Grosse Pointe News
ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Do you know an outstanding high school athlete?

To nominate a future Athlete of the Week, scan the QR code or visit our website.

grossepointenews.com/athlete-of-the-week

Grosse Pointe News THURSDAY COMICS

Peanuts

Charles M. Schulz



Bizarro

Dan Piraro and Wayno



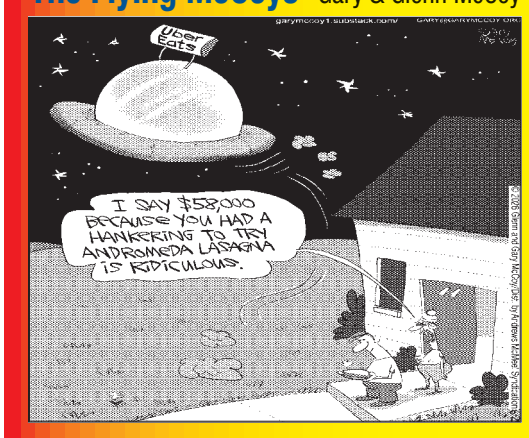
Andy Capp

Reg Smythe



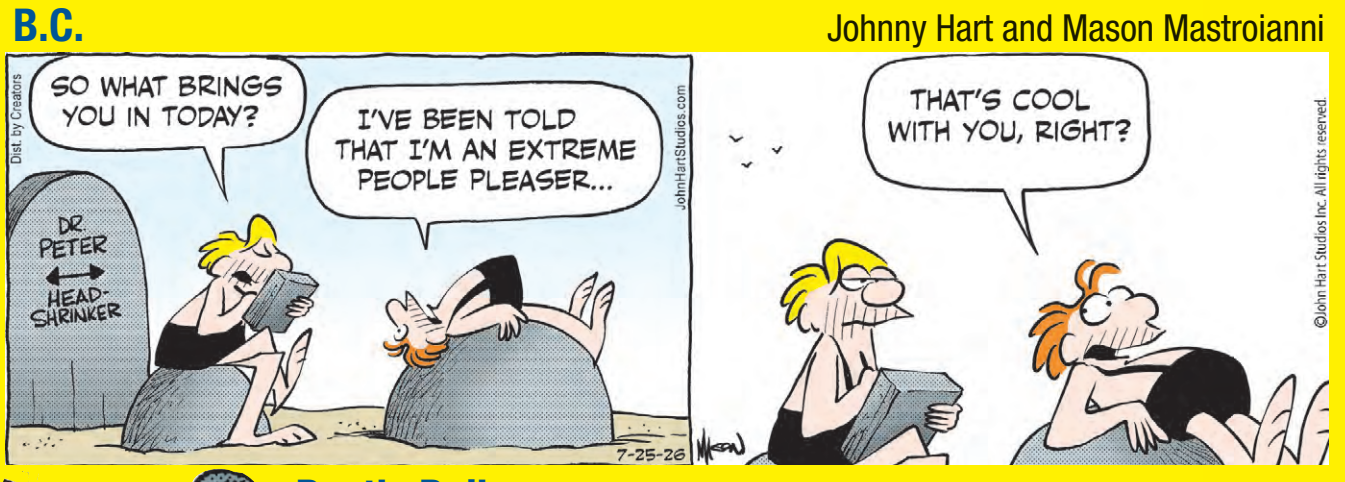
The Flying McCoys

Gary & Glenn McCoy



B.C.

Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni



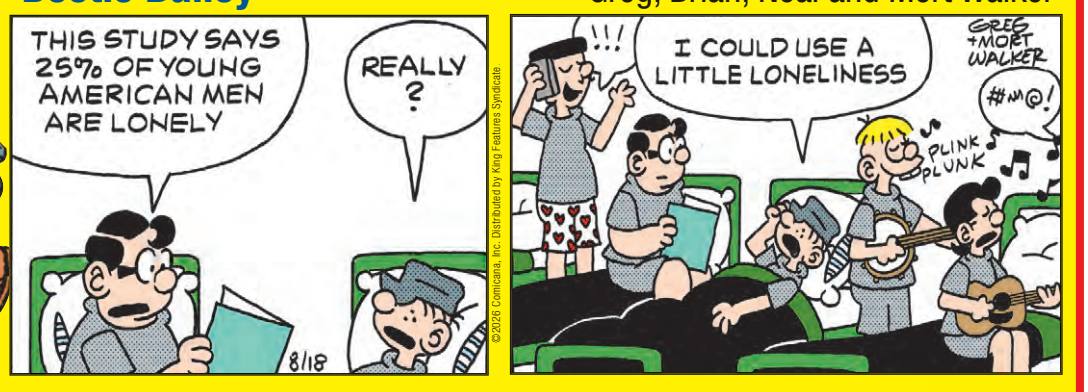
Reality Check

Dave Whamond



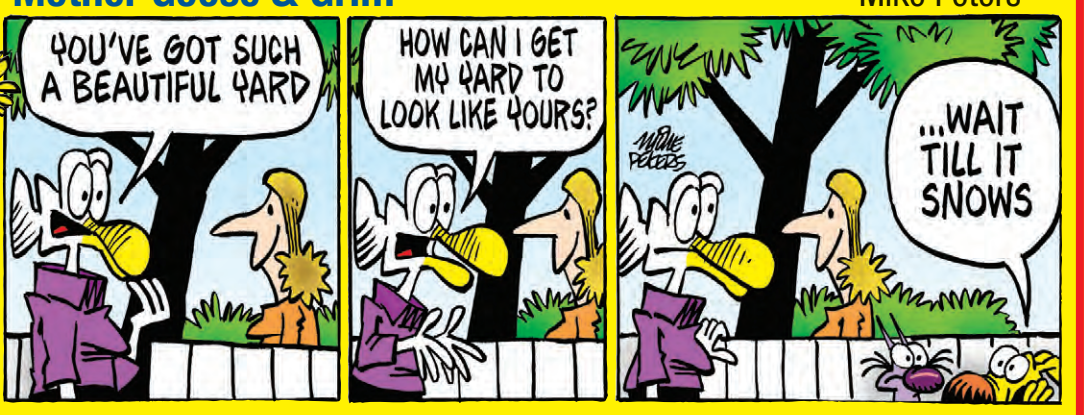
Beetle Bailey

Greg, Brian, Neal and Mort Walker



Mother Goose & Grim

Mike Peters



The Lockhorns

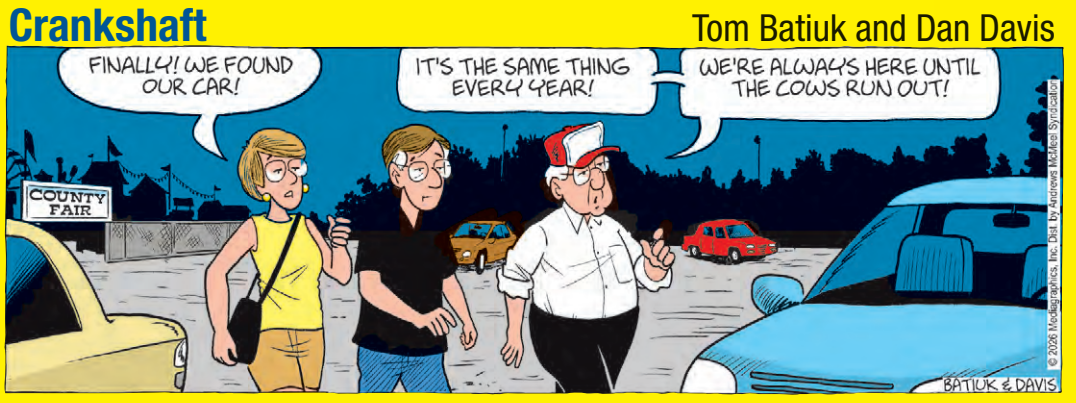
Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner



"MUST YOU USE THIS AS THE LOADING DOCK FOR YOUR CARGO PANTS?"

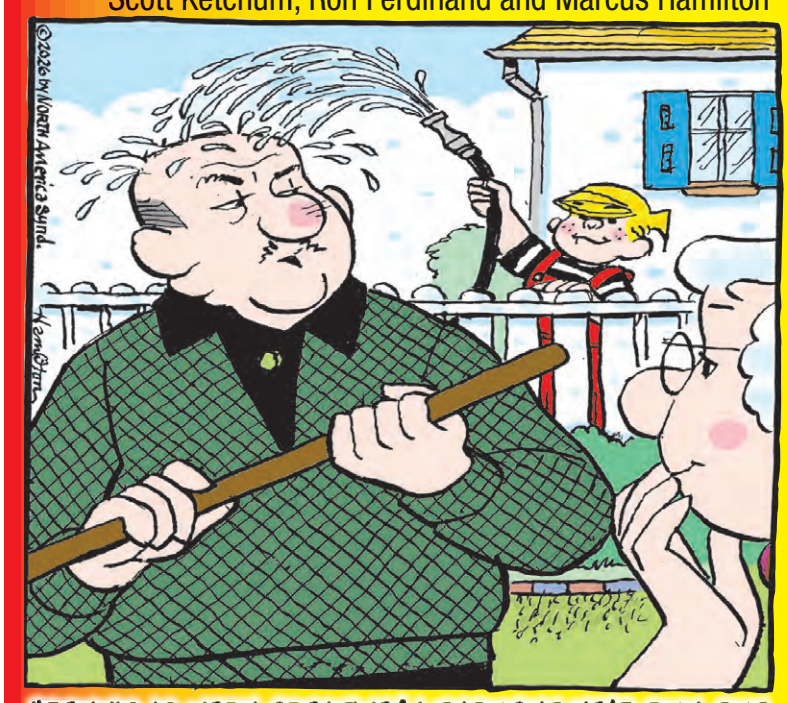
Crankshaft

Tom Batiuk and Dan Davis



Dennis the Menace

Hank Ketchum, Scott Ketchum, Ron Ferdinand and Marcus Hamilton



"DENNIS IS VERY CREATIVE! I THOUGHT HE'D RUN OUT OF WAYS TO AGGRAVATE ME A LONG TIME AGO."

Carpe Diem

Niklas Eriksson



Wumo

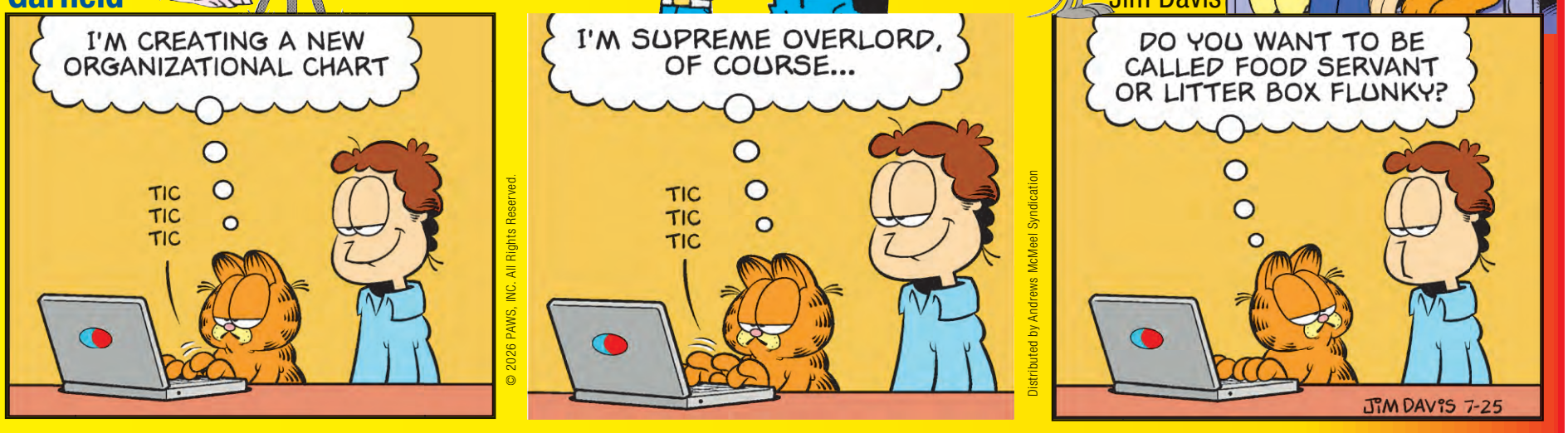
Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler



Grosse Pointe News THURSDAY COMICS

Garfield

Jim Davis



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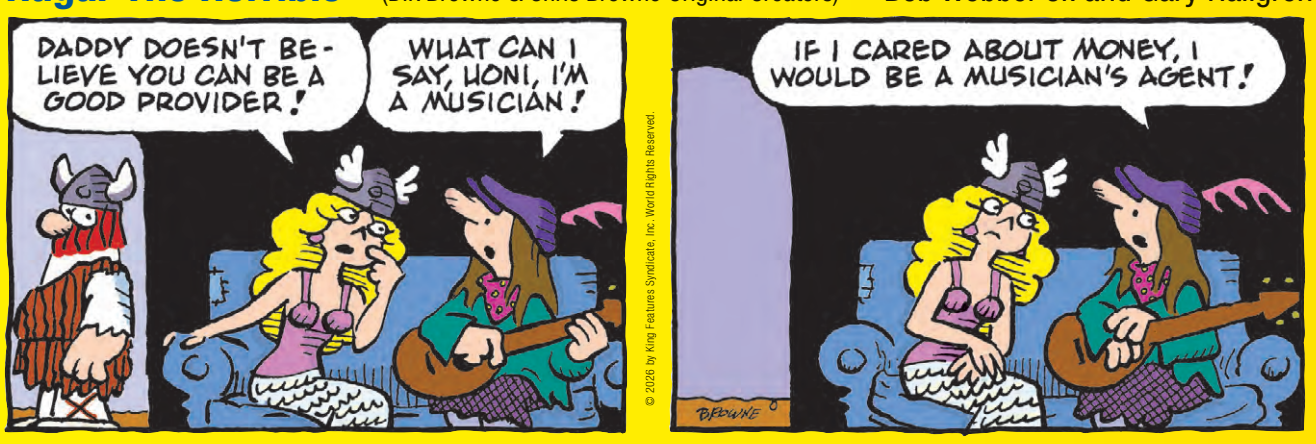
Hagar The Horrible

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



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Close To Home

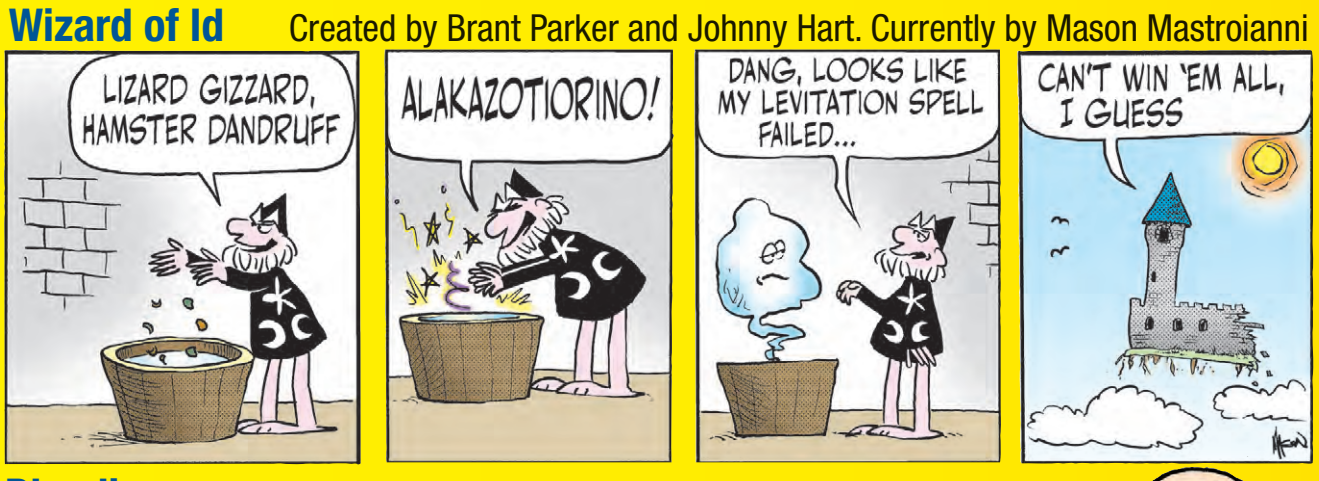
John McPherson



"He rigged this up to make sure that his kids would visit his grave."

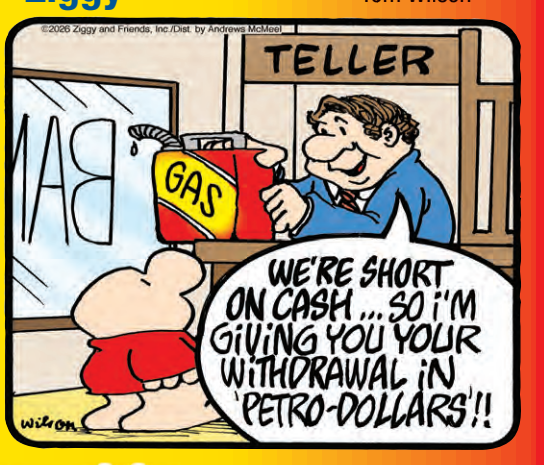
Wizard of Id

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



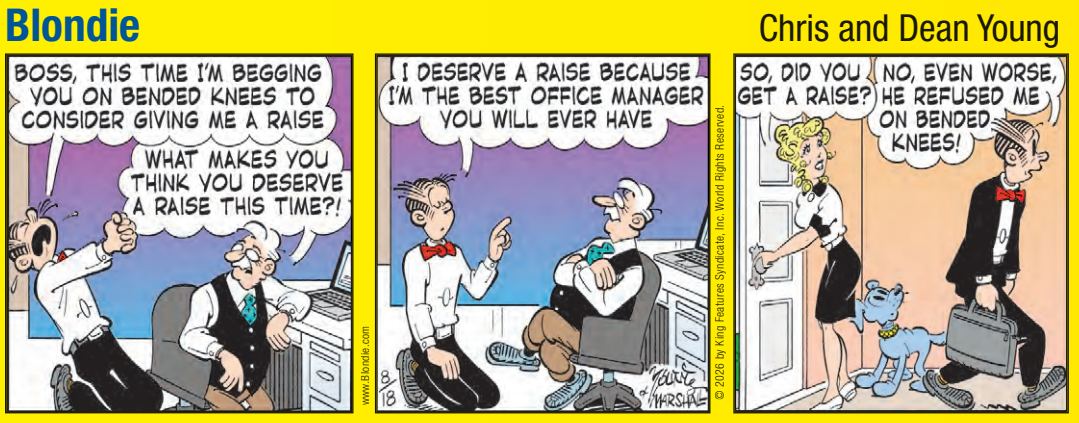
Ziggy

Tom Wilson



Blondie

Chris and Dean Young



www.Blondie.com
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Marmaduke

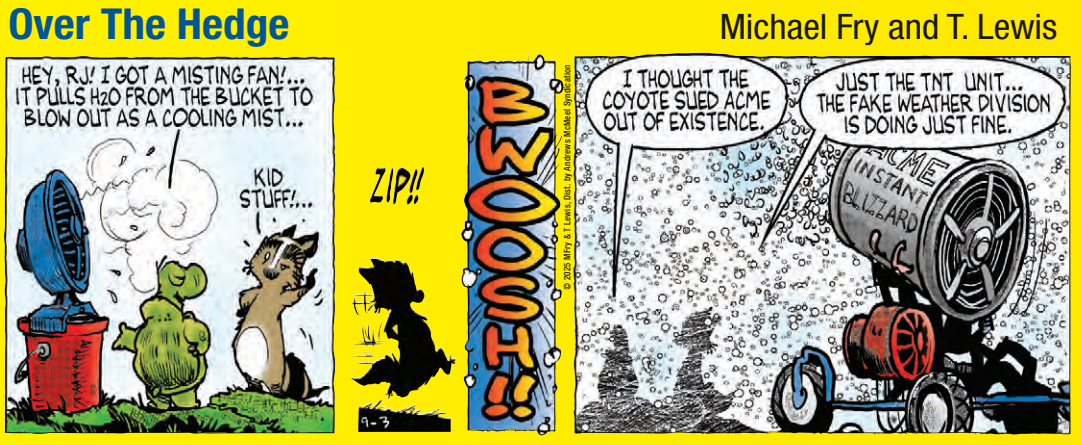
Paul & Brad Anderson



"Where did he get that diamond-studded collar for her?"

Over The Hedge

Michael Fry and T. Lewis



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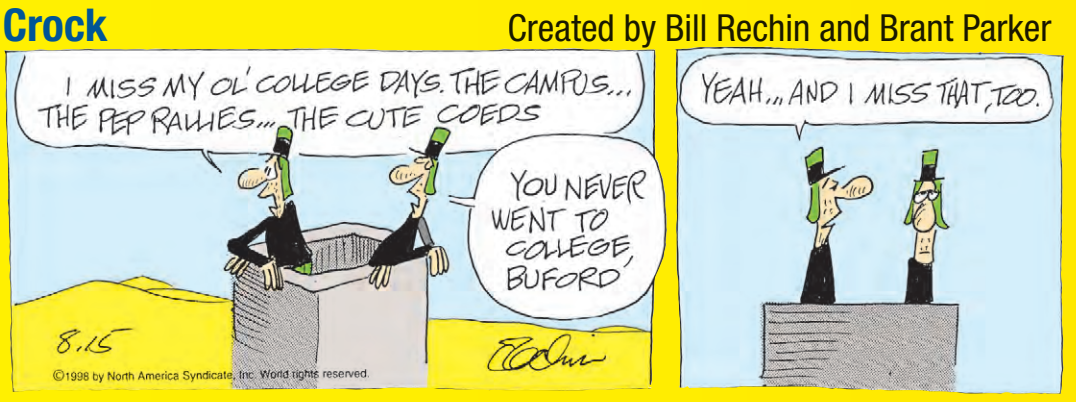
Crock

Created by Bill Rechin and Brant Parker



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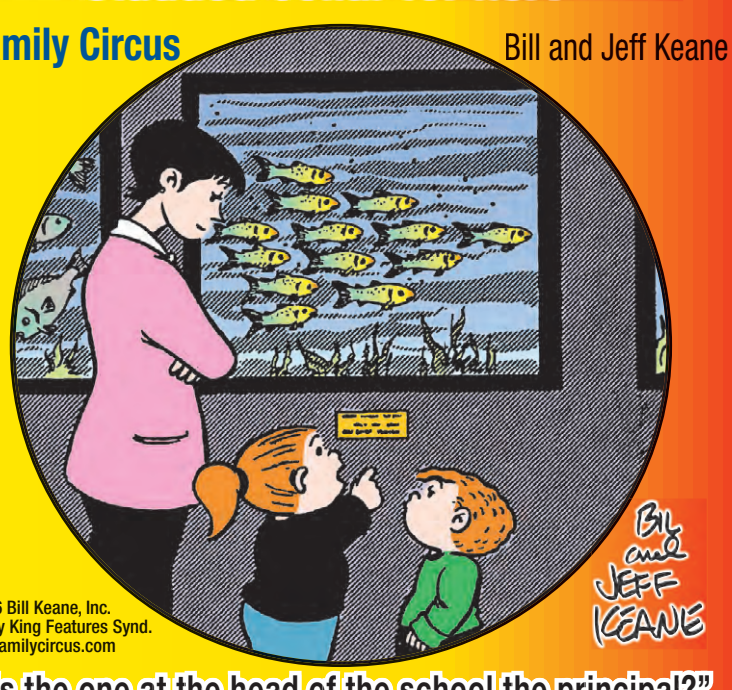
Family Circus

Bill and Jeff Keane



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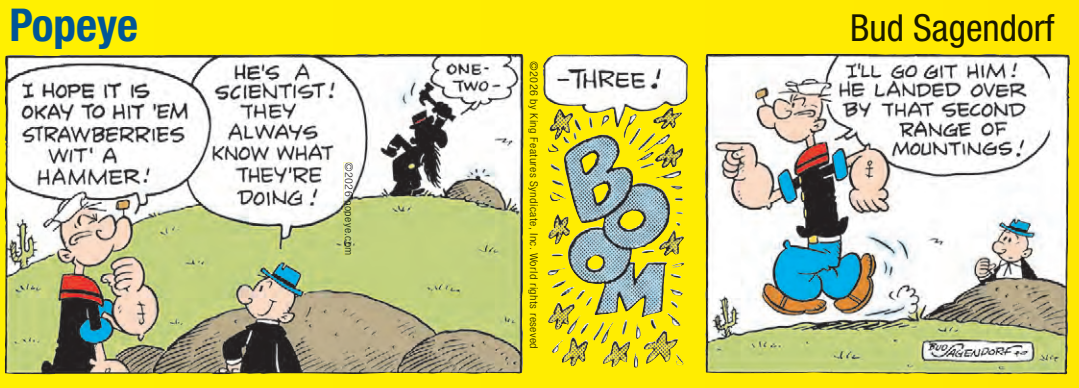
www.familycircus.com

"Is the one at the head of the school the principal?"

Popeye

Bud Sagendorf



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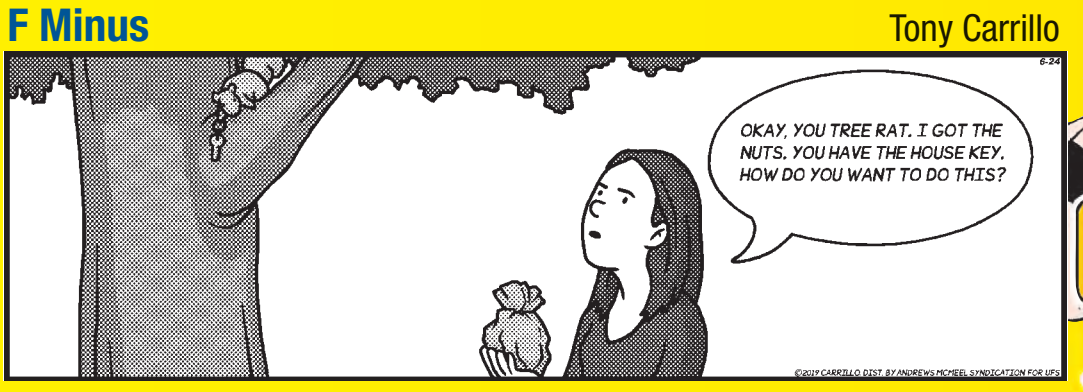
F Minus

Tony Carrillo



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Boys soccer teams start season hot

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The opening weeks of the varsity boys high school soccer season already have seen plenty of wins for teams across the Pointes. Grosse Pointe North, Grosse Pointe South and University Liggett School have been piling up wins in the early part of the season to build momentum going into September.

Grosse Pointe South

The Blue Devils picked up their third consecutive win to open the season Friday, Aug. 28, with a 3-2 victory at home over Sterling Heights Stevenson.

South found itself down when the Titans opened the scoring 18 minutes into the match. It did not take long for the Blue Devils to equalize, as Matteo Canevari helped South tie the game. Ethan Nowicki then gave the Blue Devils the lead, making it 2-1 in favor of South with just under eight minutes left in the first half.

The Titans ended the opening half with some drama, however. After a South goal that would have extended the lead to 3-1 was called back due to offsides, Stevenson was able to put together a quick rush down the field and score to tie things up at 2-2 in the final seconds of the first half.

Stevenson's late equalizer before halftime did not shake the Blue Devils too much in the second half. Sam Andris put South back on top with a goal early in the second half and the Blue Devils were able to hang on defensively for the final 30 minutes to close out a 3-2 win.

South had to get right back into action the next day, Saturday, Aug. 29, by playing two games in the Detroit Country Day Paul Bartoshuk Invitational. The day brought South its first losses of the season, with the Blue Devils falling 3-2 in a shootout against North Farmington and suffering a 3-1 loss to Detroit Cass Tech.

The Blue Devils bounced back quickly, however, in their first MAC Red Division matchup of the season Monday, Aug. 31. South hosted Utica and pulled off a 3-0 win with two goals by Nowicki and one by Lukas Bukovec.

South hosted Utica Eisenhower after press time Wednesday, Sept. 2. The Blue Devils take the field again Wednesday, Sept. 9, going on the road to face Romeo.



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

South junior Ethan Nowicki celebrates after scoring in the Blue Devils' 3-2 win over Stevenson Friday, Aug. 28.

Grosse Pointe North

The Norsemen have yet to lose in the early weeks of the season and have climbed their way to No. 10 in Division 2 by the Michigan High School Soccer Coaches Association. North continued its hot start to the year with a few more wins last week, beginning with a 5-1 victory over L'Anse Creuse Tuesday, Aug. 25.

North picked up another win in a close game against Hamtramck Friday, Aug. 28, beating the Cosmos 4-3. The team then started MAC Blue Division play Monday, Aug. 31, with a 3-0 win over Fraser.

North visited Warren Mott after press time Wednesday, Sept. 2. The Norsemen are on the road again Wednesday, Sept. 9, taking on Marysville.

University Liggett

Liggett's boys soccer team is another from the Pointes that is still unbeaten through the opening weeks of the season. The Knights are 4-0 through their first four games and picked up a couple of wins last week that showcased the team's offensive firepower.

Liggett defeated Plymouth Christian Academy 8-2 Tuesday, Aug. 25. The team followed that up with another home win Thursday, Aug. 27, toppling Detroit Cristo Rey 6-1.

Liggett faced Jackson Lumen Christi on the road after press time Tuesday, Sept. 1. The Knights travel for another road matchup Thursday, Sept. 3, taking on Allen Park Cabrini.

HITS & HIGHLIGHTS

Whether it's games, meets or matches, school fall sports in the Pointes are in full swing and the Grosse Pointe News is here to bring you all the action. Some of the week's biggest hits and highlights from include:

FIELD HOCKEY

Grosse Pointe South varsity field hockey suffered a pair of close losses in the Great Lakes Showcase at Dexter last Saturday, Aug. 29. The first was a narrow 1-0 defeat against Illinois' Oak Park-River Forest. The second loss came by a score of 3-2 to Ann Arbor Skyline. Wells Webber and Therese Carron scored for the Blue Devils in the loss.

South visited Detroit Country Day Wednesday, Sept. 2, after press time. The Blue Devils take the field again Tuesday, Sept. 8, on the road at Bloomfield Hills.



PHOTO COURTESY OF DETROIT CITY FC

DWAIHY EARNS MAJOR AWARD WITH DETROIT CITY FC

Detroit City FC's David Dwaihy was recently named 2026 USL W League Central Conference Executive of the Year. Dwaihy serves as Detroit City's Chief of Soccer Development, and previously served as the head coach of the Detroit City FC Women's USL W League team. A native of Grosse Pointe Woods, Dwaihy played high school soccer at Grosse Pointe North and is the varsity boys soccer coach at University Liggett School.

City of Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Grosse Pointe Woods City Council, meeting as the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) under the provisions of Public Act 110 of 2006, MCL 125.3101 through 125.3702 as amended, and Grosse Pointe Woods City Code of 2022 Chapter 50, Article 7, Section 50-7.15, will consider the following on September 21, 2026:

Variances at 19961 Norton Ct. are to construct an addition to an existing, non-conforming single-family residence. The variances are requested from Section 50-3.1.D: Side Yard and Rear Yard Setbacks:

A 28.0' rear yard setback is required.
A 22.6' rear yard setback is proposed.
A variance of 5.4' is requested.

A total of 16.0' side yard setback is required.
A 15.0' side yard setback is proposed.
A variance of 1.0' is requested.

The ZBA hearing is scheduled for Monday, September 21, 2026, at 7:00pm, at City Hall in the Council Chamber/Courtroom (20025 Mack Plaza Drive, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236). The application is available for inspection at the City Clerk's office between 8:30am and 5:00pm Monday through Friday.

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

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

Paul P. Antolin
City Clerk

G.P.N.: 09/03/26

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

90 Kerby Road	9/14/2026	7:00 p.m.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE CITY OF GROSSE POINTE FARMS Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on 9/14/2026 at 7:00 p.m. at the Grosse Pointe Farms City Hall located at 90 Kerby Rd. to consider an application from the owner of the property located at 11 Waverly Ln, which is located in the R-1AA One-Family Residential District. The applicant requests the required approval of the following dimensional variances in order to proceed with the plans.

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

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

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

Published: Grosse Pointe News 9/3/2026

