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Grosse Pointe News

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

VOL. 87, NO. 38, 30 PAGES
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SEPTEMBER 17, 2026
GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

Portnoy rates Fresh Farms' 'za a 7.9

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — Christmas came in September for the team at Fresh Farms Market, when Dave Portnoy, founder and owner of Barstool Sports, stopped by unannounced for his famous "One Bite Pizza Review" around 2:10 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 10.

"I was very nervous," Manager James Najjar said. "My heart was pounding, because we (campaigned for nearly) 250 days and then you

See PORTNOY, page 2B





Above, with the addition of the Grosse Pointe Park fire truck and St. Clair Shores ladder truck coming on the scene, Grosse Pointe Public Safety Officers stretch the supply line to be hooked up to an additional hydrant. Right, Grosse Pointe Farms Deputy Chief Andy Rogers, in the engineer position, works the ladder on the truck to help extinguish the fire.

PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Parts of Lochmoor Club still open

Clubhouse completely destroyed by fire

By Ted O'Neil
Associate Editor

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — Although Lochmoor Club's clubhouse was substantially damaged in last week's fire, members still have access to some portions of the club.

"Despite the loss of access to the clubhouse, many of the club's facilities remain fully operational," reads a press release issued Friday, Sept. 11. "Golf course operations continue uninterrupted and the Lochmoor Athletic Center, located adjacent to the clubhouse, remains fully functional. Members may also continue to utilize the club's tennis courts, fitness facilities and indoor golf amenities."

A press release from the Woods Public Safety Department said a kitchen fire was reported

See FIRE, page 2A

Lakeshore will be one-way starting next week

GROSSE POINTE CITY AND FARMS — Asphalt resurfacing of what has long been called one of the roads in the worst shape in either city — Lakeshore from Fisher to Warner — is scheduled to begin Monday, Sept. 21.

"The project is to remove approximately 3 inches of asphalt and then do base, curb and sidewalk repairs as needed," said Matt Baka, Farms director of public services, via email.

During the project, which is expected to be completed by Nov. 14, the section of Lakeshore from Fisher to Warner will be reduced to one lane headed north. Southbound traffic will be detoured to Mack Avenue.

"This section was eligible for, and awarded, federal funding administered through Wayne County," Baka said.

The grant through Wayne County's Federal Aid Committee will cover 90 percent of the approximately $1.4 million project.

"The road is in horrible condition right now," Farms Mayor John Gillooly said in March. "There are potholes everywhere, so I'd implore us to do what it takes to get that project done in 2026."

— Laurel Kraus

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War Memorial to break ground on theater reconstruction

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — "We're back!" said Maria Miller, president and CEO of The War Memorial, as she announced a groundbreaking ceremony to reconstruct the former Patriot Theater, which was rendered a total loss amid the devastation of flooding and basement backups in June 2021.

"This groundbreaking marks an important moment for The War Memorial and for a space that has meant so much to generations of our community," she added. "We are not simply rebuilding a theater. We are creating a flexible, welcoming cultural space where people can once again gather for performances, films, conversations and shared experiences."

The groundbreaking, free and open to the public, is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 22, on the lakefront lawn of the historic Alger House. It will be directly followed by an outdoor screening of "Back to the Future," complete with popcorn and pretzels.

The ceremony publicly kicks off approximately nine months of reconstruction, which should allow the theater to reopen in summer 2027 — six years after it was filled with muddy water up to the 10th row of seating.

Restoration efforts are taking place now, because they have been almost entirely funded by Fred Alger, who previously also donated a total of $22 million to establish the new wing at The War Memorial, as well as to fund restoration projects for the historic house.

As such, the theater will be renamed for Alger's wife: The Veronica Alger Theater.

"(The theater) never would've happened, I don't think, without Fred," Miller said. "He was really, really excited to do this for the community and Veronica

See THEATER, page 3A

Grosse Pointe SPORTS!
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See SPORTS, Section D

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Pointer of INTEREST



Zosia Greer
Home: Grosse Pointe Park
Grosse Pointe South alumna named Goldwater Scholar

See story, page 4A

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COURTESY PHOTO

Dave Portnoy holds a Fresh Farms Market pizza with, from left, Manager James Najjar, Pizza Manager Mara Vinson and employees Sawaya Crossland and Amanda Park.

PORTNOY:

Continued from page 1A

see him right in front of you. It's just crazy to see that."

The market, known locally for its made-from-scratch New York-style thin-crust pizza, spent the prior 228 consecutive days attempting to get Portnoy's attention with its own pizza-reviewing social media campaign.

Each day, customers and members of the community were filmed reviewing a single bite of the market's cheese pizza, which then was posted to Facebook and Instagram, tagging Portnoy's account.

"I asked him too, 'Dave, did you see the videos that I've been spamming you on?'" said Najjar, who led the campaign. "He's like, 'Yeah, I've seen every one.'"

Though Portnoy had yet to post his video review of Fresh Farms Market's pizza to his accounts as of press time, Najjar did reveal they earned a rating of 7.9.

"He said it's very good pizza," Najjar added. "He has a One Bite Pizza Challenge app that has ratings and I think we're the top three right now in Michigan for that rating."

The manager previously said he was prepared to continue the campaign for a full calendar year.

"(Portnoy) made a video about six months ago saying (to people in general), 'If you keep making pizza videos, I will show up,'" Najjar said. "And so I took that to heart and said, 'I'm not going to stop until he comes.' And he finally came."

And thus, the era of daily Fresh Farms Market pizza reviews has come to an end.

"Dave's our 229th person to rate the pizza and we're officially closed out now for doing pizza reviews," Najjar said, "because we were doing it until he came and he came."

Native plant sale returns

GROSSE POINTE PARK — It's easy to predict that attendees of this weekend's beautification commission native plant sale will benefit to the same degree as during a similar sale last spring.

More of the same is promised:

◆ scores of Michigan native plants and seedlings from which to choose and

◆ staff members of Michiganense Natives, a native plant nursery in Plymouth, to answer questions and provide consultation.

The sale is 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 19, on the city hall lawn near the public library.

The commission receives a portion of sale proceeds. Commissioners use the money to plant native species in community gardens.

Michiganense Natives grows more than 250 species of Michigan wildflowers, grasses, shrubs, trees, ferns and aquatics at its nursery on Joy Road.

During the spring plant sale last May, Reed Boskey, company co-founder and manager of remote sales, said, "Native plants are good for many things. They're good for wildlife. They form the foundation of the food system for everything. Insects eat them. Mammals, too. The food web builds off of that. We all love to see birds and you don't get birds without insects and without native plants, you don't get them. With deep roots, there's more room for stormwater to infiltrate the soil and less runoff into storm systems."

For more information, email beautification@grossepointepark.org.



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Grosse Pointe Woods public safety engineer has the ladder truck monitor aimed at the roof to help control the fire.

FIRE:

Continued from page 1A

at 2:41 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 9, and that smoke and flames were seen coming from the roof as officers arrived.

Public Safety Director John Kosanke said the fire was under control by midnight and a truck from the Woods stayed on scene overnight extinguishing hot spots. The department issued a Nixle alert shortly after 3 p.m. Wednesday, advising people to avoid the area. Another alert at 8 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 10, said, "Still an active fire scene at Lochmoor Club. Find alternate travel routes and do not approach the scene to take videos or photos."

Kosanke said the fire is under investigation and no further information is being released at this time.



A Public Safety Officer sprays water across the top of the tree line to the roof of the clubhouse.

The Woods received mutual aid from the City of Grosse Pointe, Grosse Pointe Farms, Grosse Pointe Park, Grosse Pointe Shores, Harper Woods and St. Clair Shores. Support also came from the Woods Department of Public Works, American Red Cross and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Fire Investigation Division.

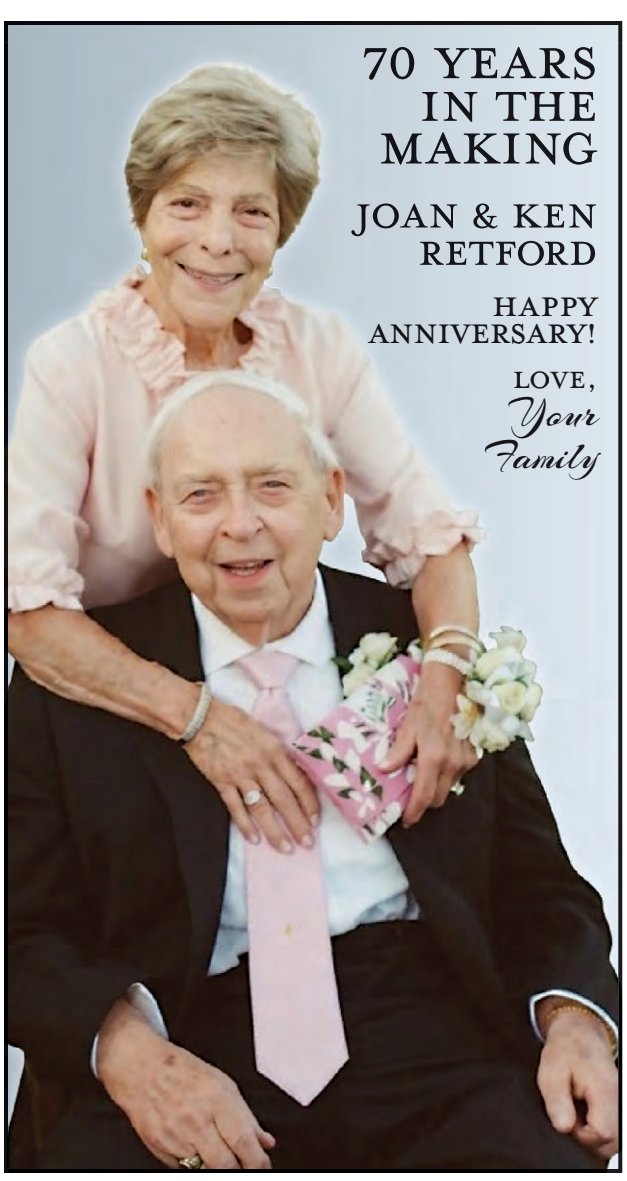
The Lochmoor Athletic Center, indoor golf facility and fitness center remain open in part due to the work of the Woods Department of Public Works.

"I received a call from Chief Kosanke asking if we had a big enough piece of equipment to knock down the breezeway bridge that connects the clubhouse to the tennis facility," DPW Director Jim Kowalski said. "The fire was rapidly spreading that way and they wanted to create a barrier in between. I reached out to Assistant Director Matt Crook and he and Crew Leader Ryan Adamski went over with our front-end loader and Ryan was able to use the front bucket to demo the breezeway. Ryan also spent the rest of the evening running back and forth keeping our fire trucks fueled up so the trucks didn't have to leave the scene."

The Grosse Pointe Public School System sent an email toward the end of the school day Sept. 9, asking people to avoid the area during pickup. Another email Sept. 10 said the district was monitoring air quality and limiting outside activities at Grosse Pointe North High School, Parcells Middle School and Mason Elementary School.

Lochmoor's press release said club leadership is working with fire officials, insurance representatives and restoration specialists to assess the full extent of the damage and determine the next steps for recovery.







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Gillian Moss named winner of fall Teacher Appreciation Contest

By Anne Gryzenia
Publisher



Gillian Moss and students at a float party.

For Gillian Moss, some of the most important lessons she learned in school had little to do with textbooks or tests.

They came from teachers who took the time to truly know her.

Moss, recently selected as the winner of the Grosse Pointe News' fall Teacher Appreciation Contest, is a resource room teacher and case manager for fifth grade at Brownell Middle School.

She remembers middle school as a difficult time. She had just moved to Michigan from Florida, was painfully shy and often felt alone. Her father had recently died of pancreatic cancer — a loss that seemingly came out of nowhere.

Yet when she looks back on those years, her most positive, life-changing memories involve teachers who made a lasting difference.

"Mr. Deneau, Mr. Pellerito, Mrs. Kranz and Rufus McGaugh made a lasting impact on my life and my heart," she said.

One moment in particular has stayed with her. When Moss was in seventh grade at Brownell, she had a conflict with her only friend at the time. Her English teacher, Mr. Pellerito, knew she was new to the school and didn't have many friends. He brought the two girls together to talk through their differences.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Retired GPPSS teacher Rufus McGaugh visited and inspired Moss' classroom.

"That day made such an impact on me," Moss said. "I will never forget how he tried to help me."

Years later, things have come full circle and that experience has become part of the teacher Moss strives to be, at the same school that inspired her years ago.

Her hope is that every student leaves her classroom knowing they are worthy of being exactly who they are.

"The world can be quick to tell us who we should be," she said. "My deepest hope is that my classroom can be one of the places where students feel safe to be themselves, confident in who they are and reminded that they never need to change who they are to be valued, accepted or enough."

Moss is equally passionate about the educators around her in the Grosse Pointe Public School System.

Before joining Brownell, Moss taught at Grosse Pointe North High School, where she worked in a categorical ASD classroom. She said she was fortunate to work alongside an exceptional team of paraprofessionals at North.

"They truly loved those kids," she said.

"The staff here does incredible work," she

See TEACHER, page 4A



DESIGN IMAGE COURTESY OF THE WAR MEMORIAL

The stage will be significantly larger than before, stretching out over the orchestra pit.

THEATER:

Continued from page 1A

is too. It was just a matter of timing, because the donations were split over two years and the selection process for the theater consultant and the architect took a long time."

Those anticipating its opening can envision an intimate ADA-compliant, 182-seat theater with rich walnut walls composed of pivot panels to appropriately direct sound. Box seating will run along the sides and small tables will be incorporated between seats for food and drink.

The stage will stretch over the orchestra pit and behind it will be hidden two bathrooms and two green rooms.

"I see comedy acts," Miller said. "I see magic shows. I see plays, but small acts. We're not going to be doing the big performances."

Grosse Pointe Theatre, she said, is considering performing a handful of small shows at the new theater annually.

It would do so on a significantly larger stage than was there previously, but to a slightly smaller audience as the redesign is cutting out about 18 seats.

"The reason for that is the theater consultant we worked with in the predesign phase said, 'You've got a theater that has very low ceilings and you're wide and that's not good for sound,'" Miller said. "So what the intent was from this consultant was we needed to (condense the space) from a sound perspective."

This is not the theater's first rebuild or redesign.

First known as the Fries Auditorium, it originally was built in 1962 as a 6,000-square-foot theater with a 450-seat auditorium. It flooded in the mid-'60s, shortly after opening, and history repeated itself in 2021, when the disastrous flooding came just three years after a renovation.

To prevent a repeat, the team at The War Memorial already has installed backup generators, which never were on site previously. Further mitigation efforts also may include drain tiles along the floor of the theater.

"Water is going to find its way in," Miller acknowledged. "Our job is to mitigate."

Though the theater's reconstruction is 90 percent funded, additional fundraising is needed to support renovation of the adjoining lobby space and future theater programming.

"What we don't have (funding for) is the lobby," Miller said. "It's clean but could use some updating. The flooring's old. The bathrooms are dated."

The project, which Miller hopes will come to include the lobby, will be led by Rockford, providing construction services; Quinn Evans, leading the architectural work; and The Roy Company, providing project oversight.

Community members may register for the groundbreaking ceremony and community movie night at warmemorial.org/events/groundbreaking

The Week Ahead

MONDAY, SEPT. 21

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

TUESDAY, SEPT. 22

- Main Street Grosse Pointe Board of Directors meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- Grosse Pointe Woods Planning Commission meeting, 7 p.m.
- Grosse Pointe Shores Planning Commission meeting, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 24

- Grosse Pointe Library Board meeting, 5:30 p.m. at Central, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 26

- Park Farmers Market, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Kercheval and Lakepointe.
- America's 250th Anniversary Tree Giveaway, 10 a.m. at Grosse Pointe Woods City Hall.



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South alumna named Goldwater Scholar for Parkinson's research

By Meg Kelly
Editorial Intern

When Zosia Greer moved to Grosse Pointe during second grade, she had no idea she would end up spending her college years trying to understand the ins and outs of how the human brain functions.

Greer, now 21, a Grosse Pointe South High School alum and Oberlin College student, has been named a Goldwater Scholar. The prestigious national honor recognizes her promising undergraduate research in neuroscience.

Greer grew up in Grosse Pointe Park and credits her time at South for sparking her interest in science.

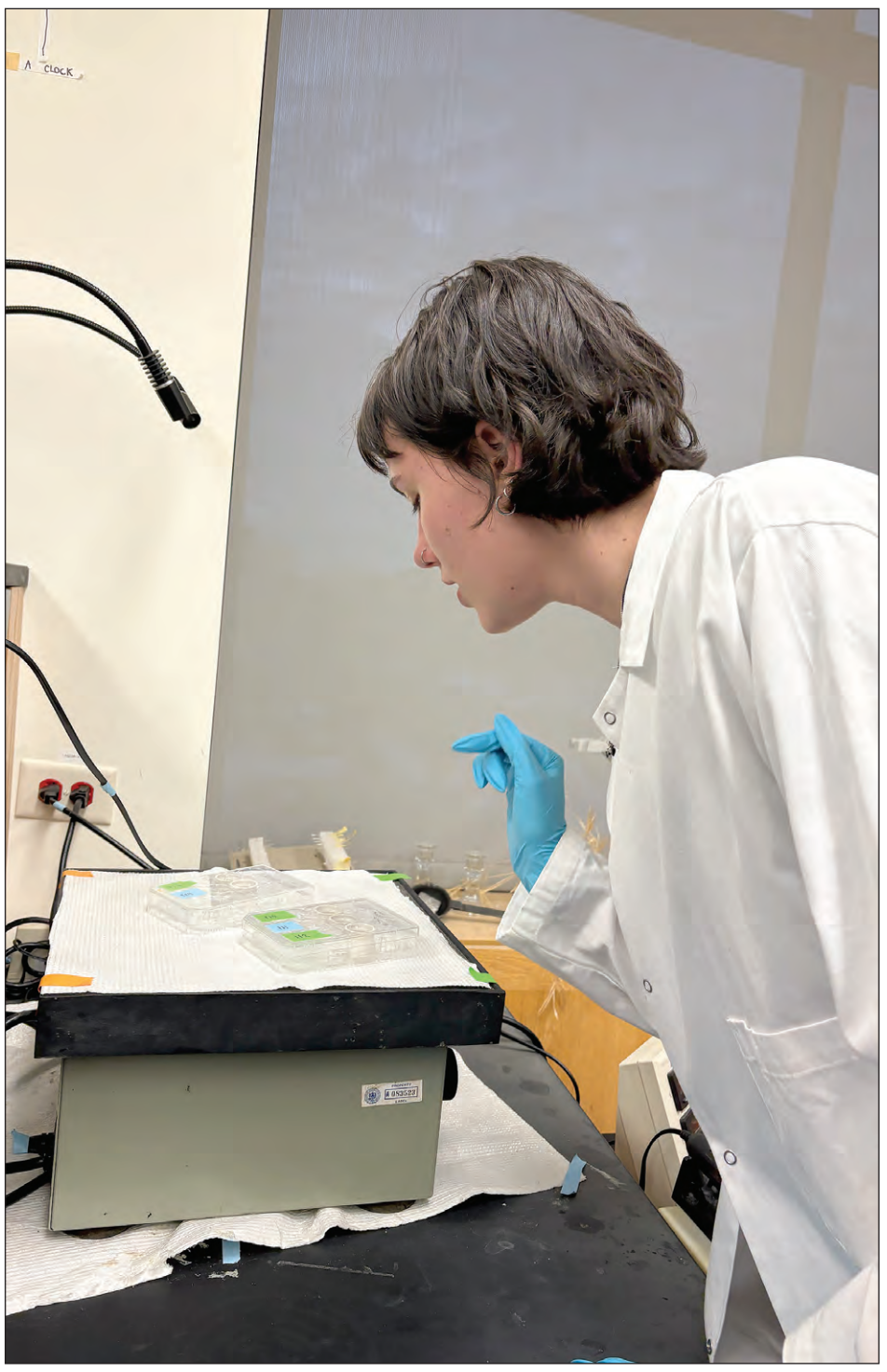
"I feel like I always had an inkling of an interest in science," Greer said. "But I actually really feel like the biology classes I took at South helped me flourish and really figure out just how much I loved biology."

She specifically points to her beloved biology teachers, Mr. Adams and Mrs. Rothenbuhler, for making the tough subject feel fun.

"They were able to make it fun and interesting," Greer said. "I think for a lot of people, science can feel very daunting or confusing or complicated. But I feel like they really taught it in a way that applied it to real life and made it interactive and engaging, even during COVID. I really appreciated that."

When it came to college, Oberlin felt like the perfect fit for her.

"It's not too far, not too close from home," Greer said. "I felt like it had a very unique vibe and I feel like I align with a lot of their beliefs and values, so I really appreciated that. That's what really drew me to the school initially and then, upon coming here, I realized just how fantastic the faculty, the professors, my mentors, my peer mentors, my professor mentors — everybody — is very kind and helpful and they really steered me in the right direction for figuring out where I want to go."



COURTESY PHOTOS

Zosia Greer, hard at work in the lab at Oberlin College.



Zosia Greer

Although she began college with an undeclared major, joining a research lab her freshman year changed her perspective on everything.

"I had a general idea that I wanted to do something science, something biology related," Greer said. "It was something that was kind of on my radar, but I wasn't sure. And then I joined a research lab in my freshman year and that's what really made me realize that this is what I'm really interested in and this is what I want to do and investigate."

For Greer, studying the brain is a way to find answers to real-world problems that touch almost everyone.

"It's so fascinating that we can learn that our actions, our emotions and our health are all determined by molecularly what's happening in the brain," Greer said. "I think deepening our understanding of that can really help us tackle issues of diseases, of psychiatric and neurological disorders, mental health disorders, all sorts of things. I think that there's so much discovery to be had there."

Beyond her regular classes, Greer said she finds working with others and getting involved at Oberlin has helped her grow and learn the most.

"I feel like the courses I've taken here, not just the faculty, but the actual learning material itself and the way that it's taught has really helped me understand things to a deeper level," she said. "Also just engaging with the community aspect of school, like joining clubs and being a part of the student neuroscience association at Oberlin, are really what has helped me learn the most."

Greer's research looks at finding more accessible treatments for Parkinson's disease.

"We're focusing on investigating potential and more accessible treatments for Parkinson's disease," she said. "We get to work with mice and we use a genetic model of Parkinson's disease and then we're able to test different drugs in a manner similar to what you would see actually in treating a human. We wait until symptoms have developed. We start treatment. We monitor behavior. But I really love the aspect of trying to apply these treatments to real-world scenarios and not just improve them in the biological sense, but also improve their accessibility and their reproducibility of the science."

She took over the project from a student who had just graduated, but knew right away it would be a perfect fit. Her work has taught her much about science, but also how to work well with her team, which she deems the most important aspect of research.

"We've found some interesting preliminary stuff where we may not see improvements behaviorally, but we will see improvements molecularly," she said. "I find that pretty interesting, but then I also think that, especially with where I'm at in my research career, the most important thing I've learned is how to collaborate, how to be a good leader, but at the same time a good team member and how to mentor."

When experiments don't go as planned, Greer sees it as just another part of the job.

"At the end of the day, every experience is a good experience," she said. "Even if the experiment doesn't work out how we expected it to, it still tells us something, even if it's the opposite of what we might have thought it was going to tell us."

Looking ahead, Greer hopes to stay in the lab and eventually head to the front of the classroom.

"I definitely want to continue in research long term," she said. "I'm actually interested in becoming a professor someday. So along that journey I'll be getting my doctorate and probably doing some postgraduate research work."

For other young students interested in STEM, her advice is to go for it and ignore any self-doubt.

"Don't tell yourself that you can't do it because of some perception of yourself that you have," Greer said. "You're not, not smart enough. Anyone can do science if you're really passionate about it."

TEACHER:

Continued from page 3A

said. "I have worked in many districts and I have seen so much heart, soul and care in GPPSS compared to other districts. I wanted to be a part of that."

She also has a more recent example of the difference a GPPSS teacher can make. Her son's teacher, Mrs. Veitengruber, "changed my son's life" because she saw him for who he is.

Moss and her husband, John, have two children, ages 6 and 7, who attend GPPSS. She said she sees how happy they are and credits the support of their family, teachers and community. The family also includes Luna, a black Labrador, and Sam, a cat.

John Moss served in the Clawson Fire Department for more than a decade before the family relocated to Grosse Pointe.

As part of the Teacher Appreciation Contest, Moss will receive $500 in gift cards to Savvy Chic, Small Favors, Sugar Bar, Staples and Amazon — a small way for the community to recognize the important work teachers do every day.

Moss is especially excited about the opportunity to use the gift cards to benefit her classroom.

"Anything I can use to help my classroom is so appreciated," she said.

But perhaps what means the most to her is the chance to recognize the teachers who influenced her own life.

About 10 years ago, McGaugh came to her school and "took the reins for a day," opening her students' eyes to places and experiences beyond classroom walls and reminding everyone of the power of a passionate teacher.

"GPPSS educators never stop creating the magic," Moss said. "They will forever be my inspiration."

It's a fitting sentiment from a teacher whose own life was changed by educators who took the time to know her — and who now works every day to make sure her students feel valued, supported and accepted for exactly who they are.

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PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

City of Grosse Pointe

Retail theft

A 35-year-old Detroit man was arrested as he fled on a bike after stealing $400 worth of items from a store in the 16000 block of Kercheval at 7:35 a.m. Friday, Sept. 11.

All stolen items were recovered.

The man is the same suspect in two retail frauds from the same store in early August.

Illegal turn

A 20-year-old Detroit woman was cited for a suspended license after making an illegal turn at Mack and Cadieux at 9:20 p.m. Friday, Sept. 11.

Restricted

When a 20-year-old Detroit man was stopped for disregarding a traffic control device near Notre Dame and Waterloo at 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 12, he was found without a driver's license with him, as it was restricted, and was cited.

— Laurel Kraus

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

Grosse Pointe Farms

Drunken

Bicyclists were riding behind a drunken driver at Charlevoix and Cloverly and pointed him out to a patrol vehicle responding to a prior report at 8:22 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 6.

The 50-year-old Detroit man in question was driving very slowly and had an open can of Bud Light in the center console cup holder when the officer approached. A blunt fell from his lap onto the ground as he exited the vehicle.

The man refused a preliminary breath test but failed field sobriety testing and was arrested.

Arrest

A 30-year-old Chesterfield woman at 8:25 a.m. Monday, Sept. 7, was reported for trespassing and was found carrying items that had been stolen from several unlocked cars on Lothrop, Manor and Madison.

She was arrested for larceny, drug paraphernalia and giving false information to an officer.

Stolen laptop

An HP Chromebook was stolen — but Dave & Buster's gift cards were left behind — from an unlocked vehicle in the 400 block of Colonial Court between 9:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 9, and 6:10 a.m. the next morning.

Discovered

A homeowner on Beaupre caught two men sitting inside his unlocked vehicle at 10:43 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 10.

The man scared them off and they fled before officers arrived.

Handgun

A handgun was found lying in the right lane of Moross just north of Kercheval at 12:45 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 13, and turned over to police.

— Laurel Kraus

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

Grosse Pointe Park

Damage to auto, not theft attempt

Someone on or between Sunday, Sept. 6, and Wednesday, Sept. 9, broke the passenger-side window of a 2015 Hyundai and damaged the steering column.

The vehicle was parked on the street.

Police considered the incident malicious destruction of property.

Junky scooter

Whoever stole an 11-year-old scooter from a backyard in the 800 block of Beaconsfield last week had to push or haul it away.

"The scooter was inoperable," police said. "(It) was going to be scrapped."

Still, it had a value of $100, they said.

Police said the theft happened overnight Wednesday, Sept. 9.

Theft from van

Around $1,000 worth of power tools were stolen overnight Friday, Sept. 11, from a Ford Transit van parked in the driveway of a house in the 1400 block of Bedford.

The thief or thieves entered the vehicle by smashing the driver-side window.

Stolen was a tool bag containing a Bosch drill, driver and Sawzall reciprocating saw.

Messing around

Police at 4 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 13, found "multiple vehicles were entered" in the 1200 block of Devonshire.

"The drone was deployed to conduct an area search for potential suspects," an investigator said. "However, no suspects were located."

In a similar incident almost exactly 24 hours later, two unknown males wearing dark clothing appeared on security video entering an unlocked car parked in a driveway of the 700 block of Whittier.

"No items were taken," police said.

Police logged the incidents as tampering with an auto.

Bike taken

An orange, $700 Specialized bicycle that had been left overnight in front of a business in the 15100 block of Kercheval was reported stolen Monday, Sept. 14.

— Brad Lindberg

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

Grosse Pointe Shores

Hit and run

An unknown black male riding a motorcycle hit a vehicle parked in the right lane of northbound Lakeshore around 10:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 12.

Several cars were parked along a stretch in the 900 block of Lakeshore, by permit, for an event going on at one of the houses.

Witnesses said the man got on another motorcycle, which was driven by a white male with a white female passenger, that left the area southbound on Lakeshore. Officers recovered the suspect's helmet and tennis shoes, along with a Yamaha motorcycle, at the scene.

Quite a party

A resident in the 50 block of Roslyn filed a report around 7 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 13, after a security camera captured an unknown person on their porch around 1:15 a.m. that day.

A pair of women's shoes and a wedding party favor were found on the porch. Officers who viewed the footage described the person as intoxicated based on how they were walking.

—Ted O'Neil

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

Grosse Pointe Woods

Unlocked vehicles

Items were stolen from four unlocked vehicles recently, including:

- an unknown amount of change in the 2200 block of Stanhope between midnight and 5 a.m. Friday, Sept. 4,
- credit cards, which were used several times before being canceled, in the 2000 block of Beaufait overnight into Tuesday, Sept. 8,
- an unknown amount of change in the 1700 block of Oxford overnight into Thursday, Sept. 10, and
- a pair of sunglasses and first-aid kit in the 1600 block of Oxford overnight into Thursday, Sept. 10.

—Ted O'Neil

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

Water main work set at park

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — The latest round of water main and lead service line replacements includes a $150,000 fee for engineering and oversight.

The job was contracted this week to OHM Advisors, which already has an agreement dating to 2021 as the city's engineering consultant.

Construction is supposed to start this year.

Hiring OHM for the work maintained continuity between it and city administrators. OHM designed the replacement of pipes and leads. Implementation was contracted to Bidigare Construction for a low bid of $826,271.

"This is the third year we're working with Bidigare," City Manager Nick Sizeland said.

"The project was designed (by OHM) in the winter of 2025 for replacement of the water main on Beaconsfield from Kercheval to Vernor and the construction of a water main loop in Patterson Park from Grand Marais to Bedford," according to a memo Sizeland presented to city council Monday, Sept. 14.

In addition, 22 lead service lines and eight copper service transfers are being replaced along the stretch.

"Under a separate contract, 50 lead service line replacements were randomly selected for replacement throughout the city," said Patrick Droze, an OHM principal.

"The lead line contract was bid in June 2026 and awarded to Bidigare as well," Sizeland said.

The contract totals $574,959.

Water main work on Beaconsfield consists of replacing 750 feet of 6-inch-diameter cast-iron pipe with a composite pipe that is less susceptible to breakage from water pressure changes or ground heave during freeze-thaw cycles.

Lead pipes also eventually clog themselves with tuberculation, a buildup of iron deposits. Tuberculation isn't a health risk. The problem with clogged pipes is restricted water flow.

"An 8-inch main in Patterson Park is to loop the water main and replace an aging main under the stormwater outfall," Sizeland said.

Installation of the main through Patterson, often called Three Mile Park due to its location at the foot of the road, will be done by directional drilling. No trench will be dug, only two holes at either end of the new line.

Water main upgrades are scheduled to eliminate break-prone lines while replacing high concentrations of lead service connections.

The city's 2,000 remaining lead service lines link mains to residential and commercial structures. Replacement of lead lines with pipes of safer composition complies with a statewide mandate prompted by improper purification of Flint drinking water during the mid-2010s.

Despite the mandate being unfunded, the Park in July received a $19,855,000 zero-interest state water system improvement loan from the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund administered by the Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE). Nearly $2 million of the funds don't have to be repaid.

"This investment will allow us to accelerate the

See MAIN, page 8A

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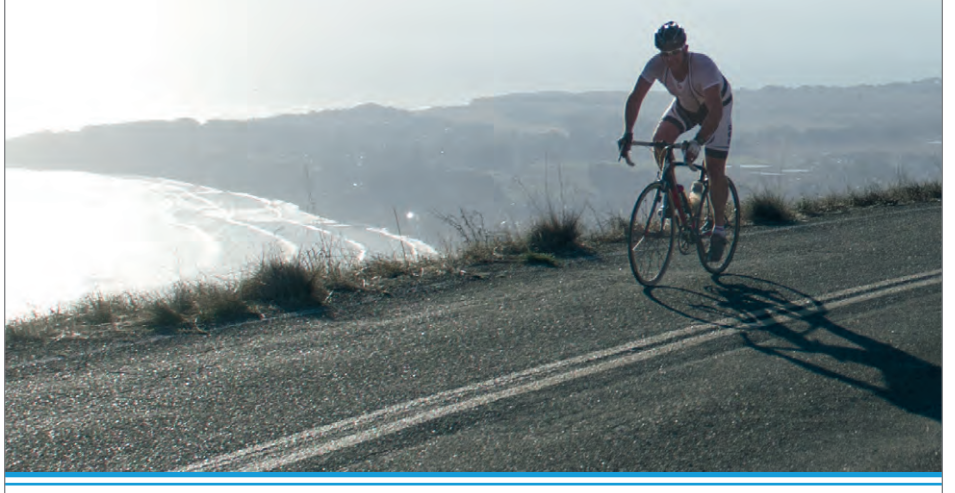



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POINTES OF VIEW

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

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

SEAN COTTON: Owner

ANNE GRYZENIA: Publisher

JODY MCVEIGH: Editor in Chief

OUR VIEW

The dreaded school run

Earlier this year in this space, we detailed a survey that found the top ZIP codes in the country where parents feel the most pressure. The Pointes came in at No. 48 nationally and No. 3 in Michigan.

When we asked our readers at the time what stresses them out, the top item was housing costs at 35 percent. Next up, at 27 percent, was education. Close behind at 25 percent was child care and last was activities, at 13 percent.

Well, a new survey about school runs seems to have uncovered yet another major cause of stress for parents. Grosse Pointe, and specifically Mason Elementary School and Parcells Middle School, came in as the 18th most stressful school run in the country and most stressful in Michigan.

Coming in at No. 18 is really saying something, considering the top 10 included places like Houston, Dallas, Miami and New York City. The only other spot in Michigan to be ranked was Royal Oak, at No. 40.

According to our reader poll (below), 32 percent of respondents think the school run is "easy peasy." Their kids obviously do not go to Parcells or Mason. Tied at 29 percent was "hit or miss" and "so brutal." The latter must be the Mason and Parcells parents. At 11 percent was basically "N/A," or not applicable. Those are the folks who really embrace the Grosse Pointe Public School System mantra of a "walkable, bikeable district."

"School drop-off stress in Grosse Pointe Woods can build quickly when large numbers of families are traveling through the same areas at the same time," according to the press release that accompanied the survey. "Traffic pressure can be particularly noticeable around Parcells Middle School and Mason Elementary School, where school journeys overlap with one of the community's busier intersections. With parents, commuters, pedestrians and other local traffic all competing for space during the morning rush, even a small delay can create a growing line of vehicles. For parents heading straight to work afterward, keeping the school run on schedule can require constant attention to both the clock and the activity around them."

Like the last survey on stress, this one was commissioned by a group known as A Mission for Michael, which runs mental health care clinics in California, Minnesota and Virginia. The impetus for its founding reads much the same as our very own Kevin's Song, which this area is so blessed to have.

The reconfiguration of the intersection at Mack and Vernier, which was completed as the 2025-26 school year started, has helped ease congestion there by eliminating left turns and the accompanying backups.

But this year, Wayne County decided to do a major reconstruction of Mack from Cook Road to the northern city limits of the Woods — in both directions — and got started far too late in the summer to be done before school began, even with the first day of classes coming as late in September as possible based on the GPPSS calendar.

Making matters worse, however, GPPSS included this information in a recent weekly communications update:

"With summer, or 'construction season' as we call it in Michigan, going strong despite the start of school, we would like you to take a moment to consider the current projects and how they will impact your school commute, particularly around school entrances.

These large projects are currently underway:

◆ Chalfonte has significant sewer construction going on in the area south of Monteith. Parking lot traffic will be directed out of the lot and toward Cook Road.

◆ Federally funded repaving of Lakeshore from Warner to Fisher will begin Sept. 21. Due to lane closures, this will likely impact student parking on Fisher (between Grosse Pointe Boulevard and Lakeshore Road).

◆ While this is not to be used for any other vehicle traffic, construction of the exit gate for our special education buses behind North is underway. Remember this gate is not to be used for any other vehicles and parking remains prohibited in the Wedgewood dead end to allow the buses space to exit."

Plus, drivers — doing a school run or not — have to be increasingly wary of the growing issue that is e-bikes. Just keep in mind that lesson about defensive driving from driver's training back in high school: Always assume the other drivers will make a mistake.

As the British saying during World War II went, keep calm and carry on. Or in this case, drive on.

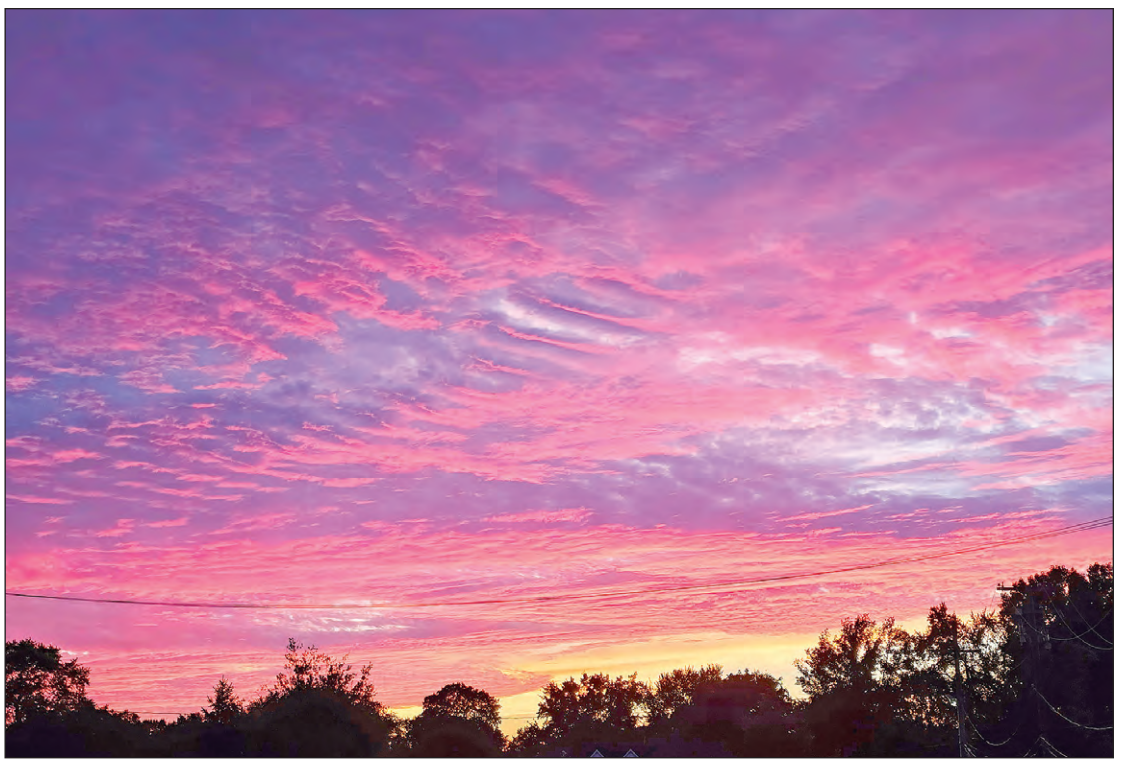

PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Pure Grosse Pointe

The spectrum of colors in the sky around 8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 10, was a sight to behold. Sunset gazers, like Grosse Pointe News photographer Renee Landuyt, paused to take photos of the sky — a reward after a warm day with cooler temps setting in as the sun set for the night.

GUEST VIEW By Melissa Fradenburg, CDFA, AIF

A new savings opportunity for young families

One of the things I enjoy most about working in Grosse Pointe is meeting families that are thinking not only about their own retirement, but also about giving their children and grandchildren the best possible financial start. That's why I've received so many questions lately about Trump Accounts, a new investment tool that became available July 4.



Trump Accounts are IRA-style investment accounts for children under age 18. Parents, grandparents, other relatives, friends and even employers can contribute. Unlike a traditional brokerage account, investments are limited to low-cost U.S. stock market index funds. The goal is to encourage long-term investing early in life and allow decades of compound growth.

Eligibility has caused some confusion because there are really two separate questions. First, can a child open a Trump Account? Second, does that child qualify for the government's $1,000 seed deposit? Those are not the same thing.

To open an account, a child must be under age 18 and have a valid Social Security number authorized for employment. A parent, legal guardian or grandparent serves as the authorized individual who

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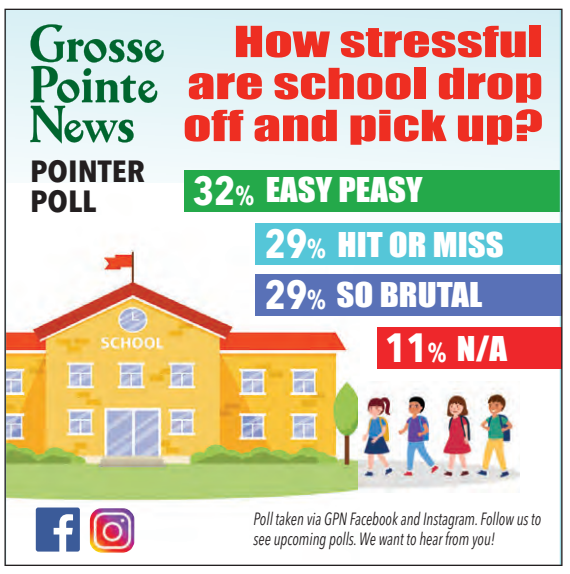

LETTERS

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.

Stay local

To the Editor:

Most people agree with the motto of "buy local" so as to support our friends and neighbors in their businesses. I'd like to suggest that "buy local" should also apply to choosing our Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods real estate agents over national corporate agencies when buying or selling property. We are blessed with so many outstanding agents who have been in our communities for years and know the market like no one else. These folks live and work in the Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods. Almost every charitable event in our area lists one or more of our agents as sponsors or donors. You know the names. The national real estate companies are huge corporations with few, if any, ties to our communities. So instead,

See LETTERS, page 7A

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EDITORIAL
(313) 882-6900

Jody McVeigh: Editor in Chief

Ted O'Neil: Associate Editor

Mike Adzima: Sports Reporter

Kyla Bazzy: Obituary Writer

Laurel Kraus: Staff Writer

Renee Landuyt: Staff Photographer

Brad Lindberg: Special Writer

PRODUCTION
(313) 343-5573

Ken Schop: Production Manager

John Pigott: IT Manager

David Hughes: Graphic Artist

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Donna Zetterlund: Graphic Artist

ADVERTISING
(313) 882-3500

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GROSSE POINTE 7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST September 17 – 23 — LOCAL 4 Expect More.

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Rain Showers	Mostly Cloudy	Chance T-Storms	Chance Rain	Chance T-Storms	Cloudy	Windy
60%	20%	40%	40%	30%	10%	10%
SUNRISE 7:14 am SUNSET 7:38 pm	SUNRISE 7:15 am SUNSET 7:36 pm	SUNRISE 7:16 am SUNSET 7:34 pm	SUNRISE 7:17 am SUNSET 7:32 pm	SUNRISE 7:18 am SUNSET 7:31 pm	SUNRISE 7:19 am SUNSET 7:29 pm	SUNRISE 7:20 am SUNSET 7:27 pm

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

I SAY By Brad Lindberg



Hooked on afternoon sci-fi

Before cable television, the internet and streaming services provided movie watchers nearly unlimited viewing options at all hours of the clock, many media markets had a station that aired feature films during after-school hours.

Back East, it may have been channel 5 or 7 that during my early youth presented black-and-white 1950s science fiction films between the hours of coming home from school and the family sitting down to dinner.

The demographic range of elementary-age students to teenagers was satisfied by action films. Most were of the extremely low-budget variety, although many cut-rate productions were well-made, compelling and memorable. Many may have been in public domain, as they aired often.

They made me a fan of the genre. Sci-fi films of the '50s are my favorite.

Almost all feature a monster, alien invader or deal with scientific concepts that intrigued and inspired budding imaginations. Also, we got a good dose of the films without having to sacrifice every afternoon to the boob tube. The same film was shown all week, Monday through Friday. Miss it one day, watch it another.

There was still time to play in the woods and run up and down hills. I made friends with a gray and white striped cat — think of a Norwegian forest cat but not quite — across the street. His name was Simeon. He's the only Jewish cat I've known. We'd sit together in a dogwood tree sharing cookies that my mother baked.

Or, if it was a really good show, like "Creature from the Black Lagoon," we'd watch it again and again.

"Creature" was a favorite of most boys and not just because we emulated the namesake monster at the swim club, twisting and turning underwater, holding our breath as long as we could, pushing off from the bottom of the deep end and grabbing the feet of girls on the surface whose presence we figured was to let us torture them.

No, what iced the cake was dark-haired actress Julia Adams in her white one-piece.

Adams remains prime among what would retroactively be called her era's scream queens.

She made only one monster movie. And who cares if she stood off-set while a body double performed her swimming scenes. Adams looked just as good in the movie wearing safari gear as she did nearly 10 years later making a guest appearance as a nurse on "The Andy Griffith Show."

Another 1950s screen queen that made only one sci-fi film was Margaret Sheridan. She played a character who held her own against "The Thing from Another World" and a cast of wisecracking male military officers and scientists.

No bathing suits in that movie, set near the North Pole. Sheridan's character dressed in lined pants, turtlenecks and flannel shirts. Her character was bright and self-assured. In modern terms, I suppose she was empowered. Males in the cast protected her, but didn't have to think for her. Ask her a question, she gave it. Need an idea, she offered one. She didn't suck up energy in the room as a passive-aggressive princess.

When "Thing" aired, we watched as many times that week as possible. Not just to girl watch. "The Thing" is a good movie.

Most of those old afternoon films remain my favorites. "Missile to the Moon" with Cathy Downs, "Them" with Joan Weldon and a brief scene with Leonard Nimoy, "Earth vs. the Flying Saucers" and "20 Million Miles to Earth" with Joan Taylor and "Tarantula" with Mara Corday and an uncredited Clint Eastwood.

Don't dare leave out "The Day the Earth Stood Still" with Patricia Neal. Yet, something has always bugged me about that movie: How does lumbering, 8-foot-tall Gort-the-robot get around Washington, D.C., to recover and revive the dead body of his spaceship pilot without being seen?

Suspension of disbelief is one thing, but by comparison, "Creature's" amphibious humanoid missing link, "Thing's" intellectual carrot, "Missile's" walking rock creatures and "Them's" giant ants are believable enough to delight the imagination of a lifelong after-school film watcher.

GUEST:

Continued from page 6A

opens and manages the account until the child reaches adulthood. The adult verifies his or her identity through the official Trump Account app, completes the required IRS election if necessary and provides the child's information.

Once the account is established, it can begin accepting contributions and family members can even receive a link to contribute directly.

The requirements for the $1,000 Treasury contribution are more restrictive. The child must be a U.S. citizen, born between Jan. 1, 2025, and Dec. 31, 2028, and the required election must be submitted to the IRS. In other words, many children can have an account, but only a smaller group will receive the seed contribution.

Like any tax-advantaged account, there are contribution limits. Parents, grandparents, relatives, friends and employers can collectively contribute up to $5,000 annually. Employers may contribute up to $2,500 per year toward an employee's child's account without creating taxable income to the employee.

The tax treatment also is important to understand. Contributions are made with after-tax dollars, so there is no immediate tax deduction. Investments grow tax-deferred while the child is a minor and withdrawals generally are not permitted during that time. Beginning Jan. 1 the year the child turns 18, the account converts to a traditional IRA, allowing additional investment options. Withdrawals become available at that point, although taxes and possible penalties may apply unless an exception exists, such as qualified education expenses or a first-time home purchase.

So, is a Trump Account worth opening? Like most financial planning questions, the answer depends on your goals.

For children who qualify for the government's $1,000 contribution, absolutely. Money that can remain invested for decades is difficult to pass up. If your primary objective is saving for college, a 529 plan may still offer greater education-specific tax benefits. Families with teenagers who have earned income should also consider Roth IRA contributions, which remain one of the most powerful long-term wealth-building tools available. For families that have already addressed retirement savings and college funding, custodial accounts such as UTMAs, UGMAs and taxable brokerage accounts can still serve an important purpose.

Trump Accounts aren't advisor-managed and you don't need a financial advisor to open one. Because every family's situation is different, it may be worthwhile to meet with a financial planner to determine whether a Trump Account complements your retirement, college savings and overall financial plan.

Melissa Fradenburg, CDFA, AIF, is with Farther Finance Advisors, LLC, an SEC-registered investment advisor. The material presented here is for informational purposes only and should not be construed as investment, tax or legal advice. It is not a recommendation of, or an offer to sell or solicitation of an offer to buy, any particular security, strategy or investment product. Please consult your investment advisor, legal counsel and/or tax professional. Investing in securities involves risks, including the potential loss of principal. Past performance does not guarantee future results.

LETTERS:

Continued from page 6A

"buy local" with our Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods real estate agents.

MARY CATHERINE RENTZ
Grosse Pointe Farms

Many thanks

To the Editor:

On behalf of my co-chair Gretchen White and the rest of the GP PorchFest committee — Dr. Seth Krupp, Bill Kalmar, Buzz Young and Cindy Willcock — I would like to thank all the wonderful GP City residents who volunteered their porches (and courtyards) and the talented musicians who stepped up to make our second outing a huge success. Once again, we had great weather and a fantastic turnout.

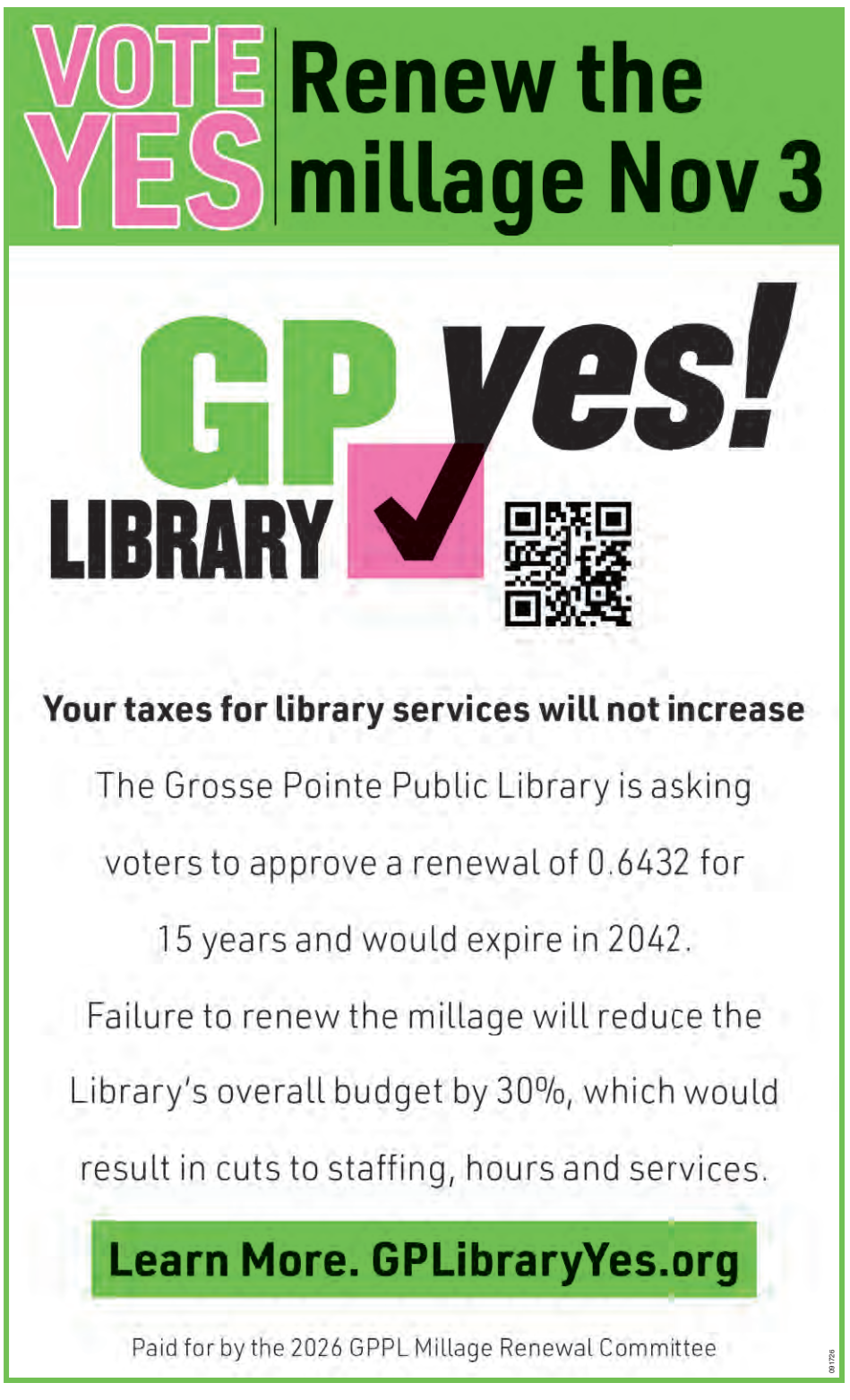
Members of our community have had nothing but praise for the performances and appreciation for the folks who opened their porches and yards in support of this free event. Thanks also to City staff and our dedicated public safety officers who helped keep things moving smoothly, as well as the City of Grosse Pointe Foundation for funding T-shirts and maps.

And, yes, we are indeed planning to do this again. Mark your calendars for the Saturday after Labor Day 2027! Good weather is guaranteed.

SHEILA TOMKOWIAK
Mayor, City of Grosse Pointe







Zoning change moves along

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Council members this week accepted a recommendation by the planning commission to rezone a double-sized residential parcel below Jefferson.

Implementing the recommendation required amending the city's zoning map.

The rezoned property, currently designated 850 Ellair Place, remains designated for residential use. But council on Monday, Sept. 14, authorized it being changed from Estate Residential (ER) to Neighborhood Residential (NR-A).

New zoning facilitates the lot being split in two and the subsequent construction of one house on each forthcoming lot.

"The rezoning would bring the zoning designation of 850 Ellair Place into greater harmony with the surrounding residential zoning and established neighborhood patterns," according to an assessment by planners with McKenna, the Park's planning consultants.

Members of the planning commission voted unanimously Aug. 20 to amend the zoning map and accommodate the new designation.

"Upon consideration and recommendation of approval from the city planner (McKenna), the commission approved a motion to recommend the rezoning to the city council," said Cindy Paparelli, assistant city manager.

"(Rezoning) would also provide greater flexibility for the future use of the property, including the potential to divide the existing parcel into two residential lots, provided that any future land division and development independently comply with all applicable city requirements," according to McKenna.

"This was initiated by the property owner," Paparelli said.

The current zoning map dates to 2024.

"Further review indicated the parcel could or should have been zoned NR-A when the zoning map was created," Paparelli said.

The amendment was a milestone for Sizeland, hired by the Park in 2016 as an administrative assistant and promoted to manager seven years ago.

"This is the first time we've had a zoning map amendment in my career," he said.

Although rezoning involved the planning commission and council, lot splits are handled administratively in the Park.

"Rezoning does not automatically create that lot split," Paparelli said. "Lot split approval is a separate administrative function. They (the property owners) would have to go through that application process. The parcel, rezoned NR-A, will be allowed to split into no more than two lots."

She said no neighbors opposed the process.

"There were no comments, not even written ones," she said.

Woods woman recognized by Ossian Sweet Foundation

By Ted O'Neil
Associate Editor

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — Work with one Detroit-based foundation has earned a Woods woman an award from another.

Patti Kukula, executive director of the Detroit Public Safety Foundation, was honored Saturday, Sept. 12, with the 2026 Gladys Sweet Humanitarian of the Year Award.

"I'm very touched by this recognition," Kukula said. "It's good for our foundation."

The award is named for Gladys Sweet, wife of Dr. Ossian Sweet.

Dr. Sweet and his family moved into a home on Garland at Charlevoix in Detroit in September 1925. The house, on both the national and state historical registers, was the site of racial tension after Sweet and his family, who were black, were confronted by a mob of white neighbors pelting the house with stones.

Gunshots were fired from the house, killing one person outside and injuring another. The NAACP hired Clarence Darrow to defend Sweet, using a self-defense argument. He was acquitted after the jury couldn't reach a verdict.

"This award carries a very special name," the Sweet Foundation said in a statement. "Gladys Sweet stood beside her husband during one of the most consequential civil rights battles of the 20th century. Working with the NAACP, she traveled tirelessly to help raise funds for the legal defense of her husband and the nine others who stood with their family in defense of their home.

"That same spirit of service, sacrifice, courage and commitment to others lives on in Patti Kukula," the statement continued. "Through her leadership, she has championed Detroit's first responders, strengthened public safety, invested in young people, secured critical resources and built partnerships that make our city stronger."

Kukula said she became interested in the Sweet story after reading "Arc of Justice," a book about the case.

"When I worked for (Wayne County Executive) Ed McNamara, I'd volunteer to give tours of the old county building," she said. "Dr. Sweet's trial was held on the fourth floor of that building, so I'd make sure to include that in the tour and tell people his story."

Kukula, a former Woods council member, said she began to pay more attention to social justice issues after reading the book.

"Detroit has played such a major role over the years," she said, "being a stop on the Underground Railroad or the fact Rosa Parks was from there."

Kukula has been executive director of the Detroit Public Safety Foundation for nine years.

"We bring in about $5 million a year and really focus on youth programs," she said. "Our goal is to build trust and faith in public safety in young people."

She also was given a humanitarian award by the Detroit Fire Department last year for her efforts.

Kukula said she shares both awards with her husband, retired Wayne County Circuit Court Judge James Chylinski.

"He spent 42 years on the bench with fairness," she said. "We both try to recognize solutions to problems and the partnership between the Grosse Pointes and Detroit."



Patti Kukula



COURTESY DESIGN

This design image depicts plans for the brick breezeway plaza in front of the new bathhouse.

Memorialize a message in new Pier Park aquatic facility

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — The Grosse Pointe Farms Foundation has received several orders a day since launching the opportunity to personalize a commemorative brick for permanent installation as part of the new Pier Park pool complex.

Personalized bricks will be installed in the breezeway plaza in front of the new bathhouse and may contain names, family messages, dedications or short tributes.

"Anything from honoring family members who might have passed who had always come to the park to sweet sayings about what the park means to their family," said Nora Ezop, foundation board member. "As a test run, I put 'Our family loves making a splash at Pier Park, the Ezop Family.'"

Those interested have two options:

- A 4-by-8-inch commemorative brick for $500 offers up to three lines with 20 characters per line, including spaces and punctuation.
- An 8-by-8-inch commemorative brick for $1,000 offers up to six lines with 20 characters per line, including spaces and punctuation.

Revenue will go directly toward the $14.8 million reconstruction cost of the aquatic facility. It will be in addition to the $4 million the foundation already has raised.

"Honestly, our (initial) commitment was $500,000," Ezop said. "It just goes to show how much this means to people."

The last day to purchase a commemorative brick is Wednesday, Sept. 30.

Residents may do so online at grossepointefarmsfoundation.org/put-your-name-in-the-path-to-the-pier-park-pool

Profanity, offensive language and hate speech are not allowed and, as such, messages that contain inappropriate content will not be approved.

If a message is not approved, the purchaser will receive a full refund.

MAIN:

Continued from page 5A

replacement of lead service lines, protect public health and make meaningful improvements to our infrastructure while reducing the financial burden on our residents," Mayor Michele Hodges said at the time.

Property owners will receive advance notice of the date scheduled to swap out their service line, according to Droze.

"When we're doing this right, we're in and out in half a day," he said of individual lead line replacements. "Lawns will get restored."

Driveway approaches, too.












From left, David Hindelang, Francesca Coyro, Julia Rockers and Gabriella Guzman

COURTESY PHOTOS

St. Paul Educational Trust announces scholarship winners

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — The St. Paul Educational Trust recently awarded scholarships to five students from St. Paul on the Lake Catholic School for outstanding academic performance. Students were invited to apply during an open application process that took place from January through March.

The 2026-2027 winners are:

Couzens Family Scholarship: Awarded to a graduating eighth grader planning to attend a Catholic high school; winner is Tyler Brockway, son of Bridgette Brennan of Grosse Pointe Farms, who is now attending De La Salle Collegiate.

Monsignor Francis X. Canfield Scholarship: Awarded to a graduating eighth grader planning to attend a Catholic high school; winner is David Hindelang, son of Emily and Matthew Hindelang of the City of Grosse Pointe, who is now attending University of Detroit Jesuit High School.

Brian Anthony Fraser Scholarship: Awarded to a returning St. Paul student exhibiting outstanding academic, leadership and character traits; winner is Francesca Coyro, daughter of Nicole and Michael Coyro of Harper Woods.

Joseph and Alice Wright Scholarship: Awarded to a student entering sixth grade; winner is Julia Rockers, daughter of Mary and Bradley Rockers of Grosse Pointe Park.

William A. Cardinal Scholarship: This full-tuition scholarship is awarded to a student exhibiting outstanding academic achievement, leadership and character; winner is Gabriella Guzman, daughter of Laura and Christopher Guzman of St. Clair Shores.

Winners are chosen by a committee made up of St. Paul School parents and parish members.

"We are proud of each of these students for their outstanding achievements and contributions that they have made to the St. Paul on the Lake parish community," said Kathleen Conway, chair of the St. Paul Educational Trust. "We look forward to following their progress as they begin the next school year."

The Couzens, Canfield and Wright scholarships are eligible for renewal annually.

Formed in 1977, the St. Paul Educational Trust is a 501(c)(3) organization that serves the educational needs of students from St. Paul on the Lake parish. More than $1.9 million has been awarded to fund scholarships and make annual grants to St. Paul School.

GPFPE fundraiser next week

The Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education will hold its Fall Frolic 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 24, at Cadieux Cafe.

Tickets are $40 each and include food, two drinks and live music.

Corporate sponsorships also are available:

◆ Gold, $1,000, includes six tickets, recognition on the GPFPE website, social media posts, email blasts and newsletter,

◆ Silver, $500, includes four tickets, recognition on the GPFPE website and social media and

◆ Bronze, $250, includes two tickets, recognition on the GPFPE website and social media.

The foundation has awarded more than $4.8 million to the Grosse Pointe Public School System over the past 20 years.

See gpfpe.org or call Katie Stanley at (313) 432-3058 for more information.

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Pearl

Author
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Lisa Mower Gandelot and Jon Gandelot
Joanne Nicolay Foundation
Wolverine Packing Company

Writer
Laurie and Shail Arora
Mindy and Jeff Barry
Shana Sine Cameron
CNS Healthcare
Tish and Gary Colett
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Sherry Donahue McRill
Nancy Gandelot Spearman and Andy Spearman

Reader
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Infrared sauna on Mack in new hands

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — Pampering is no sweat at an infrared sauna on Mack.

"I became a customer in 2023 and fell in love with it," said Shelley Groh of CYL Infrared Studio. "It's clean, it's pretty, it's relaxing. It was my place to recover after a workout, while the kids were at school and have a little space to myself for a mental break."

She liked the business so much she bought it.

She celebrated the transition last week with an open house at the studio in Suite 103 on the first floor of the Saros Building, 17108 Mack, at the corner of Cadieux in the City of Grosse Pointe.

"With everybody coming back off of summer, it seemed like a good time to put an anchor down," Groh said.

The studio has 10 private treatment rooms.

Features include lie-down individual infrared sauna pods, a wood-lined cabin sauna large enough for two people, a lymphatic massage roller to stimulate blood circulation and fluid movement beneath the skin, red-light therapy and a salt-water cold tub.

"I'm the first person you see when you come into our studio," said Tyra DuBose, a veteran employee Groh promoted to manager. "I give everyone a warm welcome and nice smile. I give them a thorough explanation of how everything works and the benefits that go along with it."

The main benefit is relaxation, she said.

"Most people — 99.9 percent — look happier when they leave," DuBose said. "That's the most of what brings people back, other than my warm, welcoming smile."

CYL stands for Change Your Life.

"I see it as a transformation," Groh said, explaining the importance of rejuvenating from exercise or the stress of work.

As she put it, "Rest is the rhythm of life. You need to bake it into your routine."

She wants to flip the everyday cycle of "work first, rest later" and have people think about how rest lets them perform at their best.

"Don't wait until you're burned out before taking a vacation," Groh said. "I'm hoping to encourage people to not have the sauna or lymphatic roller or cold sponge be an afterthought to their workout or recovery from an injury, but to have it be how you perform at your best. Build this into something you're doing a couple times per week or month so you're able to be at a higher level of performance."

Infrared saunas were developed in Japan during the 1960s, according to multiple online histories.

Unlike traditional saunas that use heated air to raise body temperature, infrared saunas are more like sunbathing, Groh said.

"The way you're going to feel the warmth inside from sunlight," she said. "People tolerate infrared sauna a lot better. It's going to improve circulation and help with detoxification. You're going to feel more energized when you leave because your blood's moving around more. Using these modalities — whether sauna, red-light bed or lymphatic roller — is going to help get your body in motion again."

Groh is both a current and former resident of Grosse Pointe Park.

"I've lived in Grosse Pointe Park twice," she said. "This is my second time. I have a background in corporate life. My job moved me to Illinois. When our kids were at school age, we moved back. We wanted to raise our kids in the Park and have them go to Defer (Elementary) and Pierce (Middle School)."

CYL is part of the Urban Sweat Company franchise. For more information, visit cylinfraredstudio.com/grosse-pointe-mi or call (313) 400-2250.



CYL Infrared Sauna owner Shelley Groh and manager Tyra DuBose in the lobby of the business in the Saros Building on Mack at Cadieux.

PHOTO BY BRAD LINDBERG

Pica Marketing Group named among 'Greatest Companies to Work For'

Pica Marketing Group based in Grosse Pointe Park has been named one of the Greatest Companies to Work For in 2026 by Promotional Products Association International. The honor recognizes distributors and suppliers that foster outstanding workplace cultures.

The recognition is based on direct employee feedback gathered through a company-wide evaluation of key workplace factors including leadership, communication, benefits and professional development. The companies selected set the standard for what it means to be an exceptional place to work in the promotional products industry.

"It's an honor to be named to PPAI's Greatest Companies To Work For," said Stephanie Zafarana, CEO of Pica Marketing Group. "We've always believed the best work happens when people feel like they belong. This recognition is especially meaningful because it comes from our team. It tells us we're doing something right — not just how we run the business, but in how we show up for each other every day."

Drew Holmgreen, PPAI president and CEO, added, "Each of these companies demonstrates what it looks like to prioritize people. When employees feel valued and supported, the impact reaches every level of business and extends across the industry."



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PHOTOS COURTESY OF JLD

One of seven kitchens that will be featured during the Junior League of Detroit's newest fundraiser.

Junior League's Kitchens for a Cause is Sept. 25-26

By Jody McVeigh
Editor





The event will highlight brand-new kitchens, as well as some newly remodeled spaces.

The Junior League of Detroit has cooked up a new fundraiser, welcoming the public to tour seven newly renovated Grosse Pointe kitchens while raising funds for charity.

Kitchens for a Cause takes place 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Sept. 25 and 26, and invites design lovers, home cooks and the curious to explore spaces created by Mutschler Kitchens, Textures Interior Design, Focal Pointe Design, Pointe Cabinets and Design and others.

"Kitchens for a Cause is a wonderful fit for the Junior League of Detroit because we are always looking for meaningful ways to engage our community while raising funds to support our mission," said Jill Richter, JLD president. "Participants will have the opportunity to tour seven beautiful and unique kitchens, gather inspiration and enjoy a wonderful community experience — all while supporting the Junior League of Detroit."

The new fundraiser is a spinoff of the JLD's longtime Designers' Show House event, which came to an end in 2024 after nearly 50 years of showcasing the talents of local designers.

"For many years, the Junior League of Detroit hosted the Designers' Show House, which gave participants the opportunity to experience an entire beautifully designed home," Richter said. "Kitchens for a Cause is, in many ways, a smaller and more intimate version of that experience. It invites guests into seven beautiful kitchens while bringing together design, homes, community and philanthropy — all for a meaningful purpose.

"Some of the homes will also offer views of other portions of the home, giving guests an opportunity to experience even more of these beautiful spaces," she added.

The tour will feature a few brand-new kitchens, as well as some that have been newly remodeled.

"Each kitchen offers something unique and beautiful for guests to experience," Richter said. "One of the things I love most about this event is that it showcases the incredible talent and creativity we have right here in our community, from the homeowners to the designers and local businesses that have helped make these beautiful spaces possible.

"The homes were selected by the Junior League of Detroit's Fund Development Committee after members of the team personally toured individual homes and considered which ones would provide the most interesting and enjoyable experience for our guests," she continued. "We were especially excited that a couple of the homes selected belong to longtime Junior League of Detroit members, making this fundraiser even more personal and meaningful to our organization."

Tickets, available online at kitchentour.eventbrite.com, are $50 and provide access to all homes throughout the two-day event.

Participants will begin the tour at the will-call location — Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church, 211 Moross, Grosse Pointe Farms — where they will present their confirmation email and receive a printed ticket listing each home on the tour. Tickets also will be available for sale at the church.

The event also includes a raffle. Tickets are $5 each or three for $10. Prizes include $1,000, $500 and $250 cash, as well as a Keurig coffeemaker and a Cuisinart food processor.

Raffle tickets are available in advance of the tour at Village Palm, 17131 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe, and IRIS, 19794 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods. During the event, raffle tickets may be purchased at the will-call location, as well as select homes on the tour.

"Every ticket purchased helps us continue to invest in children and families through programs and initiatives that make a real difference in Detroit, including college scholarships, community grants and literacy initiatives," Richter said.

The Junior League has a long history of benefiting the lives of those in need in Detroit. Since 1914, it has powered community impact through fundraising and volunteerism.

Kitchens for a Cause is the third in a new wave of events designed to expand the league's philanthropic reach while continuing its legacy of supporting women and children across Wayne County.

"Anyone who loves design, homes, entertaining, cooking or simply discovering beautiful spaces in our community should attend," said Richter, a league member for more than 10 years. "You don't have to be a designer or a serious home renovator to enjoy the tour. There truly is something for everyone."

For more information, visit jldetroit.org or scan the QR code.

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Caregiver Compass series offers guidance, support

Caring for an aging parent, spouse, family member or friend can bring new responsibilities, difficult decisions and questions about where to turn for help. A new seminar series is bringing local experts together to help caregivers navigate those experiences with greater knowledge, confidence and support.

Caregiver Compass: A Seminar Series for Caregivers begins at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 30, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Presented in partnership by The Helm at the Boll Life Center, Gilda's Club Metro Detroit and The Family Center, the series is designed for family caregivers, friends and anyone supporting an older adult.

The first seminar, Starting Out & Staying Well, will focus on some of the emotional and practical realities that can accompany caregiving — from adjusting to a new role and recognizing when help is needed to managing stress, setting boundaries, practicing self-care and finding resources and support.

Three local experts will bring different perspectives to the conversation.

Dr. Gwendolyn Graddy-Dansby, a board-certified internal medicine physician with additional certification in geriatrics, will discuss recognizing the need for support and the importance of asking for help. Recently retired as chief medical officer of PACE Southeast Michigan, Graddy-Dansby has decades of experience in aging and health care and has spoken extensively on aging, caregiving, dementia and work-life balance.

Alison Pacifici, LMSW, will address caregiver stress, burnout and self-care. A fully licensed clinical social worker with more than 35 years of experience working with individuals and families facing psychosocial, medical and mental health concerns, Pacifici brings both professional and personal experience to her work with caregivers.

Kristin Whitney, certified care manager and founder of K&K Concierge Care, will focus on finding and navigating caregiver resources and support services. With a background in psychology, social work and aging life care, Whitney has worked extensively with older adults and their families. She founded K&K Concierge Care in 2013 and today leads a team of caregivers, care managers and registered nurses serving families throughout southeast Michigan.

Caregiver Compass is part of a broader commitment at The Helm to supporting caregivers throughout their caregiving journey. In addition to educational programs and support groups, The Helm offers personalized guidance, care coordination and connections to services and community resources.

Caregiver support is available whether someone is caring for a person experiencing cognitive decline, managing changing health or care needs, or simply trying to determine what kind of help may be available.

The Sept. 30 program is the first in a three-part Caregiver Compass series. Additional seminars are planned for Jan. 20, 2027, focused on Planning Ahead & Finding Stability, and April 14, 2027, focused on Understanding Health & Memory Changes.

Registration for Starting Out & Staying Well is encouraged; walk-ins are welcome as space allows. For more information or to register, visit helmlife.org or call (313) 882-9600.

The Family Center welcomes new board members

The Family Center of Grosse Pointe & Harper Woods, a nonprofit organization that provides free programs and trusted resources to help families thrive through every age and stage, recently welcomed new board members Dawn Drozd, Timothy Klepp, Ed Lazar, Michelle Louisell, Anthony Toth, Clay Vandenbussche and Cheryl Wesen.



COURTESY PHOTO

Left, The Family Center's outgoing president Christine Alcantara passed the gavel to incoming president Nancy Gandelot Spearman. Right, the full Family Center board.

Lazar has been a State Farm Insurance agent for more than 40 years and has served the community on boards of The War Memorial and Chamber of Commerce and as a youth athletics coach. Having been a Family Center ambassador and strategic advisor since its founding in 2000, he joins the executive committee as development chair.

Drozd moved to Harper Woods in 2020 and retired from her business coaching practice in 2024 after 20 years. She is a board member and community service chair for the Grosse Pointe Rotary Club and former board chairman for Macomb County Habitat for Humanity.

Klepp is a partner at IBM Consulting. A transplant to Grosse Pointe, he and his family moved to the Philippines for work and returned to the area in time for all three children to graduate from Grosse Pointe South High School. He currently serves on the GPPSS school board as treasurer.

Louisell is a longtime resident of Grosse Pointe and is celebrating 20 years with General Motors. She is involved with the Meals on Wheels program through The Helm and supports several other local charitable organizations. She is the mother of two adult sons.

Toth is a vice president at Cresa Detroit and co-founder of Tectra Epoxy Systems. A former University of Michigan baseball player, he is passionate about his involvement with Project Play, an initiative driven by the Ralph C. Wilson Foundation to help children stay active through sports and recreation.

Vandenbussche is the retired coordinator for Project LAUNCH at Corewell Health Beaumont Grosse Pointe Hospital. He is an active volunteer at Henry Ford St. John Hospital and The Helm and is an advocate for the special needs, recovery and LGBTQ+ communities.

Wesen is a retired surgical oncologist and former director of the St. John Breast Care Program. She recently served on The Helm board and sits on the Health For Her program committee, a collaboration between The Family Center and The Helm to present women's health topics to a multigenerational audience in an open and honest setting.

The new board members bring with them a wealth of experience in their respective fields and volunteer roles, as well as their personal experiences being part of families of all shapes and sizes.

The gavel was passed to new president, Nancy Gandelot Spearman. She is joined by Vice President Janet Sarkos, Treasurer Tim Rowland, Secretary Beth Quinn, Member At Large Deb Davis Lenane, Past President Christine Alcantara, Lazar and board members Kelly Adams, Gary Colett, Sierra Donaven, Megan Gunnell, Julie Schuetze and Harry Todd.

For more information, visit familycenterhelps.org

Dr. Joseph Daniel-Hoste, left, and Grosse Pointe Rotary Club President David Colton.



COURTESY OF LYLA KIM

Informative visit

On Aug. 19, Dr. Joseph Daniel-Hoste, executive director and notary public for Crossroads of Michigan, visited the Grosse Pointe Rotary Club.

Daniel-Hoste first started out as a church musician. His experience serving and performing in churches eventually led him to become involved with Crossroads. As he continued to work on rebranding Crossroads to focus on the main mission of leading with love and serving with compassion, he later returned to school and earned a master's degree in organizational leadership. His dedication to Crossroads of Michigan has not only demonstrated his leadership skills, but also has helped inspire others to seek volunteer opportunities and envision a community where everyone has access to the same resources.

Crossroads of Michigan has been serving the community since 1971. Its mission is centered on helping people facing difficult circumstances while treating each person with dignity, compassion and understanding. The organization believes people need more than just temporary assistance; they also need relationships, encouragement and opportunities to find stability in their lives.

Daniel-Hoste explained that many people come to Crossroads during a crisis. The organization helps individuals and families with different needs, including food, clothing and basic necessities, as well as assisting with housing applications, obtaining IDs, Medicaid and job applications. Daniel-Hoste noted that Crossroads cannot fix every problem immediately. Instead, the staff takes time to listen and understand what each person needs to help them find a path toward greater stability.

Crossroads partners with other organizations, churches, volunteers and community members because complicated problems often require more than one organization to solve. Daniel-Hoste emphasized the importance of encouraging others to become involved through donating, cooking, giving financially or sharing information about available resources.

For more information, visit crossroadsofmichigan.org/

AREA ACTIVITIES

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

◆ Bridging Service and Safety: Verizon's Veteran Support & Digital Wellness Workshop, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 17.

◆ Lines That Last: An Engraving Workshop with Suki Liu, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 17. Cost is $100.

◆ Mental Health First Aid Certification, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 19.

◆ Young Athletes Showcase, 10 a.m. to noon Sunday, Sept. 20.

◆ Dried Harvest Wreath Workshop, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 20. Cost is $65.

◆ Free Bikes 4 Kidz Collection Event, 9 to 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 26.

Library

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

Central branch, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms

◆ The Comeback of the American Eagle, 5 to 6:30 p.m. and 7 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 17.

◆ 5th & 6th Grade Book Group, 7 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 22.

◆ Baby Time, 9:30 to 10 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 24.

◆ Storytime, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 24.

◆ Grosse Pointe Community Game Meet-up, noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 26.

Ewald branch, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park

◆ Resumé Building and AI with Gincenta Falls, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 19.

◆ Hustle for Health, noon to 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 19.

◆ Marginalized Voices Book Club, 7 to 8 p.m. Monday, Sept. 21.

◆ Storytime Shuffle with Miss Mo, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. to noon Tuesday, Sept. 22.

◆ Outdoor Storytime, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Friday, Sept. 25.

Woods branch, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods

◆ Poetry Workshop with M.L. Liebler, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 17.

◆ Non-Fiction Book Club, 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 17.

◆ Reader Dog, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 19.

◆ Baby Time, 9:30 to 10 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 23.

◆ Storytime, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 23.

◆ Community Folk Jam and Singalong with special guest, A.J. Pratt, 7 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 23.

◆ Playtime Pop-Ins, 10 a.m. to noon Thursday, Sept. 24.

◆ GPPL Friends $5 Book Sale, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 26.

◆ Teen Rom-Com Crafternoon, 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 26.

Jardinieres

La Societe des Jardinieres will have its first meeting of the season at noon Thursday, Sept. 17, at the home of member Cheryl Kawa. The group will have a "Flower Power" show and tell. Members will bring a flower cutting and explain its habits and why it's their favorite. Lunch will be served followed by a five-minute craft to take home.

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.

◆ Outdoor Summer Concert: The Dave Hamilton Band, 7 to 9 p.m. Friday, Sept. 18. Ticket prices vary.

◆ Bird Walks, 8 to 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 19. Admission is $10 for Friends, $12 for the public.

◆ The Best of Grosse Pointe Camera Club

See EVENTS, page 6B

Tau Beta Fall Market around the corner

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

A weekend of curated shopping for a worthy cause returns to the Grosse Pointe Club next month when the Tau Beta Fall Market opens to raise money for The Children's Center of Detroit.

The market unfolds in two parts: a ticketed preview party Thursday, Oct. 1, and public Market Days Friday and Saturday, Oct. 2 and 3.

"We definitely tried to mix it up this year, with more menswear and men's accessories," said Bridget Hobbs, who is co-chairing this year's market with Marcia Backer. "There are returning favorites, too — jewelry, clothing, hostess gifts. The vendors are curated from around the country and offer goods at various price points."

The preview party, 6 to 9 p.m. Oct. 1, gives ticketed guests a first look at the goods before the public. It's a can't-miss event, according to Backer, a Tau Beta member for the last decade.

"It's so fun," she said. "You gather for a cocktail party and to go shopping."

"We'll have custom cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and you get to see the vendors first," added Hobbs, a Tau Beta member for four years. "It's an opportunity to come with friends, have a wonderful night out, relax and enjoy the evening."

The preview party also is where the raffles begin. This year's donations were strong enough that organizers split them into two: a main raffle at the preview party — where jewelry, a wine tasting, a beauty package, a weekend getaway and more are up for grabs — and a mini-raffle Friday during Market Days.



COURTESY PHOTO

From left, patron co-chair Chin Rivard, committee co-chairs Bridget Hobbs and Marcia Backer, and patron co-chair Christy Warren.

"We were incredibly lucky," Hobbs said. "Our donors outdid themselves this year."

Tickets to the preview party are $100 in advance, $125 at the door. Preview party raffle tickets are $25 each or five for $100.

Then the doors open to everyone. During Market Days — 9:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Oct. 2, and 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Oct. 3 — shoppers will find vendors from Florida, Texas, California and other parts of the country, touting home decor, jewelry, handbags, apparel, custom embroidery, leather goods, stationery and much more.

"I really enjoy shopping," Hobbs said. "This is genuinely a group of vendors I wait all year to see. We deliberately seek that out, because we want to provide a unique experience for all. You get to see old friends and meet new ones, too."

For Backer, the appeal runs deeper than the merchandise.

"I'm not a shopper, but I like going because everything's there," she said. "And it's for a beautiful cause."

That cause is to raise funds for The Children's Center of Detroit and other charitable projects of Tau Beta.

For more than 20 years, Tau Beta volunteers have made a difference to The Children's Center beyond monetary donations. Tau Beta members created and help supply and maintain the center's boutique; donate baby baskets for the children of the Teenaged Parents Program; provide launch packages for kids aging out of foster care; provide turkeys for the families of autistic children at Thanksgiving; and donate gifts for and staff the Holiday Boutique at Christmas, among other volunteer efforts.

"Children's Center is an incredible organization that offers resources to children and families," Hobbs said. "They're helping people who have said, 'I want to be better at this,' to be better parents."

Guests to the market also may treat themselves to a buffet lunch at the Fall Market Cafe, as well as enjoy a Fall Market-ini cocktail, available after 4 p.m. Friday.

"We have so much gratitude to the volunteers for donating their time and effort to making this event a success," Hobbs said. "We're also grateful to our corporate sponsors, for ensuring the event is a success as well."

Learn more about The Children's Center at thechildrenscenter.com

Learn more about Tau Beta at taubeta.org

"There's something for everybody," Hobbs said. "It's at a beautiful club with a gorgeous view. It's honestly a beautiful day for everybody. Come and browse. I'd be surprised if you don't see something you want."

The Grosse Pointe Club is located at 6 Berkshire Place, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Boutiques

** denotes new vendors*

Brackish, Charleston, S.C. — Artisan handcrafted feather accessories for men and women

Carrie Dunham, Summit & Bay Head, N.J. — Interchangeable and convertible Italian leather bags, curated clothing and more

* Clayton & Crume, Louisville, Ky. — Handcrafted and personalized leather goods, accessories and more

Daniella Ortiz, Palm Beach, Fla. — Luxury leather handbags handcrafted in Argentina

DCLW Designs, Westlake, Ohio — Imported unique gifts, accessories and home furnishings

* Emily & Ashley Fine Jewelry, Coral Gables, Fla. — Fine jewelry accented with precious gemstones

Glamourpuss, Dallas, Texas — Distinctive apparel and accessories

Good Threads, Birmingham — Artisan needlepoint products handstitched in Haiti

* GP Embroidery, Grosse Pointe Shores — Custom embroidery and monograms for a curated collection of products

Happiness & Co., Shelby Township — Nontoxic luxury candles and sprays

Kathy Kamei Designs, San Rafael, Calif. — Designer jewelry handmade in Bali

Little Cottage Designs, St. Clair Shores — Vintage and contemporary couture handbags, scarves, jewelry and accessories

Pearly Vine, New Albany, Ohio — Classic women's clothing with a pop of color

Rungolee, St. Louis, Mo. — Small-batch global travel brand of chic clothing and accessories

Soxfords, Pound Ridge, N.Y. — Well-crafted socks with detailed embroidery

Toffee Traditions, North Shore, Ill. — Artisan small-batch toffee and premium gifts with unique flavors

* Two Webster, Osterville, Ma. — Curated collection of tabletop and home decor pieces

* Walton Street Stationers, Alexandria, Va. — Bespoke stationery and personalized gifts

Wendy Nelson Jewelry, Washington — Handcrafted and limited-edition jewelry designs

Whitehead Studios, Lake Bluff, Ill. — One-of-a-kind holiday ornaments and unique gifts

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Navigating Youth Sports: Expert panel to help parents empower young athletes

Youth sports, which once were community-based recreational leagues, have transformed into a massive $40 billion privatized business. Over the last two decades, this dramatic evolution has brought unprecedented opportunities for young players, but also has introduced immense pressure, high financial cost, early specialization and conflicting advice on what truly is best for a child's development.

In response to these complex modern challenges, The Family Center of Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods will host the free community event "Raising Athletes, Strengthening Communities" Monday, Oct. 5, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., with a panel discussion at 7 p.m.

The event — designed to give families thoughtful, evidence-informed perspectives so they can make the right athletic decisions for their children — was inspired by The Family Center board member Anthony Toth, a former University of Michigan baseball captain. Recognizing the urgent need to address the shifting landscape of youth athletics, Toth envisioned a collaborative forum where local families could hear directly from experts on how to preserve the well-being of young players.

Toth will lead a panel discussion of the following prominent leaders:

◆ Jake Boss Jr. — head baseball coach at Michigan State University, Hall of Fame coach with more than 450 career victories and 30-plus years developing college athletes.

◆ Bonnie Tholl — head softball coach at the University of Michigan; national champion with 30-plus years developing elite athletes and championship culture.

◆ Margi Whittingham — assistant field hockey coach at Grosse Pointe South High School and development director for Great Lakes Regional Field Hockey.

◆ Wayne Welton — Hall of Fame coach, former athletic director and head coach with nearly five decades of mentoring athletes.

◆ Pat Sharrow — executive director of Project Play Southeast Michigan and former Detroit Lions Football Education leader.

◆ Dr. Samantha Zinnicker — founder of PhysioLab, doctor of physical therapy and exercise physiologist.

While this event is free to the public, registration is required due to limited seating.

To register, visit familycenterhelps.org.







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.



Lee Sha Andary



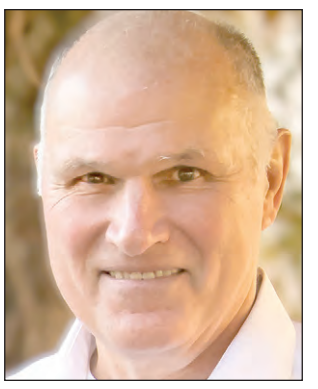
Patrick J. Meehan Sr.



Stuart H. Cammett III



Cherie Elizabeth Lucas



John M. Deisinger Jr.



Gail Hart

Lee Sha Andary

Lee Sha Andary, 95, passed away Thursday, Sept. 3, 2026, at home in Grosse Pointe Farms, with his family by his side. Despite a five-year decline in health, he remained happy, content, interactive and at home until the end. His longstanding prayer was answered when he passed peacefully in his sleep.

Lee is now happily reunited with his wife, Catherine Hammond Andary, whom he had been unapologetically and "pathetically" devoted to since they were married in 1956. As Lee would have put it, he lived a charmed life and took advantage of his time on earth. After serving as a captain in the U.S. Army, he built a successful career as a dentist and was adored by the patients he loved so much. When he was not working, which he often was, he enjoyed multiple sports, including golf, tennis, platform tennis, bowling with his brothers, skiing, jogging and football; he even caught a touchdown pass in his 80s on Thanksgiving morning. He hit at least three holes-in-one and played baseball, volleyball and bocce ball at family picnics. He was the quarterback at De La Salle Collegiate High School and modestly claimed — when prompted — to have never been knocked down or lost a boxing match in the Catholic Youth Organization.

Of all his successes in life, his most notable accomplishment was marrying his wife, Cathy. He often told his children he was 90 percent bad and 10 percent good, and Cathy brought out the 10 percent. They were happily devoted to each other and had a great life filled with love, laughter and adventure. Lee and Cathy traveled the world in style, from Australia, Scandinavia and St. Petersburg to Egypt, Ireland and Lebanon. They also enjoyed skiing and golfing in northern Michigan with their children and friends. Lee was a world-class beach bum, earning him the nickname "beach professor" from his friends. He could spend all day on the beach, whether in Longboat Key, Fla., or Grand Bend, Canada.

Ultimately, Lee's most important legacy is the profound impact he left on his loving family and great friends. He was honest and ethical and his advice was deeply wise, but he was just as quick to share a beer or two while telling a fabulous joke, a funny story or debating the world's problems. He preached and lived "family first." He and Cathy were remarkable parents and the foundation for his children's happy marriages and families; no words can define the profound impact they had on their children's lives.

Lee is survived by his four children, Dr. Michael Thomas Andary (Ellen) of East Lansing, Susan Andary Wells (John) of Farmington Hills, Diane Andary Coon (Brad) of Muskegon and Dr. John Leesha Andary (Kathy) of Idaho Falls, Idaho; 14 grandchildren, Catherine, Caroline, David, William, Caitlin, James, John, Michelle, Robert, Thomas, Steven, Nicholas, Claire and Jack; and four great-grandchildren, Cecilia, Vivia, John and Archie. He was predeceased by his wife, Catherine Hammond Andary; parents, Leesha and Allia (nee Mansour) Andary; and siblings, George, Peter, Fred, Joseph, Theresa, Catherine and Thomas.

Visitation will be held from 3 to 8 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 18, at A.H. Peters Funeral Home, 20705 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods, with a Rosary service at 7 p.m. He will lie in state Monday, Oct. 19, from 9:30 a.m. until a 10 a.m. funeral Mass at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. A celebration of life will immediately follow.

Memorial donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 2000 Town Center, Ste. 1730, Southfield, MI 48075, bit.ly/3K6FsFQ.

Arrangements entrusted to A.H. Peters Funeral Home.

Share a memory at ahpeters.com.

Patrick Joseph Meehan Sr.

Patrick Joseph Meehan Sr., 87, passed away Sunday, Aug. 23, 2026.

Patrick was a charismatic Irishman who lived with zest and loved his family fiercely. He leaves behind his bride of 14 years, Jade Meehan; children, Jennifer Corbett (James), Melissa Meehan, Colleen Cozad (Brad), Patrick Meehan Jr., Andrew Meehan (Jamie) and Ryan Meehan (Sara); his six grandchildren, including Max Corbett, Cassidy Corbett Kwiecinski (Adam), Ian Corbett and Drew Jean Meehan; and great-grandson, Teddy Kwiecinski.

Born on St. Patrick's Day in 1939, to Elizabeth and Albert Meehan, Patrick was raised in Detroit and spent much of his life redeveloping the city he loved. He had a passion for Detroit, Motown, real estate and development, complemented by a sharp business mind. He eventually left the city for quieter pastures in northern Michigan with his two youngest boys, Andrew and Ryan. From there, Florida became their forever home; he never regretted leaving the snow behind.

In 2007, Patrick and his friend and business partner, Mike Briner, founded Dream Giveaway, combining Patrick's entrepreneurial spirit with his passion for charitable fundraising. Through innovative sweepstakes featuring extraordinary collectible cars, Dream Giveaway grew into a highly successful enterprise while partnering with charitable organizations to raise millions of dollars for those in need. Patrick loved the work and the people he worked alongside, often saying that going into Dream Giveaway felt like going home. He was immensely proud of the company they built together and, most importantly, the impact their work had on so many worthy causes.

Stuart Hyland Cammett III

Stuart Hyland Cammett III, 70, passed away peacefully Thursday, Sept. 10, 2026, with his brothers at his side.

Stu was born July 19, 1956, and raised in Grosse Pointe Farms by his parents, Barbara Dewey Cammett, who passed away in 2021, and Stuart H. Cammett Jr., who passed away in 2014. He is survived by his younger brothers, Bryan and John (Sylvie); nieces, Barbara and Elizabeth (Josh); aunt, Sandi Cooper; Cammett cousins, Lisa, Annie and Melani; and Dewey cousins, Bill, Bob, John, Julie and Tom.

Stu graduated in 1974 from Grosse Pointe South High School, where he lettered in football and basketball. He greatly enjoyed returning to Grosse Pointe South for his 50th class reunion and reconnecting with former classmates. Stu continued his football career at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he played offensive tackle for the Wisconsin Badgers on a full athletic scholarship. He also was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity.

Throughout his career, Stu held a variety of positions in logistics, parts supply and project expediting. Wherever he went, he brought a genuine desire to connect with people and a gift for animated storytelling.

Some of Stu's happiest times were spent with his longtime high school friends, Remus, Mole, Kize, Marc, Archie, Harvey, Motown, Dan, Billy Mac, Bush and Bobby, reminiscing about the many good times they had shared. He also enjoyed fishing with his friend, Joe, traveling to Florida and, more recently, visiting Hawaii. His trip to the Pearl Harbor National Memorial left an indelible impression on him.

Stu was an avid fan of the Detroit Lions, Red Wings and Tigers, and he remained devoted to all things Wisconsin Badgers. He will be remembered by all who knew him for his colorful stories, his enduring friendships and the enthusiasm he brought to the people and interests he loved. In 2022, Stu was inducted into the Grosse Pointe South High School Football Hall of Fame.

A celebration of life will be held at 4 p.m. Friday, Oct. 2, at Grosse Pointe Congregational Church, 240 Chalfonte, Grosse Pointe Farms. A reception will follow at Sinbad's Restaurant and Marina, 100 St. Clair, Detroit.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Grosse Pointe Congregational Church, 240 Chalfonte, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236, gpcong.org/give.

Arrangements entrusted to A.H. Peters Funeral Home.

Share a memory at ahpeters.com.

Cherie Elizabeth Lucas

Cherie Elizabeth Lucas, 77, passed away Wednesday, Sept. 9, 2026. She was a beloved mother, sister, artist and friend.

Cherie was born Nov. 1, 1948, in Grosse Pointe, to Catherine and Stanley Renouf. She attended St. Paul on the Lake Catholic School and graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Nazareth College in Kalamazoo.

A lifelong artist and ceramicist, Cherie worked for many years pressing tiles at the renowned Pewabic Pottery in Detroit before establishing a successful career as a potter in her own right. She also taught for a short time earlier in her career.

Much of her happiness was found in simple things: a good book, sitting in the sun, the companionship of a dog or talking with her neighbor, whose friendship and kindness meant so much to her. She had a particular fondness for the history of Detroit and Grosse Pointe, and especially enjoyed hearing about her grandchildren's lives and adventures.

Cherie is survived by her children, Stephen Lucas, Peter Lucas and Maggie Lucas; daughter-in-law, Chrissy Lucas; grandchildren, Oliver Lucas and Clementine and Marigold Lucas-Hinsley; and siblings, Chris Renouf and Kate Colburn. She also will be remembered by the many friends she made throughout her life.

Cherie leaves behind a life shaped by art, curiosity, strong convictions, friendship, family and an appreciation for things that were real rather than perfect. She will be deeply missed by all who knew her.

Cherie will lie in state at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 19, until a 10 a.m. funeral Mass at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Arrangements entrusted to Chas. Verheyden Inc.

Share a memory at verheyden.org.

John Micheal Deisinger Jr.

John Micheal Deisinger Jr., 87, of Grosse Pointe Park, passed away peacefully Monday, Sept. 7, 2026.

John was born March 1, 1939, in Detroit, to John and Clara Deisinger, both now deceased. He attended St. Juliana Catholic School and Austin Catholic High School before serving in the U.S. Army in Korea following the Korean War.

John earned a bachelor's degree at Wayne State University while working for Chrysler. He worked in various roles at Chrysler over 40 years. After retirement, he enjoyed volunteering at Habitat for Humanity and Nativity of Our Lord Church. He also enjoyed many hours woodworking in his basement.

John was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed hunting and fishing. He especially enjoyed fishing in Canada as a member of the Agawa Canyon Lodge Anglers Club and on his lakefront property on Starvation Lake. He also was an amateur pilot and had a special fondness for turtles; he never saw one he didn't love.

John was predeceased by his beloved wife, Glennis Deisinger; sister, Janice Spies; and granddaughter, Jaclyn Maul. He is survived by his children, Mark Deisinger (Michelle), Paul Deisinger (Jenn) and Karen Maul (Matt); and granddaughters, Janice, Emily, Elizabeth, Ella and Isabel.

John will be remembered by all who knew him for his dedication to his wife and family, his kindness and generosity to others and his favorite saying, "Keep your eyes out for box turtles."

Visitation will be held from 4 to 8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 25, at Verheyden Funeral Home, 16300 Mack, Grosse Pointe Park. The family will begin receiving guests at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 26, before an 11 a.m. funeral Mass at Nativity of Our Lord Church, 5900 McClellan, Detroit.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Habitat for Humanity Detroit, 14325 Jane Ave., Detroit, MI 48205, habitatdetroit.org/donate/; or the Capuchin Soup Kitchen, 1820 Mt. Elliott, Detroit, MI 48207, cskdetroit.org/donate/monetary-donations/.

Arrangements entrusted to Chas. Verheyden Inc.

Share a memory at verheyden.org.

Gail Hart

Gail Hart, 85, passed away Wednesday, Sept. 2, 2026.

Gail was born Sept. 25, 1940, in Girard, Ohio. She was the only child of George and Dorothy (nee Murphy) Griffith. Gail was the beloved wife of 63 years to Allan D. Hart; loving mother of Kristin Hart of Grosse Pointe and Lindsey Chabraja (Michael) of Lake Forest, Ill.; and proud grandmother of Emily, Matthew and Sophie Chabraja.

Gail received a bachelor's degree from DePauw University in Greencastle, Ind. She married her college sweetheart, Allan, in 1963. Gail taught elementary school in Ohio, Illinois and Rhode Island as the couple moved to accommodate Allan's changing U.S. Navy assignments.

Gail and Allan moved to Grosse Pointe in 1971, and in recent years divided their time between Michigan and Hilton Head, S.C. She was a longtime member of Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, Sea Pines Country Club, Junior League of Detroit, Kappa Kappa Gamma, The West Racquet Club and The Four Toads. She graduated from The Travel Institute in Royal Oak in 1991 and worked as a travel agent at Shores Travel in St. Clair Shores. She also spent many years volunteering in the community, particularly with the Grosse Pointe Public School System, where she served on the Mother's Club board and various PTO boards.

Gail and Allan enjoyed sailing, skiing, tennis and traveling the world together, sometimes just the two of them but often with family and friends. Among the many places they visited were Africa, China and Russia, as well as numerous trips to Europe.

A memorial service will be held in the future.

Memorial donations may be made to the American Cancer Society, bit.ly/4lBvECe; the Breast Cancer Research Foundation, bcrf.org/donate; or a local food bank.

Arrangements entrusted to Chas. Verheyden Inc.

Share a memory at verheyden.org.

See OBITS, page 6B

OBITS:

Continued from page 5B

Susan Joan Ritter

Susan Joan "Sue" Ritter, 82, passed away peacefully Saturday, Sept. 12, 2026, surrounded by the love of her family.

Sue was born in Detroit to Donald and Ruth Schneider. Known by her loved ones for her sharp wit, outgoing spirit and unmistakable moxie, Sue moved through life with vibrant and fearless energy. She was the life of the party and had a gift for making sure everyone around her was in good spirits.

Sue began her career as a dental assistant, assisting with complex oral surgeries. She later stepped away from her career to raise her two sons, Kevin and Dan, playing an active role in their academic, athletic and school activities. Her approachable and understanding personality earned her the affectionate moniker, "the cool mom."

Sue's unwavering devotion to family came naturally and she brought that same sense of care to her later career in real estate after her sons entered high school.

Sue was a tennis player and enjoyed rounds of golf with her husband, Hank. Sue and Hank were regulars at the Detroit Golf Club.

Sue was predeceased earlier this year by her beloved and devoted husband, Hank Ritter. Their loving relationship was a gift to their family and all who knew them. She is survived by her devoted sons, Kevin and Dan; daughter-in-law, Kristin; sisters, Julie Williams (Ron), Donna Truscon, Marilyn Vasseliou (Jim) and Carole Fitzgerald (Paul); as well as her brothers- and sisters-in-law, many cherished nieces and nephews, extended family and dear friends.

Visitation will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, Sept. 18, until a 10:30 a.m. funeral Mass at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church, 467 Fairford, Grosse Pointe Woods.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the American Cancer Society, bit.ly/4lBvECe.



Susan Joan Ritter



Val Champine

Val Champine

Val Champine, 72, of Grosse Pointe Woods, died Friday, Sept. 11, 2026, at Henry Ford St. John Hospital after a brief battle with cancer.

Quiet, humble, unselfish and big-hearted, Val was dedicated to her family, friends and community. She put everyone before herself and would do anything for her children, grandchildren and friends. She also was her daughter Melissa's best friend.

Val was born in Grosse Pointe and grew up in Grosse Pointe Woods. She graduated from Bishop Gallagher High School, where, despite her small stature, she played varsity basketball and earned a spot on the metro area's all-Catholic team as a senior. Schoolmates and other 50-year acquaintances remained her core group of friends. Among other activities, they gathered regularly in what they call the East Side Supper Club for potluck dinners. Val also was an accomplished cook and her friends always tried to make sure she brought one of her desserts.

Val took care of her aging parents and other elderly acquaintances. She cheered on her athletic children and grandchildren, from Ghesquiere Park to Williamsport, Pa., where her grandson, Ryan Henderson, played in the 2018 Little League World Series.

In gyms across southeast Michigan, Val was always on hand to support her husband of 54 years, Jim, a longtime youth basketball coach, who saw Val as selfless and always thinking of others first.

In Val's room at Henry Ford St. John Hospital, a nurse asked Jim for the secret to staying married for more than half a century. His response was that she put up with him for 54 years.

Val often picked up trash during her daily walks on Mack. As debris mounted during the pandemic, a local television reporter interviewed Val and asked for her advice to local litterbugs. Her response was for everyone to do the right thing.

Val is survived by her husband, Jim; daughters, Melissa Champine, Jennifer Champine and Michelle Morasso (Joey); son, Steve Champine; grandsons, Ryan Henderson, Drew Henderson, Cole Champine and Tyson Champine; and granddaughter, Gina Morasso. She was predeceased by her parents, Ray and Rosemary Otlowski; and brother, David Otlowski.

A memorial service was held at A.H. Peters Funeral Home.

Memorial donations may be made to the American Cancer Society, cancer.org.

Arrangements entrusted to A.H. Peters Funeral Home.

Share a memory at ahpeters.com.



PHOTO BY JODY MCVEIGH

Jane's Walk, located on the lawn of St. Michael's Episcopal Church in Grosse Pointe Woods, welcomes visitors to walk its path.

There's something special about Jane's Walk

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Since the moment he completed his first session of transcendental meditation 50 years ago, Greg Smith has been hooked on the practice. Ever since, he and his wife have paused for 20-minute meditations twice a day.

It's no surprise the City of Grosse Pointe resident found his way to the Jane's Walk labyrinth a few years ago. It sits on the Sunningdale Park yard of St. Michael's Episcopal Church in Grosse Pointe Woods. The energy he finds there hits him the same way his daily meditations do.

"What it is, as I understand it, is there's grid that's underneath the ground," Smith said. "There are energy fields, like wires, under the ground. You can't see them, but they have an effect on you when you walk on them.

"When I walked this for the first time, I felt it in my cranium," he added. "I've been meditating for 50 years and I felt something similar here."

Jane's Walk was named for the late Jane Bashara, a member at St. Michael's for more than 20 years. After her murder in 2012, the congregation was asked how it could move forward and heal. Someone in the parish suggested creating a place where people could do a walking meditation. The labyrinth was dedicated June 14, 2015.

Though Smith has no affiliation with St. Michael's, he found the labyrinth online a few years ago and stopped by the church to see it. He quickly volunteered to care for the site.

"There's something that draws me back here," said Smith, 81, a retired engineer. "Some people experience calming; their minds are cleared. I walk it and come back again. There must be something going on that's beneficial, because I don't like to waste my time."

Labyrinths represent life's journey. Those who use it will find only one entrance and path to reach the center. As the meditation journey unfolds, the hope is that walkers discover opportunities for spiritual guidance, enlightenment and growth along the way.

Smith visits the site weekly to mow and trim around the brick-lined path, which was overgrown when he first laid eyes on it. Since it was created, benches and potted plants have been added around the labyrinth, inviting passersby to rest and reflect.

"Greg has been marvelous in caring for this," the Rev. Michael Bradley said. "He's a labyrinth lover and has volunteered hundreds of hours mowing it and trimming it. We're very grateful to Greg. He's been fantastic. I often see him walking the labyrinth."

Passersby don't need a special event or invitation to stop by and walk the labyrinth themselves.

"This is open for anyone to walk," Smith said.

"It's used quite a bit," Bradley added. "I often see people walking it; a lot of people walked it during COVID."

The church uses it as well.

"We have a church observance for the Day of Creation in April, called Rogation, where we come out here and offer prayers at the labyrinth," Bradley said.

"… We're quite proud of the labyrinth and when we talk about the origin — a very tragic origin — over time it has become our statement of joy and hope and happiness," he added.

"It realigns you," Smith said. "It has a lot to do with consciousness. Some people say it energizes them; others say it relieves stress. Some people pray when they get to the center.

"There are benefits," he added. "You're not walking for leg exercise. You don't have to be quiet. And you can step outside the bricks if someone is coming the other way."

St. Michael's Episcopal Church is located at 20475 Sunningdale Park, Grosse Pointe Woods.

Better Health Market offers health and wellness fair Sept. 19

Grosse Pointe and surrounding residents can explore new ways to support their health and well-being as Better Health Market hosts a free health and wellness fair featuring wellness providers, hands-on experiences, product experts, giveaways and savings.

The fair, designed by Better Health owner Tedd Handelsman, his family and store team, takes place 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 19, at Better Health Market Grosse Pointe, 19221 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

Free and open to the public, the event will give attendees an opportunity to connect with health and wellness professionals, meet representatives from supplement and wellness brands, explore products and gather practical information to support everyday well-being.

"Better Health Market has always been committed to making wellness approachable and accessible for the communities we serve," Handelsman said. "The Grosse Pointe fair provides the public with an opportunity to speak with practitioners and product experts, discover resources that fit their individual goals and experience wellness in a practical, hands-on way."

Featured experiences include:

- free mini chair massages,
- free B12 injections,
- a 10-minute full-face red-light therapy mask while relaxing in a zero-gravity chair,
- free iridology evaluations,
- free raffles for gift baskets,
- free healthy snacks and drink samples and
- advice from local health and wellness providers.

The fair will feature savings on select products, giving attendees an opportunity to discover new wellness products while taking advantage of special offers.

"We want guests to leave feeling informed, encouraged and connected to resources that can support their personal wellness journeys," said Kathleen Freydl, community wellness director and certified health coach at Better Health Market. "Whether someone is looking for ideas for healthier meals, guidance on supplements, support for an active lifestyle or simply a fun way to explore wellness with family, these fairs offer something for people at every age and stage."

Additional event details will be available at betterhealthmarket.com/event manager.

Music at Memorial debut concert Sept. 19

Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, opens its Music at Memorial series at 7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 19, with the Detroit Bachtet, an a cappella ensemble focused on performing music from the Baroque era and before, as well as contemporary/modern eras spanning from 1250-1750 and 1990 to present day.

Directed by Peyton Fleming, the ensemble is dedicated to highlighting vocal artists in the southeast Michigan area, music and/or composers that previously have been under-appreciated, under-recognized and unrecognized.

Admission is free; donations are appreciated.



Peyton Fleming



Maestro Joe Striplin retires from GP Symphony Orchestra after 20 years

After two decades at the podium, longtime Grosse Pointe Symphony Orchestra Music Director Joe Striplin is retiring, concluding a remarkable chapter for both the orchestra and one of Detroit's pioneering classical musicians.

Striplin became music director of the GPSO following the retirement of longtime conductor Felix Resnick. During Striplin's 20 years leading the GPSO, he helped guide the community orchestra artistically while building relationships with generations of musicians and audiences throughout the Grosse Pointe communities.

His career, however, extends far beyond Grosse Pointe.

A native Detroiter, Striplin began his musical education in the Detroit Public Schools and graduated from Cass Technical High School before earning a bachelor's degree in music education from Wayne State University. His career started with Detroit Public Schools as a music teacher, but he soon went on to perform with the Metropolitan Opera National Company Orchestra, Indianapolis Symphony and St. Louis Symphony Orchestra.

In 1972, Striplin returned home to join the Detroit Symphony Orchestra as a violinist, becoming a pioneering black musician in an institution that, like many major American orchestras at the time, had very little racial diversity. Striplin has been identified as the first black violinist in the DSO and was its only black musician when the orchestra launched its Classical Roots program in 1978.



COURTESY PHOTO

Maestro Joe Striplin is stepping down after two decades of directing the Grosse Pointe Symphony Orchestra.

Striplin also developed as a conductor, studying under longtime DSO associate conductor Valter Poole and Gustav Meier of the University of Michigan.

His connection to the Grosse Pointe Symphony stretches back to Resnick, himself a longtime DSO violinist who led the GPSO for nearly half a century. When Striplin succeeded him decades later, he spoke of his pride in continuing Resnick's tradition of strong orchestral performance in Grosse Pointe.

Reflecting on his legacy as music director, Striplin said his biggest accomplishment with the orchestra was how it was able to "transform from a more limited-ability repertoire to meaty literature like Tchaikovsky's Fifth symphony." He also spoke on how proud he was that the group has remained a "great opportunity for serious musicians pursuing careers outside of music."

"I am so excited that the orchestra has a great home in the Schaap (Center for the Performing Arts) and the relationship between the DSO and GPSO is stronger than ever," he added.

Striplin played a large part in veteran DSO violinist Greg Staples joining the orchestra as concertmaster.

"Joe's taste in music was exemplary, his knowledge and understanding of the orchestral repertoire is vast, his music making with the GPS all throughout his 20-year tenure as music director has been infectious," Staples said. "Joe was a well-valued colleague in the Detroit Symphony Orchestra violin section for decades."

Now, 20 years later, Striplin leaves the GPSO on strong artistic and organizational footing as the orchestra prepares for another historic transition: a new music director, a new performance home at Schaap Center and, next season, the celebration of its 75th season.

EVENTS:

Continued from page 2B

Artist Talk, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 23.

◆ Preserving the Past: Researching Historic Homes, 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 24. Cost is $12 for Friends, $15 for the public.

For tickets and information, visit fordhouse.org.

The Helm

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

◆ Out to Lunch Bunch: Texas Roadhouse, noon to 2:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 18.

◆ Fall Bonfire Bash, 5:30 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 22. Cost is $25 and includes a meal and live entertainment.

◆ The Novel Network Book Club, 5:30 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 24. The club will discuss "The Aviator's Wife" by Melanie Benjamin.

◆ The movie "Blue Miracle" will be shown at noon Friday, Sept. 25. Cost is $10 and includes lunch.

◆ Electronic Device Tutoring, noon to 3 p.m. the first and third Fridays of each month.

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

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

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

Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

◆ 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 18, Grosse Pointe Woods Community Center, 20025 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 20, St. Margaret Catholic Church, 21201 E. 13 Mile, St. Clair Shores.

◆ 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 23, Roy O'Brien Ford, 22201 E. 9 Mile, St. Clair Shores.

Register at redcrossblood.org.

Harper Woods Library

The Friends of the Harper Woods Library hosts its fall book sale 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Sept. 18 and 19, at the library, 19601 Harper, Harper Woods.

The Harper Woods Library, 19601 Harper, Harper Woods, hosts Gentle Evening Yoga from 6 to 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 21. Classes are taught by Yemisi Odetoyinbo. Registration is encouraged.

Reunion

The Grosse Pointe North High School Class of 1976 will celebrate its 50th reunion Sept. 19, at MotorCity Casino Hotel. The event features a casual dress code, food stations and a cash bar. For more information or to RSVP, visit gpnclassof1976.com.

Live music

The East Side Rhythm Rascals and the Paxton/Spangler Band will perform beginning at 3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 20, at The Wayburn, 1401 Wayburn, Grosse Pointe Park. Both bands feature founding members of the Sun Messengers. The show will end with a finale featuring members of both bands. Cover charge is $10. Visit thewayburn.com

Men's Club

The Men's Club of Grosse Pointe hosts its next meeting at noon Tuesday, Sept. 22, in the ballroom of The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Susan Acton, past president and former vice president of voter services with the League of Women Voters of Grosse Pointe, will discuss the upcoming November midterm election in an educational, nonpartisan way. The luncheon costs $25. The club has added a lakeside social half-hour beginning at 11:30 a.m. for members and guests to gather for coffee or tea and camaraderie before the noon luncheon.

Optimists

The Lakeshore Optimist Club meets at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 23, at Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church, 211 Moross, Grosse Pointe Farms. Sue Pace of My Champ Life speaks. Guests are welcome to hear the speaker and learn about the club.

Family Center

The Family Center of Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods offers free programs and resources that help build happier, healthier families. The following programs take place at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, unless otherwise noted. Learn more at familycenterhelps.org or RSVP to register@familycenterhelps.org.

◆ A Community Book Discussion takes place 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 23, at Central Library, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms. Panelists will discuss "Breaking the Age Code" by Becca Levy, Ph.D. Panelists include psychologist Miriam Engstrom and social worker Alison Pacifici.

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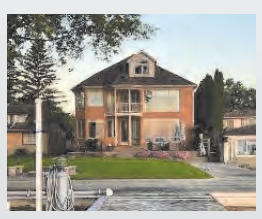
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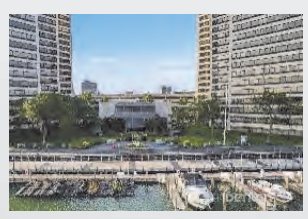
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Free Bikes 4 Kidz kicking off ninth season

Free Bikes 4 Kidz Detroit once again is calling on the public to donate used bicycles from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 26, at locations throughout southeast Michigan.

Locally, The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, will host the drive.

Since 2018, FB4K Detroit has given away 17,425 bikes to kids in need. Each bike includes a free, properly sized helmet.

"Bike collection day inspires our entire FB4K family every year," said Bob Barnes, FB4K Detroit executive director. "People in our community really show their true colors when they donate their time and their kid's beloved but outgrown wheels. Last year we collected almost 3,300 bikes and we're confident we can beat that this year with the incredible support of the public, our team and our volunteers. It's literally a win-win-win as we help donors clear out their garage, keep the bikes out of the waste stream and get an under-resourced child a new set of shiny wheels before the holidays. And everyone has fun on collection day — the bike donors, the volunteers at all the donation locations and the team at our warehouse unloading thousands of bikes. We all understand the effect a bike has on a child's physical and emotional health and there is a celebratory atmosphere all day long."



COURTESY PHOTOS

Donations to Free Bikes 4 Kidz Detroit will be collected Sept. 26 at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe farms.

As in 2025, the flagship donation site will be at Woodward Corners — the Corewell Health shopping center at the southwest corner of 13 Mile and Woodward. iHeartRadio station 106.7 WLLZ Detroit's Wheels will broadcast live from the location 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. In addition, Brown Iron Brewhouse will offer coupons to bike donors at this site.

Volunteers at each site will help donors unload bikes and donation receipts will be available upon request.

Donated bikes will be delivered to a warehouse provided by the Piston Group at 4015 Michigan Ave., Detroit, where they will be stored, cleaned and refurbished. Volunteers of all skill levels are needed between Sept. 28 and Dec. 5 for cleaning and repair. Just before the Christmas holiday, the bikes will be given to under-resourced kids through pre-registered faith-based and community organizations and schools.

"Our collaboration with FB4K Detroit is meaningful to our company and our community," said Piston Group Founder and Chairman Vinnie Johnson. "After all the bikes are donated, we need hundreds of volunteers over the next three months, to help get them ready. It's a perfect opportunity for organizations or companies looking for a positive, charitable, team-building activity."

Interested volunteers can go to fb4kdetroit.org to sign up for a three-hour volunteer shift. Groups can schedule a shift by emailing volunteer@fb4kdetroit.org. Volunteers will be matched to their skill levels.



ASK THE EXPERTS By Anthony Toth

What do we really want our kids to get from sports?

As parents we spend an incredible amount of time thinking about our kids' sports.

Are they developing? What does "development" mean? Are they getting the right opportunities? Are we doing enough? Too much? Are we helping them succeed or slowly taking the joy out of something they currently love? I think about these questions constantly.

I was a four-year Division I starter and captain at the University of Michigan, fortunate enough to win two Big Ten championships and experience high-level athletics firsthand. Today, I'm a dad, coach, Grosse Pointe Little League leader, Family Center board member and youth sports advocate who has spent years researching how we can improve youth sports. And increasingly, I believe we're asking the wrong question.

Instead of asking, "How far can our kids go?" maybe we should first ask, "What do we want sports to give them along the way?"

Confidence. Resilience. Friendship. Health. Great mentors. The courage to fail and try again. A sense of belonging. And yes, if they have the talent and desire, the opportunity to become exceptional athletes.

That last part matters. Healthy youth sports shouldn't mean lowering expectations. We can develop great kids and great athletes at the same time.

That's where community matters. I didn't grow up in Grosse Pointe, but my wife and I are raising our family here. She teaches in our schools. I coach here. We volunteer here. And the longer I've been part of this community, the more obvious something has become: Grosse Pointe cares deeply about its kids. You can feel it.

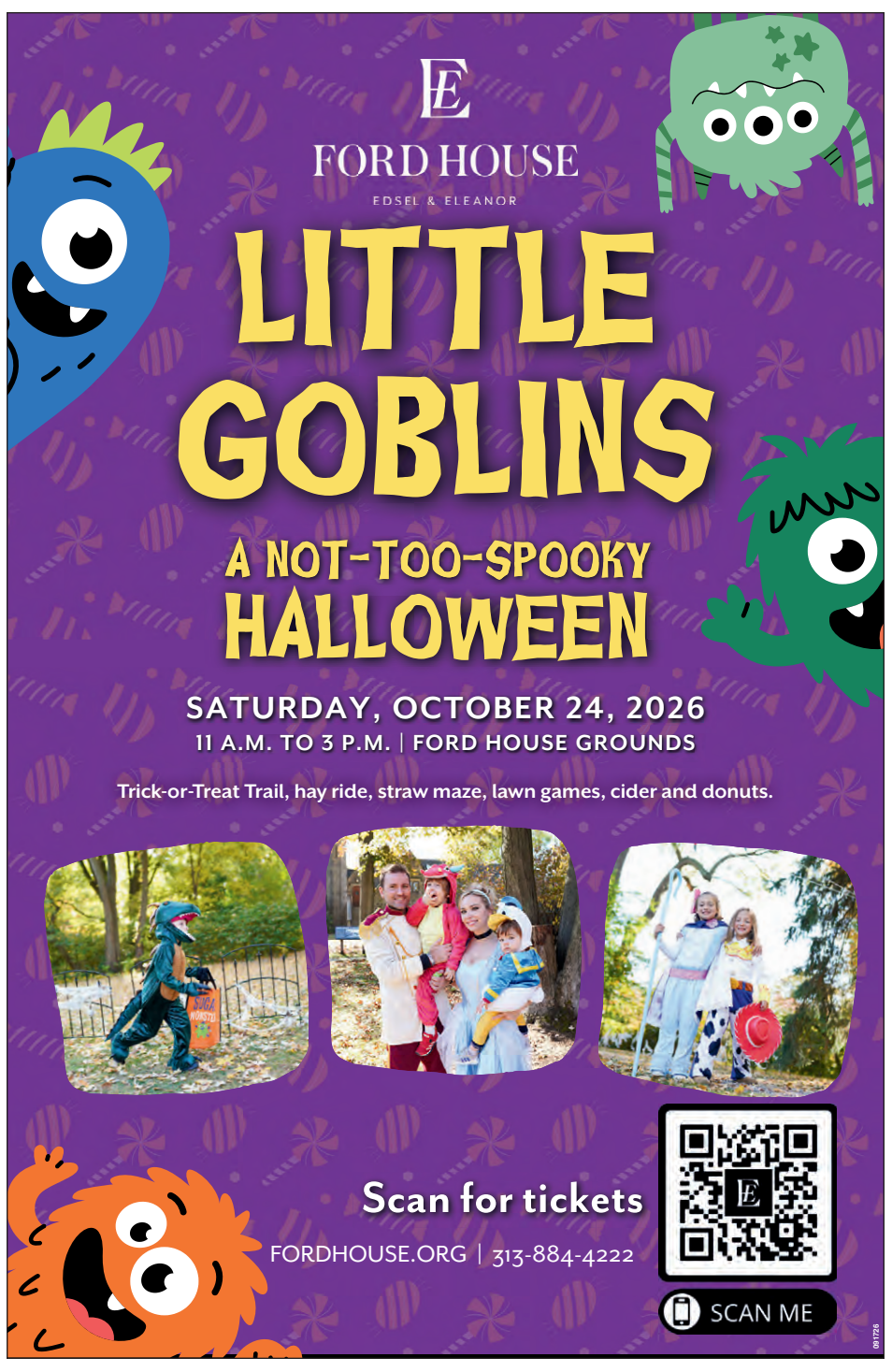
That gives us a strong foundation. We can build a youth sports culture that develops talent, protects childhood, keeps kids connected to their community and helps every young athlete thrive.

That belief is why I organized "Raising Athletes, Strengthening Communities" on Oct. 5, at The War Memorial (See story, page 3B).

Because the goal isn't simply to raise better athletes. It's to raise healthy, confident kids and build a community strong enough to help them become both.

Anthony Toth is the moderator and creator of the upcoming "Raising Athletes, Strengthening Communities" program to be held at 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 5, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. A former University of Michigan baseball captain and Big Ten champion, Toth is passionate about his involvement with Project Play, an initiative driven by the Ralph C. Wilson Foundation to help children stay active through sports and recreation.

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



GROSSE POINTE Gabby



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Dear Gabby: Our two adult children are wonderful people, but we're always the ones who call first.

I don't want to keep score, but sometimes it feels like we've disappeared from their busy lives. — Waiting in the Woods

Dear Waiting In The Woods: Many adult children just assume you'll always be there when needed (as you likely always have been), so staying in touch slips lower on the priority list.

Rather than silently hoping they'll notice, tell them what you need.

"I'd love it if you called me once in a while instead of waiting for me to call."

Most children aren't avoiding their parents; they're juggling careers, families and responsibilities. Sometimes they simply need the reminder that relationships require effort from both directions."

— Gabby

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

Dividing inheritance fairly



Dear Annie

by Annie Lane

DEAR ANNIE: I'm a widow putting my affairs in order, with three grown children: a son and two daughters. Over the years, we helped our son and youngest daughter financially far more than our oldest daughter, mostly due to hardships in their lives (medical bills, a tough divorce, etc). Our oldest never asked for the same and has always seemed at peace, but I worry she may feel it was unfair if she were to look at the numbers plainly.

My will splits everything three ways, and my daughters will split my jewelry, which is worth quite a bit. The one loose piece is a small interest in an oil well I inherited from my parents. I had planned to leave it to the youngest, because she needs the money the most. But now I'm unsure. My son is the one who takes care of me. I am having mobility issues and can no longer drive; he takes me for doctor's appointments, to the bank, etc. When I had surgery, I hired help because I didn't want to call on him. He does so much already.

I just don't know where this last piece should go. Do I leave it to the child who has the least or the child who does the most for me now? I have tried so hard not to show favoritism. — Dividing With Care

DEAR DIVIDING WITH CARE: It's worth asking what happens after you're no longer here to explain your reasoning. Helping a child in need and rewarding who's showing up for you now are two different gifts.

Before you decide, check whether you can split the oil interest among all three children. A three-way split sidesteps the question of who "deserves" it most, which may be the most peaceful ending of all.

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

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Pumpkin spice everything and no pumpkin necessary



Food Gossip

by Nina Taormina

It's creeping in, kind of taking its time, but once it's here, it's crazy. What's the deal with pumpkin spice everything? Food Gossip did some digging and, oddly, did not find a lot of pumpkins involved at all.

"Pumpkin spice" is a warm spice blend made with cinnamon, nutmeg, ginger, cloves and sometimes allspice. Yep: most of the spices involved when making a pumpkin pie. Once Sept. 1 hits, social media platform are filled with the words, the videos, the memes screaming, "Pumpkin Spiced Latte" — or "PSL" as the kids call them. We go from ordering an iced PSL in early September while wearing flip-flops to less than four weeks later ordering the hot version in our UGGs. Pure Michigan!

In fact, Michigan is one of the states that is most known for this craze. Is it because of our changing seasons? Our beautiful fall colors? Our cider mills with massive pumpkin patches? I say it's all of the above. It's a flavor that has become the gateway to the fall seasons of back to school, cozy clothes, football games, Halloween and Thanksgiving festivities. Around here, pumpkin spice isn't just something bakeries add to cookies, or coffee shops add to their flavor boards; it's an actual lifestyle September to November and you can't avoid it. It flavors coffee, muffins, cereal, doughnuts, ice cream, breads, cheese, cocktails, even pet food. And the smell is everywhere too. I'm not complaining. I'm burning a candle in this scent as I type.

So, where are we getting our fix locally, aside from the obvious? My personal lazy quick fix is Trader Joe's Pumpkin Bread mix, though it sells out quickly. But from my gatherings, our local home-based bakers are in full fall flavor swing. Crumb & Get It SCS is a sourdough-based home-bakery stand on Lakeland Street in St. Clair Shores. She mentioned this is the earliest she's ever dropped her first round of Halloween goodies. A quick look at the menu sent my eyes directly to the pumpkin swirl bread and cinnamon snickerdoodle cookies. You can place specific orders for porch pickup on Fridays and Saturdays through her website, which you can find on her Facebook page.

Maggie's Sprinkled Sweets is rolling out some delicious fall-flavored cake pops onto her porch pop-up location in Grosse Pointe Farms, but I got a special delivery sneak-peek taste. You can find the list of all her goodies on her Facebook page as well.

Modern Cone in St. Clair Shores is serving fall ice cream flavors, as well as pumpkin spice latte. And if you're a chai drinker, Wally's Frozen Custard has the best pumpkin chai, hot or cold, along with a great September fall-flavored drink and sweets lineup.

Sept. 26 is Harvest Day at Ford House, a wonderful family-friendly event. Sourdough Side Hustle will be there with her delicious pumpkin spice bread, swirled with cinnamon, and other sourdough fall favorites.

For gluten-free options, Missy's Sweet Treats is your girl. You can find her pumpkin bread and brown butter pumpkin crumb cake at the St. Clair Shores Farmers Market on Sunday, Sept. 27, at Greater Mack and Nine Mile. Preorders can be made on her Facebook page and her fall menu runs through Thanksgiving.

My friends Jack and Karen at Caffe Far Bella at Greater Mack and Nine Mile brought back two of their delicious muffins — pumpkin and cinnamon coffee cake — and they truly make the best specialty coffees, aside from their PSL.

Parlor Doughnuts on Mack is finally open again after its restoration project and announced, for September only, it's selling a pumpkin chai cheesecake doughnut. And at Eastside Bagel? We're all waiting for the boys' pumpkin cream cheese debut video.

The Spice & Tea Exchange of Grosse Pointe is serving up a pumpkin chai latte, as well as other fall-flavored goodness. Alex from Two Dudes Coffee Bar in Grosse Pointe Park shared that while they have some things in the works, they're "still sippin' on our lemonade refreshers." I hear ya, friend! So keep tabs on their socials for what they've got up their sleeves this fall.

On The Hill, a personal favorite, The Sugar Bar has one the best fall-flavored specialty coffee menus around and the word "pumpkin" appears at least three times. And last, but not least, let's not forget the adult beverages. All of the local breweries soon will be releasing their pumpkin-flavored beers; however, locally owned Terry's Terrace in Harrison Township took the craze to the next level with a soft-serve pumpkin ice cream espresso martini.

Hopefully this leaves you with some great options to cure your pumpkin spice cravings for the next two months and, even better, supporting some local small businesses both well established and just starting to grow within our communities.

Fun Fact: Starbucks released the first Pumpkin Spice Latte in 2003. The trend took off. Social media was just becoming a thing. This was their biggest jackpot at the time. The rest is PSL history.

Happy fall, y'all!

Stay tuned. Stay spiced.



Eastside Bagel.



COURTESY PHOTOS

The Sugar Bar fall specials and latte with brown sugar cold foam.



Clockwise from top left, Parlor Doughnuts Pumpkin Chai cheesecake doughnut, Sourdough Side Hustle pumpkin cinnamon swirl bread, Wally's Iced Pumpkin Pie Latte with cold foam and Caffe Far Bella Pumpkin muffins.



Terry's Terrace Pumpkin Espresso Martini.

We Tried It!

by Anna Lizer



I have always wanted to be that person with a signature scent, but committing to a full-sized perfume bottle gives me anxiety, especially when I get bored of things after two weeks. But the Jo Malone Cologne Discovery Set is above my standards. I've seen this little box all over my TikTok feed for months, promising a high-end, clean-girl scent without breaking the bank.

I was skeptical at first because mini luxury perfumes usually feel like a total cash grab that runs out after two nights. However, I brought the set along on a weekend trip and was genuinely blown away. The scents, especially Wood Sage & Sea Salt, are unbelievable. They don't smell artificial or heavy like the cheap body sprays I used to drench myself in during high school.

Plus, the whole concept of Jo Malone is scent layering, so you can mix two minis together and accidentally create a custom perfume that makes everyone ask you what you're wearing.

The only downside is because they are light, fresh colognes rather than heavy perfumes, you need to reapply after five or six hours. But honestly? The bottles are so tiny and cute that tossing one into your shoulder bag is effortless. The set is available at Sephora and other stores for about $30.

I would rate this set a 4.6 out of 5 alligators. It is an absolute must-have if you want luxury scents on a budget.



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.

4.6 Out Of 5



Beef broth bowls

Courtesy of Mombeau's Table

Quick family meal nights are back, and I'm ready with some new recipes to keep everyone interested. Beef broth bowls have been taking social media by storm lately, so naturally, I had to bite, literally.

My kids love anything served in a bowl. Whether it's chicken shawarma bowls, Chipotle-style chicken bowls or Asian salmon bowls, something about piling everything together gets them excited about dinner. I love them too because there really are no rules. You can switch up the protein, vegetables, grains and toppings depending on what you have on hand. They're healthy, interesting and, perhaps best of all, can be made pretty inexpensively.

This version starts with ground beef and rice, then adds broccolini and an easy gochujang broth that makes the whole thing feel a little more special than your average weeknight dinner. You could easily substitute bok choy, but my family prefers the crunch of broccolini. I also serve it with a simple cucumber salad, which adds a cool, fresh contrast to the rich, spicy broth.

If you haven't cooked with gochujang before, it's a thick, fermented Korean chili paste that is sweet, spicy and ridiculously savory. A little goes a long way, adding an incredible depth of flavor without requiring a cabinet full of ingredients.

Another reason I love this recipe is that almost everything happens in one pan. That obviously means less cleanup, but more importantly, each step builds another layer of flavor. The ground beef is sautéed with aromatics and then removed from the pan, leaving all those flavorful browned bits behind. The broccolini goes in next and gets a little char around the edges before coming out to join the beef.

Finally, the gochujang is added directly to the hot pan and allowed to bloom for a minute, deepening its flavor before creamy coconut milk and fresh lime juice are stirred in. Everything that happened earlier in the pan becomes part of the broth, creating something creamy, spicy, tangy and deeply savory.

Spoon it over rice, pile on the beef and broccolini, add that crisp cucumber salad, and suddenly a quick weeknight ground beef dinner feels anything but ordinary.

Cheers, Mombeau

Beef Broth Bowls

1.5 lbs ground beef

2 garlic cloves, minced

1 tbsp ginger, minced

1 tbsp soy sauce

3 tsp sesame oil

1 bunch broccolini, trimmed and washed

1/3 cup gochujang paste

2 cups chicken broth
1 tbsp chicken bouillon paste

1 can coconut milk

1 tbsp honey

Juice of 1 lime

Jasmine rice, cooked

Cucumber Salad

1 cucumber, sliced paper thin

2 tbsp rice wine vinegar

1 tbsp soy sauce

1 tsp chili crisp oil

1 tbsp honey

Make sure all your ingredients are prepped and ready to go before you start. In a bowl, mix together the sliced cucumber, rice wine vinegar, soy sauce, chili crisp oil and honey. Mix together thoroughly and set aside.

Brown the beef in a large skillet with a lid. (You will need the lid for later). Once almost browned, add in the garlic, ginger and soy sauce. Cook for another minute. Remove the beef into a bowl using a slotted spoon and then drain the oil out of the pan. Set aside and then add in the broccolini with one-quarter cup of water. Cover with the lid and cook on medium high heat for two minutes. Remove the broccolini and set aside.

Spoon the gochujang paste into the skillet and let it cook out for about 30 seconds while stirring. Add in the chicken broth, coconut milk, honey and bouillon paste. Whisk together to combine everything and then add in the lime juice. Taste the broth for seasoning.

To serve, spoon a generous mound of rice into each bowl and top with the seasoned beef and cucumber salad. Gently ladle the warm gochujang broth around the rice, then finish with the charred broccolini and a fresh lime wedge for squeezing.



PHOTO BY KAREN FERGUSON

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Grosse Pointe News BEST of the BEST 2026



Look for bargains

Partially as a result of consumers discovering alternatives to wine, including low-alcohol or alcohol-free wines, sales of wine throughout the country are at their lowest level in 18 years.

The U.S. wine industry has been through sales declines on a cyclical basis — just about every 20 years. And it almost always cures itself when people begin to realize that wine is better than it has ever been, both domestic and imported.

This time, however, the downturn seems to be more prolonged than usual, which has caused a cataclysmic effect on wine businesses, both directly in the industry and tangentially. Wineries have closed or filed for bankruptcy. Even the most successful wineries have felt the pinch.

Not everyone is hurting, of course. Knowledgeable wine lovers are finding bargains in many locations. Fine wine shops are offering discounts on wines that previously were so in demand that they sold out before all potential buyers could get them. Wine auctions and brokers are other locations.

People who often buy wine between $5 and $10 per bottle may save a dollar here and there, but the big winners are people who buy expensive wines that simply aren't moving at all.

Before the downturn, prices for French Champagne had slowly crept above $60 per bottle for standard products and top-end items soared above $100. Many fine wine shops have now begun to reduce all bubbly prices. Several wine shops now offer the $60-category wines at $40. A few are even less than that.

Two of the most important fine wine purveyors in the country, Costco and Trader Joe's, recently began offering some remarkable value wines that are among the best they have ever offered.

One example is a Kirkland red wine from a reputable district in Italy that might otherwise sell for $60, but was available nationally for under $20. And a French Chardonnay that tasted like it should be $40 was being sold for $14.99.

Trader Joe's has always carried excellent domestic wines that it discounts. Now, TJ's imports are just as reasonable as always, but average quality has risen significantly, proof that imported producers are using better quality fruit that in years past might have sold for more money.

Discerning wine lovers might be shocked when they taste two TJ wines that sell for $6.99 each and taste more like $20 wines.

To take advantage of the lower prices on better quality wines, it is best to know quite a bit about wine, so buyers who are happy with their $4 bottles may see an uptick in quality, but only if they have perceptive palates.

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

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PHOTOS COURTESY OF AMAZON STUDIOS, K PERIOD MEDIA, PEARL STREET FILMS

Left, Randi (Michelle Williams) and Lee (Casey Affleck) chat in the 2016 movie "Manchester by the Sea," written and directed by Kenneth Lonergan.

Movie Junkie Mark

"Life is too short to watch mediocre movies"

by Mark Domin



MOVIE REVIEW
"Manchester by the Sea"
2016 - Rated R
2 hr 17 min
★★★★☆

For the life of me. I just don't understand what every one sees in Ben Affleck. With the exception of "The Tender Bar," he seems so wooden and stilted in every film I've seen him in. His brother Casey, on the other hand, is a skilled actor who always plays convincing roles. In the case of "Manchester by the Sea," it's a perfect example of what a skilled actor he is. Not surprisingly, he won an Oscar for his performance in this film. It's worth noting that the always wonderful Michelle Williams ("Blue Valentine," "My Week with Marilyn") and the young Lucas Hedges ("Lady Bird," "Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri") were also nominated for Oscars.

The film was written and directed by Kenneth Lonergan, known for "You Can Count on Me" and "Margaret." Here he's created a touching portrait of a man suffering from loss and how one attempts to go on living after a horrendous event takes place. It's a quiet and slowly paced story and if you don't come away from it deeply moved, I'll be surprised. I'm disappointed that even though it was released in 2016, it took until recently for me to finally see it. Alas...so many movies, so little time.

Lee Chandler (Affleck) is a sad soul who lives an unfulfilling life. He's the maintenance man for a couple of apartment buildings in Boston. His days are spent fixing plumbing problems and doing illegal electrical repairs for unappreciative tenants. You can sense the overwhelming pain he keeps bottled up inside him. But he puts on a good face, or more specifically, no face at all. He's pretty morose and quiet. About the only enjoyment he gets out of life is getting plastered at the local bar and then starting a brawl over nothing and being tossed out by the bouncer.

One day he gets a call informing him his brother Joe (Kyle Chandler, "Argo," "Super 8") has had a cardiac arrest and is in the hospital in his hometown of Manchester-by-the-Sea. Lee dutifully hops in his car and hits the road. Unfortunately, he arrives a short time after Joe dies. Ever the stoic, he shows no emotion at all regarding his brother's passing. Then we're presented with a series of flashbacks and learn that Joe was diagnosed a few years before with a heart problem and that he was only expected to live five years at most.

As the film progresses, through a series of flashbacks, we see Lee with his pregnant wife Randi (Williams) and his children. Lee is a totally different person, a loving husband and an entertaining and devoted dad. There's also a clip of Lee and Joe and Joe's young son Patrick (Hedges) out at sea on their family's fishing trawler. It's a lighthearted scene with the three joking and kidding each other. They get along famously and it's quite a contrast with the present-day Lee.

After Joe's death, Lee visits the family attorney to go over Joe's will. To his great surprise, Lee is named as Patrick's guardian until he turns 18. He's totally unprepared for this and doesn't know what to make of it. Patrick is a spirited and sassy kid who's quick witted and loves to needle his uncle. He's also quite the Casanova with the girls, which Lee isn't sure how to handle. He's the very antithesis of Lee. When they go for long rides in the car, Lee rarely says a word and Patrick, who has the gift of gab, scolds him and says, "Can't you at least make some small talk like a normal human being?"

Eventually, it's explained why Lee is such a deeply depressed individual. I won't reveal what actually occurred, but it's an alarming event. And it's the reason Lee and Randi got divorced. It's also why he ended up leaving Manchester for Boston, so he wouldn't be reminded of the terrible incident.

While the movie was pretty sad overall, it also had its amusing moments. Even though it didn't have the happy ending I'd wished for, you can tell all the parties involved would eventually come to terms with their grief. This is not your typical Hollywood movie. And once again, that's a good thing.

I thought the writing was thoroughly engaging, and all the actors, especially the leads, turned in award-worthy performances. Every aspect of the film was sheer perfection, including the sensitive camerawork of Jody Lee Lipes. About the only complaint I have is that, at two hours and change, I thought it was a tad long. But that's a minor quibble. If you're in the mood for a tender, heartfelt drama, be sure to check this one out.

Currently streaming on Prime Video.

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.



At Joe's gravesite.



Manchester-by-the-sea.



Michelle Williams plays Randi.



Heading out to sea.



A peaceful moment fishing.



Movie poster for "Manchester by the Sea."

Weekly Challenge

UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

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

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

Previous puzzle solution

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

9/10 Solution

9/17

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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.

BIG
CHEETAH
COUGAR
FALCON
FAST
HUMAN
LEGS
LION
MILES
PANTHER
PAWS
RUNNING
SPEEDS
SPOTS
STRIPES
TIGER

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

Royal Stars Weekly Horoscopes

Moon Alert: There are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions today. The Moon is in SAGITTARIUS.

Happy Birthday for Thursday, September 17, 2026: You're decisive, progressive and forceful. You will let nothing stand in your way. This is a year of completion and endings. Take inventory of your life. Let go of the people, places and things that hold you back. Focus on being compassionate and loving.

ARIES
(March 21-April 19)

Today is full of playful opportunities! It's a great day to travel. It's also a wonderful day for learning and studying. This is a good time to sort through the details of a vacation itinerary. Tonight: Do something different.

TAURUS
(April 20-May 20)

Financial discussions, especially related to home, family or real estate will go well today. This is a wonderful day to get a loan or mortgage or to explore new aspects of dealing with shared property or anything that is jointly owned. Tonight: Check your finances.

GEMINI
(May 21-June 20)

This is an excellent time for important discussions with partners, spouses and close friends. You'll be generous, fair-minded and upbeat. But at the same time, you'll be realistic and grounded. Plans Tonight: Listen to someone.

CANCER
(June 21-July 22)

Today promises success and productivity for you. Work hard. Not only will you impress bosses and people in authority, you can do something to boost your income now or in the future. Go after what you want! Tonight: Work.

LEO
(July 23-Aug. 22)

It's a lucky day for you! The Moon is in your "home" dancing beautifully with Jupiter in your sign, and also with stern Saturn. This favors all kinds of ventures, including business, publishing and higher education. Sweet! Tonight: Play!

VIRGO
(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Relax at home if you can today. You might find it rewarding to explore personal issues, as well as your spiritual life. You will feel content. Tonight: Relax.

LIBRA
(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Your communication skills are great today. Short trips, visits with siblings, relatives and neighbors plus a chance to learn or teach will please you. Activities with groups and friends will delight. Tonight: Listen and learn.

SCORPIO
(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

This is a good money day for you. For example, it's a good day to ask for a raise or a promotion. You'll impress coworkers and bosses. Go for the gold! Tonight: Maintain your possessions.

SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

You are blessed today because the Moon is in your sign dancing beautifully with both Jupiter and Saturn, which gives you a wonderful sense of balance when dealing with both work and play. Explore opportunities to travel. Tonight: You're in charge.

CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Remember to be patient with partners and close friends while fiery Mars is opposite your sign. Likewise, relations with friends and groups are cozy. Negotiations will favor you today. Tonight: Enjoy solitude.

AQUARIUS
(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Your communication skills are great today, which is why you'll enjoy schmoozing with friends and groups. You have a nice balance between optimism and grounded commonsense today. Tonight: Be friendly.

PISCES
(Feb. 19-March 20)

Today you're high-viz, which means people notice you more than usual. But this is good news, because you make a fabulous impression on co-workers as well as anyone who holds the purse strings. Tonight: Be kind and modest.

BORN TODAY

Actor Kyle Chandler (1965), actress Anne Bancroft (1931), hockey player Alexander Ovechkin (1985).

Contract Bridge

GOOD, BETTER, BEST

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

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

WEST
♠ K 9 8 6 3
♥ 10 9 4
♦ 5 2
♣ K 8 2

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

SOUTH
♠ A
♥ K 8 5
♦ K Q 10 8 6 3
♣ A Q 7

The bidding:

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

Opening lead — ten of hearts.

Bridge players go through several stages as they attempt to improve their game. Where they are at any given moment can sometimes be defined by how they play a particular hand. An interested observer might be able to measure just how far an aspiring player has come by watching the play of a deal such as today's.

South is in six diamonds, and West leads a heart. If South is more or less a beginner, he might think there is exactly an even chance for the contract. He'd plan to finesse the queen of clubs at some point, and if East had the king of clubs — a 50-50 proposition — he'd make the slam. But if West had the king. South would go down one.

A bit later in his bridge career, this same declarer would realize he had far better than an even chance for the slam. He would win the heart lead with the jack, draw trump, cash the ace of spades, play a heart to the queen, ruff the queen of spades, lead the heart king to the ace and return a club from dummy.

If East followed low, South would play the seven, endplaying West and thus guaranteeing the slam. The flaw in this method of play is that East might play a club higher than the seven to thwart the endplay.

The final stage of improvement comes when declarer, after winning the first heart, draws trump, cashes the ace of spades and Q-A of hearts, and then leads the queen of spades. When East follows low, South discards a club to assure the slam whatever West returns.

While it is true that East might have the king of spades and play it on the queen, the slam might still be made by falling back on one of the aforementioned lines of play. The point is that it costs declarer nothing to try this approach first to give himself the best chance for the slam.

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by Steve Becker

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg September 17, 2026

ACROSS
1 "Yummy!"
4 Spoiled kid
8 Ump's relative
11 Big-billed tropical bird
15 Coolness, nowadays
16 Body part with a drum
17 God whose victory is celebrated during Holi
18 Early scene in a rom-com
20 Owl sounds
22 Collection of numbers to crunch
23 Nickname for Rihanna
25 Boardroom session: Abbr.
27 Unwraps
28 Stock launch, for short
29 Oracle
30 "Bang for your buck" stat
31 Ed Sheeran song that's not [letters 7-9 in this answer]
34 Camper's weather protection
38 Jimmy Buffett song that's not [letters 4-6]
39 Potent poker pair
40 Righteous Brothers song that's not [letters 8-10]
42 Chamomile, e.g.
43 Earth, Wind & Fire song that's not [letters 4-8]
44 Relaxation locations
47 Leaves hair
48 Small dog's complaint
50 "I Have a Dream" speaker's dad, for short
52 "___boy!"
53 Spoil, like a grandkid
56 Prison break participants
60 "Come with!"
61 Coffee in a tiny cup
62 Follow around
63 D.C. MLB team

DOWN
1 VMAs channel
2 Me, in French
3 Portobello part
4 "POW!" relative
5 Felt remorse over
6 Geometric calculation
7 Body image?
8 Reduce, ___, recycle
9 Devoured
10 Is worried
12 "The ___ of Cooking" (2025 book by a Korean-born chef)
13 "It's ___-brainer!"
14 Essence of a mace-related spice
19 The first letter of Aaron, but not the second
21 Severe quality
23 Woodworking technique that goes parallel to the grain
24 Some Apple devices
26 K-6 midpoint
29 Bra brand
30 Followed an ABAB scheme, e.g.
32 Typo of a common article
33 "Star Wars" queen Amidala
35 Followers
36 Rust-colored birds of prey
37 Subj. in which Freud is studied
41 Aliens: Abbr.
45 Revise
46 Opposite of sped-up
49 El ___, Texas
51 Was aware
52 "Planet of the ___"
53 Spins records
54 "Neat!"
55 Aunt, in Spanish
57 Doubly hyphenated ID
58 Tax prep pro
59 Word before "history" or "gallery"

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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

9/10 Solution

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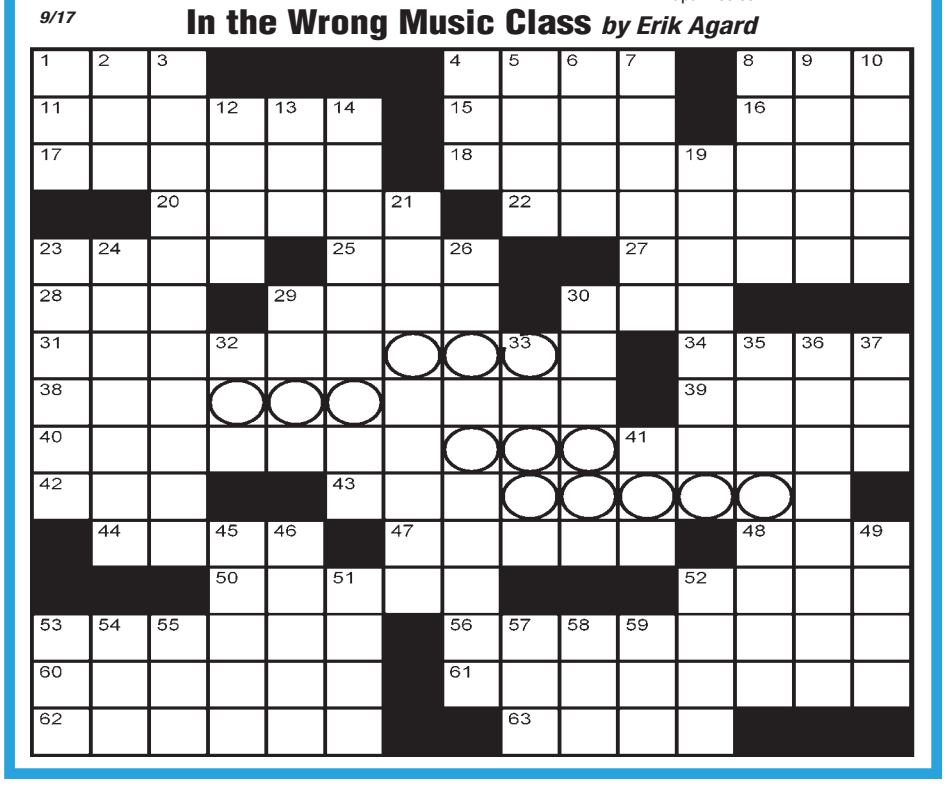
www.upuzzles.com

9/17

In the Wrong Music Class *by Erik Agard*



CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

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

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655 Campers
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661 Water Sports
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DEADLINES
Please call for holiday deadline dates and times, subject to change.

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

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

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

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

BORDER ADS STARTING AT:
$26.00 per column inch

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

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

Place an Order

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

YOUR ADVERTISEMENT
CLASSIFICATION NAME: _____

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

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

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

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

Announcements

100 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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



Let the Classifieds Do The Walking
Grosse Pointe News
(313)882-6900 ext. 1

100 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Help Wanted

200 HELP WANTED GENERAL

SALON is BOOMING
and has a 70% commission offer plus 20% for all retail sales.
Thank you
Edwin Paul
(313)885-9001

208 HELP WANTED NURSES AIDE / CAREGIVER

FAMILY in Grosse Pointe Park in need of care for our beloved 93 year old mother.
She is in good health, but needs personal assistance.
Seeking AM and PM in- home care.
Please call (303)810-2938

Situations Wanted

300 SITUATIONS WANTED BABYSITTERS

ATTENTION:
by MICHIGAN LAW DAY CARE FACILITIES (In-Home & Centers) Must Show Their Current License To Advertising Representative When Placing Your Ads. THANK YOU. Parents- Please Verify All Child Care Licenses!

302 SITUATION WANTED CONVALESCENT CARE



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

304 SITUATION WANTED GENERAL

PERSONAL ASSISTANT
Life can get hectic. Free up time for yourself. Errands, home management, organizing, etc. Recurring or casually. Tailored to your needs. Let me make your life easier! Call or text for more info. (313)610-6626

Merchandise

409 GARAGE / YARD / RUMMAGE SALE

GARAGE SALE
12 Windward Place
Grosse Pointe Farms
Friday, September 18
10- 3.
Household, crystal, china, floral, childrens books, Christmas, nutcrackers, jewelry, stepladder.

406 ESTATE SALES

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

1141 S. OXFORD
GROSSE POINTE WOODS
FRIDAY AND SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 18 AND 19
9:00 - 4:00

This is a nice sale you won't want to miss! We have a lovely Sherrill sofa, chair and ottoman, nice petite curio cabinet, French style dining set for eight, oriental carpets, queen iron bed, full iron bed, women's designer clothing and shoes, MacKenzie Childs items, artwork, art supplies, canvases, easels, art books, mannequin, flat file, cameras, albums, books, pottery, Rockville PA System with mixer and tripod, Britains, some vintage toys, picnic table, outdoor furniture, garden bench, lots and lots more!

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

409 GARAGE / YARD / RUMMAGE SALE

ESTATE SALE
Thursday 9/ 17 & Friday 9/ 18:
11am 5pm
Saturday 9/ 19:
9am- 1pm
61 Fontana, Grosse Pointe Shores
Women's clothing & accessories, furniture, household items, home and holiday décor, collectibles, organization/ storage items & more.

409 GARAGE / YARD / RUMMAGE SALE

MULTI Family Garage Sale
2064 Lennon
Grosse Pointe Woods
Saturday, September 19th
8:30a - 2:00p
(No Early Birds Please)
Rain or Shine!
Something for everyone and priced to sell!

MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE
Friday
September 18 &
Saturday
September 19
9-4
1127 Whittier
(between St. Paul and Kercheval)
Grosse Pointe Park
Something for everyone! Clean, organized and well priced!

412 MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES

SAFE
Fireproof, 4 drawer, 20 1/4" wide, 31" deep, 55 1/2" tall.
Used with some scratches. $2,000. or best offer.
(586)854-2353

415 WANTED TO BUY



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

Automotive

604 ANTIQUE / CLASSIC



SPECIAL!
A RARE VEHICLE.
1997 FORD MUSTANG GT CONVERTIBLE
Like showroom new, this car has ONLY 15,393 original miles.
Never driven in the snow, automatic, air conditioning, 4.6 liter V-8 engine.
Sale price $15,000.
ONE OWNER
Call Dan
(586)914-2800

Property For Rent

702 APTS/FLATS/DUPLEX S.C.S./MACOMB COUNTY

RENOVATED
900 sq. ft. apartment available.
Starting at $1,150.
Visit www.mauermanor.com or call (313)282-5776

716 OFFICE / COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

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

Property For Sale

825 FARMS

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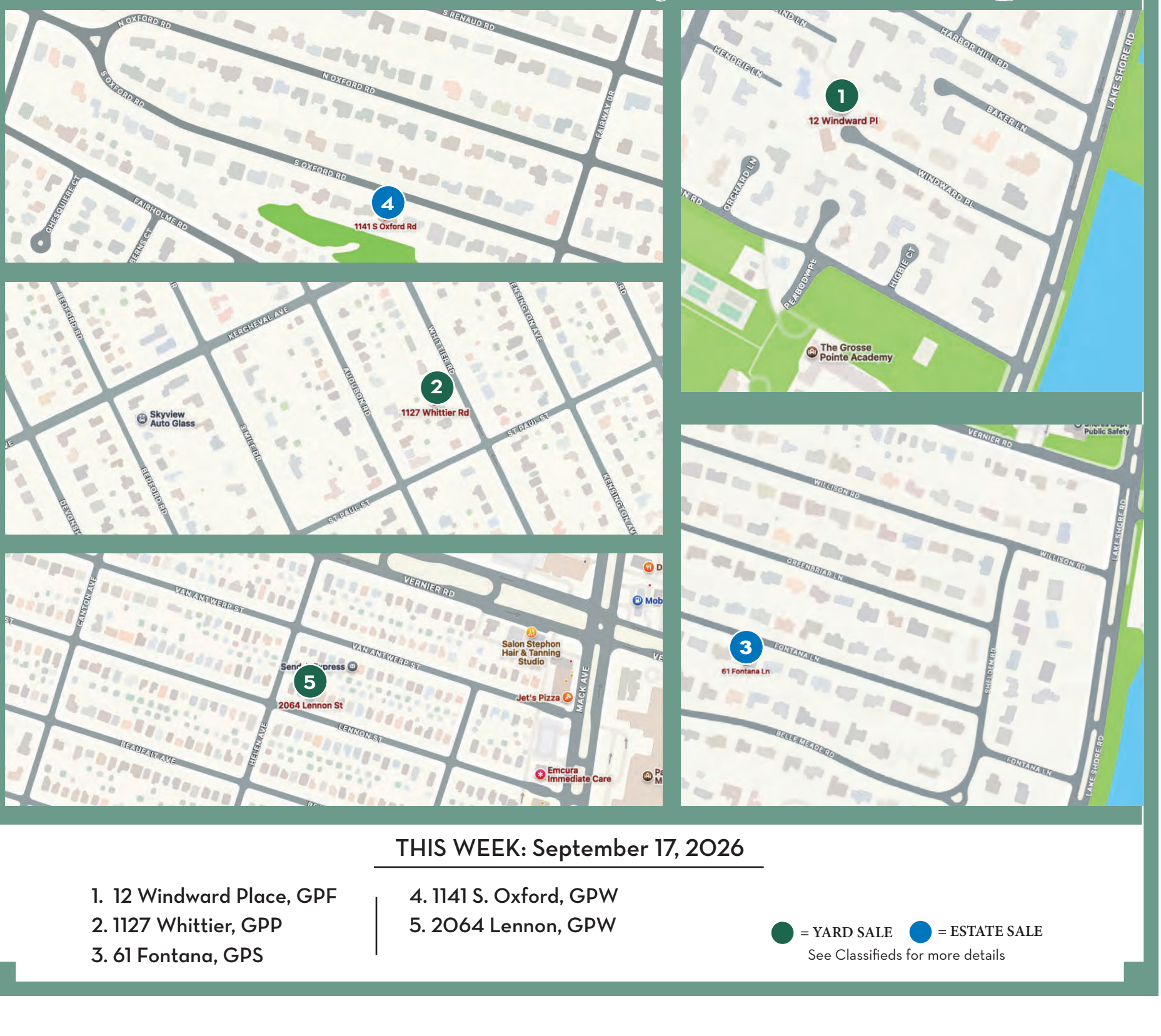

THIS WEEK: September 17, 2026

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A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A PENCIL

Hi! My name is **Addy Line!** Join me for . . .

My morning began with a bumpy backpack ride to school! ***Oooof!***

The teacher gave us a math puzzle. Can you help me finish it?

★ + ★ = 8

★ − ◆ = 3

★ + ◆ + ◆ =

Standards Link: Math: Calculate sums and differences to 20.

Next, there was a **spelling quiz!** I guess I went a little too fast. I made three spelling mistakes. But that's what **erasers** are for!

Circle Addy Line's three mistakes. Then, rewrite the words correctly.

1. newspapur	6. editor
2. reporter	7. delivury
3. story	8. press
4. question	9. photo
5. factz	10. deadline

Ooops! I hate when this happens! Can you take me to the sharpener?

SNAP!

START

FINISH

Can you draw the shape that comes next in each row to continue the pattern?

After lunch, our teacher explained how two smaller words can be combined to make a new word. That's called a **compound word**.

FOOT + BALL = FOOTBALL

CUP + CAKE = CUPCAKE

Draw lines to connect two words that create a compound word.

RAIN GLASSES KEY COAT SUN BOARD DOOR CORN POP BELL

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written instructions.

Extra! Extra! Look Sharp

Look through the newspaper to find five prices or other money amounts. Write these in order from lowest to highest. Then have a friend or family member check your work.

Standards Link: Math: List money amounts in ascending order.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Can you use your pencil to trace this design in one single line? It made me dizzy!

Double Double Word Search

Find the words by looking up, down, backwards, forwards and diagonally. Then look for them in this week's *Kid Scoop* stories and activities.

ART
BACKPACK
FAST
LOW
MATH
MISTAKES
MONEY
NEXT
PRESS
QUIZ
RIDE
SCHOOL
SHARPENER
SPELLING
WORDS
WORK

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

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

Kid Scoop Together Art Starts

Wooohoo! My very favorite part of the school day is when we get to create **ART!**

With a family member, use your imagination to draw pictures starting with these lines and squiggles Addy drew.

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Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word:
CONNECT

The verb **connect** means to join two or more things together.

I used my pencil to **connect** the dots.

Try to use the word **connect** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.

FROM THE Kid Scoop® LESSON LIBRARY

Make Your Point

What's your favorite part of the newspaper? Write a letter to the editor and tell them why you think that part of the newspaper is important to you.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written instructions.

How can a pencil make a room darker?

ANSWER: By drawing the curtains!

Write On!

How Does Lead Get in a Pencil?

Describe how you think this happens.

Standards Link: Language Arts: Write descriptively using supporting details.

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Eshman's hat trick lifts North boys soccer over Blue Devils

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter



PHOTO COURTESY OF GROSSE POINTE NORTH ATHLETICS

Grosse Pointe North's varsity boys soccer team celebrates after earning a 3-1 win over crosstown rival Grosse Pointe South Saturday, Sept. 12.

The Grosse Pointe North varsity boys soccer team couldn't have asked for a better start to the 2026 season. The biggest highlight of the team's early winning streak came Saturday, Sept. 12. The Norsemen hosted Grosse Pointe South for the teams' annual crosstown showdown, with three goals by senior Matthew Eshman propelling North to a 3-1 win and the program's first victory against the Blue Devils since 2021.

"Going into the game, we knew (South) had great talent," North boys soccer head coach Nino Maniaci said. "I coach a lot of those guys at EastSide FC and I know how much talent South produces. We wanted to make sure we put great pressure on them and made them feel uncomfortable when they had the ball at their feet. ... We played very disciplined in the back and controlled most of the game. They really couldn't break us down defensively. ... Our guys did a great job."

North jumped on the Blue Devils early, with Eshman's first goal coming in the opening moments of the match to give the Norsemen a 1-0 advantage almost right away. Eshman added another later in the first half and North took a 2-0 lead into halftime.

The Blue Devils pulled closer in the second half with a goal by Ethan Nowicki that made it a one-goal game once again. However, one last strike by Eshman and the Norsemen late in the game shut the door on a possible comeback and helped North secure the win.

The win for North was its eighth in a row to begin the season as the team sits atop the MAC Blue Division and is ranked in the top 10 for Division 2 by the Michigan High School Soccer Coaches Association.

"I'm really proud of the boys and their start this season and embracing the 1-0 mentality every game," Maniaci said. "We look forward to striving for our best and we have put ourselves in a great position with our good start, but there's more work to do."

North hosted Port Huron Northern Monday, Sept. 14, winning 4-1 to improve its record to 9-0. The Norsemen are on the road again Monday, Sept. 21, visiting Fraser at 4:30 p.m.

For the Blue Devils, the loss moved the team's record so far this season to 4-4. South hosted Dakota Monday, Sept. 14, coming away with a 1-0 win, and is home again Thursday, Sept. 17, taking on Eisenhower at 7:30 p.m.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Mitchell helps create winning culture with ULS boys soccer

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter



When people think about impactful soccer players, many probably go to the strikers or the players up front on the attack who are scoring goals. However, it can't be understated how important it is for a team to have a star on defense. That is what the University Liggett School varsity boys soccer team has in senior captain Brendan Mitchell.

Mitchell has become the heart and soul of the back line for the Knights' defense. His stats may not jump off the page, but his impact on defense is undeniable on a team that has started the season 6-0 and only allowed six goals. Mitchell could have been a star striker and goal-scorer; he was on track to be one before high school, but found himself on defense by chance one game and never looked back.

"I actually was a striker until one day I randomly got put back on defense during a club game in like eighth grade," he said. "I played well, so they just kept me there. I started to realize that it was my strength because I liked winning the ball off of people and being physical. I started to grow every year and became more comfortable with using my size."

Mitchell has been a presence on the varsity squad for Liggett since his freshman year. As a senior this fall, he was selected to serve as one of the team's captains and he gets to do it alongside some of the best friends he has had since before high school. Mitchell and his fellow senior captains make up an experienced, veteran core of this year's Liggett team that has one goal in mind — bringing home a state title.

"I love my other captains," Mitchell said. "We've been playing with each other for four years and even some of us had been playing together for EastSide even before that. ... We know each other and winning a state championship with them would mean the world to me."

The Knights came close to that goal last season, making it to the Division 4 state championship game before losing to Leland in a penalty kick shootout. It was a heartbreaking way for what had been a magical season to end, but the Knights also got the benefit of several players from that team returning to this fall's squad.

Mitchell is, of course, one of those returning players. The loss in last year's title game stung for him and his senior captains, but served as motivation to get back there this season and take that final step to becoming champions.

"It was devastating to lose that way," he said. "... You just got to get back there and win it this year. We know we have the talent to make it. It's a great group of guys and a lot of us are returning from last year, so we have experience now. We really believe that we can make it back and our offseason work really helped us."



COURTESY PHOTO

Brendan Mitchell

With Mitchell anchoring the defense, the Knights feel like they can win any game they are in. He has worked his way up the ranks to earn the title of captain this year and everyone around the program knows Mitchell's impact goes far beyond what he does on the field. His coaches and teammates believe Mitchell has helped create a positive, winning culture within this year's Liggett team and that is what could help drive them to the top.

"His role has increased steadily on each of his four seasons with the program at Liggett and it's culminated really wonderfully with him being one of our senior captains this year," Liggett boys soccer head coach David Dwaihy said. "He's one of the most complete players that we've had come through the program. ... His abilities with the ball and his range of passing and communication can keep everyone organized. He's a super impactful soccer player. His approach to leading a very talented team is that he lets other players find their voice and I give him a lot of credit for helping to create the positive chemistry and culture we have on this team."

Mighty Mitchell

- Senior captain of University Liggett varsity boys soccer
- Part of ULS defense that has allowed just 6 goals in 6 games this season
- Along with soccer, has also competed in varsity boys basketball and golf for Liggett

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09172B

South girls win highlights big XC weekend

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The boys and girls varsity cross-country teams from Grosse Pointe South and Grosse Pointe North had impressive performances Saturday, Sept. 12. The Blue Devils competed at the Algonac Classic Run, with South's girls team ending the day in first place overall, while North's teams both finished in the top five at the Averill Invitational.

Grosse Pointe South

South's girls team's first-place finish was led by sophomore Eleanor Pilsner, who finished second overall in the entire field. She was one of three Blue Devils to finish in the top 10, with freshman Emma Ford finishing seventh overall and senior Morgan Costello coming in ninth place.

Freshman Ivy Surma and senior Olivia Colt both finished just outside the top 10, crossing the finish line in 12th and 13th place, respectively. Junior Ria White also cracked the top 20 by finishing 16th, while senior Rylee Piornack finished the race 23rd.

"Our varsity ran so well together," South girls cross country coach Steve Zaranek said. "The strategies they utilized paid off as they overtook so many runners in the last half of the race to earn the victory. All seven had season best performances and it is easy to see the potential they have to reach new levels this season."

South's JV girls team also finished first in its race, with Lydia Thomason-Redus, Paige Garbo and Montana Wessels sweeping the top three places on the leaderboard.

The boys team for the Blue Devils ended up third overall in the standings at the end of the race. Senior Caleb Thomason-Redus led the way by finishing fifth. Freshman Sam Phillips was just outside of the top 10, finishing in 11th place. Logan Garbo also made the top 20 by finishing 20th.

Both the boys and girls squads for South will be in action again Saturday, Sept. 19, racing in the Huron Invitational at Willow Metropark in New Boston.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Runners from the Grosse Pointe South varsity girls cross-country team hold the first-place plaque after winning the Algonac Classic Saturday, Sept. 12. From left: Rylee Piornack, Ivy Surma, Emma Ford, Morgan Costello, Ria White, Olivia Colt and Eleanor Pilsner.

Grosse Pointe North

The Norsemen spent last Saturday at Kensington Metropark for the Averill Invitational. Both the boys and girls teams for North finished in the top five of their respective races to cap off a strong day.



Grosse Pointe North junior Jack Bartkowicz finished 10th overall for the Norsemen as the team took fourth place in the Averill Invitational Saturday, Sept. 12.

The boys team finished fourth in the standings, led by junior Jack Bartkowicz, who finished 10th overall. William Henze also cracked the top 20 for the Norsemen by finishing 14th. Sophomore Isaac Hailu was just outside of the top 25, finishing the race 26th.

North's girls team was fifth in the team standings after its race. Freshmen Wilhelmina VanderWerp and Noelle Lyon finished 10th and 11th overall, respectively. Junior Erin Doolittle also made it into the top 25 by finishing 24th.

North's teams are set to race again Friday, Sept. 18, in the James Cleverley Invitational hosted by Anchor Bay.





PHOTOS BY MIKE ADZIMA

North volleyball wins special rivalry match

The Grosse Pointe North varsity volleyball team defeated Grosse Pointe South last Thursday, Sept. 10, 3-2 in five sets. The victory was the eighth win of the season in what has been a strong start to the fall for the Norsemen. North took the first set 25-17, but the Blue Devils bounced back to take the next two sets by scores of 25-16 and 25-21. The Norsemen rallied from behind to win the final two sets 25-17 and 15-4 to earn the victory. The night was also used to honor the memory of longtime North volleyball assistant coach Charlie Ochylski, with funds raised during the match benefiting the Cholangiocarcinoma Foundation and the Coach Charlie Volleyball Scholarship Fund.

Above left: North volleyball head coach Chelsea Brozo delivers a speech in honor of her father and longtime assistant coach Charlie Ochylski, who passed away earlier this year.

Above right: North's Madison Jewell, left, and Phoebe Julien wait to return a Blue Devils serve.

CITY OF HARPER WOODS, MICHIGAN
19617 HARPER AVENUE
HARPER WOODS, MICHIGAN
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council of the City of Harper Woods will hold a public hearing to consider a proposed amendment to the City's Zoning Ordinance on Monday, September 21, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. at 19617 Harper Avenue, Harper Woods, MI

Purpose of Hearing:
To receive public comment on a proposed text amendment to the City of Harper Woods Zoning Ordinance. The City Council will consider the adoption of the amendment following the public hearing.

Summary of Proposed Amendment:
An amendment to Section 6.15 Marijuana Establishments - C. Use Requirements.

The construction and operation of marijuana establishments shall be pursuant to the following requirements:

6. Drive-through. Drive-through windows on the premises of a marijuana establishment shall only be permitted in compliance with the Use Standards in Section 6.07 and upon approval of a Special Land Use proposal by City Council per the procedure in Section 8.03 Special Land Use.

All interested persons are invited to attend the public hearing and will be given an opportunity to be heard. Residents who are unable to attend this hearing may submit their comments in writing to the City Clerk's office before September 21, 2026.

A copy of this proposed Zoning Ordinance is available for inspection in the City Clerk's office Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

CITY OF HARPER WOODS

LESLIE M. FRANK
CITY CLERK

POSTED: September 10, 2026
PUBLISHED: September 17, 2026

City of **Grosse Pointe Woods**, Michigan

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Grosse Pointe Woods City Council, under the provisions of Public Act 110 of 2006, MCL 125.3101 as amended, and Grosse Pointe Woods City Code of 2022 Chapter 50, Article 7, Section 50-7.15, will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, October 5, 2026, at 7:00 p.m., at City Hall in the Council Chamber/Courtroom (20025 Mack Plaza Drive, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236) for the purpose of considering a special land use at 20567 Mack Avenue. The subject site is zoned C, Commercial Business District, where fast food / carry out restaurants (the proposed Little Ghost restaurant) are a special land use. No drive-thru is permitted, dining is take-out or within the restaurant.

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.:09/17/26

South chews up over 500 yards in win over Big Reds

By Meg Leonard
Guest Writer



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

South's Charlie Bedsworth makes an athletic catch in the end zone facing a fourth-and-14 with time running out in the first half in the team's 56-27 win over Chippewa Valley, Friday, Sept. 11.

Chewing up more than 500 yards through the ground and air, Grosse Pointe South varsity football hit the road and seized its first win in MAC Red conference play, thumping the Big Reds of Chippewa Valley 56-27 Friday, Sept. 11.

Senior quarterback and co-captain Sam Rouleau led South's attack with five touchdowns, tossing two and rushing for three more. The Central Michigan commit commanded the field, racking up 259 yards passing and 84 yards on the ground. Three games into the season, the Blue Devils are averaging 50.3 points per game.

With the game never in doubt, the visiting Blue Devils put the exclamation point on the final minutes with senior Drew Brown's 60-yard return on an attempted Big Reds onside kick.

Brown, a starting safety, scoured the field on both sides throughout the night, snagging a first-quarter interception 10 minutes into the game, helping establish the team's aggressive tone for the night.

"We're fortunate to have some of the explosive athletes that we have and that's what it takes to compete in the MAC Red," South head coach Chad Hepner said.

"There's just a number of places like that (tonight) where they showed individual effort or athleticism," he added. "That onside kick return by Drew Brown, you know, not everybody makes that play. It's a heads-up play."

South's offense got things going in the first quarter when senior running back Charlie Michelotti found his way to the end zone with a six-yard run to put the Blue Devils up 7-0. Michelotti returned to the lineup in Week 3, after getting injured during preseason play.

Hepner said not to underestimate Michelotti's impact.

"It was really great to have Charlie Michelotti back," Hepner said. "You know, he missed the first two games and you can really see the difference in the type of running back he is, so that was fantastic to have as a weapon."

Rouleau continued to demonstrate his threat to opposing defenses with his legs, punching in South's next two touchdowns on 18-yard and one-yard keepers, spotting the Blue Devils with a 21-0 lead after the first quarter of play.

South's defense held Chippewa Valley off the scoreboard until 10:25 of the second quarter, when the Big Reds finally reached the end zone on a 38-yard run, making it a 21-7 game. They scored again four minutes later on an eight-yard scramble to close the gap to 21-14.

From there, the Blue Devils kept swinging.

Rouleau scored again on a one-yard keeper with 34 seconds left in the second quarter.

After a Blue Devils defensive stand, South got the ball back with about 20 seconds left in the half. Facing fourth-and 14, Rouleau scrambled out of the pocket and found senior safety and receiver Charlie Bedsworth in the end zone, who made a spectacular catch to give South a 35-14 lead.

"It was actually not supposed to go to me and it was kind of a broken play," Bedsworth said. "You know, Sam Rouleau made a great play, stepped out of the pocket, started running and put the ball where it needed to be. I bobbled it a couple of times, but then I ended up pulling it down."

The second half found the Blue Devils rolling. With just over five minutes left in the third quarter, senior wide receiver Trey Grabowski caught an 84-yard touchdown pass from Rouleau to extend South's lead 42-14.

The game stayed relatively quiet until about 10 minutes left in the fourth quarter, when Chippewa Valley scored from the one-yard line to make it a 42-21 game.

South punched back with five minutes left on a one-yard rushing touchdown from senior fullback Brody Vinyard. Chippewa Valley answered back with less than four minutes left on a 50-yard run for a 49-27 game. But Brown's kickoff return essentially burst the Big Reds' bubble, ensuring an important Blue Devils conference road win.

While the game's outcome seemed never in doubt, Bedsworth said the team knows it has areas to work on heading into next week.

"I know I got challenged on the defensive side of the ball. I made a lot of mistakes, but, you know, we have a lot of room to work on things and tomorrow we'll get better at film," he said. "But (it's) only up from here. Just keep on putting points on the board. (We'll focus on making) less mistakes on defense and we'll keep on winning."

Hepner said he expects his senior leaders, many of whom have competed on teams since childhood, to keep the team accountable. He said that leadership starts with Rouleau.

"When (Sam) speaks to them, they listen," Hepner said. "(The seniors) play well together, but they also hold each other accountable. You know, it's not all of them just patting each other on the back. They demand the same type of effort from their friends that they're giving."

South hosts its second home game of only three it will play this season Friday, Sept. 18, against Adlai Stevenson High School. The Blue Devils will celebrate senior night during pregame festivities and will announce the program's 2026 Hall of Fame inductions at halftime. Kickoff is at 7 p.m.

North football suffers first loss against Lamphere

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

One goal for the Grosse Pointe North varsity football team this season is to reclaim its spot atop the MAC Gold Division, but the Norsemen will have to wait at least one more week to get their first division win. North visited Lamphere Friday, Sept. 11, to open MAC Gold Division play and, despite building up an early lead, the Norsemen fell short against the Rams in a 26-18 loss.

North's defense made the first big play of the game in the later stages of the opening quarter when Luke Bruveris intercepted a Rams pass and returned it 70 yards for a touchdown to give the Norsemen a 7-0 lead. The lead became larger for North later in the first quarter with a rushing touchdown by Brayden Kozlowski. A botched snap on the extra point attempt turned into a miracle play by kicker Marshall Pata, who picked up the ball and tossed it into the end zone for Kozlowski, who caught the ball for a successful two-point conver-

See NORTH, page 6D

City of Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
TEXT AMENDMENTS TO THE
CITY'S ZONING ORDINANCE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE the Planning Commission of the City of Grosse Pointe Park will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, October 5, 2026, at 7:00 PM in the Council Chamber of City Hall, Fourth Floor, 15115 E. Jefferson Avenue, Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan 48230 on the following matter:

Minor text amendments to the Zoning Ordinance are proposed in an effort to maintain a streamlined and simple Ordinance to administer. Sections include but are not limited to the following: Section 4.02: Footnotes to the Schedule of Regulations; 5.02: Residential Driveway Standards; Section 5.08: Clear Vision Triangle; 6.06: Fences; Article 7: Signage; and Section 16.02: Glossary.

Information concerning this request may be obtained from the Public Service Department during regular business hours from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, or by calling (313)-822-6200 x273. Written comments concerning this request will be received by the Public Service Department prior to the public hearing or by the Planning Commission at the public hearing. Comments can be submitted via email at clerk@grossepointepark.org.

Bridgette Bowdler,
City Clerk

GPN: 9-17-26

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

Pursuant to PA 104, an auction will be held on **SEPTEMBER 30, 2026** at 5:00 p.m. at Woods Towing, located at 22755 Lexington, Eastpointe, MI, 48021 The following impounded/abandoned vehicles will be auctioned:

2001 FORD TAURUS 1FAFP55231A254476
2010 CHEVY EQUINOX 2CNALFEW1A6372544
2006 CHRYSLER 300.....2C3KA53G86H251241
2016 FORD FOCUS.....1FADP3F20GL248349
2016 CHRYSLER 300.....2C3CCAGG9GH304855
2009 DODGE JOURNEY.....3D4GG57V99T558957
2012 FORD FOCUS.....1FAHP3K2XCL354602
2016 CHEVY MALIBU.....1G1ZE5ST6GF170697

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

Lt. Thomas Teatsorth
Traffic Safety Section

POSTED: September 7, 2026
PUBLISHED: September 17, 2026

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

CITY OF HARPER WOODS
WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN
SYNOPSIS: REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 9, 2026

The regular City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Valerie Kindle at 7:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL: All Councilpersons were present except for Mayor Pro Tem Vivian Sawicki and Councilmember Cheryl A. Costantino

MOTIONS PASSED

1) to excuse Mayor Pro tem Sawicki and Councilmember Cheryl A. Costantino from tonight's meeting due to a prior commitment.
2) to receive, approve and file the minutes of the regular City Council meeting held August 10, 2026 and furthermore receive and file the minutes of the Beautification Commission meeting held on June 1, 2026.
3) to add to the agenda the "Draft" Procurement Policy for the City of Harper Woods.
4) to accept the 'draft' Procurement Policy for the City of Harper Woods, and further that the City Council acknowledges that the City of Harper Woods Ordinance sets the $5,000.00 expenditure threshold.
5) That the agenda of the regular City Council meeting having been acted upon and with no further business, the meeting is hereby adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED

1) (1) approve the Accounts Payable/Payroll Vendor listing for Check Numbers 135856 through 136038 in the amount of $1,613,180.26 as submitted by the City Manager and Finance Director, and further, authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the listing. (2) approve payment to G2 Consulting Group LLC in the amount of $7,182.00 for their quality control observation and concrete testing services in conjunction with the Storm Sewer Repair project and the Fraser Square project. (3) approve payment to WCA Assessing in the amount of $7,038.50 for the contractual assessing services to be performed during the month of September 2026. (4) approve payment to Anderson, Eckstein & Westrick, Inc. in the amount of $49,838.72 for professional services during the month of August 2026. (5) approve payment to Simplified Business Solutions in the amount of $5,144.84 for the email hosting, security and backups of our computer system for the month of August and for IT support services for all departments. (6) approve payment to Bendzinski & Co. in the amount of $21,950.00 for financial services in conjunction with the 2026 CWSRF Water & Sewer System Revenue Bond. (7) approve payment to Nu Appearance Maintenance, Inc. in the amount of $18,817.00 for contractual lawn cutting, weed maintenance and trash pickup in various areas of the City, including City Hall, the annexes, Library and the Parks. It also includes lawn cuttings at various residential homes that were not in compliance with the Ordinance. (8) approve payment to ARS Services in the amount of $19,626.80 for their assistance with several water main breaks. (9) approve payment to Core & Main in the amount of $21,642.32 for the purchase of water main repair parts to restock the inventory of valves, clamps, gaskets, etc. (10) approve the purchase new Badger meter reading equipment from Blue Water Solutions in the amount of $21,810.00. (11) approve payment to the City of Grosse Pointe Woods in the amount of $91,266.14 for pro-rated share of the Torrey Road pump station charges for the period of January 1, 2026 through June 30, 2026. (12) approve payment to Blue Water Solutions in the amount of $26,099.09 for the purchase of new Badger E series water meters and accessories. (13) approve payment to Duke's Root Control in the amount of $7,751.73 for the cleaning and sanitary line root control treatments at several locations. (14) approve payment to Guardian Underground in the amount of $17,100.00 for their assistance with several water main breaks, stop box repairs and a water shut off. (15) approve payment to Wolverine Contractors in the amount $5,511.88 for the delivery of crushed concrete following several main breaks and for the removal of main break spoils. (16) approve payment to Uni-Dig Inc. in the amount of $8,760.00 for brush and leaf disposal. approve payment to Turf and Timber LLC in the amount of $44,500.00 for the removal and trimming of trees and site clean up at several locations. (17) approve the purchase of ten (10) PC's with three-year warranties' for City Department use in the amount of $11,796.30 from Simplified Business Solutions. (18) approve payment to SAFEbuilt LLC in the amount of $51,828.55 for the contractual building department services performed during the month of August 2026.
2) to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Harper Woods Fire Fighter's Association Local 1188 for the contract term of January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2028, and further authorize the Mayor and City Manager to sign the agreement on behalf of the City of Harper Woods.
3) to approve payment to Great Lakes Contracting Solutions, LLC in the amount of $7,889.73 for Progress Payment No. 2 on the 2026 Storm Sewer Repair Project, #180-389.
4) to approve payment to L. Anthony Construction Inc. in the amount of $303,064.10 for Progress Payment No. 3 on the Concrete Pavement Repair Project, #180-388.
5) to approve the purchase of a used 2003 Sterling Vactor Truck from the City of Grosse Pointe Park in the amount of $25,000.00.
6) to approve the purchase of a used 2016 Mobark Brush Chipper from the City of Grosse Pointe Park in the amount of $20,000.00.
7) to approve the purchase of a 2024 Ford Toolbox Truck, that includes a 3-5 year warranty in the amount of $66,000.00 from MacQueen Group Company.
8) to approve payment in the amount of $8,477.50 to Superior Excavating Inc. and $54,098.55 to T & M Asphalt and Paving Inc. for the emergency repairs to the catch basin and street panels on Van Antwerp for a total amount of $62,576.05.

Valerie Kindle, Mayor

Leslie M. Frank, City Clerk

Published: GPN, September 17, 2026

Grosse Pointe News THURSDAY COMICS

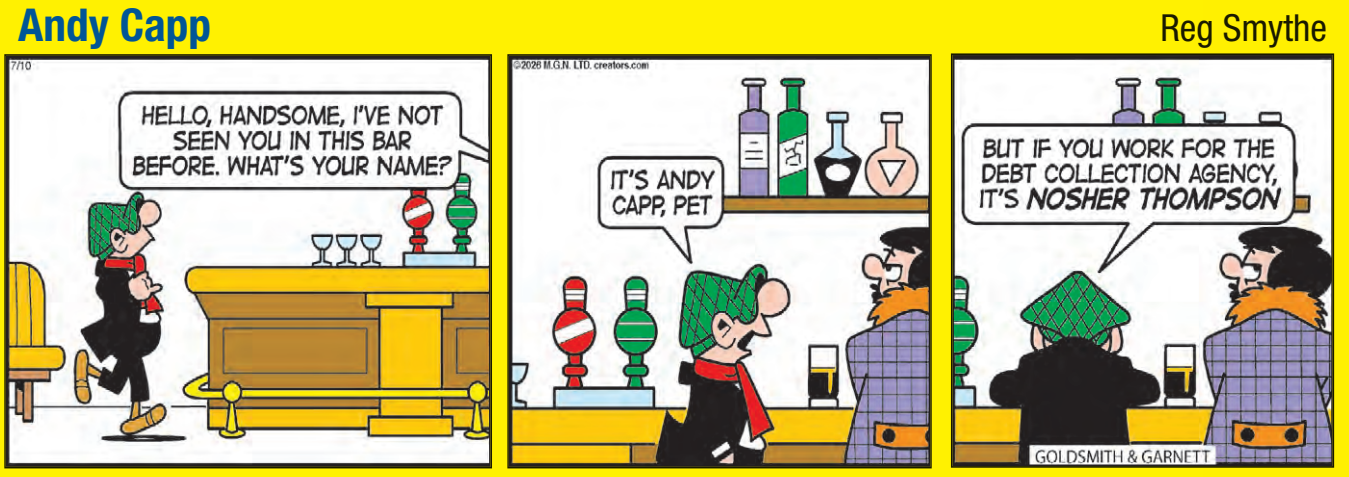
Peanuts
Charles M. Schulz



Bizarro
Dan Piraro and Wayno



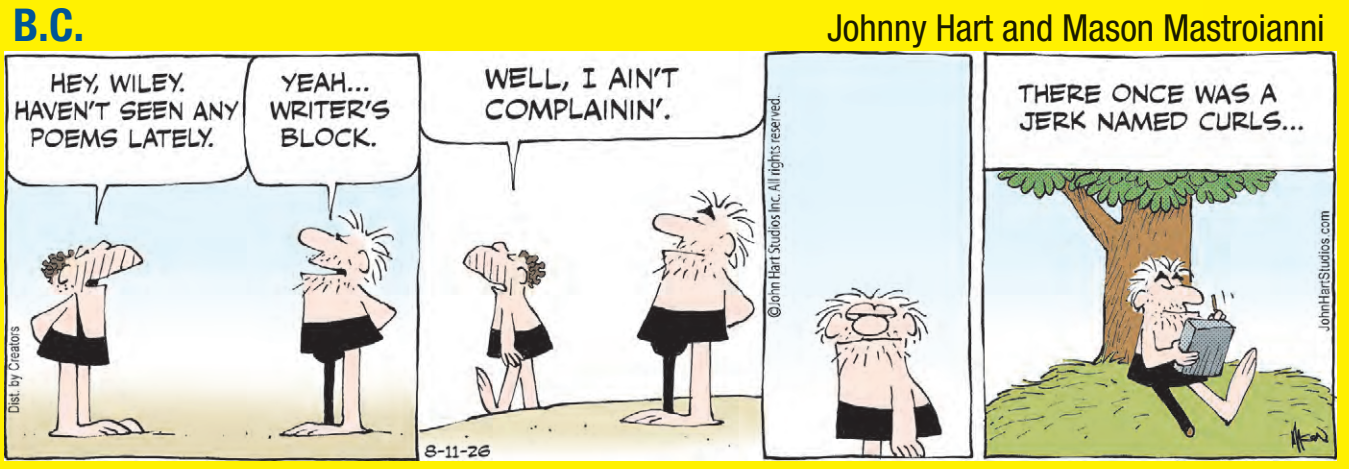
Andy Capp
Reg Smythe



The Flying McCoys
Gary & Glenn McCoy



B.C.
Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni



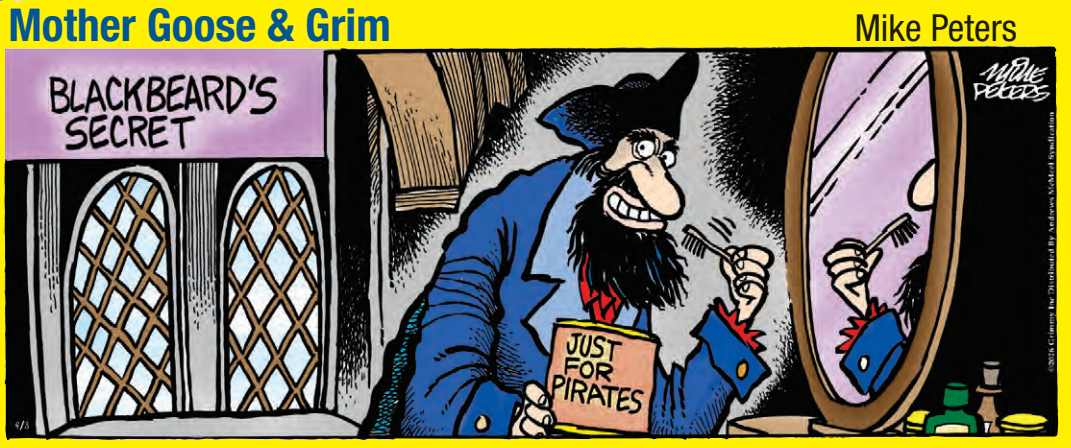
Reality Check
Dave Whamond



Beetle Bailey
Greg, Brian, Neal and Mort Walker



Mother Goose & Grim
Mike Peters

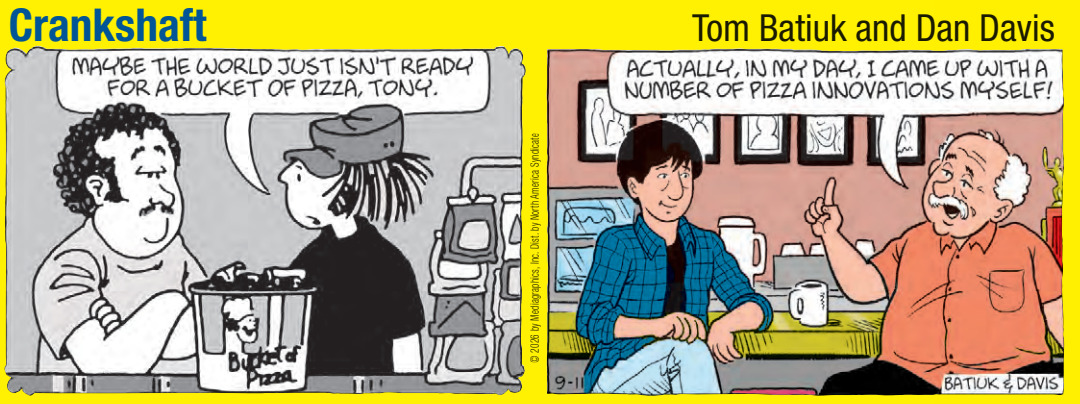


The Lockhorns
Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner

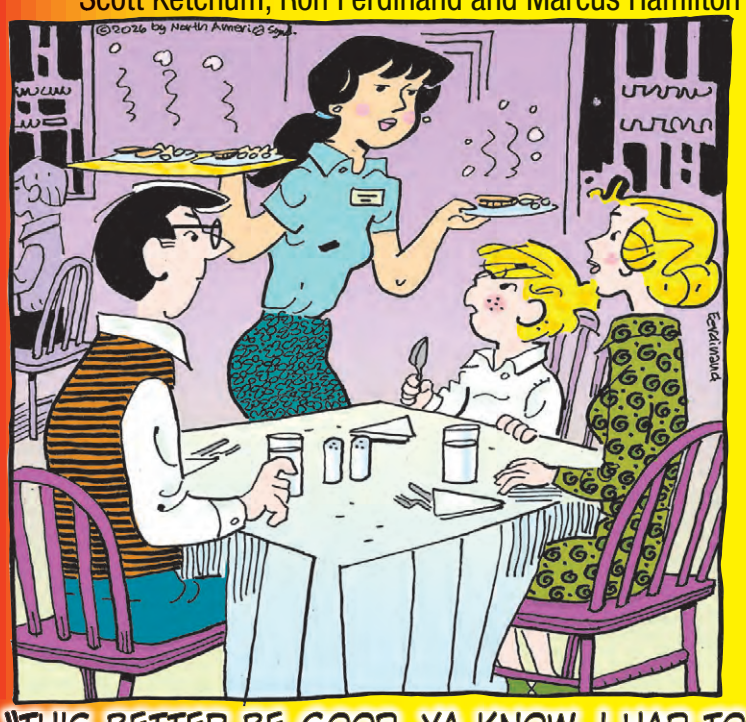


"LEROY AND I ARE HOMEBODIES... MOSTLY TO JUSTIFY OUR PAYING FOR ALL THOSE STREAMING SERVICES."

Crankshaft
Tom Batiuk and Dan Davis

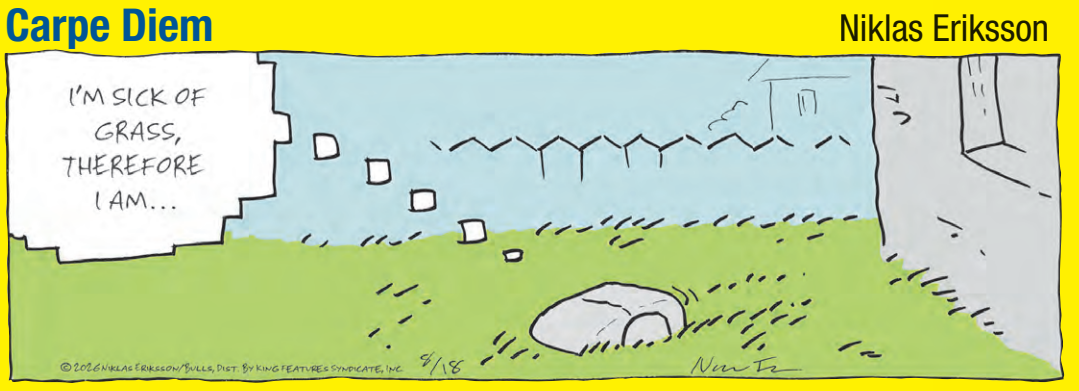


Dennis the Menace
Hank Ketchum, Scott Ketchum, Ron Ferdinand and Marcus Hamilton



"THIS BETTER BE GOOD. YA KNOW, I HAD TO TAKE A *BATH* TO COME HERE!"

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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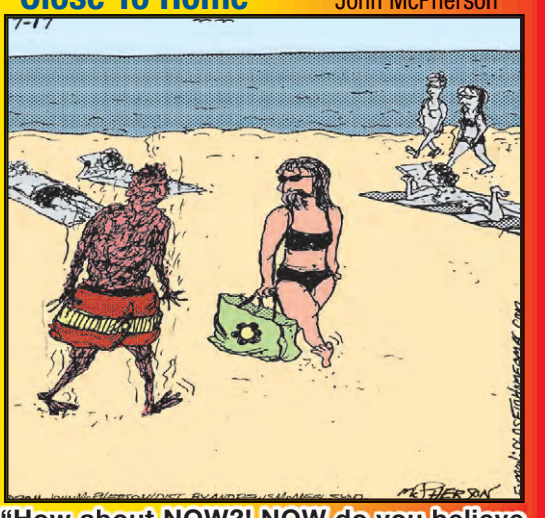
Close To Home

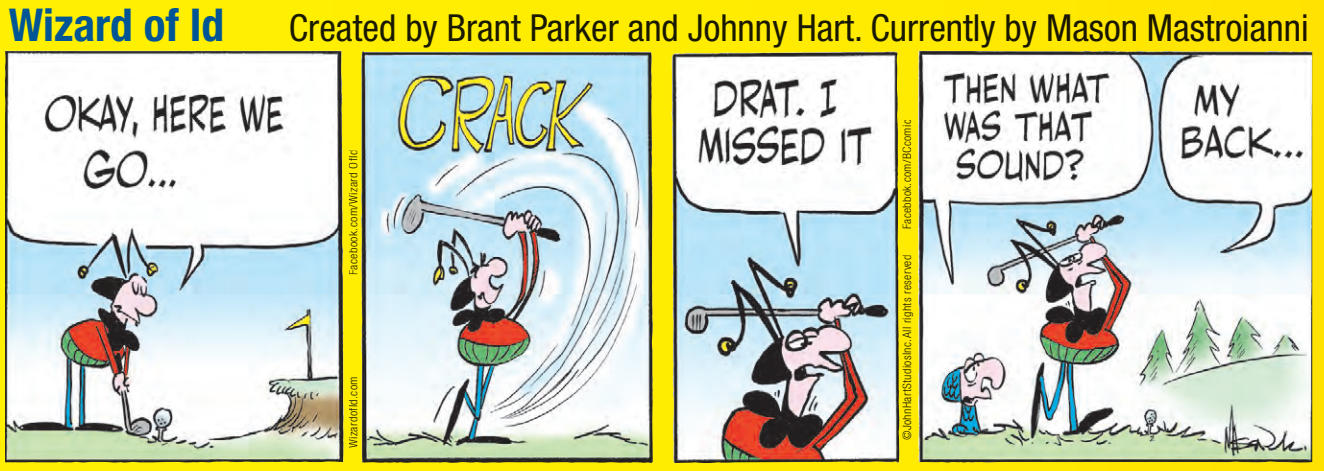
John McPherson



"How about NOW?! NOW do you believe you should avoid the sun when you are on antibiotics?"

Wizard of Id

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



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Wizardofid.com
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Facebook.com/BCcomic

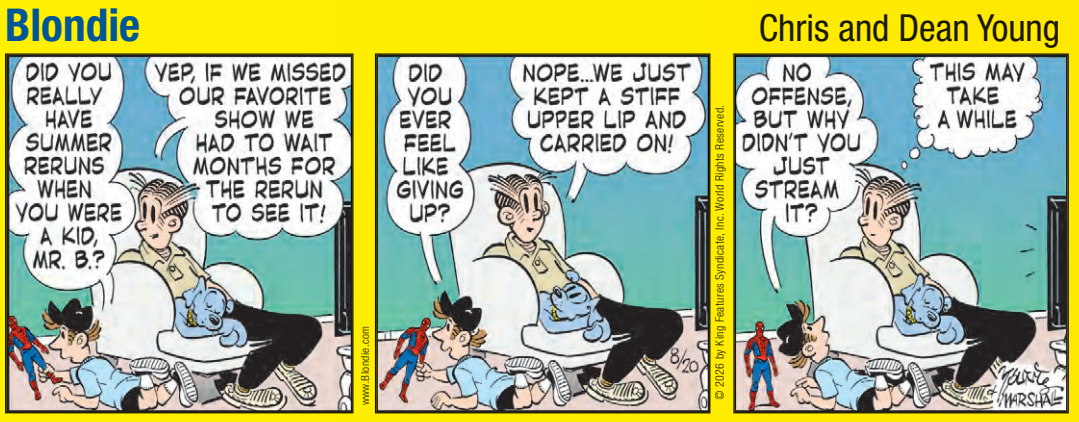
Ziggy

Tom Wilson



Blondie

Chris and Dean Young



www.Blondie.com
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Marmaduke

Paul & Brad Anderson



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"On the plus side, you'll never be late for work."

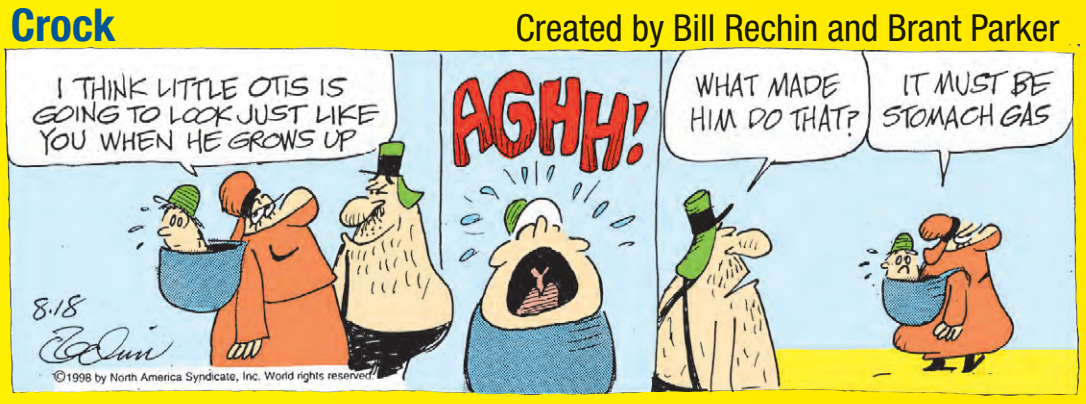
Over The Hedge

Michael Fry and T. Lewis



Crock

Created by Bill Rechin and Brant Parker



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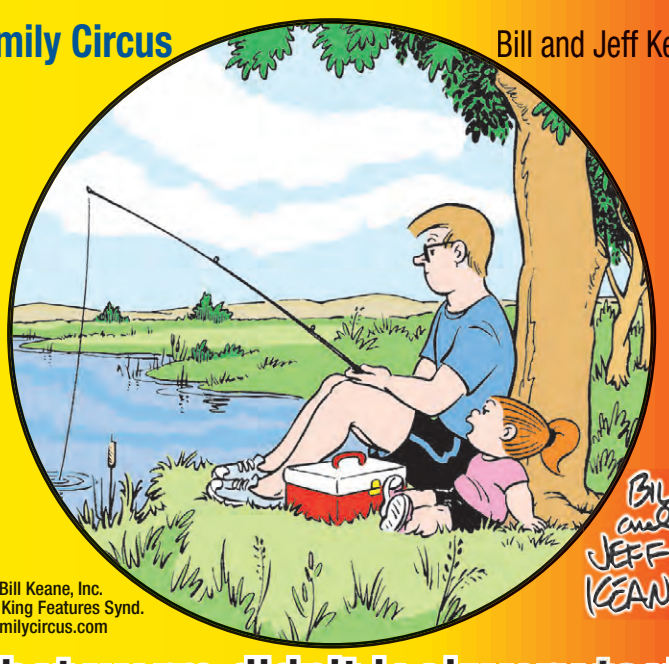
Family Circus

Bill and Jeff Keane



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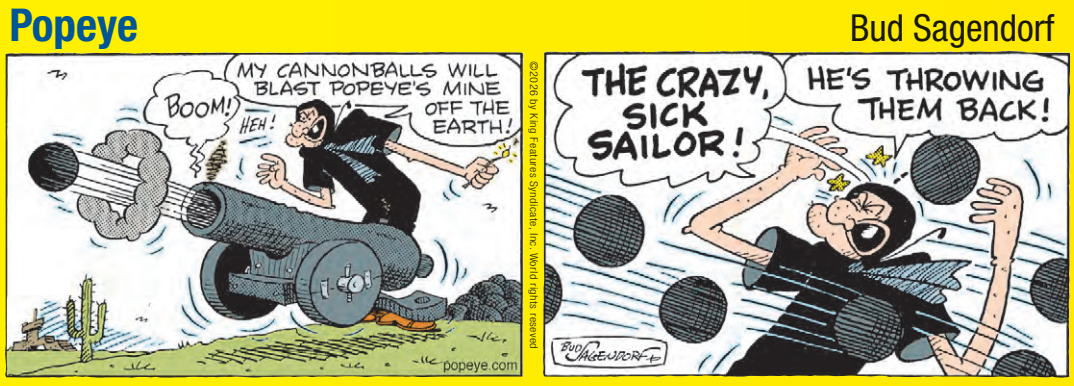
www.familycircus.com

"That worm didn't look very tasty to me either."

Popeye

Bud Sagendorf



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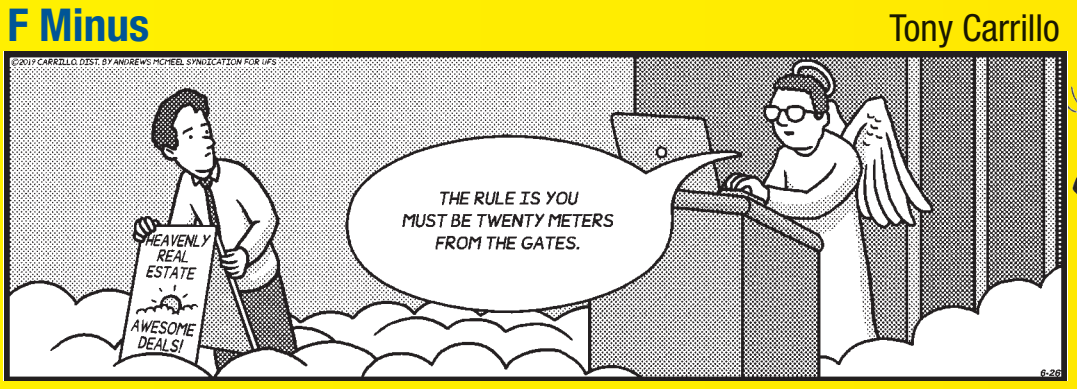
F Minus

Tony Carrillo





South tennis makes statement against top competition

By Anne Gryzenia
Publisher

Grosse Pointe South's boys varsity tennis team put together one of its strongest performances of the season Saturday, Sept. 12, proving the Blue Devils can compete with some of the top teams in Division 2.

South finished near the top of a loaded eight-team field, trailing Birmingham Seaholm and finishing just behind Midland Dow. The Blue Devils advanced to three championship matches and received strong contributions throughout the lineup.

The highlight came at No. 3 doubles, where Weston Jerabek and Davis Gryzenia captured the championship in a thrilling three-set battle with Birmingham Seaholm. After splitting the first two sets, the South duo prevailed 6-7, 6-4, 10-8 in the deciding super tiebreaker.

Matthew Bartoszewicz also reached the championship match at No. 1 singles, pushing Seaholm to the limit before falling 10-8 in a third-set tiebreaker.

At No. 4 singles, freshman Jack Gryzenia continued improving his season by reaching the championship match. Gryzenia earned his spot in the final with a dramatic 12-10 victory over Midland Dow in a third-set tiebreaker.

South's depth was on display throughout the tournament as well. Nate Yeamans, Oscar DeLuca and Henry Logan, and Max Prather and Luke Brennan each rebounded from opening-round losses to win their respective back draws.

Zaffran Bharucha added another strong performance with a three-set victory over Forest Hills Central, while Matthew Guthat and Peter Struck finished third at No. 4 doubles.

"This was a huge confidence builder for us," head coach Brian Kean said. "Seaholm and Dow are two of the best teams in Division 2 and today showed me that we are right there. What excites me most is our depth. We are competing at every flight and every year breaking new records for this team."

The strong tournament performance came just two days after South defeated Romeo 6-2 on Thursday, Sept. 10.

The Blue Devils earned victories at No. 1 and No. 3 singles while sweeping all four doubles flights.

The match's highlight came at No. 3 singles, where Yeamans battled for nearly three hours before earning a hard-fought 7-6(4), 7-6(5) victory. Yeamans held his nerve through two tiebreak sets to secure the win.

South's doubles teams again demonstrated the depth that has become a strength of the program, sweeping the No. 1 through No. 4 doubles flights, all in straight sets.

With strong results against both Romeo and two of the state's top Division 2 programs, the Blue Devils appear to be hitting their stride at an important point in the season.

The performances also provided South with confidence that its lineup can compete from top to bottom — a quality that could prove important as the team moves deeper into the postseason.

South faced L'Anse Creuse on Monday, Sept. 14 and was victorious 8-0. The Blue Devils hosted Eisenhower after press time Wednesday, Sept. 16, and are in action again Thursday, Sept. 17, going on the road to take on Henry Ford II.

Cosm Detroit: A surreal sports experience

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

A couple of years ago, videos began surfacing online of a place called Cosm. The first locations were in Los Angeles and Dallas, and it looked like a truly unique experience for watching sports — like a smaller version of Sphere in Las Vegas, but for sporting events. Now, that one-of-a-kind viewing experience has come to Detroit.



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

The large dome screen inside Cosm Detroit shows the Los Angeles Rams and San Francisco 49ers NFL matchup Thursday, Sept. 10.

Cosm Detroit had its grand opening to the public Thursday, Sept. 10, showing the Los Angeles Rams and San Francisco 49ers game in the opening week of the NFL season. Being seated inside the Cosm dome to watch a football game feels surreal, as if you are watching the game from the front row of the stadium while also being inside an upscale sports bar.

The facility itself at Cosm Detroit feels modern and fresh. The staff was friendly and helpful for the most part. Just getting to walk around inside and see both the dome and the giant walls of screens showing more sporting events on the other side of the building gave that sort of good overstimulated feeling that sports fans enjoy.

There are different tiers of the Cosm experience. Reserved seats in "The Hall," the side opposite the dome with various screens showing all kinds of sports similar to what you might see in a casino sportsbook area, are available. There also are general admission tickets that let people walk around and explore the building, but at that point it may just feel like you are buying admission to a very nice sports bar.

The dome, however, is the star of the show. If you are going to Cosm, this is where you want to be. Dome seating is reserved with assigned seats and prices vary based on the type of event. Depending on what you are willing to spend, getting to experience the Cosm dome for a football game or other sporting event is worth it for the uniqueness and novelty of it. Even for people who are not sports fans, Cosm also offers special "Shared Reality" movie showings of "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone" and "The Matrix."

Watching a game in the dome, you are not seeing just the traditional television broadcast. There are two smaller screens at the top of the dome that show the main broadcast, but the majority of the dome screen is dedicated to special camera angles that are meant to make it feel like you are inside the stadium.

For this game, the camera angles mostly came from the sidelines behind the bench and from cameras on the goalposts in either end zone. The end zone cameras are where the dome experience especially shines. Once a team is close to the end zone, you get an up-close look at how the play unfolds and get to see touchdowns scored right in front of you.

Ticket prices vary based on the event. For reserved dome seating for an NFL or college football game that does not involve any local Detroit or Michigan teams, the average ticket price seems to be around $60 to $80. Tickets for something like a Detroit Lions game, however, can be in the hundreds of dollars.

As for the rest of the Cosm experience, be prepared to pay a premium for the location. There are several bars located throughout each of the three levels of the building. Reserved seating inside the dome area comes with wait staff service directly to your seat — and that is where you will spend at least $10 for any kind of alcoholic beverage. Food is marked up a bit for what is relatively average sports bar fare like burgers, fries, wings, giant pretzels, etc.

For what is a more expensive night out, experiencing Cosm at least once could be worth it for both big sports fans and those who are just curious about seeing a game in a way you cannot experience at home. Cosm Detroit is here and the experience is unlike any other.

NORTH:

Continued from page 3D

sion to make it 15-0 North.

The Norsemen added three more points to the board in the second quarter on a 42-yard field goal by Ben Savich. However, those would end up being North's final points of the night. The Rams were able to score later in the second quarter and add a field goal of their own to eventually make the score 18-10 going into halftime.

Lamphere quarterback Braylon Cox added a rushing touchdown late in the third quarter to bring the score to 18-16, with the Rams missing a two-point conversion in an attempt to tie the game.

Lamphere took the lead in the fourth quarter, scoring a touchdown with just over eight minutes remaining. The Rams added a field goal later, while North was unable to muster a comeback.

North's record falls to 2-1 so far this season following the loss. The Norsemen look to bounce back in Week 4 when they return home for another MAC Gold Division matchup. North hosts Warren Fitzgerald Friday, Sept. 18, at 7 p.m.

Now is the best time to have alterations or replacement done to your boiler-heating-AC-plumbing and electrical projects that are needed

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1. The weather is favorable. Having it done now won't cause the inconvenience of being unable to heat your home if it goes down during colder weather.

2. Upgrading your old boiler to a more efficient system will save you money in the long run.

3. Equipment and materials have gone up but who knows if it may go up more.

4. We can handle any other home repairs such as electrical — plumbing — A/C — drain cleaning — drain repairs — waterproofing — flood clean up — restoration — remodeling and insurance claims.

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Expires December 31, 2026

$200 OFF ANY NEW FURNACE OR AIR CONDITIONER
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