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Grosse Pointe News

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

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ONE DOLLAR (DELIVERY 95¢)

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OCTOBER 15, 2026
GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

Scooter battery likely cause of garage fire

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Not that electric scooters and bikes need more of a bad rap as safety hazards, but one powered by a lithium-ion battery was judged the source of a fire last week that destroyed a detached two-car residential garage.

The fire prompted more than the automatic second alarm specified in the Grosse Pointe-Harper Woods mutual-aid agreement.

Public safety officers from a third Grosse Pointe department helped douse flames threatening neighboring structures, including single-family houses.

"As of now, the fire remains under investigation, though a preliminary investigation indicates the cause appears to be the lithium-ion battery of an e-scooter catching fire," said Park Sgt. Stephen Thiel, public information officer, in a news release.

"E-bikes and electric scooters commonly use lithium-ion batteries, which can overheat and ignite if they are defective, damaged, improperly modified or charged with an incompatible charger," Public Safety Director Jim Bostock said. "These fires can spread rapidly and pose a serious threat to occupants, neighboring properties and first responders."

He urged owners to

See FIRE, page 10A



From left, Scott Foster and Max Roeske are honored with proclamations for their life-saving efforts by Grosse Pointe Farms Mayor John Gillooly.

PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

DPW workers honored for lifesaving efforts

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — Rick Braun, an eight-year employee of the Farms public services department, is pretty good-natured about his near-death experience while on the job.

"Scott looked like the movie 'Carrie,'" Braun joked Monday night, while recalling how his two co-workers were doused in his blood when an artery in his arm was punctured in early September and instantly began spurting blood several feet into the air.

Co-workers Scott Foster and Max Roeske were honored before Grosse Pointe Farms City Council Monday, Oct. 12, with mayoral proclamations for their decisiveness, courage and selfless action in saving the life of a colleague.

The three men were working a refuse truck on Moran around 8 a.m. Friday, Sept. 4, when a discarded broken piece of glass from a picture frame led to the freak accident.

Though it previously was reported that the glass was concealed within a heavy-duty Glad bag, Braun on Monday clarified it was actually laid out individually next to the frame on the garbage pile.

"It was pouring rain and I had rubber gloves," he said. "Well, I went to

See EFFORTS, page 2A

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Wrong-headed water meter replacements

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — A contractor mistakenly swapped out nearly 600 water meters during the opening round of city-wide meter upgrades.

"These meters were not intended to be included in the first phase of the project, as the meters were already compatible with new software," said Tom Jenny, head of public works.

Some 597 meters were involved.

"Thank God we caught it at 597," he told members of city council Oct. 12. "It could have been a lot worse."

The mix-up wasn't noticed until recently.

As late as Sept. 4, Councilman Max Wiener, chairman of the infrastructure committee, wrote in his monthly newsletter, "Water meter changeouts are coming along well. If you haven't yet received a notice letter, watch your mailbox; they should be coming soon."

This week he said, "You make a mistake once, you learn from it. You make a mistake twice, you've got a problem."

> *'These meters were not intended to be included in the first phase of the project, as the meters were already compatible with new software.'*
>
> TOM JENNY
> *Grosse Pointe Park Public Works Supervisor*

He said the error was caused by the contractor replacing entire meter assemblies rather than just the top part, or head.

"More than meter heads will roll," Mayor Michele Hodges said.

Meters were bought from Core & Main and installed by its contractor, VEPO Solutions.

"Since the issue was identified, (city administrators), Core & Main and VEPO have been working together to come to a solution, replacing the 597 master meters that were removed and developing a contingency plan to keep the scope of work on track," Jenny said.

No one during the council meeting said anything overtly about legal action.

"This is not our liability," Hodges said. "It's theirs. They should shoulder the cost."

"To address the error, Core & Main has provided cost-saving measures to allow us to complete the project, as well as covering all installation costs associated with replacing the 597 meters," Jenny said.

Company officials also offered to supply the city with 1,000 discounted meters through 2027.

See METERS, page 9A

Public meeting set for seawall restoration plan

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS AND SHORES — The Farms and Shores are moving forward with a feasibility study, as well as the engineering and design phases of a plan to use nature-based techniques to address the eroding shoreline along three miles of Lakeshore from approximately Warner to the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club.

Before they do, the two cities will host a public information meeting at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 21, in the Pier Park Community Building, 350 Lakeshore.

Residents will have the opportunity to learn more about the project, including the feasibility study, proposed restoration approaches, coastal resilience considerations and next steps in the engineering and design process.

There also will be time to ask questions and provide feedback to representatives of the project team.

"This project provides an important opportunity to take a long-term, nature-based approach to protecting our shoreline while also improving aquatic habitat," Farms City Manager Shane Reeside said in a release. "We are particularly excited about the opportunity to examine how coastal restoration can improve resilience to changing lake conditions while creating environmental benefits for Lake St. Clair. We also look forward to hearing from residents and the community as the project moves through the feasibility and design process."

The plans first were made public in February, when the two cities learned they had received an $870,000 fully funded grant through the Great Lakes Commission and the Michigan Department of

See SEAWALL, page 3A



See what's new around town for Halloween

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Pointer of INTEREST



Robert Lubera
Home: Grosse Pointe Farms
Estate planning, art law attorney

See story, page 4A

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New waste hauler off to good start

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — The city's new rubbish contractor, Express Waste Services, lived up to its name on its inaugural run in the city.

"The first day, Express was in the community at 7 a.m. and done by 12:20 p.m.," City Manager Nick Sizeland said. "They even picked up Priority Waste's (the prior contractor) collections they'd missed in days prior, all within five hours."

Express supplanted Priority Thursday, Oct. 1.

The first-day pace thwarted plans by Joe Munem, Express' director of government affairs and public relations, to commemorate the debut.

"I was going to take pictures and videos," Munem said. "I figured I had a little time, but by the time I got there, the truck was picking up the last house of the morning. I didn't get any pictures. They exceeded my expectations."

Park officials hired Express in mid-July in response to unresolved problems with the prior contractor.

"Like many communities, we experienced issues with service," Sizeland said.

Due to a tight market for haulers of rubbish, yard waste and recycled materials, it took about three months to make the change.

"At first, we got no competitive bids," Sizeland said. "So, we resubmitted and got a competitive bid, one from Priority and one from Express."

City administration and council members interviewed representatives of both firms.

"We asked tough questions about service reliability, equipment, scheduling and communication," Sizeland said.

Express won despite costing $17.60 per customer per month, or $2.10 more than Priority's offer.

"Due to challenges we experienced with Priority — and they were not improving as fast as we'd like — we decided to take a chance with Express," Sizeland said.

The company had municipal contracts with Bloomfield Hills and St. Clair Shores prior to signing with the Park.

"I talked to both city managers from both cities and reviewed with them their feedback on Express," Sizeland said. "They had nothing but good things to say."

"Last Thursday, we were awarded Sylvan Lake in Oakland County starting Nov. 1," Munem said. "Every one of these communities were previously Priority's. I think these communities decided they had a certain experience and are now concerned with having good service. St. Clair Shores relied on great stuff they heard from Bloomfield Hills. Similarly, with Grosse Pointe Park and Sylvan Lake."

Express' 7 a.m. deployments are a wake-up call to some customers.

"When we started St. Clair Shores, our single biggest problem in the transition was a lot of people didn't put their trash out," Munem said. "Because of the previous hauler being so late, they

See WASTE, page 8A

Three Pointes re-up with Priority Waste for recycling

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE CITY, FARMS & SHORES — The City, Farms and Shores last month each approved a joint five-year renewal — with the option for annual review — with Priority Waste for recycling services.

Grosse Pointe Park, which used to be part of the joint contract, in July opted for new provider Express Waste Services, despite its being the higher bidder. While the other three Pointes also obtained a quote from Express, they ultimately went with Priority as a cost-saving measure.

"There has been significant media attention regarding service issues with Priority Waste," noted a memo to council written by Farms City Manager Shane Reeside. "Most of those issues have involved solid waste collection, which Grosse Pointe Farms handles in-house. While there have been some past issues with recycling collection, Priority Waste's new management team has been responsive in addressing those concerns."

The contract, for the first year, contains an approximately 2 percent increase from the

See PRIORITY, page 8A

EFFORTS:

Continued from page 1A

pick the glass up, but it started slipping out of my hand, so as it slipped down, I just bent down to grab a better grip. When I bent down, (the glass) just pinched a little hole (in my arm just above my elbow), but blood was shooting to the ground like a hose."

He called what happened next, "calm, controlled chaos."

It was so calm, in fact, that the 911 call had responding officers expecting a far less dire situation than actually was taking place.

The moment it happened, Braun knew to elevate his arm over his head and apply as much pressure as possible. Roeske, in the cab of the truck, noticed immediately, ran to Braun and took off his own shirt to wrap it tightly around the wound. Foster then used his belt to tighten a makeshift tourniquet while the men simultaneously called 911.

"When every second counted, Maxwell and Scott didn't wait," Mayor John Gillooly said. "They didn't freeze. They didn't think twice.

"On behalf of the city council and our entire community, city administration and our residents, thank you. We're proud of you. We're grateful for you."

Braun referred to the two men as "Johnny-on-the-spot," saying no one panicked and Roeske's instincts as a longtime Boy Scout certainly kicked in.

He estimates he lost about a quart and a half to two quarts of blood.

"I poured a beer a couple days later and I'm like, 'Well, there was more than this pint,'" he said by way of casual measurement.

Nineteen-year-old Officer Paul Lyke, who was the first to respond, applied a tourniquet and rushed Braun to Henry Ford St. John Hospital in the back of his squad car, also is up for a life-saving award by his department.

"He drove fast and furious," Braun said. "They were waiting for us when we got to the hospital. I'd say we got there in one minute, it seemed. They got me right in and they had a whole team ready."

From there, he added, it was a rather anticlimactic affair.

Physicians informed him the artery self-clots on either end and other blood vessels automatically rejoin with it farther down.

He was given X-rays, some stitches and sat in a dark room for four hours before being sent on his way.

Braun since has made a full recovery, including complete arm function, and has a small scar to show for it.

"It didn't look like much after," he said. "But it was something big during, something to behold."

The accident occurred on a Friday and he was back to work the following Wednesday.

The Farms public services department, he said, is a joy to be a part of.

"There are 20 guys," he said, "and you've got 20 guys who really, really, truly love each other."











Village Market donates to McKinley block party

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — For McKinley residents on the first block off Mack, there are perks to living next to a specialty grocery store.

Village Market the last several years has donated to McKinley's annual block party, which this year fell on Saturday, Sept. 26.

While the block's youngest residents made good use of the bounce house, Village Market's catering team pulled up with mini-sandwich platters, lavash-roll platters, fruit and berry platters, mini-cookie platters, pepperoni pizzas, pigs in a blanket, thick-cut seasoned fries and a popcorn machine — complete with a tent from which to serve it all.

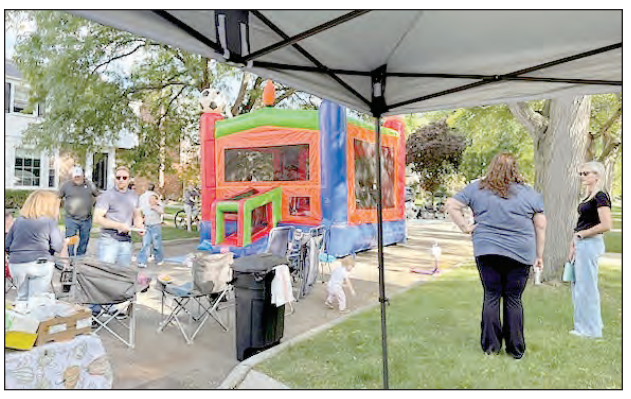
"We made everything, donated everything and delivered everything," said Laurie Stempien, catering specialist. "It's the way Village Market works in the Grosse Pointe communities and not just the Farms."





COURTESY PHOTOS

Neighbors on McKinley got together for a block party last month, complete with food donated by Village Market.





Shannon McCullough, one of McKinley's newer residents, helped to organize the effort.

"We're the first block off Mack, so a lot of us go into the store a lot," she said. "A lot of my neighbors know folks there by name. … It's definitely a good little partnership between the folks on the block and them."

The market also is interested in partnering with organizations for a cause, such as breast cancer awareness, Stempien said.

"I think about the holidays coming up, food insecurities and so many other things," she said. "I'm not saying we can do everything for everybody, but we want to get out there.

"Mark Garmo, who owns the company, is one of the reasons why I work for Village Market. He is the most incredible human and he is the person who says, 'What do you need? Is that enough? Can I get you more?' And that is Village Market."

— Laurel Kraus

Halloween in the Park a likely sellout

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Advance ticket sales for Halloween in the Park Saturday, Oct. 24, point to another sellout for residents.

There are three time slots: 3:30, 4 and 4:30 p.m. Tickets cost $15 per child in advance and $20 the day of the event.

Halloween in the Park is at Windmill Pointe Park. Recreation department employees set up a decorated walkway intended for costumed children ages 10 and younger to make their way from station to station for candy and toys.

"At the end of the trail, each child will be able to pick out a small pumpkin and enjoy a doughnut," according to a city flyer.

"We'll have about 30 stations or so," said Chad Craig, director of parks and recreation. "We have groups, such as the Girl Scouts, that have tables. The Pierce Middle School robotics team is going to have a station. We always have a lot of community buy-in."

Tickets started selling Sept. 28.

"We'll have 200 tickets available for each time slot," Craig said.

Half are sold online through secure.rec1.com/mi/grosse-pointe-park-mi/catalog.

The other half are physical tickets purchased at the Lavins Activity Center front desk.

"If we see we are selling out online, we can pull some tickets from the physical stack to keep these available for residents," Craig said.

Businesses can sponsor a table for $75.

"They have to submit what they want to hand out to adults at their table, a business card or something along those lines," Craig said. "We'll also have residents talking about the parks and recreation millage (on the Nov. 3 ballot) along with the recreation commission. They'll hand out flyers regarding the millage. I'm looking forward to providing a lot of community members with millage information."

Halloween in the Park is sponsored by the Park Grill.

"A big, special thank you to the Park Grill and (owner) Adi Kokoshi," Craig said. "He's been sponsoring this three years in a row."

SEAWALL:

Continued from page 1A

Environment, Great Lakes and Energy to conduct a comprehensive feasibility study on the three-mile stretch of seawall and identify best options.

The cities are leaning toward the creation of a living shoreline, which recently was done at Ford House and along Lake St. Clair at Brandenburg Park in Chesterfield Township.

A living shoreline can take many different forms, but typically protects against erosion by using stabilizing natural components such as rock, sand and plants rather than man-made deterrents like the current concrete seawall. Its approach aims to improve nearshore fish and wildlife habitat, while simultaneously enhancing the shoreline's resilience to wave action, fluctuating water levels and erosion.

Engineering firm Hubbell, Roth & Clark will begin the local study by conducting site assessments along the shoreline to evaluate locations where failing seawall and other hardened shoreline features may be replaced or supplemented with nature-based restoration techniques.

The firm then will move on to engineering and design for selected pilot restoration locations.

The Week Ahead

MONDAY, OCT. 19

- Grosse Pointe Woods Planning Commission subcommittee meeting, 3 p.m.
- City of Grosse Pointe City Council meeting, 7 p.m.
- Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education meeting, 7 p.m.
- Grosse Pointe Woods City Council meeting, 7 p.m.

TUESDAY, OCT. 20

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

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 21

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

THURSDAY, OCT. 22

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

SATURDAY, OCT. 24

- General election early voting begins, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

TED RONEY



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Architecturally significant home spurs artistic odyssey

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer





COURTESY PHOTOS

Right, Robert and Mary Lubera — Mary's wearing a dress designed by Robert — stand in front of one of the iconic blue brick walls within their Alexander Girard home. Above, the Alexander Girard home at the corner of Vendome and Grosse Pointe Boulevard that propelled the couple on a nearly two-decade journey into architecture and the arts.

The trajectory of Robert Lubera's life changed dramatically when he and his wife, Mary, purchased their home at the corner of Vendome and Grosse Pointe Boulevard 17 years ago.

"Mary and I, I like to say we agree on everything except on houses," the native Grosse Pointer said.

The couple was on the house hunt for years, at a time before Zillow, and wasn't able to find one they both liked until Lubera stumbled upon a 1950 Japanese-style midcentury modern home in the Farms, set back from the busy boulevard and shrouded by a Japanese garden.

The home, they would come to learn, was designed by renowned architect Alexander Girard: an influential figure in the midcentury modern era, who was textile director at Herman Miller; collaborated with innovators such as Eero Saarinen, Charles and Ray Eames, George Nelson and Minoru Yamasaki; and is known for his style of blending architecture, art, color and craft into modern design.

"We always knew that it was Alexander Girard, but we didn't know who Alexander Girard was," Lubera said. "The Girard family, they didn't know this house was still standing and neither did the scholars, so this is one of those perfect lost-and-found situations.

"The aha moment was when the people who knew that this house was still standing connected with the people who knew who Alexander Girard was."



An untitled piece of art by Lubera. "My goal is to incorporate my art into more private residences, but also expand it into hospitality spaces, whether that could include boutique hotels, restaurants or corporate collections," he said, "and I am always interested in partnering with those who can assist with that goal."

The home is a single-floor wood and glass structure with more window than wall built around a fully enclosed center courtyard. It is set at an angle so during the summer, direct sunlight does not enter the home through the large courtyard windows, yet "at the height of the winter, all the leaves are gone and 80 percent of the room is covered in sunlight," Lubera said. "It's like Miami Beach in there. You don't even need to heat the room in the winter."

Shoji doors complement accent walls of yellow, blue and red glazed brick, which adorn portions of the interior and exterior.

As it turns out, Girard was the color consultant for the architecturally significant GM Technical Center on Mound Road, where the campus incorporates millions of red, blue, yellow and orange glazed bricks.

GM archivists confirmed it is the same Claycraft brick and glaze as the walls in the Vendome home, which likely were used by Girard as a test run, being that it was not mass-produced and installed in the GM Tech Center until years after the house was built.

"Nobody knew anything about this," Lubera said. "I had people say, 'You've got to paint over that,' and thank goodness we didn't."

The home's impact continues to echo outward, having positively influenced many people, including Lubera's son, John, who was almost 2 when the family moved in, and Lubera's sister, Deborah, whose appreciation for the house inspired her book on Alexander Girard's architecture.

Though Lubera — who by day is an estate planning and estate and trust administration attorney — grew up surrounded by art and a mother who is a well-respected miniaturist, it was the Girard house that ignited in him an active inclination toward the arts.

The year they bought the house and concurrently dove headfirst down the Alexander Girard rabbit hole, Rob and Mary began hosting an annual art party based on the concept of Royal Oak's Arts, Beats and Eats festival.

Eventually developing into an organization called Art Impact Connect, Lubera's physician father and a close family friend would partner for an annual piano-violin duet and a different artist each year would be given free rein to display their work throughout the house.

Some artists were well known and for others, it was the first show they ever held. Mediums spanned sculpture, oils, pastels, photography and even a dance company, which placed interpretive dancers in locations throughout the home.

Though the annual art party ended with the arrival of the pandemic, the couple continue to welcome groups interested in architecture and art to tour their home.

They've opened their doors to the Frank Lloyd Wright Conservancy, Cranbrook Art Museum, the Detroit Institute of Arts and even national groups.

Last week, Christie's auction house hosted an

See ODYSSEY, page 5A

It's time again for us to search for the reader photos that best capture the spirit of the Pointes — for our upcoming 2027 calendar!



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PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

City of Grosse Pointe

Open for business

Three unlocked vehicles in the 500 block of University were rummaged through at 4 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 4. A coin pouch and vehicle information were stolen.

Jewelry heist

Three pieces of jewelry, worth $30,000, were discovered stolen from a home's rear bedroom in the 700 block of St. Clair Tuesday, Oct. 6.

Lights out

After being found slumped over the wheel of his illegally parked vehicle on Maumee near Neff at 8:50 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 7, a 39-year-old Novi man was arrested for operating while intoxicated.

— Laurel Kraus

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

Grosse Pointe Woods

Porch pirate

A neighbor observed five black men walking in the 1800 block of Prestwick around 4:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 9, before one of them stole two packages from a nearby porch.

She yelled at them, causing them to flee in a dark sedan. She couldn't get a license plate number because the plate was covered by plastic.

The homeowner told officers the packages were valued at $300.

Stolen vehicle

A resident in the 1300 block of Hollywood told officers his car was stolen sometime overnight into Saturday, Oct. 10, while it was parked in the street.

His keys and wallet were in the vehicle, which was recovered later in the day in Detroit.

Unlocked

A resident in the 1500 block of Hampton told officers someone rummaged through his unlocked vehicle while it was parked in his driveway sometime overnight into Saturday, Oct. 10.

Around $2 in loose change was taken.

—Ted O'Neil

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

Grosse Pointe Farms

Misplaced blame

A 70-year-old Farms woman intending to swing by the post office at 3:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 5, told officers her car started acting weird as she backed out of her Roland driveway and reversed into a tree.

When the officer noticed an odor of intoxicants, she said she'd had one glass of wine. A preliminary breath test revealed her blood alcohol content to be 0.18 percent, for which she was arrested.

Shattered glass

An employee in the 18000 block of Mack discovered her pink Jeep Wrangler's rear window had been shattered when she went to retrieve a blanket from her car at 11:31 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 6.

Dirt bike

A 20-year-old Farms man was cited for driving an unregistered vehicle at 3:52 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 6, after an officer observed him riding a yellow Suzuki dirt bike without visible registration back and forth in the Mack alley between Kerby and Moross.

The man said he was testing it out after having done work on it and confirmed it was unregistered.

In a hurry

A 27-year-old Detroit woman told an officer she did not have enough time to stop at the light, after she was seen driving through a solid red light on Mack at 10:35 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 7.

During the arrest process due to a suspended license and no insurance, a gun was found under the front seat. She told officers it was registered to her, but she does not have a concealed carry permit.

— Laurel Kraus

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

Grosse Pointe Park

Tool theft

Some $2,000 worth of tools was stolen between midnight and 8 a.m. Monday, Oct. 5, from a work van parked in front of a residence in the 1300 block of Somerset.

Whoever did it broke the van's driver-side window to gain entry.

Stolen were a DeWalt reciprocating saw, miter saw, table saw, power drill and a Bosch circular saw.

Bike stolen

A Kingbull electric bike valued at $400 was reported stolen last week while parked in the driveway of a house in the 1300 block of Maryland.

The theft reportedly happened between 6 and 6:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 5.

— Brad Lindberg

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

Grosse Pointe Shores

Scam calls

Officers received several reports from residents recently who received calls claiming they owed bond money for missing jury duty and asking them to bring cash to a specific location.

The caller also tried to keep the people on the phone for an extended period of time.

—Ted O'Neil

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

ODYSSEY:

Continued from page 4A

event for art collectors in the home.

"We kind of feel like we run a private museum," Lubera said.

Fittingly, the home incorporates a gallery space, where several of Lubera's own works of art currently hang.

He most recently has been experimenting with giclée artwork on canvas and stretched on wood — pieces which often go unnamed, as he does not want to influence the experience of the viewer — and also has delved into digitally designing textiles for dresses, many of which fill his wife's closets.

"She's my muse," he said.

His ever-expanding interest in art began bleeding into his legal career about eight years ago.

While his practice on The Hill, Lubera & Parnell, PLC — which he shares with Grosse Pointe Park Municipal Judge John Parnell Jr. — primarily focuses on estates, trusts and elder law, Lubera's hyper-specialty is art law, which in Michigan is relatively unheard of.

"I am not in art insurance," Lubera explained. "I am not an art advisor. I do not want to tell who to buy what. I am a lawyer, so if you have an art collection, how do you structure it? Do you put it in an LLC? Do you put it in a trust? How do you get it to the next generation?

"… Some people view artwork emotionally, intrinsically and outside of its monetary value and other people might say after the parents pass, 'But that's a really big check,' so how do you plan for it?"

Lubera, therefore, assists clients with legal issues pertaining to the creation, distribution, ownership, sale and protection of the arts.

"Art law is a small part of the whole, but it's really fun and I love to help people out, especially young artists," he said. "I'm saying to myself, 'Who is looking at their consignment agreements?' I like to protect people, so that is what I do."

Via another avenue of giving back, Lubera has chaired a plethora of boards over the years. He is a past president of the board of directors for The Helm, past chair of the board of directors for the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce and past chair of the Collections and Exhibitions Committee for the Detroit Historical Society. He also has served on many healthcare boards associated with Ascension and Henry Ford Health.

Lubera currently serves on the Henry Ford Health System Clinical Hospitals Board, the national Museum Trustee Association Board and the Arts, Communications, Entertainment and Sports Council for the State Bar of Michigan.









POINTES OF VIEW

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

Grosse Pointe News

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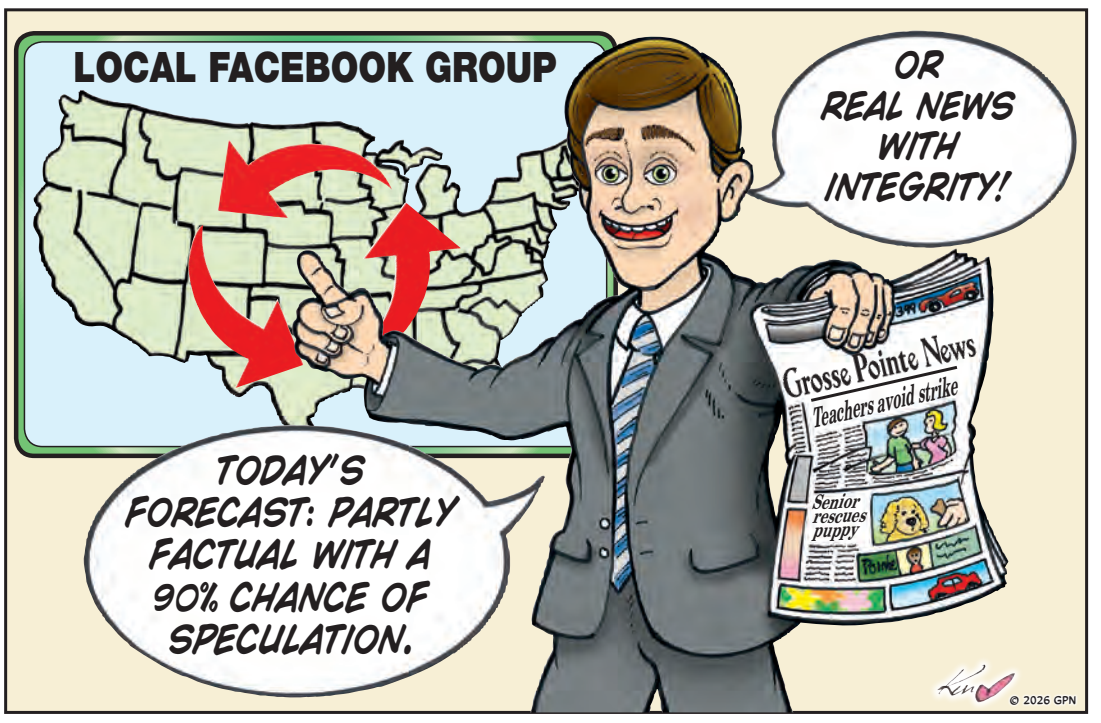

ILLUSTRATION BY KEN SCHOP

OUR VIEW

Endorsements

(Editor's note: This first ran in our Sept. 24 edition, since that was the first day voters could obtain absentee ballots. It is being reprinted here because this is a full-run edition, meaning the paper goes to every address in the Pointes and not just subscribers.)

As noted on page 19A, we interviewed the four active candidates running for three open seats on the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education last month and used that information to form our endorsements.

Our picks for the board are Virginia "Ginny" Jeup, Walter "Walt" Fitzpatrick and Thomas "Jake" Howlett.

Ms. Jeup is completing her first four-year term on the board and is the only one of three incumbents first elected in 2022 running again. She has been a steady and consistent voice for students and always puts parental rights first, even when some policies aim to diminish those rights. Ms. Jeup knows how the board does business and is not afraid to ask tough questions.

She, along with Trustee Sean Cotton and former Trustees Terry Collins, Lisa Papas and Ahmed Ismail, worked seamlessly with the fantastic leadership of former Superintendent Andrea Tuttle to save GPPSS from the brink of financial disaster.

The district finished the 2024-25 fiscal year with a $5.4 million surplus, bringing its fund equity balance above 15 percent after it had shrunk below 9 percent as COVID bailout money was used to fund positions — rather than programs as intended — for which the district chose to deficit spend in the preceding years.

The 2025-26 fiscal year ended with a $2.2 million surplus. The work of that board and Dr. Tuttle saw the district's Moody's Investors Service credit rating increase from A1 to Aa3 last November. It was downgraded from Aa3 to A1 in March 2023. That meant around $1.9 million in savings in interest on the first round of improvement bond sales voters approved last fall.

Mr. Fitzpatrick retired in 2024 after 30 years with GPPSS and 40 years total in education, including roles as principal at Trombly and Kerby elementary schools. He started with the district as a teacher in 1994 at Pierce Middle School, then became assistant principal there before his final two roles.

Having been both a teacher and administrator in the district, we feel Mr. Fitzpatrick would be a good addition to the board due to his 360-degree understanding of "on the ground" issues in our schools. He also knows how to solve problems and works to get along with people even if there are disagreements.

Mr. Howlett, a private practice attorney, is a board member for the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education. His background in legal matters dealing with governmental units would be a plus for the board, having previously been legal counsel for Grosse Pointe Park. He also is an independent thinker who knows how to resolve issues without letting personalities get in the way.

Local issues

We also support passage of millages for the Grosse Pointe Public Library and the Park's parks and recreation efforts, as well as a public safety assessment in the City of Grosse Pointe.

The library is seeking to renew 0.6432 mills, the rate it currently collects after Headlee rollbacks, for 15 years. A mill is $1 in taxes for every $1,000 of a property's taxable value.

Aside from reading materials, the library provides a tool borrowing program, videos in both physical and digital formats, story times, free classes for all ages, a makerspace, live music and more. It also has every issue of the Grosse Pointe News available online dating back to the first one in November 1940.

The Park is seeking 0.65 mills for seven years for upgrades to Windmill Pointe Park and Patterson Park. Engineering consultants for the city said the two parks face around $6 million in deferred maintenance costs.

The City is asking voters to approve a 1.25-mill assessment for four years to help defray public safety costs. Council there chose to go with an assessment, rather than a millage, as it would not be subject to Headlee rollbacks, which require municipalities to roll back millage rates each year to limit state and local taxation and prevent government revenues from growing faster than the rate of inflation.

Finally, while we generally do not weigh in on matters outside the Pointes, we also are endorsing Terry Collins of the Park for the state Board of Education. Given the high-profile issues surrounding public education today, having a local voice with financial acumen at the table would be a benefit.

Other choices on ballots this year include:

- Governor
- Secretary of State
- Attorney General
- U.S. Senate
- U.S. House of Representatives
- State Senate
- State House
- Michigan State University Board of Trustees
- Wayne State University Board of Governors
- University of Michigan Board of Regents
- Michigan Supreme Court
- Wayne County Circuit Court
- Wayne County Executive
- First District Court of Appeals
- Wayne County Probate Court
- Detroit Zoo millage
- Southeast Michigan Historical Museum Authority millage

Voters also are being asked to consider two statewide ballot initiatives.

Proposal 1 asks if Michigan should convene a constitutional convention, which the state constitution requires be put to voters every 16 years. Voters said no in 1978, 1994 and 2010. Groups as disparate as the Michigan Catholic Conference and Planned Parenthood are opposed to the measure.

Proposal 2, being called a "money out of politics" initiative, would prohibit regulated utilities and certain government contractors from donating to political campaigns. Recent polling shows about 70 percent of likely voters intend to approve the measure.

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.

Two questions

To the Editor:

Recently, while scrolling through the overnight info on my cellphone, I stopped at an entry headlined "The Pink Ribbon Lobby and Everyone Else." It was an opinion piece written by Abdul El-Sayed originally published on Oct. 26, 2012.

As I read the article, my shock steadily increased. The author was addressing, in his opinion, the lack of equity in funding for health research referencing breast cancer research funding specifically. He wrote that amazingly the lights on the George Washington Bridge connecting New York and New Jersey, which he could see from his Manhattan apartment, were pink for Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

This example, according to him, would have him believing women were in imminent danger from breast cancer, if he weren't an epidemiologist. Basically, he said the allocation of public funds to breast cancer research is disproportionate and women should be more worried about lung cancer and heart disease. Further, that "advocacy is a function of the social power and privilege of those most like to get the disease."

I read this epidemiologist's opinion of breast cancer research while in a chair in the Chemotherapy and Infusion Center of a Detroit hospital with two lifesaving drugs flowing through my implanted port and circulating through my body for the next three hours. Also, I knew the drug protocol my oncologist had advised was only FDA approved at approximately the same time as my breast cancer was diagnosed. My type of breast cancer occurs in only 10 to 15 percent of all breast cancers. Therefore, according to El-Sayed, I was shown favoritism due to my "social power and privilege." Believe me, there is no social power and privilege in the chemotherapy and infusion unit in any hospital.

I am suggesting to you there are only two questions you need to ask yourself before your November vote for United States senator for Michigan:

1: If this paper doctor, Abdul El-Sayed, had completed the requirements for licensing to practice medicine in Michigan, would you want any family member or friend to be treated by him knowing his longtime views of our health care system?

2: More importantly, do you want him to represent you as one of only two people representing the state of Michigan in the United States Senate?

CATHERINE F. SAURBIER
Grosse Pointe Farms

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GROSSE POINTE 7-DAY WEATHER FORECAST October 15 – 21 (Local 4 Expect More.)

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Chance of Rain	Chance of Rain	Clear	Mostly Clear	Mostly Clear	Cloudy	Clear
50%	30%	0%	0%	0%	10%	10%
SUNRISE 7:45 am SUNSET 6:50 pm	SUNRISE 7:46 am SUNSET 6:48 pm	SUNRISE 7:47 am SUNSET 6:46 pm	SUNRISE 7:48 am SUNSET 6:45 pm	SUNRISE 7:49 am SUNSET 6:43 pm	SUNRISE 7:51 am SUNSET 6:42 pm	SUNRISE 7:52 am SUNSET 6:40 pm

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

I SAY By Sean Cotton



Every vote counts

Go out and vote! As a Michigander, your votes truly count. This election gives Michigan voters the ability to make an impact locally, statewide and nationwide.

Voting has begun, with absentee ballots going out and a sizable number already returned. If current trends hold, between 60 and 70 percent of votes will have been cast before Election Day, Nov. 3.

This is a meaningful election. I would not say that about every election. I am not someone who believes you vote no matter what. Voting in the general election for our representative in Congress is effectively meaningless. Whoever the Democrat is will win and I believe ours is considered the safest congressional seat for a Democrat.

I have Republican and Democratic friends in New Jersey, New York, California and Texas whose national votes don't matter. Local elections keep them engaged. In contrast, almost all votes in Michigan can make a difference, more so than those of the average American voter.

That influence is especially clear in presidential elections. In 2016, Donald Trump defeated Hillary Clinton in Michigan by just 10,704 votes, a margin of 0.23 percent. Under the Electoral College, our close margins give us an outsized role in choosing the president. That may not always be the case, but more on that later.

This year, we have a U.S. Senate seat, statewide offices and, my passion, local elections, whose outcomes affect our community and daily lives more directly than the bigger races.

The Senate election between Abdul El-Sayed and Mike Rogers could hardly be more consequential nationally, perhaps even globally. The country is watching. Michigan is truly purple and reflects that sentiment across much of Main Street America. An El-Sayed victory, as a progressive facing a moderate conservative like Rogers, would send a powerful statement. If his politics represent what Michigan voters want, and potentially what a broad swath of America will tolerate, that would signal a profound departure from the country's direction since 1776.

Statewide races, from governor to attorney general to the State Board of Education, are also up in the air because many voters may split their tickets rather than vote party lines with El-Sayed heading the ticket. These elections are expected to be very close. Every Pointer should vote, whoever your candidate may be.

Locally, we have a library millage renewal and the school board election. Walt Fitzpatrick and Jake Howlett have endorsements from this newspaper, Pointers for Academic Excellence (PFAE) and the teachers' union. Incumbent Ginny Jeup has endorsements from this newspaper, PFAE and the Eastside Republican Club. Michelle White has the Grosse Pointe Democratic Club's endorsement.

In November 2022, just four votes separated Ginny Jeup and Tim Klepp. If you ever needed evidence that your vote counts, that is it.

I see people online bemoaning campaign signs and division in our community. I have no idea what they are talking about. In this wonderful country, political speech is our inalienable right, inherited from our forefathers, to be exercised freely and without fear of arrest or violence. That freedom is something to celebrate. Put up your signs, make your voice heard and vote!

That brings me back to Michigan's presidential influence. Democrats have introduced legislation to join the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact, but it has not passed our divided Legislature. The adopting states are Democratic strongholds. Once activated, participating states would award their electoral votes according to the national popular vote rather than their own voters' choice for president.

Michigan should never join. We hold a unique position alongside a handful of other states where our votes matter in presidential elections. We should keep it that way.

YESTERDAY'S HEADLINES

1951

75 years ago this week

UNITED FOUNDATION DRIVE LAUNCHED BY HENRY FORD II: At a mass turnout of Grosse Pointe men, women and children Tuesday evening at a United Foundation torch-lighting rally on the High School grounds Henry Ford II called personal sacrifices in home communities the best way to guarantee survival of freedom and personal liberties. Mr. Ford reminded hundreds of Grosse Pointe neighbors that when a community or a city can't take care of its own local needs, a government agency steps in to take over the job for once and for all.

10-YEAR-OLDS CONFESS TO SCHOOL THEFTS: Four Gratiot Township boys, all just 10 years old, were released to their parents by Woods police last week. Police picked the boys up after one of them confessed that he and three buddies broke into the Mason school three times in September. They told police that they stole pens, pencils, wallets and flashlights. They also admitted drinking all the pop that was kept on hand for school parties.

1976

50 years ago this week

SCHOOL FIGHT CONTINUES: Board of Education President Robert Warner responded to the teacher union's recent rejection of the Board's final contract offer with a verbal attack on Grosse Pointe Education Association leadership at a public meeting October 11, at North High School. The Board, Mr. Warner said, has been forced into the public arena because of "repeated misrepresentations of our position by GPEA leadership. By attacking the fiscal responsibility of the Board, the GPEA must assume full responsibility if the millage vote fails this spring."

CLOSING OF POST OFFICE DISCUSSED: Residents of the Park and the City previously served by the post office at Kercheval and Marlborough are receiving letters and packages through the newly constructed branch office at Jefferson and Algonquin. Some Pointe residents have raised objections concerning the distance of the new office from their homes.

OFFICIALS VIEW BILL ON COURTS: A controversial bill which would abolish municipal courts in favor of a district court system for 16 Michigan cities, including the five Pointes, stands a 50-50 chance of passage when the State House reconvenes in mid-November, according to reports from Lansing. The measure has met strong opposition among city officials throughout the Pointes, with all five councils having passed one or more resolutions of protest.

2001

25 years ago this week

$12 MILLION FOR BRANCH LIBRARIES: The proposed construction of a new public library for Grosse Pointe Woods on the Parcells Middle School property moved one major step closer to reality Oct. 8, when the Grosse Pointe Board of Education voted unanimously to approve

See HEADLINES, page 8A

Can't wait to retire?
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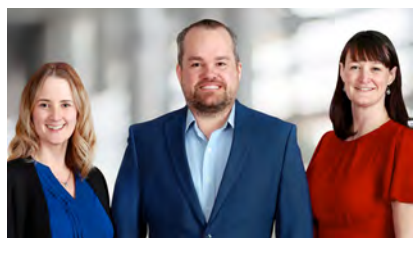

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101526

PRIORITY:

Continued from page 2A

current rate, equating to $6.43 per household per month. Each consecutive year, the cost will increase by about 3 percent.

"At this point, our increase is relatively small," City of Grosse Pointe City Manager Joe Valentine said.

Part of the deal is that the contract no longer will include annual household hazardous waste days: drop-off events which allowed residents to safely dispose of oil-based paints, pesticides, batteries and electronics.

"The price to add that in just wasn't a good dollar for value for any of the communities," said Paul Ruthenberg, Priority Waste director of municipal sales. "You're looking at like $48,000, which is a lot of money. There's a lot of other avenues we can go."

By way of service replacement, the cities first intend to approach Wayne County, which already hosts hazardous waste collection days on its west side.

"There's a company out there that would like very much to establish a permanent hazardous waste site to where they would be open Monday through Saturday," Ruthenberg said, as another potential future option.

The cities will continue to offer residents electronic waste drop-off days and paper-shredding days, which are alternated yearly.

Ruthenberg also addressed the ongoing conversation regarding how much of what residents put in recycling bins actually gets recycled.

"For the longest time, we used the RRRASOC facility on 8 Mile (in Southfield), which is a material recovery facility, until Waste Management just opened up their new facility in Detroit," he said. "That is a state-of-the-art facility. It's, from what I'm understanding, a fantastic facility that is more successful in finding markets for the products that are coming out.

"Each product — cardboard, paper, tin, plastic, glass — are commodities, so their worth goes up and down."

Glass is difficult to sell currently, he said, because it's cheaper to make glass out of sand and energy than it is to recycle glass. The other products are doing very well on the market, he reported.

He also issued a warning regarding the disposal of lithium-ion batteries, which often are associated with the increasingly popular use of e-bikes and scooters, but also can be found in laptops, power tools and many more items.

"Residents, God bless them, they want the batteries to be recycled," he said. "(Just don't do it) in the recycling bins. They're catching our trucks on fire.

"We're crushing those and frankly, our occurrences since the advent of lithium batteries for trucks that are on fire have gone up six to seven times the amount as previous to lithium batteries."

WASTE:

Continued from page 2A

figured they could do it later. We made a point with Grosse Pointe Park to remind everybody to have the stuff out by 7 a.m. Put it out the night before."

Company managers are close at hand to address issues right away.

"Express has a foreman or manager driving the community so if there is a problem, there's somebody in the city real-time," Sizeland said.

"We've found the best way to get the job done is to have a supervisor in a pickup truck in the field," Munem said. "Trucks don't get to leave until that supervisor goes through and sees that everything's been done correctly. If someone has a late set out, the person in the truck will pick it up or circle a truck back."

The company also has a small truck that fits in alleys.

"I believe we will have fewer problems with alley waste not being picked up with smaller trash trucks," Sizeland said. "I did a test phone call of their community services center. On their first ring, somebody picked up. People may not like paying a little more, but they're getting services."



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Fall Frolic

The Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education hosted its Fall Frolic event Sept. 24 at Cadieux Cafe in Detroit. The "friend-raiser" helped raise awareness about the GPFPE during a fun, casual evening. Food, drinks and live entertainment were part of the evening. Pat Brown, a fifth-grade teacher at Brownell Middle School, entertained guests by playing guitar and singing songs from his own playlist and by request.

HEADLINES:

Continued from page 7A

a development agreement with the Grosse Pointe Library Board. The agreement sets forth a plan for a new 23,000-square-foot library to be constructed adjacent to the northwest corner of the Parcells' building at the corner of Mack and Vernier.

PARK BRANCH DEAL PENDING: A $4 million library proposed for the south end of town will have more of everything except books. The roughly 14,000-square-foot building will have more elbow room, storage space and parking, but the number of items in the collection will stay the same. "We're short of space to offer a full-function library," said Bob Klaczaa, who this week updated Grosse Pointe Park city council on plans for the new Park branch.

PARK TO TAKE BITE OUT OF BLIGHT: The blight patrol is marshaling in Grosse Pointe Park. Officials are preparing to step up enforcement of rules designed to protect against messy and poorly maintained property. At the request of councilman Samuel Noun, Park city attorney Herold Deason will research a tougher ordinance that will reach beyond uncut lawns and junk heaps.

2016

10 years ago this week

RESIDENTS SEEK ANSWERS FOLLOWING RECORD FLOODING: Residents seeking answers about their flooded basements were once again left in the dark, literally, last week when a meeting scheduled by a liability attorney was abruptly moved from the Trombly auditorium to the playground. There, under the light offered by the building's security lights, about 200 residents gathered to hear attorney Philip Bazzo discuss a possible class action suit against Grosse Pointe Park. He had been granted permission to use the Trombly auditorium, but that was abruptly canceled by the school district 24 hours before the meeting. Unfazed, Bazzo set up tables and chairs and spoke with residents on the playground. At issue for about 250 homeowners from several blocks south of Jefferson is the backup of sewage into their basements following torrential rains the morning of Thursday, Sept. 29. Residents reported backups from a few inches to several feet after the city was forced to turn off the storm pumps.

INLAND SEWERS MAY BE SEPARATED: Come the rainy season in March, meters installed for a minimum three months at key points in the inland sewer district will document flow volume as the basis for possibly separating the area's storm water and sewage lines, cutting chances of basement flooding during downpours. The inland district is roughly between Ridge Road and Mack Avenue in Grosse Pointe Farms. It's known for flooding in recent years during big storms, unlike the lakeside district between Ridge and Lakeshore, where independent networks direct sewage to Detroit for purification and storm water to Lake St. Clair.

THANK YOU!

The City of Grosse Pointe Woods thanks the following businesses for their sponsorship of the

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325101

Zoning appeals board tips in court's favor

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Members of the Grosse Pointe Park Zoning Board of Appeals voted 4-3 to let a homeowner transform a backyard into a combined basketball and pickleball court.

By granting the appeal Oct. 12, the board overruled a municipal building official and the city planning consultant.

The board is composed entirely of city council members.

Planning consultant Laura Mangan of the McKenna company recommended denial because the court violated side-yard and rear-yard setbacks by 3 and 1.5 feet, respectively. Specifications are contained in the zoning code.

"Our job is to consider exceptions to those rules," Councilman Tim Kolar said.

"It's not always a black or white situation," Mayor Michele Hodges said.

Voting to approve the variances were Hodges, Kolar, Patrick Gleason and Brent Dreaver.

Voting to deny were Tom Caulfield, Marty McMillan and Max Wiener.

Upon construction, the court will measure 44.5-by-23 feet and occupy most of a backyard within a wooden privacy fence in the 900 block of Edgemont Road.

"I look at (the court) as an extension of the driveway," Kolar said.

A lack of response from neighbors who, in compliance with city procedures, were sent written notice of the variance requests influenced votes both for and against.

"If they didn't respond, I take that as positive affirmation," said Kolar, voting in support.

"I would have liked to have heard from neighbors," said Caulfield shortly before casting his opposition.

Mangan based her opposition on, in part:

◆ "The residential lot can still accommodate a variety of outdoor recreation and accessory uses without the need to construct a full-sized basketball court."

◆ "The court would extend to the side property line, directly adjacent to the existing wooden fence and the neighboring residential lot."

◆ "Without separation and screening, the court could detract from the city's 2022 master plan goals. The plan seeks to ensure that neighborhood character is maintained and that quality investment is made to existing housing stock."

◆ "The requested variances appear to be self-created. The variances are necessary due to the applicant's chosen size and placement of the basketball court rather than physical limitations of the property."

Acting to spruce up alleys

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Property owner compliance is getting up to speed on a new alley property code enforcement campaign dubbed "Alley Action."

The campaign also has a public safety component to make it easier for patrol officers and firefighters to locate properties.

"Public safety has implemented a systematic approach to ensure visible address numbers on structures facing alleys, as required for emergency response," said Nick Sizeland, city manager. "Letters sent in May by public safety instructed owners to install addresses on garages, fences or the rear side of the building."

Nearly 42 percent of relevant property owners have complied. All will be required to meet the standard.

Most of the alley plan addresses property code violations.

"Beginning Oct. 1, citations will be issued to remaining noncompliant properties," said Sizeland, in a report to city council Oct. 12.

Alley Action is in response to complaints by residents and observations of code enforcement officials about alleys not being kept up to snuff.

"We're implementing several operations and enforcement activities," Sizeland said.

"We're playing catchup," Mayor Michele Hodges said. "Our team is using every tool available to them, which is never enough."

"This is tackling something that should have been done years ago," Councilman Patrick Gleason said.

An example is grass-height violations.

"When a property is found out of compliance, an orange card is issued to the resident, providing three days to correct the conditions," Sizeland said. "If the violation remains after the allotted time, the city's contractor completes the mowing."

Also targeted are weeds, overgrown vegetation, the buildup of debris and trash, plus structural deterioration.

"In September, public service issued letters to all properties adjacent to alleys, directing property owners to correct neglected conditions by

See ALLEYS, page 11A

METERS:

Continued from page 1A

"I don't think they've gone far enough," Hodges said.

A united council instructed city administrators to seek additional compensation in the form of 2,000 discounted water meters through 2028. In the meantime, the council also approved paying $128,000 to replace the 597 meters at a discounted rate.

Hodges told Jenny and City Manager Nick Sizeland, "Go back and negotiate a better deal for our taxpayers."

Meanwhile, work goes on.

"The cost of additional meters needed to complete the remainder of the city is $127,895," Jenny said.

Money for the purchase will come from sewer bond proceeds, plus $48,767 in a contingency fund and another $18,872 raised by scrapping old meters made of brass and other metals.

This current round of meter replacements was supposed to be completed by the end of the year. The end date is now expected to be delayed a month or so.



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Wall adds to neighborhood's ambiance

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Good fences make good neighbors.

They also can add to a lakeside neighborhood's stately character.

Members of city council this week, meeting as the Zoning Board of Appeals, overruled a building official and granted a resident's request to erect a 6-foot-tall decorative brick fence around a house being built on Windmill Pointe Drive.

A representative of the resident told board members that construction of the house is almost complete and his client is nearly ready to move in.

"We welcome our new homeowners," Mayor Michele Hodges said. "We're excited to have them as members of the community."

The wall violated three provisions of the zoning code: brick isn't a permitted fence material; the proposed structure exceeded a 4-foot height limit; and solid masonry construction doesn't comply with a rule requiring 50 percent transparency.

Rules have exceptions, decided a unanimous board.

Members supported the applicant's arguments in favor of the wall, including:

◆ "To not grant this variance would break the harmony already established by the neighbors' walls and fences along the street," and

◆ "Granting this variance will maintain uniformity throughout the neighborhood as other homes in the neighborhood have brick walls and fences."

The city's planning consultant, Laura Mangan of McKenna, also supported the applicant.

"The physical surroundings, shape or topographical conditions of the property would render compliance with the (zoning code) difficult and would likely result in a particular hardship for the person erecting the fence," she wrote in a memo to city officials. "A variance would be in the best interest of the city and not against the spirit and intent of (the code)."

Mangan specifically determined:

◆ "A private and secure outdoor yard space is a customary feature enjoyed by other residential property owners."

◆ "Installation of a brick wall will ensure visual continuity of the streetscape along Windmill Pointe."

◆ The wall won't risk public health and safety.

◆ "The decorative brick wall is in keeping

See WALL, page 12A

FIRE:

Continued from page 1A

use only the charger supplied and approved by the manufacturer.

"Do not use batteries that are swollen, leaking or feel unusually hot after charging," Bostock said. "Lastly, refrain from modifying the e-bikes' power source, as this can compromise and strain the battery, which could result in property damage."

A 911 call at 8:02 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 7, alerted Park officers to the fire in the 1300 block of Bedford.

"Our crews arrived on the scene two minutes later, at 8:04 p.m.," Thiel said. "Firefighters were met with a fully involved garage fire."

Officers from the City and Farms lent mutual aid.

"Thanks to the rapid response and aggressive attack by our teams, the fire was successfully declared out at 8:29 p.m.," Thiel said.

It wasn't as simple as he made it sound.

The battery ignited inside the garage with the doors closed. Heat built up as in a sealed oven.

"When the garage door failed, the fire was in free burn that was putting off radiant heat to the back of the house," Thiel said during a follow-up interview. "When you're cooking something in your oven at 400 degrees and you walk past your oven, you really don't feel the heat. When you open that oven door you can definitely feel that heat escaping."

The same with flaming scooters in a closed garage.

"Only instead of an oven, it is a garage with its contents fully involved with a fire burning at 1,000 degrees," Thiel said. "While the garage door was still intact, it was shielding the back of that house from the heat. With the garage door failing and collapsing, there's nothing to shield that house from the heat, exposing it to the radiant heat from the fire."

Heat melted siding on the back of the two-story colonial.

"Luckily, with our quick response we were able to put water on the back of that house and cool it down to prevent any fire extension," Thiel said. "We are incredibly thankful that all occupants and pets made it out of the house safely. No injuries were reported."

He stressed reporting fires immediately.

"As a critical reminder to our community, please always call 911 the very instant you see a fire," Thiel said. "Early detection and rapid response are some of the most important factors in fire safety."

E-bikes and scooters are becoming ubiquitous.

"Between 2019 and 2022, purchases of e-bikes surged from 287,000 to 1.1 million and in 2025, people took 150 million rides on shared electric bikes and scooters in cities across the U.S. and Canada," according to "E-bikes and e-scooters are everywhere. But are they safe?" on the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health website, publichealth.jhu.edu.

Being everywhere doesn't mean they're safe.

"As (they) take over roadways and sidewalks, associated injuries are soaring," according to the same source. "A 2025 study of more than 34,000 people found that users of electric devices were significantly more likely to be admitted to the hospital and the intensive care unit and to have a traumatic brain injury compared with people who sustained traditional cycling injuries."

"This has become a topic of conversation on both road safety and risk of fires associated with the charging of e-bikes," Bostock said. "One of the primary risks is the potential for serious injury in a collision. Because these bikes can travel at significant speeds, riders have limited time to react to vehicles, pedestrians and other unexpected obstacles. Riders are especially vulnerable because they have little physical protection in a crash. Pedestrians are also at risk when devices are ridden at excessive speeds, operated unpredictably or used in crowded areas."

E-bikes' and scooters' popularity isn't the only thing exploding. Lithium-ion batteries that power e-bikes and scooters can set themselves ablaze.

"Fed by a chemical reaction known as thermal runaway, the blazes can spew toxic fumes and generally require copious amounts of water to extinguish," according to an article on lithium-ion battery safety on the National Fire Protection Association website, nfpa.org. "Even when lithium-ion battery fires appear to be out, the batteries can reignite days or even weeks later due to energy that remains trapped inside the damaged battery cells."

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission offers advice on addressing fire risks of lithium-powered bikes and scooters, which are classified as micromobility products:

◆ Follow the manufacturer's instructions for proper charging and unplug the device when done.

◆ Always be present when charging micromobility products. Never charge them while sleeping or when you are not at home. CPSC has seen many lithium-ion battery home fires and deaths happen at night while batteries were charging and families were asleep.

◆ Only use the charger provided with or recommended by the manufacturer of your micromobility device.

◆ Only use a replacement or secondary battery pack that has been tested and approved to work safely with your device and has been confirmed to be suitable for your device by the device manufacturer.

◆ Never use a micromobility device with a battery pack that has been modified or reworked by unqualified personnel or with repurposed or used cells.

◆ Never throw lithium-ion batteries into the trash or general recycling. Instead, take them to your local battery recycler or hazardous waste collection center. If your lithium-ion battery or device is subject to a recall or product safety warning, follow the disposal instructions in the CPSC press release.

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Farms Foundation welcomes new members

The Grosse Pointe Farms Foundation in September welcomed its newest board members: Suzy Berschback, Molly Cleary, Brianna Fritz and Dr. Raghavendra Kamath. Members are nominated by current board members and must live in the Farms. They are elected to the board for two-year terms, for a maximum of four years.

"We have been growing and making the Farms Foundation activities more noticeable to the public with more events happening," said Nora Ezop, vice president. "The last two years have been busy with helping fundraise for the new Pier Park pool that is set to be completed by Memorial Day 2027."

Board members pictured from left are Dr. Raghavendra Kamath, Mark Higbie, Cathy Harber, Secretary Jeff Marano, Vice President Nora Ezop, Becky Burton, Sara Whitfield, Molly Cleary, Brianna Fritz, Nathan Dupes, Michael Doyle, Treasurer Jeremy Lamb, Farms City Manager Shane Reeside, Farms City Council Representative Joe Ricci and President Michael Ottaway.

ALLEYS:

Continued from page 9A

Oct. 1," Sizeland said. "Following inspections after that date, remaining violations will be abated by city contractors."

A second round of enforcement is scheduled for early spring 2027.

The city's initiatives are part of a larger campaign.

"Over the past several months, the code enforcement division has implemented several operational improvements," Sizeland said. "These initiatives focus on modernizing notification procedures, improving documental accuracy and applying a more systematic approach to alley maintenance and fire code address compliance."

Code violations have been digitized and integrated into new city software.

"If a citation is warranted, (the software) auto-generates the citation," Sizeland said.

Efficiency is part of the goal.

"This modernization improves accuracy, enhances record traceability and eliminates the need for handwritten citations," Sizeland said.

Harper Woods announces grand opening of community dome, 75th anniversary celebration

HARPER WOODS — Harper Woods invites residents and community members to a historic double celebration from 3 to 5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 17.

The city will mark its 75th anniversary alongside the grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony of its new community dome.

The celebratory community event will feature a packed schedule of activities for all ages, highlighting both the rich history of Harper Woods and an exciting vision for its future.

Event highlights include:

◆ The official ribbon-cutting ceremony featuring a performance of the national anthem by the Harper Woods High School marching band.

◆ Tabron and Pointer History Corner, a dedicated historical exhibition, showcases the heritage and milestones of Harper Woods over the past 75 years.

◆ The future community cen-

See DOME, page 15A

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Marina a keystone gem

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — When prospective Pointer Ben Wixson and his real estate agent were bopping around the area looking at neighborhoods in which to buy a house, among the stop-offs were the municipal parks.

"That was one of the things that sold me on the area," Wixson said.

He settled in the Park, site of two lakeside parks. One of them, Windmill Pointe Park, has a supersize swimming pool and a 270-slip marina.

"We're really lucky in the Pointes to have these amenities," Wixson said. "One of the gems of the Grosse Pointes are the waterfront parks. Marinas are a keystone of that."

"A resident said, 'Everyone moves here for the pools and schools,'" said Chad Craig, director of parks and recreation. "That's the goal. We want to offer our mini-gems as a resort for our residents. That is where we want them to spend their summer vacation — come down and have lunch or dinner, swim in the pool, go out on their boat, have a family reunion or small graduation party."

Wixson moors his 35-foot sailboat, Live Forever, at Windmill. He's also commodore of the Grosse Pointe Sail Club. The club is a paper organization. Its main functions since its founding in 1948 are hosting weekly races and social gatherings, not necessarily in that order.

The buzz around the marina these days is forthcoming renovations within its existing footprint: new wells and finger docks, upgraded boat-side utilities and the like.

Most of the work will be paid by boaters through annual well rentals, not general property taxes. Only aspects of construction touching parts of the marina open to the general public, such as the main fishing pier and inner seawall, are likely to tap general tax receipts.

"It's going to help sell Grosse Pointe Park as a community to move to," Wixson said. "As I understand it, our marina is the most outdated (among the five Pointes). There's a lot to gain here because it's a fairly large marina with a great location."

"A lot of well holders are looking forward to the possibility of a marina upgrade after seeing what could be in store if everything comes together and the price is right," Craig said.

Plans and preparations, including surveys both above and underwater, during recent years led to retaining a consultant, Abonmarche.

The firm specializes in waterfront projects. Staff members are developing engineering specifications for the Park on which contractors will be invited to base construction bids.

"Generally speaking, the Parks and Recreation Commission and its marina subcommittee have been working with the city to, hopefully, come up with a plan that is not only going to be great for boaters, but great for the city," Wixson said.

Abonmarche is nearly ready to provide city officials a partial draft of final bid designs.

"Then, we'll review the full bid design around December or January," Craig said. "We will send that out for proposals from contractors."

"I'm hoping that others in the community see the value in it as well because it's going to be a community effort that gets it over the next hurdle," Wixson said. "Not only should we be hearing opinions on it, but sharing the benefits of it."

"I imagine that around the end of February we would receive all the proposals," Craig said. "We and the city council will review them. I think by the end of February a decision will be made."

Costs, forecast to be in the low millions, would be met by issuing a bond, city officials have said.

"We would be looking at an October 2027 start date," Craig said.

New wall calms marina

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Rocking and rolling in the marina this summer was up to the boaters' discretion.

Vessels themselves stayed steady in their slips more than they had in years.

Calm waters came from rebuilding the entrance-and-exit portion of the outer breakwall. Waves from onshore winds plus freighter traffic now are blocked from breaking into the marina through the former wall's missing sheet metal sections and open seams.

The $512,000 project was finished mid-May and funded by boaters through well rentals, not property taxes.

The new wall is 9 feet wide and filled with more than 1,000 tons of rocks and aggregate.

"When they repaired it, they increased the height as well," said Ben Wixson, one of the marina's nearly 270 well renters. "So, not only is it wider and more robust, it is higher than before, which means that during higher-water years boats should be safer in the marina than they'd been in the past."

High levels of Lake St. Clair in recent years easily overcame the old wall. Most affected were larger boats on piers four and five, closest to the entrance.

"That entryway was overflowing, which caused a lot of damage," Wixson said. "Work they did on the entryway improved the conditions, especially for boaters closest to the entryway. I have a boat on Dock 4, which is the second closest to the entrance. It feels nice knowing that there is more protecting my boat from the river than before."

"We got a ton of positive feedback about the new seawall," said Chad Craig, director of parks and recreation. "We heard compliments all season."

Nonboaters benefited during September's annual and always sold-out Camp Wind-Y-Mill overnight weekend campout.

"We got a ton of nice feedback during Camp Wind-Y-Mill because we had a nice, little hidden section of camping grounds out beyond the volleyball courts near the seawall entrance and exit," Craig said. "Rather than the kind of squeaky and scratchy metal sound of the old seawall, we have a nice, silent new seawall. It aided in the enjoyment of being out by the water for a lot of campers."

The marina, one of the last in the Grosse Pointes to cease operations for the season, shuts down Nov. 15.

"This year we were close to a sold-out marina," Craig said. "We ended with just a few open wells, just regarding well holders with boat issues and things like that."

Steady winds during autumn offer some of the best sailing of the year.

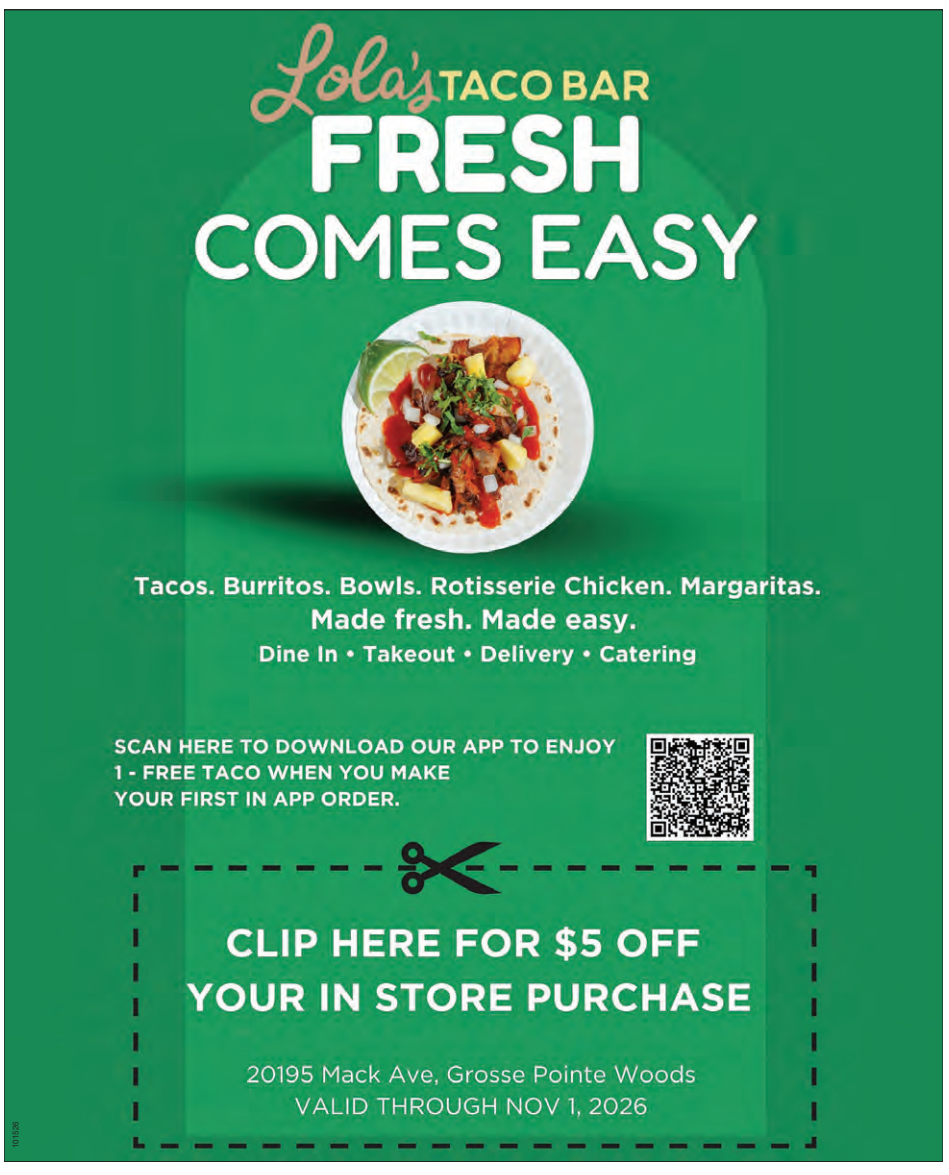
"I anticipate we'll see a lot of boat traffic utilizing Lake St. Clair if the weather continues to be in our favor," Craig said. "If the weather's nice, boaters take advantage of it. You only get a few months to enjoy the lake. You have to take advantage of it as much as you can."

WALL:

Continued from page 10A

with the character of the area and will create a polished, architecturally finished improvement. This can be considered an enhancement to the aesthetics of the larger community."

◆ "The brick wall does not detract from the spirit and intent of the ordinance; the request still ensures orderly and beneficial development of uses and structures in a residential neighborhood."











Ribbon cuttings

Haunted Garage Productions, 19520 Mack, Grosse Pointe Farms, was created by Glen Williams, a retired Grosse Pointe Public School System educator and lifelong Halloween enthusiast. What began as a charitable Halloween attraction has grown into a beloved community tradition, featuring a collection of props Williams has curated for nearly 40 years. Hosted annually at his home, Haunted Garage raises thousands of dollars to support local schools and PTOs. Learn more at hauntedgarageproductions.org.



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Maids in the Pointes offers more than a routine clean. Clients get a team of trained, background-checked professionals committed to delivering a healthier, more thorough clean every time. Celebrating its ribbon cutting in front of the chamber with the Maids in the Pointes yellow car, owner Monica Piggott was joined by her husband, Cam, and some of her staff. Pictured from left are Chamber Director of Engagement Abigail Barroso, Cam and Monica Piggott, Janell Smith Showers, Carla Gomez and Chamber President Jenny Boettcher. Additional Maids in the Pointes team member Americo Hodges is not pictured. Learn more at maids.com/373.

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Woods gets new coffee shop

By Ted O'Neil
Associate Editor





PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Left, customers are greeted with a variety of options upon entering Little Nest Coffee Roasters. Above, The Aviary, which will hold pop-ups, kids' yoga, postpartum support groups, craft workshops and more.

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — Bird is the word at the newest coffee shop on Mack as Little Nest Coffee Roasters celebrated its grand opening this past Sunday.

"We started brainstorming ideas for a business about two years ago and got to work on this about a year ago," said Taylor Spencer, one of three owners. "There were a lot of names on our list at first, but we all agreed on this one."

The building includes a playroom for infants and toddlers called The Birdhouse and a community meeting room called The Aviary.

"We wanted to lean into the mother feature of birds," Spencer said.

The other two owners are her husband, Jason Spencer, and sister-in-law, Lindsay Marcano. The shop is located at 21003 Mack, on the corner of Hampton.

"We for sure wanted to be in the Woods because this is within walking distance of our houses," Spencer said. "It was the perfect opportunity when it became available and it's on a beautiful corner lot."



The roasting room, which has a large window where people can watch the action.

Little Nest features a variety of hot and cold brews, espressos, lattes and teas, plus specialty drinks and in-house syrups that will change seasonally.

"We roast our own beans and have three single-origin beans, plus decaffeinated that we're featuring right now," Spencer said. "We might play with blends in the future."

Single-origin coffee beans are those grown within a specific geographic area.

Young customers can enjoy a Babyccino — steamed milk dusted with cocoa or cinnamon — a Honey Bear Latte — milk with honey and cinnamon — hot cocoa or fruit water.

A pastry case offers seasonal treats and snack plates.

The main area offers several seating options, including a bench lined with plugs for customers who bring a laptop.

"Our goal is to be a community place that is accessible to everyone," Spencer said.

Hours are 6:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. daily. Visit littlenestcoffee.com for more information.



The Birdhouse room for infants to toddlers, a room where caregivers can take their little ones so the kids can play and the adults can enjoy their coffee.

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Bird Man, 1940.

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Zoning fixes include waterfront fences and signs

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Housekeeping matters on the honey-do list of planning commissioners were dusted off this month with minor amendments to the zoning code.

"The majority of these amendments will help maintain a streamlined and simple ordinance to administer," said Cindy Paparelli, assistant city manager.

"While reviewing this, I didn't notice any substantive change," Planning Commission Chairman Patrick Coletta said.

Commissioners on Oct. 5 approved six text amendments intended to correct or clarify hang-nail-type imperfections in the code, which underwent a comprehensive update nearly two years ago.

"Typically, after a year or so, since the zoning ordinance is a living document, it is good for the commission to take a look and see if there are any housekeeping items to take up on a yearly basis," said Laura Mangan, a planner with McKenna, the city's planning consultant.

The commission forwarded changes to city council for enactment.

Rough spots in the code became apparent through day-to-day usage.

"These result from ongoing discussions between myself, a building official and city administration," Mangan said. "Most of these are clarifications, streamlining and minor things that have come up that we would like to fix."

Amendments ranged from setbacks to fences and signs:

◆ Sec. 4.02: Side yard setbacks. The minimum required combined width of both side yards shall equal 25 percent of the width of the front lot line, up to a maximum required combined setback of 15 feet. Each individual side yard shall comply with the minimum side yard setback specified in the Schedule of Regulations. Side yards exceeding these minimum requirements are permitted.

◆ Sec. 5.02: Residential driveways. Driveways can't be wider than 3 feet on either side of the opening of the garage doors or carport. Nor can driveways be wider than 10 feet at the front lot line. A driveway may be widened to 18 feet upon approval of the public services director.

◆ Sec. 5.08: Clear vision triangle. This concerns sight lines at intersections. No fence, wall, shrub, sign or other visual obstructions above 2 feet tall are allowed within a triangular area formed by extending the back-of-curb lines of intersecting streets 25 feet from the point of intersection to each curb line.

◆ Sec. 6.06: Fence materials. Trees, shrubs and other living landscape material shall not be considered fences or walls. They aren't subject to fence permits, setbacks, height, opacity or adjoining property owner consent requirements.

◆ Sec. 6.06: Fence height in waterfront yards. Rules for waterfront property were added: Fences and hedges within waterfront yards can't exceed 4 feet in height and must have 50 percent minimum opacity. A hedge or substantially continuous row of shrubs intended or maintained as a visual screen shall not exceed 4 feet in height.

◆ Sec. 7.05: Nonconforming signs. Rules were added: An existing legal nonconforming sign that possesses historic, architectural or comparable significance may be retained, restored or replaced in substantially the same location, size and character, subject to approval by the director of public service. A sign doesn't have to be formally designated as historic, provided the director determines the sign contributes to the historic, architectural, commercial or neighborhood character of the property or surrounding area.





Right, Theo Cavanagh gets some help from Grosse Pointe Park PSO Seth Herbert putting out the "fire" in the practice firewall. Below, Grosse Pointe Park PSO Drake Krohta gave tours on top of the Grosse Pointe Park Public Safety ladder truck and here watches to make sure a young boy gets down safely into the arms of his dad.

Detective Sgt. Paul Pionk helped Phoebe Kopf-Reinhard learn how to dust for a fingerprint.

PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Open house

The Grosse Pointe Park Department of Public Safety hosted its open house Oct. 4. Attendees were able to meet public safety officers, learn about the Michigan State Police bomb squad vehicle and robotic dog, and check out police cars, fire trucks and special response vehicles. Other than free hot dogs, a favorite among kids and adults was Sparky the Fire Dog, who is popular year after year.





Quinn Devinair sits with a Michigan State Police bomb squad bomb suit, which weighs 95 pounds. She wasn't sure if someone was inside the suit, but was very curious about it.

DOME:

Continued from page 11A

ter designs offer an exclusive first look at conceptual designs and architectural plans for the upcoming community center.

◆ Family activities and entertainment, including live music from a featured DJ, a performance and fitness session by Zumba instructor Fabiola, face painting and balloon airbrush artists.

◆ Complimentary doughnuts, fresh cider and celebration cake.

The celebration takes place at the Harper Woods Community Dome and pavilion area in Salter Park, 19430 Harper, Harper Woods. For more information, visit harperwoodscity.org or call (313) 343-2500.



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Second-grader Lennon Morgan and eighth-grader Tate Muzingo show off the handmade birthday card they created to go in their birthday box for a foster child.

St. Paul students assemble 'Birthday-in-a-Box' kits for kids

St. Paul Catholic School students really like to celebrate — so much so they spent time recently making sure other children had what they need to celebrate, too.

The "Birthday-in-a-Box" evangelical charity project was created to build empathy and extend kindness to children living in vulnerable situations. Eighth-grade students and their second-grade buddies worked together to assemble 125 "Birthday-in-a-Box" kits for children living in homes experiencing financial hardship or in foster care.



St. Paul eighth grader Bat Seymour draws a cupcake on the birthday card he is adding to the birthday box.

"Boxes include the traditional cake, candles and party supplies that many of us take for granted," said Tricia Kesteloot, director of evangelical charity and service at St. Paul. "I included the instruction sheet that was put together by a member of our Charity Team.

"Students were fascinated to learn that a can of any lemon-lime soda (a parishioner donated cans of Sprite) may be used as a substitute for vegetable oil, eggs and water when making a cake," she added, "as these ingredients may be too costly for a family to purchase. The kit comes boxed in the foil pan you bake the cake in."

Additionally, St. Paul students heard from a guest speaker who shared her story about receiving a birthday cake at age 10, and what that meant to her.

"Many children and adults live in areas, homes or situations where the parent, grandparent or caregiver may not be able to provide a celebration or party for the child," Kesteloot said. "Children receiving a birthday cake will hopefully feel valued and celebrated on their special day. Every person is blessed with a birthday, but celebrating your birthday is a privilege and not everyone has those same opportunities. Having a birthday cake makes children feel loved."

The kits were expected to be delivered to Catholic Charities Adoption and Foster Care, Capuchin Services Center and Nativity of Our Lord Pantry.



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Second grader Ryan Dacrane and eighth grader Reagan Miller show off a completed birthday box that was assembled in a pan in which a cake may be baked.



Students line up to grab items such as cake mix, candles and frosting to add to the birthday boxes.

ULS Players to perform 'Darker the Night, Brighter the Stars' Nov. 5-7

The University Liggett School Players invite the community to experience "Darker the Night, Brighter the Stars," a moving and often humorous theatrical production exploring love, loss, hope and human connection. Performances take place at 7 p.m. Thursday to Saturday, Nov. 5 to 7, in the school's auditorium.

Written by Tony Award-nominated actor and playwright John Cariani, best known for "Almost, Maine," the play transports audiences to a small town in far northern Maine, near the Canadian border, where the Perseid meteor shower illuminates the night sky.

As shooting stars streak overhead, young residents make wishes, navigate relationships and face uncertainty about what lies ahead. Through a series of interconnected vignettes, "Darker the Night, Brighter the Stars" captures the humor, heartbreak and hope of growing up, reminding audiences that even in life's darkest moments, there is light to be found.

Performances will be held in the Liggett auditorium, 1045 Cook, Grosse Pointe Woods.

General admission tickets are $15; student tickets are $10 with a

See PLAY, page 17A





Mentoring program is for young men at South

By Ted O'Neil
Associate Editor

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — A group aimed at helping young men at Grosse Pointe South High School get acclimated is enjoying success in its second year.

Called "Men of Vision," the group's presidents — Nadeem Haurani, Liam Willson and Throop Linnell — gave a presentation about it at the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education meeting Monday, Oct. 5.

"Our goal is to empower male youth through academics, social outlets and community service," Haurani said. "We try to bring struggling students together and give them a home."

Linnell said the group aims to create a positive environment for male underclassmen.

"We want them to gain confidence, improve their productivity and become the next leaders," he said. "We help those who have fallen behind academically and give them a group where they feel comfortable to study and hold themselves accountable."

Linnell added Men of Vision wants to create a thriving community.

"When we leave, they can carry it on," he said.

Willson said the group's next steps are to expand its reach.

"We want to create a fixed structure and get more adult role models to speak to the group about their experiences," he said. "When I was in ninth grade, I had my older brother to help settle me in, but not everyone has that."



Tutoring sessions occur in the evenings. Willson said meetings usually have between 45 and 50 attendees, split evenly between upperclassmen and underclassmen.

School Resource Officer Jim LaBeau and South Assistant Principal Daniel Hyliard help coordinate the group, which meets before school for coffee Wednesday mornings and lunch on Fridays.

"It's funny to see 16-, 17-, 18-year-olds drinking black coffee before school," LaBeau told the board. "As for lunch, one thing I hate is to see anyone eating alone, so we'll invite them."

LaBeau said the black coffee is an inside joke.

"Kids are so used to drinking these off-the-wall drinks in the morning," he said, "so Dr. Hyliard and I welcome the idea of black coffee in the morning to signify growing up, connection and discussing your goals before taking on the day."

Superintendent Roy Bishop, who met with the group last year, said it fits perfectly with the district's strategic plan.

"One of the things we want to focus on is culture and climate along with increased academic success," he said. "You're building that community beyond yourself and this is what makes our community and our students strong."



PLAY:

Continued from page 16A

valid school ID at the door. Tickets also may be purchased online at tinyurl.com/bdhaz7be.

The production is recommended for ages 12 and older. Free on-site parking and wheelchair-accessible seating are available.

For additional information, email theater director Eleonore Ellero at eellero@uls.org.

South Mothers' Club looking for memorabilia

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — As Grosse Pointe South High School moves closer to celebrating its centennial, the school's Mothers' Club is asking for help locating several items.

In particular, it is looking for copies of yearbooks from 1933, 1934, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1944 and 1961. It also wants to locate graduating class composite photos from 1947 through 1980.

Other items are welcome as well, including — but not limited to — band or athletic uniforms, letter jackets, buttons, banners and general historical photos. The items will be put on display in Cleminson Hall.

Construction on South began in 1927 and it opened to students in February 1928.

To make a donation or provide information, email media@grossepointenews.com.

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Four vie for three seats on school board

(Editor's note: These interviews were originally published Sept. 24, which was the first day voters were able to obtain absentee ballots. They are being printed again Oct. 15 in our full-run issue, which goes to every address in the Pointes rather than just subscribers. We also used these interviews to determine our endorsements, which *can be found on page 6A.)*

The Grosse Pointe News sat down with the four active candidates running for the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education — Virginia "Ginny" Jeup, Walter "Walt" Fitzpatrick, Thomas "Jake" Howlett and Michelle White — on Aug. 24. A fifth candidate who will appear on the ballot is Mariel Krupansky. She withdrew for personal reasons, but after the deadline had passed, so her name will remain on the ballot.

There are three open seats on the board in the Nov. 3 general election for four-year terms. They currently are held by Jeup, Sean Cotton and Valarie St. John, with the latter two choosing not to seek re-election.

During the interviews, the candidates were asked the same 12 questions. The interviews were recorded and transcribed via a computer program. The following questions and answers have been edited only for grammar, syntax and clarity.

Walter "Walt" Fitzpatrick



Walter Fitzpatrick

Campaign website: facebook.com/profile.php?id=61593063752967

Campaign email: fitz26gppss@gmail.com

Years in Grosse Pointe: 32

Occupation: Retired GPPSS teacher and principal Endorsements: Pointers for Academic Excellence, Joint Association Committee (five employee bargaining units within GPPSS)

What three words best describe you? Collaborator, listener, experienced

Q: Let's say the district faces a $4 million budget shortfall. You can't raise taxes and you have to reduce spending. Which areas do you examine first and what would you protect at all costs?

A: For me, we would look as far away from the students as we could and start there. There's no easy cuts. If we say buildings and grounds, then I would say, "Well, what do the buildings start to look like? What repairs are we letting go?" So there's no easy solution. And then if we decide on something, what are the unintended consequences of reductions or an elimination of something? For example, if there's cuts in the curriculum department, how does that impact any new initiatives or any revisions in curriculum that we have?

Q: What is a book that has influenced you and why?

A: "They Call Me Coach," by John Wooden. It talks about setting expectations as a leader, as a coach. A lot of what was in the book I transferred over to my day-to-day interactions with students and parents. I realize and I recognize that not everybody agrees with a decision I made as an administrator or as a teacher, so it's learning how to work with that, the fallout. Because we disagree doesn't mean our relationship should change.

Q: If an effort to close an achievement gap improves outcomes for some people but reduces them for others, would you support it?

A: I guess I would say I'd have to know more about the specific initiative to say yes or no. Every student in a classroom should be getting what you call tier one (support). Every student. And then depending on, as you monitor their success, you may have to give a little extra. But it doesn't mean you take away from somebody else. It just means that some students need to get a little extra. And then there are some students that need more than what a classroom teacher potentially could provide, so that would be to get to another system of support. But everybody deserves to get the core or what we consider tier one in the classroom and it doesn't mean if something else is going to happen, it doesn't mean that the day-to-day instruction changes.

Q: How do you see yourself managing relationships and behavior on the board given its sometimes hostile environment?

A: Having been a building administrator, I have sat in many meetings where parents are sitting across the table or are upset and angry. As I said earlier, the nature is that there's going to be disagreement. And so I've always tried to handle myself that because we disagree, I don't attach that disagreement to you as a person. I personally will never attack anybody or put anybody down because we disagree. Sometimes good things can come out of disagreements because then you can find a common road or you can see things differently. I still think at the end of the day, we're all there for the same purpose and that is to provide a great environment for students to be successful.

Thomas Howlett



Thomas Howlett

Q: If the board could only significantly improve one thing over your tenure on the board, what would you want it to be?

A: One thing that I always worry about is finances because the number of students that walk through the door, that's where we get our money. And so I think being wise in how we spend and what we spend on is important. I would then say the curriculum and what goes on in dayto-day quality teaching, and how we support the people who deliver the instruction every day.

Q: What financial metric or indicator would you watch most closely as a trustee and is there anything budget-wise right now that worries you?

A: The biggest thing for the budget that worries me is that we can't generate income. So the only way we can increase the revenue that comes in is by trying to attract or bring more kids into our system. Our biggest expenditure in the district is personnel, so I always worry about how we provide a sound budget but yet be able to support those folks that make it all happen. My biggest worry is how do we compensate employees appropriately but yet have a sound budget where we're not always trying to tap into our fund equity.

Virginia Jeup



Virginia Jeup

Q: Should schools be required to notify parents if a student asks to use a different name, pronouns or gender identity at school? Why or why not?

A: I don't know about the word "require." I would just say as an administrator, if a child came up to me and asked, I would personally feel obligated to call. As a parent, I'd want to be contacted as well.

Q: If the district expands preschool opportunities, what approach would you like to see them take? For example, should every elementary school have a preschool classroom, or should it be centralized in one building?

A: I'm of the mindset that we have to try it, because we keep talking about it, so let's try it. Having worked in the elementary level, my biggest concern would be there isn't space in every single building to offer it. So I really don't know if it's better to offer it in one location or in multiple locations. Let's try it, evaluate it and make a decision moving forward. Trombly is available, so putting daycare on the first floor at Trombly is a first step. And then in buildings that have available room to try it there and then look at the enrollment data, parent feedback, take all of that to make decisions moving forward.

Michelle White



Michelle White

Q: If the district did expand preschool, how should available seats be prioritized? Should we participate broadly in the Great Start Readiness Program, which includes people maybe not living in Grosse Pointe? Should we prioritize the resident families first and then backfill or any other model that you think is appropriate?

A: They're two different offerings. GSRP is available to a variety of folks, but I would assume the preschool program would run very similar to the way we do enrollment in elementary, whether it be residents and perhaps employees' children as well. I see the purpose of one of the goals of preschool would be to capture newer, younger families and those are the folks that we should give priority to, to make sure there's space. If our goal is to increase enrollment, make sure that preschool is a priority.

Q: What do you think should happen with Trombly? They've talked about whether it could reopen as a regular elementary, or you could have the preschool on the first floor and other grades on the second floor. Or should people just look at it as the district made its decision, let's move on?

A: It is looked at emotionally. I was the building principal when it closed. It closed at the start of COVID, so it was very difficult to transition away. We should use data to see whether or not we should open it. If there are enough students to fill it to offer a solid elementary education, then that's a conversation we should start having. But if we can't fill and get enough students on each grade level to offer at least two classes, that's going to be a tough conversation. I do feel that something should be happening, that building should be used. No one at Defer ever went to Trombly. I would think about those students that currently go to Defer and consider that their home school. If you opened Trombly do you make those kids come back? Or do you let them finish out their elementary career at Defer?

Q: The Grosse Pointe Public School System currently partners with the local public safety departments to provide armed school resource officers in the high schools as part of the district's approach to school safety. Do you support continuing the district's partnership to provide armed school resource officers in our high schools?

A: This was a conversation earlier in my career

See ELECT, page 20A

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Library seeks millage renewal on Nov. 3 ballot

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

THE GROSSE POINTES — The Grosse Pointe Public Library is seeking renewal of a millage, which accounts for about 30 percent of its annual revenue, on the Nov. 3 ballot.

Voters will see a proposal for a 15-year renewal at 0.6432 mills, which equates to $129 annually for homes with a $200,000 taxable value.

The millage, which residents already are paying and does not incorporate any increases, first was approved by voters in 2011 at an initial rate of 0.7 mills. It became necessary to support the library after the Woods and Ewald branches opened in the early 2000s, and was renewed once before, in 2018 at 0.6847 mills.

The supplemental millage goes toward everything it takes to operate the library, Executive Director Jessica Keyser said, including staffing, which is the organization's biggest expense, and its print and digital collections.

"Digital content is becoming increasingly popular, so our circulation now is nearly half digital," Keyser said. " … Digital content is a lot more expensive for the library to provide than a physical copy, just because of licensing restrictions and the pricing set by the publishers."

The millage additionally will allow for major capital improvements in the near future, including replacement of the chillers at the Ewald and Woods branches, replacement of the boilers at Ewald and modernizing the elevator at Woods to meet current safety codes.

It also has a hand in paying off bonds that were issued for major building improvements completed in 2024, including a 7,500-square-foot, two-story expansion to the Central branch.

The library will be paying off the bonds until 2042, coinciding with the length of the 15-year millage renewal request.

"When we were looking at the duration, we actually had our accounting consultants help us create long-term financial projections," Keyser said. "Our finances and our costs are fairly stable and predictable, so we felt confident that 15 years was foreseeable.

"And then if we continue to grow and remain relevant like we are now, I anticipate 15 years from now the library would be looking at renewing again or possibly doing a Headlee override at that point."

More than 90 percent of the library's operations are funded by millages — 30 percent by the supplemental millage currently on the ballot and the remainder by a millage that exists in perpetuity, which was established in 1994, when the library first became independent from the Grosse Pointe Public School System.

Though the millage in perpetuity first was passed at 1.7 mills, today it rests at about 1.4 mills due to Headlee rollbacks, which lower property tax millage rates when property values increase faster than the rate of inflation.

The remainder of the library's revenue is made up of a small amount of state aid determined by the Michigan Department of Education's budget each year, in addition to a fluctuating amount from the county out of what it collects in penal fines for various criminal and civil offenses.

"We don't get any funding through the city's levies at all," Keyser clarified.

Library officials landed on going for a supplemental millage renewal of 0.6432 mills, because that is the amount it currently is collecting due to Headlee rollbacks.

"We looked at a lot of different options and we did talk about going back up to 0.7 mills, which is what it was originally levied at," Keyser said, "but we felt like we could sustain our operations with the rollback amount and so we didn't want to ask the community for more than we felt we needed, because we are cognizant that there are a lot of different millages and there's needs for infra-

See RENEW, page 22A

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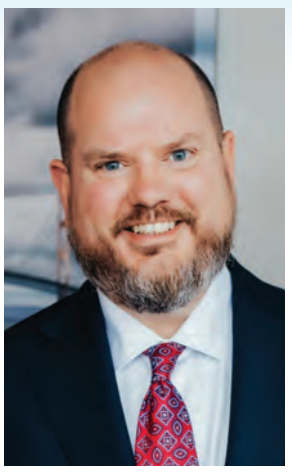
PFAE


Incumbent
GINNY JEUP
JAKE HOWLETT
WALT FITZPATRICK

EXPERIENCED TRANSPARENT DEDICATED

Ginny Jeup, Jake Howlett and Walt Fitzpatrick will work tirelessly to ensure every student has the opportunity to learn, grow and succeed.

PROVEN LEADERS

Keep classrooms focused on student learning and achievement
Promote safe, welcoming schools for every student
Spend taxpayer dollars responsibly & transparently

KEEP OUR NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOLS OPEN & THRIVING

★ ★ ★ VOTE TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3 ★ ★ ★

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Not authorized by any candidate committee.

ELECT:

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and the biggest reason the district never went for it was finances. I do think having a resource officer on site helps with safety, with planning. As a building administrator, and particularly when I worked at middle school, to have that relationship with the local public safety was so valuable, especially when you would get information about certain things. It was nice to share and then have somebody else assist you in dealing with things.

Q: In the event of an emergency, do you support letting local public safety have access to school building security cameras so responding officers can obtain real-time information?

A: In case of an emergency, it could be very valuable to have access to something. They came to me when I was a principal a couple of times looking at our outside cameras because of things that happened at nighttime. If there was a school shooter, God forbid, the police should have access to be able to see it right there so they can call in help.

Thomas "Jake" Howlett

Campaign website: howlettforgpschools.com

Campaign email: howlettforgpschools@gmail.com

Years in Grosse Pointe: 49

Occupation: Attorney

Endorsements: Pointers for Academic Excellence, Joint Association Committee (five employee bargaining units within GPPSS)

What three words best describe you? Empathetic, prudent, committed

Q: The district faces a $4 million budget shortfall. You can't raise taxes. You have to reduce spending. What areas do you examine first, and what would you protect at all costs?

A: I think protecting at all costs is the classroom and the students. I think every decision the board makes that is budget focused, you have to remember the impact of those decisions is always felt first and last by the students. And so I think in examining the budget overall, you would want to start from the back and move toward the classroom.

Q: What is a book that has influenced you and why?

A: "To Kill a Mockingbird." It was a book that my dad was a big fan of and I just thought it was a great story about a person willing to stand up to do the right thing in the community, even though he took a lot of criticism. I do think of that book often in the context of the election because there's a part of that book when the neighbor is talking to, I can't remember if it's Jem or Scout, about their father and says, "You know, there are some people in the community who have to do the unpleasant jobs for us, and your father is one of them." And that's how I always thought of my dad. He was on the school board for eight years. Not that I would ever compare being on the school board here in Grosse Pointe to having to stand up and defend a wrongly accused man, but I do think it has impacted me in terms of my commitment to service and how important it is when you live in a community.

Q: If an effort to close an achievement gap improves outcomes for some but reduces overall academic performance, would you support it?

A: I would be very careful about supporting that. I think I always look at the academics and the outcomes in this community in two different ways. I think we have a unique opportunity in Grosse Pointe because we have a diverse student body. We've got economic diversity. We have racial diversity. We have students that come into this district from other districts that might be behind students that start here, but we are a high-achieving district. We send our students to the best colleges. I'm always hesitant to make decisions or have impacts that I think lower that high priority that this community rightly puts on that.

Q: How do you see yourself managing relationships on the board given its sometimes hostile environment?

A: Disagreement is not a bad thing. I don't think we would ever want a school board that's completely in line on every decision. I think there is a real risk to that type of outcome. I think I have a skill set that's valuable to the school board in terms of being able to get along with a lot of different people. I think respectful disagreement, honest collaboration and working through are going to be some really difficult and challenging problems and understanding everybody's perspective and viewpoints, but then using your own judgment to come up with the best solutions, is something I do every day.

Q: If the board could significantly improve one thing during your tenure on the board, what should it be and why?

A: I would really like to see the board and the district as a whole do a better job with enrollment. Raising revenue, we're sort of constrained with what we can do. We are not a school of choice. I certainly don't support schools of choice, but I do think the district can do a better job of increasing enrollment, drawing families to the district from outside the district and most importantly taking students that are available to our district that might be making other choices and getting them to choose the Grosse Pointe Public School System. Because of the budget constraints, because of the revenue constraints, it's really students in-district that drive most of the incoming money.

Q: What financial metric would you watch most closely and do you have any concerns about the district's finances?

A: I have concerns about the district finances. I don't think they're being mismanaged or there's anything sort of specific I would necessarily point to. But school finances are like an impossible Rubik's Cube to solve. You can't control very easily the money that comes in and there's just not enough money to do all the things I think people would like to do.

I think the current teacher contract is a very good example of that. I don't know that you'll find anybody that says teachers should be paid less or that we shouldn't make our Grosse Pointe teachers the highest paid in the state. Everybody rightfully so loves and appreciates our teachers, but even that conversation has to be had in the context of the wider budget. My concern with the budget is long-term planning. And I think it's easy to lose sight of what the next two years, five years, 10 years look like.

Q: Should schools be required to notify parents if a student asks to use a different name, pronouns or gender identity at school? Why or why not?

A: Yes, the school should notify the parents. Speaking as a parent, I think that's information that I would want to know. One of the great things about this district is we have good parent involvement and I think the district operates well when the parents are working closely with teachers, administration and the board.

Q: If the district expands preschool opportunities, what approach would you like to see them take? For example, should every elementary school have a preschool classroom, or should it be centralized in one building?

A: I don't know that I would like to see it centralized in one building. I think there is such a need. I know there's been a lot of talk about implementing a program like that at Trombly, which I think is part of a much bigger question related to that particular elementary school. It's an administration decision to understand what and how, where and how it's implemented and how that can be incorporated into the best use of our facilities. I know there are restrictions about keeping it on the first floor.

We'd have to look at enrollment levels at different schools. I think having it in multiple facilities to service a broad range, geographically in the community would be ideal, but it would be really a cost-benefit analysis to see where it is feasible and make the most sense.

Q: If the district did expand preschool, how should available seats be prioritized? Should we participate broadly in the Great Start Readiness Program, which includes people maybe not living in Grosse Pointe? Should we prioritize the resident families first and then backfill or any other model that you think is appropriate?

A: We should prioritize Grosse Pointe families. If we're going to use our facilities and our resources, whether or not some of that money is coming in from the state, I think the priority here in our district should always be first to our Grosse Pointe families and then to the extent that there is capacity or availability. I think then you can look outside of the community. I think we could take a look at that and if we can service a broader range of stu-

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dents and there's a need for it and it helps, that benefits Grosse Pointe and its families, then I think that's a great option.

Q: What do you think should happen with Trombly? They've talked about whether it could reopen as a regular elementary, or you could have the preschool on the first floor and other grades on the second floor. Or should people just look at it as the district made its decision, let's move on?

A: I would support reopening Trombly as an elementary school, but I'm not really able to give that as an unequivocal answer. That would be highly dependent on what the enrollment projections are currently, what the enrollment projections would look like going forward, the cost to reopen it, how sustainable it is going forward.

The worst thing you can do is turn it into a volleyball where the district made a decision to close it, now they're going to reopen it and five years from now we have a different set of issues or an enrollment problem and we're going back through it. Neighborhood schools are one of the cornerstones of this community. One of the great traditions that we have is walkable schools, community schools.

Q: The Grosse Pointe Public School System currently partners with our local public safety departments to provide armed school resource officers in the high schools as part of the district's approach to safety. Do you support continuing the district's partnership to provide the school resource officers in the high schools?

A: I do. From everybody I've talked to, that program has gone really well. It's a complicated issue, or can be a complicated issue, but it sounds to me like we're very fortunate in Grosse Pointe to have some excellent SROs. The safety of our students is one of the first priorities that a school district has and I am a firm believer that it makes those buildings safer.

Q: Should the public safety departments have access to the school security cameras so that if they respond to an event, they have real-time information before they arrive?

A: I do think as a part of that safety component and having those officers in the schools, it makes sense to have that sort of visibility and the ability to respond. I think it's important we trust our educational experts when it comes to these types of questions. I think we need to also trust our law enforcement partners.

Virginia "Ginny" Jeup

Campaign website: jeupforschoolboard.org

Campaign email: ginnyjeup4schools@gmail.com

Years in Grosse Pointe: 26

Occupation: Business owner

Endorsements: Former GPPSS Superintendent Andrea Tuttle, Pointers for Academic Excellence, former Grosse Pointe Park Councilman Jim Robson, Grosse Pointe Farms Councilman Joe Ricci, City of Grosse Pointe Councilman David Calcaterra, City of Grosse Pointe Councilman Chris Walsh, GPPSS Trustee Sean Cotton, Eastside Republican Club

What three words best describe you? Independent, community-minded, experienced

Q: The district faces a $4 million budget shortfall. You can't raise taxes and you have to reduce spending. Which areas do you examine first and what would you protect at all costs?

A: Well, the first is, what money is closest to our kids, what money is closest to the classroom? What will help our teachers have all the tools they need to teach our kids reading, writing or arithmetic? Secondly, I would protect opportunities for our kids, whether that's sports, fine arts, the things that help them to succeed in life.

Q: What is a book that has influenced your life and why?

A: "Into Thin Air." It's about a journalist who decides to climb Mount Everest. It's a true story. It's an adventure. It's overcoming many challenges. I was trying to encourage my 16-year-old to read it the other day, so that's on the top of my mind right now.

Q: If an effort to close an achievement gap improves outcomes for some students but reduces the overall academic performance, would you support it?

A: In general I would not support that. We need to focus on all of our students and we want academic excellence from all of our learners. Every single student that walks into Grosse Pointe, we want them to walk out and be a better human as they graduate and grow up. We want to launch them into adulthood with all the opportunities they can have. I'd like to see that money spent for the whole.

Q: How do you see yourself managing relationships on the board given its sometimes hostile environment?

A: In general, I get along with people. I don't get personal with people. These are board issues. They're not personal issues. We need to bring the tension down and follow the process. I mean, we're making decisions on first reads. There used to be a spot in the agenda where it said other board business that we would bring to the table, but since Colleen Worden and Clint Derringer have been the presidents those opportunities have been taken away. I feel if there was more procedure at the board table that could take down the tone, because the hard questions need to be asked at the board table.

Q: If the board could significantly improve one thing over your next tenure on the board, what would you want it to be?

A: The most important thing for me is that our students have the best experience possible from the day they walk into our schools to the day they graduate. My children had a great experience through Grosse Pointe. I would hope that experience carries over. It really starts at the board. The board gives direction to our superintendent. We want our superintendent, Dr. Bishop, to succeed in every way possible because that benefits the students, the parents, the families and everyone involved.

Q: What financial metric or indicators would you watch most closely and is there anything about the budget right now that worries you?

A: The financial metric we have to keep an eye on is just like running a household. You need the amount of money that you spend to equal the amount of money that comes in. That all starts at the board table because the board gives direction to the superintendent which affects our budget greatly.

Q: Should schools be required to notify parents if a student asks to use a different name, pronouns or gender identity at school? Why or why not?

A: I absolutely think the parents should know if that occurs. We're partners with parents. We're not against them. If a student is making the decision to claim a pronoun one way or the other or anything like that, the parents should be informed. I don't see any reason why we would keep that information from a parent at any point.

Q: The district is looking at expanding preschool. What approach would you prefer? Should there be one preschool classroom in every elementary school or should it all be housed centrally in a repurposed building or something entirely different?

A: I think that every elementary school, we have seven right now, I would argue that we should have eight with Trombly being reopened, and everyone should be able to walk to their elementary schools, bike to their elementary schools and that should start in

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City has public safety assessment on ballot

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — In an avenue city officials have deemed vital to maintain the current level of city services, residents will be asked to approve a four-year, 1.25-mill public safety assessment on the Nov. 3 ballot.

Similar to a millage, an assessment would allow the city to circumvent state-imposed Headlee rollbacks, which eat away at the amount a municipality can collect each year and also played a significant role in how city finances reached a choke point in the first place.

Since 2017, according to City Manager Joe Valentine, the city has sacrificed to Headlee rollbacks roughly $2.3 million in revenue it would have otherwise collected. Budget projections show the gap between the city's revenue and its expenditures continuing to grow off the back of inflation, declining state-shared revenue and the Headlee cap on growth in property taxes, which are far and away the city's largest revenue source.

The city narrowly has avoided $400,000 to $500,000 in budget deficits the last several years, but its bag of tricks — deferring capital needs and retiree health care contributions — now has run dry.

At the same time, it faces roughly $3.8 million in capital needs across public safety, public works and pool repairs.

The solution, which city council reached after about a year of exploring options including a millage and Headlee override, is to use a special assessment to supplement its largest expenditure: the public safety department, which has a $4.1 million annual budget.

Anticipated to generate $613,750 annually, the assessment would enable the city to pay for public safety operational and capital needs, thereby freeing up funds in its general budget to simultaneously tackle needs for public works and pool repair.

"We're supplanting funds within that budget and we're lessening the demand on the general fund in order to meet the demands of the public safety department," Valentine explained during a recent town hall. "… We've worked to lay out a tentative plan looking at the next four years to address the needs of the public safety operation with the public safety assessment and then leveraging that additional funding in the general fund to address the needs of the pool and in the public works operation."

While the complete list of items can be found on the city's website, public safety assessment funds specifically would purchase patrol cars, a mini pumper truck, firefighting gear and police radios. The general fund money that frees up would fund two garbage trucks, a dump truck, front-end loader, pool systems replacement and resurfacing, pool deck replacement and kiddie pool repairs.

City officials consider it a Hail Mary chance to catch up on needs that long have been deferred, without which the city would be forced to continue using aging equipment already past its life expectancy.

The implementation of a public safety assessment, unlike a millage proposal, technically does not require voter approval. It would be within city council's purview to put it in place via a vote of the council; however, members opted to leave the decision up to residents for the sake of transparency.

For an average taxable value of $225,000, the assessment would cost residents approximately $281.25 per year.

Because the city currently has the lowest tax rate among the five Pointes, the addition of a 1.25-mill assessment still

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Re-Elect GINNY JEUP
GROSSE POINTE SCHOOL BOARD

PROUDLY ENDORSED BY

Dr. Andrea Tuttle
Former GPPSS Superintendent

"Serving as the former Grosse Pointe Superintendent with Trustee Jeup as a board member was an extraordinary privilege. Her uncompromising dedication to fiscal responsibility, safety and security, focus on academic and extracurricular opportunities for all, and support for every student ensures that Grosse Pointe continues to thrive as a premier district. By placing student opportunities, support for students and the team, and total excellence at the center of every decision, Trustee Jeup combines sharp strategic vision with genuine advocacy for the entire educational community, making her an indispensable leader on the board."

Grosse Pointe News
A Trusted Voice for Our Community

Eastside Republican Club

PFAE
Pointers for Academic Excellence

Ted KEDZIERSKI
Mayor of Grosse Pointe Shores (since 2011)

David CALCATERRA
Grosse Pointe City Council

Sean COTTON
GPPSS Board Trustee

Chris D. WALSH
Grosse Pointe City Council

Joe RICCI
Grosse Pointe Farms City Council

Jim ROBSON
Former Grosse Pointe Park Councilman & Mayor Pro Tem (28 years)

Terry COLLINS
Former GPPSS Board Trustee & Treasurer (2023-2024)

Pam HORNBERGER
Former Michigan State Representative Former Chair, Michigan House Education Committee

101526

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SAFETY:

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would leave the total levy rate lower than that in the Park and Woods.

Voters will see on their ballots a proposal for "Special Assessment for Police and Fire Departments."

The ballot language is as follows:

"Should the City of Grosse Pointe raise money to partially equip, maintain and operate the City Police and Fire Departments (Public Safety) by annual special assessment levies of up to 1.25 mills ($1.25 per $1,000 of taxable value) on all real property in the City that is not exempt from property taxes, for a period of four years with the levies to be from 2026 to 2029 to provide funding for the 2027 to 2030 calendar years? If approved and fully levied in December 2026, the estimated revenue from this special assessment collected in the first year would be approximately $613,750.00."

RENEW:

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structure throughout the community."

Voters in the five Pointes and the part of Harper Woods within the Grosse Pointe Public School System — about 5,942 residents — will decide the supplemental millage renewal, which would continue to provide about $2.6 million annually to the library.

The library needs a simple majority of voters to vote yes in order for the millage to pass.

Without its continuation, the library not only would be unable to execute its five-year strategic plan adopted in 2026 — the plan outlines interest in shorter wait times for popular items, more digital resources and expanded marketplace offerings — but also likely would have to eliminate evening and weekend hours.

"Our biggest expense is wages and benefits, which would be typical for any service organization," Keyser explained. "We already operate really lean at all three buildings in terms of how many staff we have, especially on the evenings and weekends, so we really couldn't scale back at the branches very much at all and still be able to keep our doors open.

"(We would have) fewer programs and we would have to scale way back on what we spend on our collections," she added, "so it would look like a much different library."

The current supplemental millage runs until December 2027. If approved, the first collection from the renewed millage will be in December 2028.

The ballot language is as follows:

"Shall the 0.6432 mills ($0.6432 per $1,000 of taxable value) currently levied be renewed for a period of 15 years from 2028 to 2042, inclusive, to provide funds for all library purposes authorized by law for district libraries? If approved and levied in its entirety in 2028, the millage would raise an estimated $2,658,586 for the Grosse Pointe Public Library."

GROSSE POINTE D DEMOCRATIC CLUB

The Grosse Pointe Democratic Club
has made the following endorsements for the
NOVEMBER 3 general election:

STATEWIDE RACES

JOCELYN BENSON
Governor

ELI SAVIT
Attorney General

GARLIN GILCHRIST II
Secretary of State

NOAH HOOD
MEAGAN CAVANAGH
Michigan Supreme Court

PAUL BROWN (incumbent)
AMIR MAKLED
University of Michigan Board of Regents

BRIANNA SCOTT (incumbent)
KELLY TEBAY ZEMKE
Michigan State University Board of Trustees

RICHARD MACK
SHEREEF AKEE
Wayne State University Board of Governors

JUDITH PRITCHETT
TIFFANY TILLEY
State Board of Education

U.S. SENATE

ABDUL EL-SAYED
U.S Senate District

U.S. HOUSE

CHRISTINA HINES
U.S. House District 10

RASHIDA TLAIB
U.S. House District 12

DONAVAN MCKINNEY
U.S. House District 13

STATE RACES

KEVIN HERTEL
State Senate District 12

VERONICA PAIZ
State House District 10

LOCAL RACES

MICHELLE WHITE
Grosse Pointe Public School System Board

PROPOSALS

Vote 'NO' on Proposal 1

Vote 'YES' on Proposal 2

Vote 'YES' on the library millage

★ REMEMBER ★

VOTE YOUR WHOLE BALLOT on or before November 3rd

For more information, go to gpdems.com

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101526

ELECT:

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preschool. I'd love to see the fifth grade out of the middle school and back down to the elementary schools, give them more years of childhood. I'd like to see all eight of our elementary schools thriving.

Q: If the district does expand preschool, how should the available seats be prioritized? Participate broadly in the Great Start Readiness Program, which might allow eligible students who live outside the district to attend the schools, or prioritize Grosse Pointe resident families first and then maybe backfill with others if there's space, or some other?

A: I think we absolutely have to prioritize Grosse Pointe Public School System families for those spots. Whether it's the Great Start Readiness Program or whether it's our paid preschool, those seats must go to residents.

Q: What should be done with Trombly? Reopen it as an elementary school, do the first floor preschool and have other grades on the second floor or has the decision been made and the district should just move forward?

A: I think the community south of Jefferson formed a great team independent of the schools. They brought us a ton of data. They went door to door. They took surveys and they brought us the research that said there are enough children south of Jefferson to reopen Trombly and now we're having a huge discussion about the need in this community for a preschool, so we're expanding our preschool program. That automatically brings another class or two or three to Trombly.

Q: The Grosse Pointe Public School System currently partners with our local public safety departments to provide armed school resource officers in the high schools. Do you support continuing the district's partnership?

A: I do support that and I'm proud of the work that we've done to get to where we are today. We have an amazing resource officer at South, a separate amazing resource officer at North. We hear nothing but positive things from families, from students. They are in our schools to protect our kids and that's our No. 1 job as a school board or a school district is to protect the kids in this district. So I strongly believe they need to be there.

Q: In the event of an emergency, do you support allowing public safety departments to have direct access to school security cameras so that responding officers can obtain realtime information?

A: Absolutely. The officers should undoubtedly have full access to our cameras so that in case of an emergency they could pinpoint the issue, the problem, whatever's going on, and have all the information they need.

Michelle White

Campaign website: michellewhiteforgpschools.com

Campaign email: info@michellewhiteforgpschools.com

Years in Grosse Pointe: 18

Occupation: Community volunteer

Endorsements: State Rep. Veronica Paiz, Gun Sense Candidate designation by Moms Demand Action

What three words best describe you? Caring, committed, collaborative

Q: Let's say the district faces a $4 million budget shortfall. You can't raise taxes and you have to reduce spending. What areas do you examine first and what would you protect at all costs?

A: Well, I would protect at all costs teachers' compensation. I think that the reason that Grosse Pointe schools can claim to provide their students with an elite education is because of our teachers. Our teachers are the best of the best. I have experienced it myself with my kids. I believe that that has to be protected. As far as what we cut, I would say we have to look as far away from the student experience as possible. I think, especially in these inflationary times, we should be looking at our vendor contracts.

Q: What is a book that has influenced you and why?

A: I guess one of the ones that really comes to mind is "The Giving Tree." It's a gift that I give to young people, because I think that we have to be mindful of what we are putting out into the world, what we are giving. And we also have to be mindful of what we're taking. I think as a human being, I feel morally obligated to give all that I can give to make the world better, to do right by other people and to be very mindful of what I'm asking of other people to do.

Q: If an effort to close an achievement gap improves outcomes for some students but reduces them for others, would you support it?

A: I wouldn't want to do that. I think that we must work on lifting up all students, but it should not come at the expense of others. I think the goal here, as a district, is to lift all boats. I would look for ways to do that, even though we have limited resources. But I think that collaboratively we can work together and we can find solutions that would help that would be good for all kids.

Q: How would you see yourself managing relationships and behavior on the board, given its sometimes hostile environment?

A: I think that's an overarching goal that I have. We have to figure out a way to get along. We have to work respectfully, because that's the job. This is a nonpartisan board. I would be a nonpartisan trustee. I have to leave all partisanship aside, but you're talking just about maybe differing viewpoints. That's welcome. You have six or seven people who are coming together and they have differing viewpoints. They come from different places and so they can contribute different things and hopefully by working together you come up with the best answer together.

Q: If the board could significantly improve one thing over your tenure on the board, what should it be and why?

A: We have to figure out our answer to enrollment and the money that we don't have because of declining enrollment and how to manage the resources that we have. The declining enrollment situation has been brought on primarily by declining birth rates and then also by the fact that we're hemmed in and can't really add new housing. And because of Prop A, older people are staying in their homes because property tax rates are uncapped if they move out. They're living in this amazing community for a very low tax rate, many of them. We also have to do exit interviews with people who do leave, the people who are living here with kids and don't send their kids here.

We need to figure out why they're leaving and we need to actually address those issues as to why they're leaving. We also have to look at our programming and make sure that we're actually providing the programming and the academic rigor that parents want for their kids so that they want to send their kids here to Grosse Pointe schools.

Q: What financial metric or indicator would you watch most closely as a board member and do you see anything about the budget that worries you?

A: I guess in my mind it's just the butts in seats. The fact that we don't have all the kids who live here in our schools. We have just such a wonderful foundation in our schools, but we can always do better and we need to do better so that we can bring some of those kids back. Like I said before, I think we should be looking at vendor contracts.

We need to take a deep dive and make sure that we're getting the best bang for our buck and that we're also going out for bid as much as possible, making sure that we're attracting a good pool of bidders.

Q: Should schools be required to notify parents if a student asks to use a different name, pronouns or gender identity at school? Why or why not?

A: No. I think the role of the school, especially a counselor, is to encourage the student to talk to

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WALTER FITZPATRICK
FOR GPPSS SCHOOL BOARD



PAID FOR BY THE WALTER FITZPATRICK FOR GPPSS SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE, 373 BELANGER AVE., GROSSE POINTE FARMS, MI 48236



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Judge Nicole Castka, with her hand on a copy of the U.S. Constitution and a copy of the Michigan Constitution, held by her husband, Patrick Kenney, is sworn in by Michigan Court of Appeals Judge Mariam Bazzi.

It's an honor, Your Honor

An investiture ceremony for Judge Nicole Castka took place Monday, Oct. 5, at Grosse Pointe Congregational Church. Friends, fellow judges, work colleagues and family members attended.

Missionary Kimberly Nix sang "The Star-Spangled Banner" and "Lift Every Voice and Sing." After judicial and elected officials were introduced, friends and judges from the Third Judicial Circuit Court spoke about Castka. The Administration of Oath was given, followed by the Robing of the Judge.



Helping Castka with her judge's robe after taking the oath is Beth Greenberg Morrow.



Castka fastens her jabot, a decorative fabric that hangs on the front of the robe and adds a feminine element to a standard robe traditionally designed for men.

ELECT:

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the parent, but I understand it could be hard for a child to do that in some homes. I would also encourage the child to talk to the parent about perhaps getting some outside counseling help to make that process go much smoother for the student and the family.

The goal is for the student to have a happy home life, a happy family life, one where they feel they belong and be their true selves, but also feel supported at school. And we know for sure that anybody who is identifying perhaps as LGBTQ we know that having just one trusted adult can stop them from killing themselves.

Q: If the district were to expand preschool, what approach would you prefer? Should there be a classroom in every elementary school? Should they pick a building and have it centralized?

A: I don't know the answer to that, but I will say that we have to take a really holistic look at how we're looking at our buildings and how we're using our buildings. I don't know if it makes most sense to have it in a centralized location or in each individual building. If I had my preference, it would be in each individual building, because I feel like that's your home school and the family becomes part of that community. And then I think that it is better for retention of our students to have it there.

Q: With preschool, how should the available seats be prioritized? Do you think that we should do the Great Start Readiness Program, which allows people who live outside the district to come in, or give priority to resident families and then fill in with any capacity or another enrollment model?

A: You know, I don't have the answer to that. I have to think about that. The advantage of the Great Start Readiness Program is that we get extra money for that. I think we need preschool for all our kids and we should make sure that we're offering it to our residents.

Q: What do you think should happen with Trombly? Should it either open as an elementary school again or there's potential there to have preschool on the first floor and upper grades on the second floor, or do you look at it as though the decision's been made and people just need to move forward?

A: I don't look at it as a decision that's been made and people need to move forward at all. I will say that had I been on the board when that decision was made, I never would've voted for closing Poupard and Trombly. And that's because the Blue Ribbon Committee didn't recommend that. If you're going to convene a committee made up of community members, then you need to be listening to what the committee says.

I also very much value walkable schools. It's why we moved here. That was high on my list. I think we should try to do everything we can to retain that. I think it also makes us different from districts across the metro area. How can we set ourselves apart? How can we make our district attractive to other families?

Q: The Grosse Pointe Public School System currently partners with our local public safety departments to provide armed resource officers in our high schools. Do you support continuing the district's partnership?

A: I was at the board meeting where the board renewed the contract with the police departments for the SROs. One huge reason is because the building principals asked them to. The building principals have been very pleased with how it's going and they wanted it renewed. And so the board said yes and I support our building principals.

Q: In the event of an emergency, do you support allowing our local public safety departments to have access to the district's security cameras so that when they respond they'll have real-time information and be aware of the situation?

A: In the event of an emergency? Yes, I do. I don't have any reason to say that wouldn't be a good idea. We want everybody to be safe.



VOTE YES | Renew the millage Nov 3

Your taxes for library services will not increase
The Grosse Pointe Public Library is asking voters to approve a renewal of its 0.6432 millage on November 3. The millage will raise an estimated $2.6 million each year. Failure to renew the millage will reduce the Library's overall budget by 30% which could result in cuts to staffing, hours and services. **Be sure to turn your ballot over. The Library millage renewal is the last item on the ballot.**

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Podcast is 'Totally Grosse'

'Broadcast family' airs podcast created by, for kids

By Jody McVeigh
Editor



PHOTOS COURTESY OF DANIELLE CARLOMUSTO

Bill McAllister records a Taste Testers session featuring Ashby's ice cream.

A handful of Grosse Pointe kids are proving you don't need to be a grown-up to have something to say — or an audience to say it to — with "Totally Grosse," a podcast made by kids, for kids.

While most podcasts are made by adults who think they know what kids want to hear, "Totally Grosse" skips the middleman.

"We were looking for a summer project for our kids," said Danielle Carlomusto, who, with her husband, Bill McAllister, came up with the initial idea. "We wanted something that would build community, something to reflect their dynamic interests. ... We wanted to shine a spotlight on the kids and on the wonderful things in the community."

Their 10-year-old twins, Amelia and Marco, and some of their friends — who represent "a beautiful kaleidoscope of interests and personalities," Carlomusto said — were quick to take interest in the project.

During the monthly podcast, available on all platforms, the youngsters take to the town, microphones in hand, to ask the questions they want answered, taste the foods they enjoy most and hear from older generations about long-ago life in the Pointes.

"The kids are coming up with the ideas," Carlomusto said. "Everything you hear on 'Totally Grosse' came from the brain of one of my kids or their friends."

The cast of young characters has reviewed the menu at Harbor Lanes bowling alley, learned about fish flies with an expert from the Cranbrook Institute of Science and paid a visit to The Friendship Factory for a peek behind the scenes.

"I asked my daughter what she loves that she wants other people to know about and she said The Friendship Factory," Carlomusto said. "She said she'd love for people to get to know it. Bill and I arranged the interview, but Amelia came up with the questions and asked the questions that were important to her."

While visiting Harbor Lanes, where the children are part of a bowling club, the first question out of the young interviewer's mouth was about the food.

"As an adult, I would ask about bowling, but ... this is a unique way to nail down that this is really from a child's perspective," Carlomusto said.

Among its most popular segments is Taste Testers, in which a team of preteens selects a local shop to sample and rate specific foods. They've voted on the sourest candy at Sweet Pointe Candy Shoppe, the best ice cream at Ashby's Sterling Ice Cream and the best doughnuts at Yellow Light Coffee & Donuts.

"I've never had a bad doughnut or a bad bowl of ice cream," Carlomusto said, laughing. "It's a fun thing the businesses get to say they did. No one has said no (to a request); everyone gets what we're doing."

Another segment, Ask a Grandparent, has been fun for all involved.

"You can see the twinkle in (the grandparents') eyes when they're talking about their favorite activities when they were kids," Carlomusto said.

Though it started as a summer project, "Totally Grosse" got a great response from listeners, so Carlomusto and McAllister decided to continue offering it monthly.

"For kids who are into academics or sports, there are lots of outlets," Carlomusto said, "but for kids who are into Pokémon or LEGOs or Dungeons & Dragons, things are not so mainstream. This is an outlet to express themselves."

Those interested in getting involved — a grandparent, a business owner, a child who wants in on the action — are invited to email totallygrosse@gmail.com.

"One boy wanted a Pokémon Minute to talk about Pokémon," Carlomusto said. "If a kid would like to be part of it, if they have an idea or want to read a poem or talk about something important to them, we encourage that if it's something they're really passionate about.

"If there's a grandparent out there, especially one who grew up in Grosse Pointe, what a unique perspective to give," she added. "What a beautiful connection. There's a wealth of amazing grandparents with so much to impart to the next generation of Pointers."

For those nervous about making a contribution, the McAllisters have them covered.

"My husband runs a podcast company," Carlomusto said. "We're sort of a broadcast family."

McAllister, formerly an on-air personality for 97.1 The Ticket, 94.7 WCSX and 106.7 WLLZ, has been president of Podcast Nation since 2021.

"My children are very comfortable on the microphone," Carlomusto said. "So far, it's been relegated to people who are comfortable with the McAllister crew. We want everyone to feel comfortable; we can go to you, set up equipment, have the interview. We'll create a space where the child feels comfortable expressing themselves to the community."

New episodes of "Totally Grosse" may be found monthly on all podcast platforms.

"We consider it an audio children's magazine," Carlomusto said. "It's a true community endeavor. Wherever you fit into the community, you'll fit into 'Totally Grosse.'"

Anyone interested in being a part of the fun may email totallygrosse@gmail.com or connect via the "Totally Grosse" Facebook or Instagram pages.





Yellow Light Coffee & Donuts was generous with Totally Grosse, supplying more than enough doughnuts for the Taste Testers.



Ashby's Sterling Ice Cream supplied several flavors of ice cream for the Totally Grosse Taste Testers.



Bill McAllister, a seasoned podcaster, makes sure production days run smoothly.

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Grosse Pointe Symphony to open at new home Oct. 25

The Grosse Pointe Symphony Orchestra will open its 2026-27 season at 7 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 25, with its first performance at the A. Paul and Carol C. Schaap Center for the Performing Arts.

The program itself will mark the occasion.

The orchestra will perform Beethoven's "Overture to the Consecration of the House," an especially fitting work as the GPSO takes the stage in its new performance home for the first time.

The evening also will feature Mussorgsky's "Pictures at an Exhibition."

Joining the orchestra will be cellist Cameron Renshaw, a winner of the Grosse Pointe Symphony Orchestra's Nester Scholarship competition, performing Tchaikovsky's "Variations on a Rococo Theme."

Despite his youth, Renshaw, 14, is no stranger to major stages or national attention. At 9 years old, he appeared on "The Ellen DeGeneres Show," where he spoke with the host about his musical journey and performed on national television. By that age, he already had performed at Carnegie Hall five times.

Renshaw's appearance with the GPSO represents the purpose of the orchestra's Nester Scholarship program: identifying and financially supporting exceptional young musicians while providing them an opportunity to perform as soloists with a full symphony orchestra.

The concert will be conducted by Doug Bianchi of Wayne State University, one of several guest conductors leading the GPSO during its search for a new music director following Joe Striplin's retirement after 20 years.

The performance also begins a period that will lead into another milestone for the organization: the Grosse Pointe Symphony Orchestra's 75th season in 2027-28.

The Schaap Center is located at 15001 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

Tickets are available online at store.paymentshub.com/GPSO.



COURTESY PHOTO

The Grosse Pointe Symphony Orchestra rehearses at its new home, the A. Paul and Carol C. Schaap Center for the Performing Arts. It kicks off its season there Oct. 25.

Service organizations to host annual flag-retirement ceremony

Thanks to local patriotic service organizations and Grosse Pointe Farms officials, it has become a fall tradition to collect worn American flags for a flag-retirement ceremony in October.

For the 15th consecutive year, the Louisa St. Clair Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution; Grosse Pointe Scouting America Troop 96; and the John Paul Jones Society, Children of the American Revolution, will host their annual U.S. flag retirement ceremony at 6 p.m. Monday, Oct. 19, at Pier Park in Grosse Pointe Farms. All are welcome.

Those who have a worn U.S. flag and are unsure about how to respectfully dispose of it should bring it to Grosse Pointe Farms City Hall, 90 Kerby, during business hours, or to the Pier Park gatehouse before the event and place it in the available collection bins.

The collected worn flags then will be included in the flag-retirement ceremony. It is an intergenerational event, bringing children, parents and grandparents together.

A popular way to retire a worn American flag is by burning it in a fire. The ceremony should be conducted with dignity and respect and the flag burned completely to ashes.

At the Farms ceremony, scouts will dress in uniform and provide a color guard.

The ceremony has grown in both participation and number of worn flags collected. In recent years, there have been so many worn flags, there was not enough time to burn all of them during the ceremony. The remainder are burned at Troop 96's late-October camping trip.

To inquire about the flag retirement ceremony, email Jeanne Flynn at jeannegpw@aol.com or call Grosse Pointe Farms City Hall at (313) 885-6600.



COURTESY PHOTO

Nighttime highlight

Artist Peter Tkacz was selected to exhibit his photograph, "Gordie Howe International Bridge Noir," at the Grosse Pointe Artists Association gallery, located inside The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. The piece, a 20-by-40-inch luster print mounted on Dibond, explores the bridge in its nocturnal environment, surrounded by urban, industrial and natural Detroit River landscape, before its opening.

"Having my work showcased at The War Memorial alongside other talented artists is a real privilege," said Tkacz, a Windsor, Ontario-based fine artist. "The exhibit has many interesting works centered around the theme, 'Our Rivers, Our Lakes.'"

Opening night, the program was hosted by GPAA President Karen Pope and presented by juror Alex Gilford, an artist and park ranger. After the awards were presented, artists were provided an opportunity to speak about their exhibited work.

The exhibition is free and open to the public during normal gallery hours: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. It runs through Dec. 4.

Find more of Tkacz's work online at tkaczdesigns.com.

AREA ACTIVITIES

Historical Society

The Grosse Pointe Historical Society has opened the exhibition, "Robert O. Derrick: Architect of Dreams," at the Grosse Pointe History Center, 375 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms. The exhibition features historic photographs, personal clippings, blueprints and curated objects from the society's permanent collection. Gallery hours are 9:30 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday or by appointment. Learn more at gphistorical.org.

Ford House

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

◆ Storytime: "Stumpkin," by Lucy Ruth Cummins, 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays in October.

◆ Trivia Night — '80s Theme, 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 15. Admission is $10 for Friends, $12 for the public.

◆ Autumn Shoreline Guided Tour, noon to 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 17. Cost is $10 for Friends, $20 for the public.

◆ Little Goblins, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 24. Admission is $7 for adult Friends, $15 for child Friends, $10 for public adults and $20 for public children.

For tickets and information, visit fordhouse.org.

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

◆ Sensory Storytime, 9:30 to 10 a.m. Friday, Oct. 16.

◆ Meet Up & Make, 2 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 17.

◆ Storytime, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 22.

◆ Grosse Pointe Community Game Meet-Up, noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 24.

Ewald branch, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park

◆ Marginalized Voices Book Club, 7 to 8 p.m. Monday, Oct. 19.

◆ Storytime Shuffle with Miss Mo, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. to noon Tuesday, Oct. 20.

◆ Gettin' Crafty with Miss Mo, 4 to 5 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 22.

◆ Ringling Brothers Performance, 4 to 4:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 23.

Woods branch, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods

◆ Albert Kahn in WWII, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 15.

◆ Library Bigs & Littles, 10 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 17.

◆ Teen Tabletop Game Club, 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 17.

◆ Michigan Education Trust Information and Enrollment Session, 5:30 to 8 p.m. Monday, Oct. 19.

◆ Storytime, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 21.

◆ Playtime Pop-Ins, 10 a.m. to noon Thursday, Oct. 22.

See EVENTS, page 4B

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Paranormal investigator with local ties to give lecture

By Jody McVeigh
Editor



Paranormal investigator Don Alter will speak at the Grosse Pointe History Center Oct. 28.

It may come as no surprise that Don Alter has devoted his retirement years to paranormal investigation. He did, after all, grow up in a haunted house in Detroit.

"There are no other words to explain it," he said. "My great-grandfather, grandfather and grandmother all died there. Things would go bump in the night. We'd hear footsteps on the stairs, walking around upstairs, knocking on the walls. Keys would go missing. We'd joke around: 'Grandmother and Grandfather are playing jokes again.' We just accepted it."

Alter, senior investigator for Macomb Paranormal Investigations and Research, will share some of the haunting details of his life and the Grosse Pointes during a lecture at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 28, at the Grosse Pointe History Center, 375 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.

"They'll hear about the folklore, the allegedly haunted areas," he said. "And they'll hear some of my own history."

That history runs deep in the area. Alter Road is named for his ancestors and was once part of his family's ribbon farm. His great-great-grandfather, great-grandfather and grandfather all were born there. The offspring of neighboring ribbon farmers — the Munsch and Konig families — intermarried and are part of Alter's family lineage, too.

"All the ribbon farms in the Grosse Pointe area were all owned by relatives of mine," he said. "Half of St. Paul Cemetery is filled with my relatives."

While his haunted homestead was enough to pique his interest as a kid, his career added to it.

Before becoming a police officer, Alter did security and intelligence work in the U.S. Air Force, serving three and a half years in the Middle East. After his military service, he applied to the Detroit Police Department in the early 1980s, "just in time for layoffs," he said.

He became a private insurance investigator, specializing in unusual death claims, "so suicide and homicide," he said. "I did that for several years. Then Detroit called and I worked the streets. I was a street cop my entire career."

He spent 25 years on patrol before retiring in 2008.

"As a police officer, I saw all kinds of things I can't explain," he said.

Though Alter believes in spirits and the paranormal, the Macomb Township resident enters each investigation trying to debunk it.

"When we're called in to do an investigation, it's because they're afraid of something," he said. "We go in and try to look for natural things that affect sounds, like the foundation settling. If we can't find a natural cause, we look seriously at the paranormal. I've seen a lot of stuff I can't explain."

Writing has been Alter's full-time job since he retired. Much of what he came across on patrol is fodder for his fiction. His Mara Calehart murder mysteries "all have a little touch of truth behind them from all the police activity I had," he said.

He also has published nonfiction, including his "Into the Shadows" series and "Spirituality and the Paranormal: Spirits, Energy, Religion and the Search for What Remains After Death."

"I get into a lot of social and cultural beliefs, different religions," he said of the latter, "what I believe and how it associates with other cultures and religions. I tie that in with the paranormal.

"We all have a soul," he continued. "Whatever your faith, you believe there's something there. I look at that as a form of energy — the purest form of energy there is. Energy cannot be created or destroyed. Our bodies are physical; our bodies house that energy in us. When the body dies, where does the energy go? It can't be destroyed. It just changes form."

His next book will be about Mortuary Manor, the former Urbanski Funeral Home in Toledo, Ohio. It was purchased by Alter's friend Todd

See LECTURE, page 8B





COURTESY PHOTOS

Above, Alter ran an investigation in the basement of Mortuary Manor, where he said video footage captured an orb shooting out of him. "In the actual video, it flew out of me at lightning speed and I only saw it in the video," he said. "I ruled out dust, lens flare, insects and other natural causes. The picture doesn't do it justice. This one made me feel a bit unnerved when I watched the video." At the time, he said, he felt heavy and nauseous, but as soon as the orb left him, he felt fine again. Left, an arrow points to what Alter said is an orb leaving his body.

Detroit Concert Choir opens 40th season at Schaap Center

The Detroit Concert Choir will open its milestone 40th season with "Masterworks & Milestones" at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 24, at the Schaap Center for the Performing Arts, 15001 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park.

Under the artistic direction of Michael A. Mitchell, the concert features Mozart's Missa Brevis in C, K. 259, alongside the world premiere of Mitchell's own Missa Brevis, written especially for the Detroit Concert Choir.

"I am honored to present this piece for the Detroit Concert Choir's 40th anniversary, featuring the brilliant cellist Jinhyun Kim and an exciting percussion ensemble," Mitchell said. "I think the audience will be captivated."

The concert will feature the choir with the Michigan Sinfonietta, Detroit Percussion Ensemble and acclaimed soloists. It marks both the beginning of the choir's 40th season and its first performance at the Schaap Center.

"We are thrilled to open our 40th season at the Schaap Center," said DCC President Stan Harr, a Grosse Pointe Shores resident. "It is especially meaningful to introduce an exciting new work written for the choir by Dr. Mitchell alongside one of Mozart's masterworks."

The Detroit Concert Choir includes singers from more than 40 communities throughout metro Detroit, including several Grosse Pointe residents.

The choir, founded in 1987 by Gordon Nelson, is calling its 2026–27 season "A Season to Celebrate." Several concerts will be performed throughout the year. The complete season may be viewed online at detroitconcertchoir.org.

Tickets are $28 for individuals, $23 for seniors and $18 for students. Order them online at detroitconcertchoir.org.



Detroit Concert Choir during a performance at St. Ambrose Catholic Church.

COURTESY PHOTO

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Club connections

On Oct. 7, members of the Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe gathered at the Joiner Fair to represent the club and inform others about what the club is about. During the fair, which was held at The War Memorial, members were able to build new connections, have potential new member conversations and learn more about Priya Parker, the author of "The Art of Gathering." Pictured from left are Rotarians Mark Cory, Heather Mayernik, Zac Belisle, Dave Colton and Brandon Walsh.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LYLA KIM

EVENTS:

Continued from page 2B

◆ Reader Dog, 11 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 24.

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.

◆ Young Athletes Showcase, for children ages 2 to 7 of all abilities, 10 a.m. to noon Sunday, Oct. 18.

◆ Fold & Relax Origami, 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 23. Cost is $30.

◆ Fourth annual Halloween Spooktacular, noon to 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 25. Tickets are $10, plus fees.

Live music

◆ Planet D Nonet takes the stage at the Detroit Yacht Club on Belle Isle at 3:15 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 18.

◆ Planet D Nonet performs with Camille Price at 4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 25, at Cadieux Cafe, 4300 Cadieux, Detroit. Cover is $10. Call (313) 822-8560.

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.

◆ Time for Thyme, noon to 1 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 20, with the Herb Society of America, Grosse Pointe Unit. Cost is $12.

◆ Grosse Pointe Historical Society & Lunch, 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 21. Cost is $30 and includes transportation and a museum tour.

◆ Ready, Set, Vote, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 21, presented by the League of Women Voters Grosse Pointe.

◆ AARP Smart Driver Course, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 22, and Friday, Oct. 23. Cost is $20 for AARP members, $25 for nonmembers.

◆ Health for Her: Beauty as We Age — Hair, Skin & Nails, 6 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 22.

◆ Flu Clinic at The Helm, 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 23, sponsored by Sunrise of Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ How to Jumpstart Your AI Skills, 5:30 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 27, and Thursday, Oct. 29. Cost is $40 for both sessions.

Rotary

The Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe hosts its next meeting at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 21, at Village Grille, 16930 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe. Colleen Kenny, communications and outreach advisor for the Windsor-Detroit Bridge Authority and the business development partner for the Gordie Howe International Bridge, speaks. Email grossepointerotary@gmail.com.

Harper Woods Library

The Harper Woods Library, 19601 Harper, Harper Woods, hosts A History of Mexicantown, with author Maria Elena Rodriguez, at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 21. She will discuss Mexicantown's history and cultural impact on Detroit and surrounding areas.

The Harper Woods Library, 19601 Harper, Harper Woods, hosts Aaron Shillinger, director of the documentary, "Boblo Boats: A Detroit Ferry Tale," at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 4. He will share the story of Sarah E. Ray, a black woman whose 1945 court case challenged racial discrimination on the Boblo boat.

GPAA

The Grosse Pointe Artists Association offers Cloudscapes with Donald Cronkhite, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursdays, Oct. 22 and 29, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. To register, visit grossepointeartcenter.org.

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. RSVP to register@familycenterhelps.org.

◆ Community Yoga takes place at 7 p.m. Tuesdays during October.

◆ From Surviving to Thriving, featuring three behavioral health professionals, takes place at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 28. Panelists John George, Jen Dees and Stephanie Hazard will share practical strategies for recovery and resilience.

◆ The Healing Circle: Survivors of Suicide Loss Support Group is a collaboration between The Family Center and Kevin's Song to help those impacted by suicide loss cope with their grief. The group meets at 4:30 p.m. the third Thursday of each month.

The Grosse Pointe Symphony Orchestra
Sunday, October 25, 2026 • 7:00 pm
SCHAAP CENTER
15001 E. Jefferson Ave, Grosse Pointe Park
Preconcert talk: Davis Gloff (WRCJ) 6:15 p.m.
Aaron Copland — Fanfare for the Common Man
Ludwig van Beethoven — Consecration of the House
Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky — Rococo Variations featuring Cameron Renshaw, *Cello*
Nester Winner
Cameron Renshaw, *Cello*
TICKET PRICES
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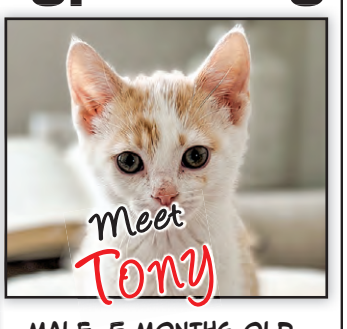

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Detroit Met Dance opens season at Schaap Center

By Jody McVeigh
Editor









COURTESY PHOTOS

Members of Detroit Metropolitan Dance will perform three pieces during "Here" at the Schaap Center Oct. 17-18.

The latest company to call the Schaap Center for the Performing Arts home is Detroit Metropolitan Dance, which kicks off its season with "Here" at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 17, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 18.

"We're really excited to open our season at Schaap," said Stephanie Pizzo, artistic director. "The space is so gorgeous and it's a chance for us to have a beautiful venue to call home."

Pizzo is entering her ninth year as director of Detroit Met Dance, previously known as Eisenhower Dance Detroit. The company has performed throughout metro Detroit, including a longtime residency at Oakland University.

"Here" opens with "As Ever," a ballet choreographed by Pizzo and set to a score composed by Madeline Merwin, performed by the Warren Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Grosse Pointe Woods resident Andrew Neer.

"I met Madeline when she was a grad student at Michigan and she received a grant to compose a score," said Pizzo, who will join Merwin for a pre-show talk as audience members arrive.

Merwin drew inspiration from Tchaikovsky, who wrote numerous ballets, and from a short biography that mentioned the composer's love affairs.

"Her ballet followed the traditional template of a ballet, but the inspiration of the music is more what it may have been like writing these ballets, 'Swan Lake' and 'Sleeping Beauty' when it was not something he experienced," Pizzo said.

Pizzo drew inspiration from Merwin's score, then dissected it further.

"It's a story of human connection, of human emotion," she said, "of being in relationships that are forbidden, like an affair. ... I delved deeper into the emotional side of relationships, what that looked like on a broader scale."

The second piece is "Ongaeshi: The Debt of Feathers," choreographed by Yoshito Sakuraba, a Japanese American dancer and choreographer in New York.

"I like his work and wanted to bring him in," Pizzo said. "As a dance company, we want them to have creative voice, to do something they've always wanted to do but never had the opportunity. He said he always wanted to include anime."

Inspired by the Japanese folktale "The Grateful Crane," the piece explores the fragile threads between memory, sacrifice and loss.

"We partnered with College for Creative Studies," Pizzo said. "They created three short films. It's a love story that goes through all the parts of a relationship — honor, deceit, the breakup — with beautiful anime films created by students at CCS."

The program closes with "State of Mind," which Pizzo choreographed shortly after the COVID-19 pandemic.

"I was wanting to workshop the idea of the fear of the unknown," she said. "This gave us the opportunity to put that feeling into movement, that feeling of not being able to see in front of you. It's a feeling we all experience. That's one idea; the other is the eyes being closed, that 'waking up from a nightmare' feeling. We talked about all the ways we experience ... that level of anxiety. It's about not knowing what's in front of you and how to move through it."

Ten members of Western Michigan University's Western Dance Project will join Detroit Met Dance onstage for the piece.

"Part of our mission is to mentor and work with other dancers," Pizzo said. "We spent a week at Western Michigan in August and taught them 'State of Mind.'"

For Pizzo, the Schaap Center is a welcome new home.

"Schaap was really built for contemporary dance," Pizzo said. "The stage is the perfect size for our productions. There's not a terrible seat in the house.

"Contemporary dance is very connected with the audience," she continued. "It's an emotional connection, a human connection. The work we do is elevated by the venue. We are thrilled to partner with Schaap."

To mark its debut in the community, the company is offering a curated dinner from 5:45 to 7:15 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 17, at

See DANCE, page 7B

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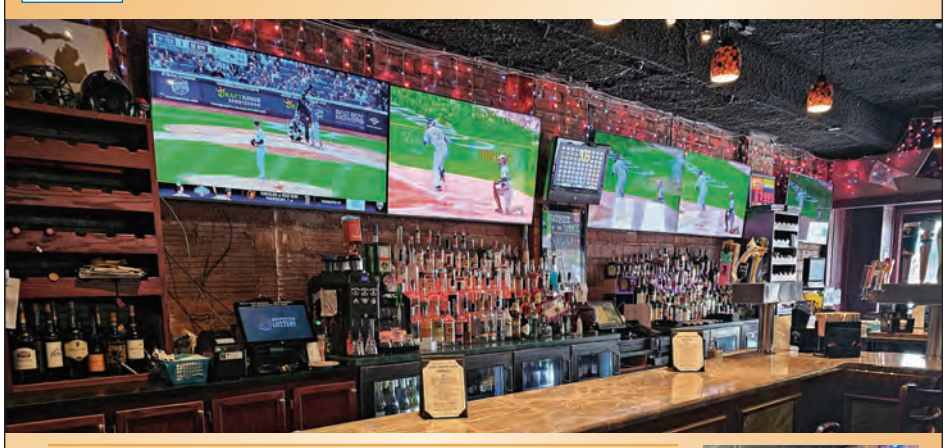
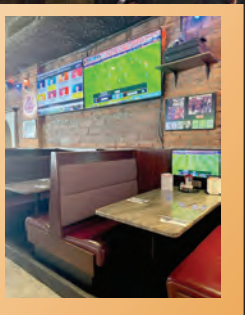


With TVs lining the walls — and individually placed within several booths — sports fans can't go wrong when looking for a place to get a good bite to eat and catch a game.
As a sports bar, Village Grille features lights that change color for whichever local team is playing and a score ticker to keep track of teams and other sports events.



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OBITUARIES

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

Lucy Ann Miller Riley

Lucy Ann (née Schaible) Miller Riley, 83, died peacefully Saturday, Sept. 26, 2026, surrounded by her family's love and secure in her faith that carried her through life.

Lucy was born July 10, 1943, in Dearborn, to the Rev. John and Margaret Schaible. She grew up in Grosse Pointe Park with her brother, John, and a large family of aunts, uncles and cousins. Those early years shaped much of who Lucy became: deeply faithful, fiercely devoted to the people she loved, loyal to her friends and most joyous when living these values.

Lucy attended the Academy of the Sacred Heart in Grosse Pointe and the University of Detroit. She married Frederick "Fred" Miller in 1964. They lived at Wurtsmith Air Force Base in Oscoda before returning to Grosse Pointe, where they raised their three daughters, Theresa, Elizabeth "Beth" and Laura. For years, their home was the setting for family life, friendships, celebrations and stories still told to this day. Later, Lucy married Arnold "Sonny" Riley and made her home in Clinton Township.

Lucy was independent, determined and wonderfully resourceful. If she didn't know how to do something, there was a pretty good chance she would figure it out. Throughout her life, she held several professional roles and earned a number of professional certifications and a bachelor's degree, which she earned while raising her children. She built a successful career as a self-employed entrepreneur and owner/operator. Reinventing herself when life called for it seemed to come naturally to her. For more than 24 years, Lucy also lived sober, a choice that was a testament to her strength, courage and commitment to the life she built.

Lucy loved the arts; classical, symphony, opera and jazz music were her favorites. She volunteered with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, enjoyed live concerts and often had WDET-FM playing in her home. Lucy also loved a good game of euchre, family meals, posing for silly photographs and simply being with the people she loved. She had a razor-sharp wit, a masterful command of English, a wonderfully goofy sense of humor and loved a good laugh, even at her own expense.

Her grandchildren knew that side of her as well. She was there during their very early days and spent countless hours with them when they were young children. Lucy cheered them on at hockey, basketball and baseball games and joined them on walks and hikes. She showed up for the everyday, ordinary moments, which became some of the most memorable.

Lucy shared a special bond with her father, who she adored and later cared for with extraordinary love and patience. As Lucy approached the end of her own life, she spoke about seeing her dad again.

In her final days, with her daughters at her bedside, there was music, prayer and laughter. They sang hymns, she spoke of being ready to go to heaven and, in an extraordinary moment her family will carry forever, Lucy reached upward and said she was "reaching for Jesus."

Lucy is survived by her daughters, Theresa, Elizabeth "Beth" and Laura; son-in-law, Anders Soderberg; grandchildren, Jessica Wolfe (Jordan Comer), Ian Miller (Liz), Alexandra "Alex" Hixon, Stella Hixon and Frederick Soderberg; cousins, Marty Peters, Pete Peters, Judy Blovits, Susan Dugan and Christine Lebold; and lifelong best friend, Clementine Rice.

Lucy was predeceased by her parents, the Rev. John and Margaret Schaible; brother, John Schaible II; beloved aunt, Estella Wingard; husbands, Frederick M. Miller and Arnold F. Riley; and many dear relatives and friends.

Visitation will be held at 10:30 a.m. Friday, Oct. 16, until her 11 a.m. funeral Mass at St. Ambrose Parish, 15020 Hampton, Grosse Pointe Park.

James Patrick Gallagher

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

Visitation will be held at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 28, until his 10 a.m. funeral Mass at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

His full obituary was published in the July 30, 2026, Grosse Pointe News.

Thomas "Tom" Peelle

Thomas "Tom" Peelle, 84, of Grosse Pointe Woods, passed away at home Friday, Sept. 25, 2026.

Tom was born May 26, 1942, in Saginaw, to Dorothy and William Peelle. He studied electrical engineering at Michigan State University before building a career as an electrical engineer, where his curiosity and problem-solving abilities earned him the respect of his colleagues.

Tom was a lifelong inventor, designer and builder. He was happiest when turning an idea into something real. This was evident in his handmade chicken coop at the Full Circle Foundation's Edible Garden, which he tended with great passion. He was a gifted cook who loved feeding the people he cared about. He also was a dedicated bridge player who treasured the game and the friendships it brought.

Tom was always dreaming up his next big project. He loved to unroll his house plan drawings and explain every detail; those who knew him will remember the light in his eyes as he did so.

Tom is survived by his children, Rebecca, Ben and Molly; sisters, Nancy, Diane and Mary; nephew and niece, John and Amy Fodell; and many extended family members and friends.

Memorial donations may be made to the Full Circle Foundation, 15401 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230, fullcirclefdn.org/product/support-full-circle-foundation/.



Lucy Ann Miller Riley



James Patrick Gallagher



Thomas Peelle

Raymond Henry Kaye

Raymond Henry Kaye, 86, known as Ray to most or Coach Kaye to many more, passed away Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2026.

Ray was born Sept. 17, 1940, in Detroit, to Raymond and Elizabeth Kaye. He lived a life filled with teaching and supporting others.

Ray is survived by his son, Robert Kaye (Sheri); grandsons, Carson Kaye and Jake Kaye; and sister, Suzanne McDonough. He was predeceased by his parents and his brother, Richard Kaye.

Ray graduated from Denby High School before attending the Detroit Institute of Technology on a swimming scholarship. Ray had a long and distinguished career as a teacher. He taught many subjects, including English and science, but mostly will be remembered for his prowess as a gym teacher at Lakeview High School in St. Clair Shores. He inspired many students over the years with his motivation and stories and made class fun and something to remember.

Ray was best known for his long and dedicated career as a swim coach, impacting generations of both club and high school swimmers. His motivation for a swimming career was clearly influenced early on by his father, Raymond, who competed as a breaststroker in the 1936 Olympics in Berlin. Ray coached the varsity boys and girls swim teams for a combined 31 seasons at Lakeview. He also coached the summer club teams at the Grosse Pointe Hunt Club (now Grosse Pointe Equestrian), Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, Lochmoor Country Club, Country Club of Detroit, Detroit Yacht Club and Detroit Golf Club. The legendary impact he had on many of his swimmers and the inspiration he provided them to do their absolute best are things for which he will always be remembered. Ray's impact is shown by the countless swimmers who remained in touch with him over the decades, often happily dropping in on him unannounced with smiles, stories and a lot of laughter.

Ray had countless hobbies, one of which was riding his bike around town. Many Grosse Pointers probably recognized this familiar figure at some point as he rode by smoking a cigar and always saying hello. Ray also had an affinity for New York City from a young age. He eventually purchased and shared an apartment on Park Avenue with his dear friend, Patricia Ott. NYC was his home away from home; he knew nearly every street in every borough. He recounted countless stories of his adventures and acted as a tour guide for friends and family when they visited.

Ray mostly was known as a person who went out of his way to help people in need. When he heard somebody was going through a difficult period, he automatically would jump at the drop of a hat to help, providing support and holding their hand through their most difficult times. Many have shared stories of Ray helping guide them through very dark moments and back into the sunshine.

Visitation will be held from 2 to 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 16, with a memorial service at 6 p.m. at A.H. Peters Funeral Home, 20705 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

Katherine "Kay" Stedman Raulston

Katherine "Kay" Stedman Raulston (formerly Baubie), 82, passed away peacefully Friday, Sept. 18, 2026.

Kay was born Aug. 20, 1944, in Detroit, to Lynn G. Stedman Jr. and Margaret Jane (née Manville) Stedman, both now deceased. A lifelong resident of Grosse Pointe, Kay attended Kerby and Monteith elementary schools and Parcells and Brownell junior high schools before graduating from Grosse Pointe High School in 1962.

Growing up near the Detroit River and Lake St. Clair, Kay spent her youth at the Detroit Yacht Club and Bayview Yacht Club (BYC). She began her early career at a local yacht brokerage, proudly advancing from answering phones to managing nearly every facet of the business. Boating remained central to her life and she became a passionate advocate for women on the water. She served on the U.S. Junior Women's Sailing Committee, volunteered with the U.S. Junior Women's Singlehanded Championship for the Leiter Trophy in Detroit and championed the BYC Junior Sailors to ensure young women gained the confidence and skills to compete nationally.

A woman of self-discovery and quiet strength, Kay often spoke of learning to find her own voice and helping others realize their self-worth. She poured that hard-won confidence back into the community she loved. She believed that public schools and libraries are the bedrock of a strong neighborhood. She was a devoted Cub Scout leader at Mason Elementary School, a fixture at school board meetings and the editor of the Grosse Pointe North High School Parents Club newsletter, Northern Lights, for four years.

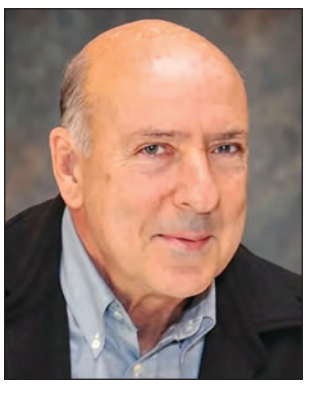
Kay's civic impact was felt deeply at the Grosse Pointe Public Library, where she served as president of the Friends of the Grosse Pointe Public Library. She also advocated tirelessly for modern library bond issues and founded the annual "Great Grosse Pointe Read-Aloud." Her community leadership also extended to public television; after years of volunteering and co-chairing the annual televised auction for WTVS Channel 56, she joined the staff full time in communications and design services and thrived in an environment surrounded by bright, creative people.

Kay was predeceased by her parents; brother, Lynn G. Stedman III; and beloved husband, Charles W. Raulston.

She is survived by her loving sister, Judy Wilcox (Russell); sister-in-law, Patty Stedman; sons, Jim Baubie (Christa) and Britt Baubie (Tamara); stepchildren, Travis Raulston (Kelly) and Tracy Jane Raulston (Greg Brigham); cherished grandchildren, Christopher Baubie (Rachel), Brandon Baubie, Noah Baubie, Brynn Baubie and Spencer Reeves; adored great-granddaughter, Ella; nieces and nephews, Meghan Shepard (Brooke), Tim Stedman (Karen), Scott Wilcox (Lucy) and Katie Collinson (Brad); and many beloved grandnieces, grandnephews and lifelong friends.

A celebration of life will be held at Bayview Yacht Club in 2027.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Friends of the Grosse Pointe Public Library, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236, gpfriends.org/support; the Bayview Yacht Club Junior Sailors, 100 Clairpointe, Detroit, MI 48215, byc juniorsailing.org/donate; or Michigan Crossroads Council, Scouting America, 14258 Michigan, P.O. Box 129, Eagle, MI 48822, michiganscouting.org/give/.



Raymond Henry Kaye



Katherine Raulston

See OBITS, page 7B



OBITS:

Continued from page 6B

Edgar Mark Gregory III

Edgar Mark Gregory III, 84, of Grosse Pointe Shores, passed away peacefully Thursday, Oct. 8, 2026, surrounded by family.

Mark was born Aug. 22, 1942, in Detroit, to Ed and Barbara Gregory. Mark was the beloved husband of 18 years to Jan; loving father of E. Mark Gregory IV, Brad Gregory (Jessica) and Kristin Darnell (Jeff); cherished bonus dad of Tyler Rice (Nicole) and Megan Rice; proud and devoted grandfather of Griffin, Connor and Owen Darnell, Sterling and Aria Gregory, Cody Rice (Tommi) and Sydney Rice; and adoring great-grandfather of Colby and Charlotte Rice. Mark shared three children with his former wife, Linda Gregory, with whom he maintained a loving friendship and deep mutual respect throughout his life. He also is survived by his siblings, Stephanie "Stevie" Miller, Scott Gregory and Megan Tamada (Noby); as well as many nieces, nephews and extended family.

Mark moved to Grosse Pointe as a young child and called the community home for most of his life, establishing deep roots and eventually raising his family there. He graduated from Grosse Pointe High School in 1960 before attending Michigan State University, where he earned a bachelor's degree in packaging engineering. He later pursued graduate studies at Wayne State University, earning a master's degree in finance.

A gifted athlete, Mark was an All-American swimmer in 1958, 1959 and 1960. He earned state-championship honors both individually and as part of a team. He went on to swim competitively for Michigan State University. He continued his love of sports throughout his life and was a longtime member of several organizations, including the Country Club of Detroit, Otsego Ski Club, Detroit Athletic Club, the Old Club and Bayview Yacht Club.

Mark came from a proud family with deep local roots. The Gregory family owned the Gregory Boat Company and Mark's own love of the water began almost as soon as he could walk. As a boy, he spent nearly all his time on the Detroit River. He ran his first boat at just 7 years old, traveling between Gregory Marina and his grandparents' home in Windsor, Ontario, Canada. It was the beginning of a lifetime love of water, adventure and independence.

For Mark, being on the water was his happy place. During the summer months, he often could be found on Lake St. Clair, occasionally fishing or staying anchored to let his grandchildren swim. But more often, he took full advantage of his boat's diesel engines and cruised from the Detroit River up to Harsens Island and back, often listening to his favorite bands and singers, including Bob Seger, the Eagles and the Doobie Brothers.



Edgar Mark Gregory III



Alexandra Mackey



Hugh G. Harness



Sister Evelyn Piché

Mark had never heard of Punta Gorda, Fla., until he met Jan. Little did he know it would become his beloved second home. Affectionately known to him as "The Gorda," the city allowed him to enjoy his lifelong passion for boating year-round. Over the years, he had countless adventures on the water, often with his beloved dog and faithful first mate, Bailey, by his side.

Mark's adventurous spirit extended far beyond the water. He loved to travel and took numerous motorcycle trips around the world with friends. His stories from adventures through Italy, Spain, Costa Rica, New Zealand, Nepal and Tibet became family favorites. His family and friends never tired of hearing his stories.

Mark remained remarkably active and on the go well into his 80s. In addition to boating, he enjoyed walks at Ford House with Jan, golfing and playing pickleball with his children and grandchildren. In quieter moments, he usually could be found working a sudoku puzzle, watching Turner Classic Movies or napping on the couch with Bailey curled up beside him.

Mark began his professional career at IBM before finding his calling in banking, a career that spanned decades. He worked at Bank of the Commonwealth, then quickly moved to Manufacturers Bank, which later merged with Comerica Bank. Mark served as an executive vice president at Comerica Bank and was widely viewed in the industry as a visionary, responsible for establishing and growing the middle market division at those banks into one of the most formidable in Michigan. Mark concluded his remarkable banking career at age 83 with Huntington Bank.

Mark's professional legacy was about far more than titles or accomplishments; he was most proud to call himself a mentor. He generously shared his knowledge, time and encouragement with colleagues, friends and younger professionals, including spending a short time teaching and sharing his experiences with students. He believed in helping others find their true passion, become confident leaders and succeed on their own.

In his later years, Mark also deepened his faith by returning to Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, the church in which he was baptized and raised. His faith became an increasingly meaningful part of his life, strengthened by his involvement with the New Canaan Society and the friendships and fellowship he found there.

Above all, Mark loved his family. His children and grandchildren were a tremendous source of pride and joy; some of his happiest moments were spent with them on the water, at their baseball and basketball games, traveling, playing pickleball, hitting golf balls, sharing stories or simply being together. He will be remembered by all who knew him for his adventurous spirit, independence, loyalty to the people he loved, endless stories and the unmistakable way he lived life fully and on his own terms.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, Nov. 20, at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. The family will begin to receive guests at 10 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Cure Alzheimer's Fund, curealz.org/outreach/in-memory/edgar-mark-gregory-iii; or by performing a special act of kindness in Mark's memory.

Alexandra Sewall Mackey

Alexandra "Al" Sewall Mackey, 96, of Grosse Pointe, passed away peacefully Thursday, Oct. 1, 2026, surrounded by her loving family.

Born April 18, 1930, in Bath, Maine, to Sumner and Elena Sewall, Al lived a life filled with family, friendship, faith and a love of the outdoors. A natural athlete, she enjoyed horseback riding, tennis, golf and skiing. It was on the ski slopes of Aspen where she met her husband, Albert "Bill" Mackey. They were married Sept. 17, 1955, and made their home in Grosse Pointe, where they raised their four children.

Al had a gift for finding the bright side of life. Her wit was quick, her outlook was remarkably sunny and she had an enduring "oh, happy day" optimism that seemed to carry her through every season of life. Even as her physical and mental capacity diminished, she retained that essential part of who she was. Her humor, wit and ability to find something to smile about remained with her.

Al was a devoted member of Christ Church Grosse Pointe and a regular attendee of the 8 a.m. service. She served on the Altar Guild and volunteered with the church's Crossroads Food Pantry Ministry. She also had a lifelong love of dogs. Al and Bill always had a dog by their side; their dogs were cherished members of the family.

Al's happiest place was Small Point, Maine, where she spent every summer surrounded by family and friends, including her many cousins. The traditions, friendships and memories made there remained among the great treasures of her life.

Al was predeceased by her beloved husband of 59 years, Bill. She is survived by her four children, 10 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren, all of whom were a constant source of love and pride. She will be remembered by all who knew her for her warmth, grace, vitality and deep devotion to her family. She will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Hugh G. Harness

Hugh Gregory Harness, 95, passed away Sunday, Oct. 4, 2026.

Hugh was born Dec. 14, 1930, in Detroit, to J. King and Vera Harness. He was a graduate of Cranbrook Schools, Albion College and the University of Michigan Law School. After graduating from law school, he married Grosse Pointe resident Janet ZurSchmiede, who remained his loving companion for 72 years.

Hugh served as a JAG officer in the U.S. Air Force for three years; he spent the last year at Ramstein Air Base in Germany, during which time he and Janet saw a great deal of Europe. After returning from service, he entered patent law practice with Harness, Dickey & Pierce, PLC (now Harness IP). In 1975, he left patent law to enter manufacturing with Federal Screw Works before eventually retiring as president of the company.

Hugh was an enthusiastic outdoorsman. Besides tennis and golf, he enjoyed many years of duck hunting and fly-fishing and served as state chairman of Trout Unlimited in the early 1970s. He was a member and past president of the Country Club of Detroit, as well as a member of the Yondotega Club and Ocean Reef Club of Key Largo, Fla. He regularly attended bridge games at both the Country Club of Detroit and the Yondotega Club, where he was regarded as the senior master.

Hugh is survived by his beloved wife, Janet; daughter, Sharon Werthmann (Brian); sons, Jeffrey (Kathleen) and William (Katie); as well as seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his parents; sister; and two brothers. He was loved immensely by his family and adored by all who had the good fortune to know him.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Trout Unlimited, bit.ly/4zcFGQ2; or The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, give.michaeljfox.org/campaign/831853/donate.

Sister Evelyn Piché

Sister Evelyn Piché, 90, died Monday, Oct. 5, 2026, at the Dominican Life Center in Adrian. She was in her 71st year of religious profession in the Adrian Dominican Congregation.

Sister Evelyn was born in 1936 in Grosse Pointe Farms, to David and Ethelyn (nee Allard) Piché. She graduated from St. Paul on the Lake Catholic School in Grosse Pointe Farms before obtaining a bachelor's degree in English and a master's degree in school administration, both from Siena Heights University in Adrian. She went on to earn a Ph.D. in education administration from Michigan State University.

Sister Evelyn ministered for more than 15 years in education in Walled Lake, Detroit, Harper Woods and Anchorville, as well as in Cincinnati and Defiance, Ohio, including three years as principal of St. Ambrose Catholic School in Grosse Pointe Park. She then served in the Archdiocese of Detroit Department of Catholic Schools for two years as a staff member and four years on the education development team. She also was superintendent of Catholic schools for the Diocese of Madison, Wis., for four years and an educational consultant in Milwaukee for three years. She then ministered for 20 years as dean of the Adrian Dominican School of Education at Barry University, a Congregation-sponsored institution in Miami Shores, Fla. Named dean emerita in 2006, she became a resident of the Dominican Life Center in 2024.

Sister Evelyn was predeceased by her parents; two sisters, Phyllis Piché and Carol Theresa Young; five brothers, David John, Thomas Bernard, Donald David, Robert Gabriel and Edward John; and cousin, Sister Beverly McEachin, OP. She is survived by her sister, Jane Cecilia McGuckin; and many other loving family members and her Adrian Dominican Sisters.

Visitation, vigil prayer and funeral Mass were held at St. Catherine of Siena Roman Catholic Church in Detroit.

Memorial donations may be made to the Adrian Dominican Sisters, 1257 E. Siena Heights, Adrian, MI 49221, bit.ly/3TRa9UO.

Arrangements entrusted to Anderson-Marry Funeral Services in Adrian.

DANCE:

Continued from page 5B

Antidóte, which is within walking distance of the Schaap Center.

"We always like to do more with the community," Pizzo said, "so we'll be hosting this get-together before the show."

Detroit Met Dance also is moving into a second location in Detroit's Little Village cultural district, Pizzo said. It will present a free performance Friday, Nov. 13, at the Shepherd, located within Little Village, and it offers free community dance classes there Saturday mornings throughout its season.

"We're so excited to be in the Grosse Pointe community," she added. "We'll be listening to what they enjoy and getting to know the community more, so we can develop a stronger partnership with them."

The Schaap Center is at 15001 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park. Tickets are $60 for premium seating, $45 for standard seating. Call (248) 594-9400 to reserve a seat or visit detroitmetdance.org/here for more information.

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www.christthekinggp.org
SUNDAY
8:30 a.m. - Bible Study
9:30 a.m. - Worship Service
Sunday School - During Service
WEDNESDAY
10 a.m. - Bible Study
6:30 p.m. - Worship Service
Solomon Spangler, Pastor
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Saint Ambrose Catholic Church
15020 Hampton
Grosse Pointe Park
MASSES
Saturday Vigil — 4:00 p.m.
Sunday — 8:30 and 11:15 a.m.
(313) 822-2814 • stambrose@comcast.net
• stambrosechurch.net • facebook.com/stambroseparish

101526

Woods Presbyterian presents 'Kirkin' of the Tartans' Oct. 25

Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church, 19950 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods, invites the community to celebrate the Scottish roots of the Presbyterian Church at its annual "A Kirkin' of the Tartans — A Family Blessing" event on Reformation Sunday, Oct. 25.

During this "Scottish Sunday" celebration, bagpipes and organ will perform stirring Scottish selections such as "Scotland the Brave" and "Highland Cathedral."

The St. Andrew Society's Royal Scottish Honor Guard will be on hand, featuring master bagpiper David Martin.

Guests are invited to bring items featuring their families' tartans or other items that are meaningful and represent their families. The pastor will perform a blessing over families in attendance.

Following the worship service, a potluck luncheon — including shepherd's pie — will take place in the fellowship hall. Reservations for the meal may be made by calling (313) 886-4301.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

From left, scholarship winners Ellie Sahutske and Kendal Bradley, and members of the Botmasterz robotics team, Lydia Lundberg, Daisy Lababadie, Isabella Chaptini, Cinder Gurskey, London Bradford-Harper, Eliana Romero, Gabriella Romero, Evie Goerlich and Allie Betcher.

Honored

The American Association of University Women Grosse Pointe hosted its first STEAM Stars of Tomorrow event Sept. 20 at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club.

The fundraiser celebrated AAUW scholarship winners, as well as winners of its Listen to Women art contest and members of the all-girls Botmasterz robotics team. Also featured were dinner, a silent auction and a keynote address by honorary chair Dr. Suja Sukumar.

The mission of the AAUW is to advance gender equity through research, education and advocacy. The Grosse Pointe branch, which was created in 1944, meets that mission by providing fellowships, programs, scholarships and opportunities for women and girls.

For more information, visit grossepointe-mi.aauw.net.

LECTURE:

Continued from page 3B

LaRosa, who invited him to perform a paranormal investigation there.

"He owns the Anatomy of Death Museum in Mount Clemens," Alter said of LaRosa. "It's all old artifacts he collects from funeral homes and undertakers. When the Urbanski Funeral Home in Toledo was for sale … he went looking for artifacts and ended up buying the whole thing. He calls it Mortuary Manor; it's my all-time favorite investigation. There was so much paranormal I can't explain."

Using an electromagnetic field meter, he and his crew can detect energies within a space and he found a lot of it at Mortuary Manor.

"There was a lot of activity upstairs in the modernized embalming room," he said. "… It was something friendly. We think it's Mr. Urbanski."

The same could not be said about the basement autopsy room.

"I got this heavy feeling, like a bunch of grumpy old men was down there that didn't want us there," he said. "At one point, I was feeling nauseous. I asked Jake (Shetenhelm), my partner, if he felt it. He said no."

Later, while editing the video, Alter said he watched what he believes was an orb shoot out of him.

"After that, I was feeling just fine," he said. "I enlarged the orb. I could see a transparent black orb with spikes all over it. It wasn't lens flare, it wasn't dust, it wasn't an insect; I know what those look like."

The orb is one of several stories Alter has about Mortuary Manor. He has others about the haunted Stimson Hospital in Eaton Rapids, where he said a crew member was scratched by an unseen force. He's written a book about Stimson and is writing one about Mortuary Manor.

"I like to keep these places going," Alter said. "I love doing historical research on these places. We're Macomb Paranormal Investigations and Research. Even my nonfiction books have a lot of research to them."

Asked if he's ever afraid during an investigation, Alter said what he doesn't know doesn't bother him; it's what he learns after the fact that sends chills down his spine.

"Anybody who says they're not afraid is either lying to you or a fool," Alter said. "I get scared, but I've learned to control it. I know how to handle situations. I'm more creeped out after than during, when I'm editing the video. I know something was happening but I'm not sure what. Then, when I'm editing video and see it, that's when I'm creeped out."

Now, Alter is turning his attention closer to his roots. He recently started researching a book about Grosse Pointe and its surrounding communities. He hopes to make the Provencal-Weir House the site of a future investigation.

"It's never been investigated before, so I can't say it's haunted," he said. "There are no known deaths there, but lots of tragedy. During the cholera epidemic, they took in orphans there, so who knows? There's so much history surrounding that place. I'd like to set up an investigation.

"I'm close to Grosse Pointe, to Alter Road," he added. "That's why I'm interested in Grosse Pointe. There's so much folklore and paranormal history in Grosse Pointe; it goes way back."

Alter likely will bring some of his books to the Oct. 28 lecture, which is open to all. Reservations are required. Email ask@gphistorical.org or call (313) 884-7010.

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For tickets and more information please scan the QR code, call 313.447.1374 or email Jen@FamilyCenterHelps.org

The Family Center of Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods
32 Lake Shore Drive | Grosse Pointe, MI 48236 | 313.447.1374 | FamilyCenterHelps.org
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8:30 a.m. — 1:30 p.m.
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Keynote Speaker, 11:00 a.m.
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Power of Pink returns to The War Memorial Oct. 19

By Jody McVeigh
Editor



The Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce and Henry Ford Health present Power of Pink, a celebration of health, from 4 to 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 19, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

"Guests can expect to learn from health professionals, treat themselves to a little shopping on site, take part in a health screening and unwind with friends after a busy Monday," said Abigail Barroso, the chamber's director of engagement.

A trio of speakers will take the stage between 5 and 6 p.m.

"We have three amazing speakers from Henry Ford Health's Van Elslander Cancer Center speaking at the event," Barroso said. "Dr. Nancy Mesiha is a cardiologist who will speak on women's heart health, Dr. Carmen Stokes will present on understanding dense breasts and risk assessments for breast cancer and Alison Leitch will present on caring science and holistic care."

In addition to gaining knowledge, attendees can gain peace of mind at the mobile mammography unit, which will be in The War Memorial parking lot from noon to 6 p.m. Appointments are not needed.

"This year, in addition to having the mobile mammography unit onsite for guests to have mammograms, Henry Ford Health will have blood pressure and glucose screenings available for guests," Barroso said. "We're thrilled to be able to expand the screening offerings. We will also have a variety of new vendors at the event sharing their services to assist in improving physical and mental health."

The Henry Ford Van Elslander Cancer Center will provide educational tables featuring the American Cancer Society, Gilda's Club, Shades of Pink and Van Elslander Cancer Center Art Therapy. Resources provided by the center include blood pressure testing, glucose testing, the mobile mammography screening unit, a MyChart tutorial and stroke awareness.

Additional event vendors include:

- American House
- Angela Jones — Dream Vacations
- CYL Infrared Studio
- Jamcat Candles
- Jen Listens
- Judson Center
- Lemongrass Spa
- Mary Kay — Chinyere Crutcher
- Pure Beauty
- Relax S'More
- The Helm
- Tickled Pink for Life
- Waxing the City

"We are happy to share that we are completely sold out of vendor spots," Barroso said. "We are so happy that this event has grown a ton from our first year of hosting and can't wait to see what we can grow into next year.

"Another great component is that we moved this from being a daytime event to the evening," she added. "We are excited to see a new crowd as it's more accessible going outside of working hours."

Power of Pink is open to the entire community, Barroso said.

"Being a free community resource fair, we are happy to have anyone join us as there is something for everyone to gain at this event," she added. "It's also a very true reality that everyone has been impacted by breast cancer, so to learn something new as a survivor, friend to a survivor or just someone in general who may be at risk, it is so important to take in as much information as possible to take care of yourself."

Added Dr. Jeffrey Falk, medical director of the breast program at Henry Ford St. John Hospital, "It's an honor to be part of such an empowering event again. I know from the feedback I've received that patients and community members gain new knowledge and appreciate the information shared. The talks address not only breast cancer care, but also the care of the patient as a whole. They bring attention to aspects of women's health and wellness that people may have never considered, and that can be important to their overall health and well-being."

For more information about Power of Pink, call (313) 881-4722 or scan the QR code.

The Helm to host food box distributions

The Helm at the Boll Life Center will host two food box distributions in October, providing fresh fruits and vegetables to older adults facing food insecurity throughout the Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods.

The distributions are part of ongoing efforts by The Helm to help older adults access nutritious food and essential community resources.

In 2025, The Helm distributed or delivered 231 food boxes to older adults, including distributions at The Helm and Harper Woods City Hall, as well as deliveries directly to clients.

The food box distributions are funded through philanthropic support to the Challenge Food Fund at The Helm, helping make additional food resources available to older adults in the community who may need them.

"Access to nutritious food plays an important role in helping older adults stay healthy and independent," said Krista Siddall, executive director of The Helm. "Everyone deserves access to healthy food and these distributions are one way we can provide practical support to older adults in our community who may be facing food insecurity."

The first distribution will take place 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Oct. 16, at The Helm, 158 Ridge, Grosse Pointe Farms. Residents of the Grosse Pointe communities ages 60 and older who are facing food insecurity are eligible to receive a food box containing fresh fruits and vegetables from Eastern Market.

A second distribution will take place 1 to 4 p.m. Friday, Oct. 23, in the Harper Woods City Hall parking lot, 19617 Harper. This distribution is available to Harper

See HELM, page 14B

Assumption Cultural Center's Senior Expo is Oct. 22

The 2026 Senior Expo takes place 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 22, at Assumption Cultural Center. This wellness event for seniors, which is free to the community, provides adults with informative exhibits, educational seminars, interactive experiences and valuable resources for today's senior lifestyles.

Platinum co-sponsors of Senior Expo are Henry Ford Health and Health Alliance Plan by Henry Ford, which also will provide a complimentary to-go lunch at the conclusion of the program.

The theme of this 31st annual event is the nation's 250th anniversary. A complimentary American flag pin will be given to each attendee to commemorate the celebration.

Chuck Gaidica, television personality and wellness coach, will serve as keynote speaker. Former WDIV-TV news anchor Devin Scillian will perform with his band, Arizona Son. The band is sponsored by A.H. Peters Funeral Home.

Each year, Senior Expo welcomes more than 1,500 seniors, their families and caregivers. The Senior Expo Committee has dedicated itself to offering a day of health, wellness, recreation and community resource information to help design a happy, healthy and secure lifestyle.

"We are committed to providing a vibrant and informative event that celebrates and supports our senior community," said Terri Murphy, CSA, of Hope Senior Home Care and chairwoman of the Senior Expo Committee. "We continue providing a platform that empowers seniors to live their lives to the fullest."



COURTESY PHOTO

Devin Scillian and his band, Arizona Son, will perform.

Visitors will enjoy more than 50 exhibitors offering giveaways and information about health care, recreation, self-improvement, retail products, managed care, physical training, financial and legal advice, to name a few. Popular workshops include Food is Medicine, Ask the Elder Law Attorney, Medicare Counseling, Ask the Physician and Ask the Nutritionist. On-site health screenings include spine evaluations, blood pressure checks, knee pain/arthritis/physical therapy screenings, mini chair massages and more.

Also featured is a community resource center including VA information, Medicare information and more. The Courtyard Senior Super Tent will feature a musical performance by Suzuki Marsh-Hatty.

The resource guide, a reference book for adults of available services throughout the metro area, is distributed at the expo and remains a useful tool all year. The guide is developed by the Senior Expo Committee and made available at hospitals, city offices, libraries and committee facilities.

Senior Expo Committee members, who have planned the event all year, include Assumption Cultural Center, The Helm at the Boll Life Center, Macomb County Chamber of Commerce, Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce, Henry Ford Health, Cranberry Park, Hope Senior Home Care, Harper Chiropractic Center, American House Lakeshore and Health Alliance Plan.

Sponsorship and vendor sites are still available.

Assumption Cultural Center is located at 21800 Marter, St. Clair Shores.

Free shuttle services are provided by Cranberry Park for those who park at Grosse Pointe Woods Lake Front Park. For more information, call (586) 779-6111.



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Orthodontic Associates PC celebrates 1st year on The Hill

When Orthodontic Associates, PC opened in August 2025 at 114 Kercheval, its doctors set out to bring a patient-centered approach to The Hill. A year later, they say they've kept that commitment and the community has welcomed them in return.

Drs. Thomas Gebeck Jr. and Gregory Hummon are both board-certified orthodontists and clinical instructors at the University of Michigan School of Dentistry. Gebeck also carries on a local orthodontic legacy: His father, Dr. Thomas Gebeck Sr., treated multiple generations of Grosse Pointe families for more than 45 years.

In June, the practice added Dr. Alexandra Kalamat Semma, who completed her graduate residency at The University of Michigan with Drs. Gebeck and Hummon as her attendings.

"They knew I wanted to stay in the area," Dr. Semma said. "And I knew I couldn't go wrong with private practice. … It's easy to get caught up in corporate orthodontics. A lot of them don't put the patient first, but Drs. Hummon and Gebeck do."



Dr. Alexandra Kalamat Semma

Orthodontics has come a long way since the elder Dr. Gebeck's early days.

Today's braces are "low-profile, lighter and more comfortable," Dr. Hummon said. "We've learned that lighter forces move teeth better and are more efficient."

Along with traditional metal and clear braces, the office offers Invisalign.

"Invisalign can be a great tool with the right patient," Dr. Gebeck said, "but it's not for everyone."

Most of their patients are preteens and young teens, but adults now make up 20 percent of the practice.

"We are seeing patients in their 60s, 70s and 80s," Dr. Gebeck said. "That's because people are keeping their teeth longer and we work closely with their dentist to set up for the best long term health and stability."

The doctors recommend patients keep up regular six-month checkups with their general dentist, noting that healthy teeth lead to better orthodontic results.

The practice offers both early (two-phase) and comprehensive treatment; however, Dr. Hummon said a two-phase treatment is "highly overutilized."

"It should be used for a clear, selective benefit," he said. "We prefer to do one course of treatment, if possible, because doing two phases means more time, effort and money from the patient and family."

"When it comes to early treatment, it is not what can we do, but what should we do," Dr. Gebeck added.

Still, the doctors stress the importance of early evaluations, ideally between ages 6 and 8.

"It's super exciting to celebrate one year," Dr. Semma said. "It's nice to offer this in Grosse Pointe, along with our Birmingham location. We really do put the patient first. That's something I stand by."

For more information, visit orthodonticassociates.com or call (313) 771-2655.

Our Google patient reviews say it best – thank you for making us the Best of the Best in Grosse Pointe again in 2026!

"I came here with my son that was having trouble with his asthma, the nurse was extremely attentive to this and escorted him to receive a breathing treatment. She was an undercover angel. The office is clean and music is great. I would recommend this urgent care. Best one I have visited."

"The staff here is very friendly, caring and helpful. They have fast service. I Love going to this place and I have been recommending them to a lot of people."

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Grosse Pointe News BEST of the BEST 2026

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The daVinci5 surgical robot, two of which Corewell Health Beaumont Hospital Grosse Pointe will be purchasing soon to replace its current robots.

COURTESY PHOTO

The future of surgery is now

When Dr. Krikor Arman joined Corewell Health Beaumont Grosse Pointe Hospital in 2017, the hospital had an early version of the da Vinci surgical robot that wasn't used very much.



Dr. Krikor Arman

"When I arrived, I wanted to prove that robotic surgery is beneficial to our patients and by 2018 we upgraded to the newer robot and then got a second one for our hospital," he said. "We've grown year over year in the number of robotic surgeries since then."

That includes 816 laparoscopic surgeries last year and a pace to surpass 900 this year.

"It gives real depth perception and that translates to feel," he noted. "This allows us to put less tension on the patient's tissues."

Arman pointed out that there is no autonomy in the robot and the surgeon controls the entire operation.

"We're doing a fleet upgrade later this year and getting two of the newest models, called dV5, which continue to push the boundaries of visualization and patient benefit," Arman said. "Sometime next year, I'll make the case we get a third."

The most common surgeries in which robots are used deal with gallbladders, hernias, the appendix, small intestine and colon.

Arman, who is director of robotic surgery and the surgical intensive care unit, said the hospital did not have an SICU when he arrived.

"The unit, equipment and nursing staff are shared with the medical unit," he said. "What differs is that a surgeon's approach is more tailored to the surgical problem, which improves the chances of recovery if a patient falls critically ill after an operation.

"People who have undergone surgery face different physical stressors," he continued. "A surgeon can tweak the care they give patients because they are intimately familiar with the surgery the patient had."

Corewell Health Primary Care & General Surgery is located at 1700 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe. Call (313) 640-2424 or visit shorturl.at/GZDcf for more information.

"Our team of surgeons works very well together and we are accepting new patients," Arman said.

The Skin & Laser Center at Ferrara Dermatology earns national recognition

The Skin & Laser Center at Ferrara Dermatology is one of nine clinics nationally to be designated an Alastin Signature Practice by Galderma.

Alastin is a medical-grade skin care brand for skin rejuvenation, anti-aging and procedure enhancement. The national recognition acknowledges The Skin & Laser Center's education and knowledge of the products, as well as its commitment to staying in tune with the latest studies and trials.

To celebrate the achievement, The Skin & Laser Center at Ferrara Dermatology is throwing a signature practice event for Alastin users from 4 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 21.

"It will include special event promotions, free product giveaways and customized skincare recommendations," Dr. Katie Caretti, board-certified dermatologist, said. "The party is for those who have an interest in these products."

Attendees also can learn about a new product being launched by Alastin: the Restorative Eye Complex with TriHex+.

What differentiates it from prior formulations is that it contains octapeptide-45, which stimulates hyaluronic acid to improve hydration, along with enhancing collagen and elastin production in the skin.



Dr. Richard Ferrara



Dr. Katie Caretti

"That can achieve improvement in the upper eyelid crease — the crow's feet area — and then even the under-eye area," Dr. Richard Ferrara, board-certified dermatologist, said. "Galderma is really excited about this, because it might help with contour and hydration for people who aren't quite ready for filler in the tear trough area."

The center also offers an Ultra Clear resurfacing laser, which comes with a coring device to help with tightening and lifting around the eyebrows and eyes, as well as to address scars and wrinkles.

"They have modified the delivery, Coring Elite, where we can really target it in a more comfortable way with reduced healing and recovery time," Ferrara said. "So we're excited about that as well."

Not to be missed, The Skin & Laser Center's biggest holiday Botox and filler specials of the year will be offered Thursday, Oct. 22, and Friday, Oct. 23. Interested patrons may call to reserve an appointment.

The clinic is located at 20045 and 20043 Mack Avenue, Grosse Pointe Woods. For more information, call The Skin & Laser Center at (313) 884-9100, Ferrara Dermatology (313) 884-5100, or visit ferraraderm.com.



Looking for a Physician?

The primary care physicians listed below are currently accepting new patients and have availability within 7 days.

These clinics are adding new providers

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Saint Clair Shores, MI 48081
947.519.8100
Abbey McKee-Boyes, DO
James Blumline, MD

*** Corewell Health Family Medicine - 22646 9 Mile Rd**
22646 East 9 Mile Rd.
Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080
586.498.4800
Sarah Koslakiewicz, MD
Monica Szmyd, MD

***Corewell Health Internal Medicine - 18325 E 10 Mile Rd**
18325 East 10 Mile Rd.
Suite 300, Roseville, MI 48066
586.447.4000
John Geddes, MD
Oneil Doha, MD
Jeremy Santamaria, MD
[Internal Medicine - Adult Care Only]

***Corewell Health Family Medicine - 30695 Little Mack**
30695 Little Mack Ave.
Suite 200, Roseville, MI 48066
586.294.9600
Andreise Laurian Nazzaria
Rosa de Souza, MD

Corewell Health Primary Care - 17000 Kercheval Ave
17000 Kercheval Ave.
Suite 205, Grosse Pointe, MI 48230
313.640.2424
Olga Caruso, DO
Michael Dionne, MD

Corewell Health Primary Care - 15200 Kercheval Ave
15200 Kercheval Ave.
Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230
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Mission Metabolic Health to host cancer prevention event with discounted early detection screening

Mission Metabolic Health will host a free community event from 4 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 22, featuring discounted access to the Galleri multi-cancer early detection blood test along with metabolic health screenings.

Galleri is a blood test designed to detect a signal shared by more than 50 types of cancer, many of which have no routine screening today. It is intended to complement, not replace, standard screenings such as mammograms and colonoscopies. Attendees can have the test drawn on-site by a phlebotomist for $599, a savings off the standard $799 price and less than many online offers.

"We feel strongly about the importance of cancer prevention and the value of early detection," said Sean Cassleman, D.O., founder of Mission Metabolic Health. "This event is our way of providing access to this technology for our community."

From 6 to 6:30 p.m., Dr. Cassleman will give a free talk on cancer prevention, covering both standard screening guidelines and advanced, non-standard-of-care options for those seeking a deeper look.



Sean Cassleman, D.O.

The event also will offer resting metabolic rate testing using the practice's in-house metabolic testing system for $30 (a $150 value) and a free InBody body composition scan, reflecting the practice's focus on the connection between metabolic health, body composition and cancer risk.

Light snacks will be served and attendees are welcome to tour the facility and meet the clinical team. The talk is free to attend; advance registration for Galleri and RMR testing is encouraged given limited testing slots.

Mission Metabolic Health is a medical practice on the border of Grosse Pointe and St. Clair Shores combining concierge primary care, hormone and metabolic health, nutrition and exercise science.

For more information or to register, visit missionmetabolichealth.com or call (586) 498-3610.

Warm up, wind down and make recovery part of the routine

As temperatures drop across Grosse Pointe, there's a new reason to welcome the colder months. Thirty minutes of deep, enveloping warmth is waiting on Mack Avenue.

CYL Infrared Studio, 17108 Mack Ave. near Cadieux, is a sauna and recovery studio built on a simple idea. Rest isn't the reward for a job well done; it's how we perform. Grosse Pointe Park resident Shelley Groh became the owner in July.



Shelley Groh

Her message to the community is that recovery shouldn't be saved for injury or burnout.

"We schedule workouts, so we should schedule recovery too," she said.

Infrared sauna offers passive cardiovascular conditioning, as the heat moves blood, delivers nutrients to muscles and helps carry away cellular waste. Regulars also turn to it for soothing aches after a workout, stress management, deep relaxation and support for healthy aging. Red light therapy, a lymphatic roller and a saltwater cold plunge round out the menu — and guests can combine them into their own ritual.

Those benefits build with consistency. Steady, gentle heat helps the body relax, easing muscle tension and making it easier to unwind after a long day. The warmth also can soothe stiff joints, support circulation and encourage deeper sleep. Many guests say regular sessions leave them feeling more rested and better equipped to handle stress.

For winter, the appeal is easy to understand. When the days are gray and the wind is sharp, a private, cozy infrared suite is hard to beat. Cold weather can leave muscles stiff and spirits low; a warm session is an easy way to ease both. The heat is gentle, the setting is calm and the payoff is a body that feels looser and a mind that feels reset.



A eucalyptus wood cabin sauna was recently added at CYL Infrared Studio.

The half-hour session makes it easy to fit into real life. Visitors often stop in after school drop-off, after a workout class or on the way home from work, since the studio sits on a convenient commuter route.

Groh recently added a eucalyptus wood cabin sauna. Unlike the studio's infrared pods, where guests lie down with their heads out, the cabin is seated and fully enclosed, and it fits two people. It's a good option for couples or friends, as well as guests who prefer a seated sauna experience.

New guests can try CYL for $20, a fee waived if they purchase a membership during the visit. The studio is open daily. Sessions may be booked at cylinfraredstudio.com or by calling (313) 400-2250.

As with any wellness routine, guests with health conditions should check with their doctor first.

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Dr. Thanasas returns home to care for the community that raised her

There is something special about receiving care from someone who truly understands your community, not just as a health care provider, but as a neighbor who grew up on the very same streets.

For Dr. Maria Thanasas of PGS Dentistry, practicing dentistry near Grosse Pointe and the surrounding communities isn't simply where her career began; it's where her story began.



Dr. Maria Thanasas

Born and raised in Grosse Pointe, Dr. Thanasas is a proud graduate of University Liggett School. She went on to earn her Bachelor of Science in Biology, Health & Society from the University of Michigan before completing her Doctor of Dental Surgery degree at the University of Michigan School of Dentistry. After years of rigorous education and clinical training, she made the decision to return home, bringing her knowledge, compassion and dedication back to the community that shaped her.

"Coming home to practice dentistry in the community where I grew up is something I don't take for granted," said Dr. Thanasas. "It's incredibly rewarding to care for the people and families who helped shape who I am."

That hometown connection is one of the defining characteristics of PGS Dentistry. Patients aren't simply names on a schedule; they're neighbors, former teachers, family friends and generations of local families who have entrusted the practice with their smiles.

"One of my favorite parts of practicing locally is seeing familiar faces, whether it's in the office or around town," she said. "It reminds me that I'm caring for my neighbors and that's a responsibility I truly value."

At PGS Dentistry, that sense of community extends beyond providing exceptional dental care. The practice strives to create an environment where patients feel welcomed, heard and treated like family. By combining advanced dental technology with personalized care, Dr. Thanasas and the PGS team are committed to helping patients of every age achieve healthy, confident smiles.

For Dr. Thanasas, service has always been an important part of life. She remains actively involved in the local community, including as a member of Assumption Greek Orthodox Church. Outside the office, she enjoys spending time with family and friends, traveling, staying active and embracing new experiences — interests that reflect the same warmth and enthusiasm she brings to her patients every day.

Her joining PGS Dentistry also represents the continuation of a family legacy centered on caring for others.

"I feel incredibly fortunate to continue a family tradition of caring for others while giving back to the community that gave me so much," she said.

Today, with convenient locations in Harrison Township and St. Clair Shores, PGS Dentistry continues to serve families throughout the Grosse Pointe area and neighboring communities with a commitment to excellence, integrity and compassionate care.

For Dr. Thanasas, dentistry is about much more than treating teeth. It's about building lifelong relationships, earning trust one patient at a time and giving back to the place she has always called home.

As communities continue to grow and change, there is comfort in knowing that some things remain constant: caring for your neighbors, investing in relationships and providing health care with heart. For Dr. Maria Thanasas and the team at PGS Dentistry, those values are not just part of the practice; they are the foundation on which it was built.

To book an appointment with Dr. Maria Thanasas, visit PGSdentistry.com.

KNOW YOUR SKIN

by Lisa A. Manz-Dulac, M.D.



Do you regularly check your skin?

Everyone should do a skin exam at least every 6-8 weeks. And if you or family members have a history of skin cancer, it is especially important to do regular self skin examinations of your entire body, from your scalp down to the soles of the feet. But what do you look for?

Check for any moles, blemishes, or birthmarks from the top of your head to your toes. If you look at your skin regularly, you will know what's normal for you. Many possible skin cancers are found on parts of the body that tend to get more sun, such as the face, head, neck, and arms. But skin cancers can occur anywhere on the body.

Watch for the following signs, which might be concerning:

- A new, growing, or changing spot or bump on the skin
- A sore that itches, bleeds, or doesn't heal after a few weeks
- A rough or scaly red patch, which might crust or bleed
- A wart-like growth
- A mole or other spot on the skin that's new or changing in size, shape, thickness, or color
- A mole with an odd shape, irregular borders, or areas of different colors
- A spot that looks different from all the other spots on your skin

Once you bring a lesion to the attention of your doctor, she/he may recommend biopsy, destruction, excision or other complete removal, or you may be advised to continue to watch the lesion, depending on the diagnosis.

If you have a suspicious lesion, or to learn more about self skin exams, contact your dermatologist, or call us at Eastside Dermatology, Dr. Lisa A. Manz-Dulac and Associates.

Eastside Dermatology has offices in Grosse Pointe Woods, Chesterfield, Hartland and Milford. You can reach them at (313) 884-3380.

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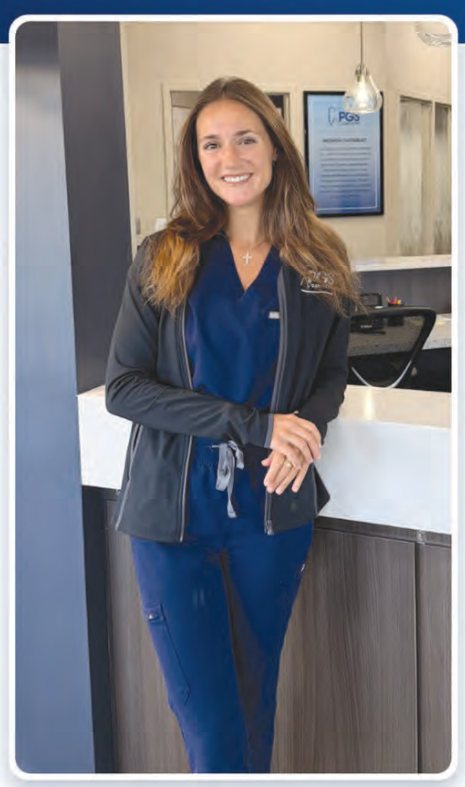
Dr. Maria Thanasas



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At Hackett Homecare, clients always receive top-of-the-line service. Hackett has core values of trust, honesty, integrity and compassion. Their slogan, "Our family, caring for yours," demonstrates the personal touch clients will receive.

Founder and owner John Hackett is a Grosse Pointe Farms native who grew up in the Grosse Pointes. John has a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing – BSN. After playing professional baseball, he moved back to Grosse Pointe and raised his family here. He has worked in the medical field his entire life.

The business, Hackett Homecare, began as he took care of his own parents, who struggled with issues related to Parkinson's and Alzheimer's disease. He decided to create a home care business for other elderly people like his parents.

"I knew that I could help a lot of people in their later years providing them with an extremely high quality of care along with loving, compassionate and honest caregivers," he said.

Hackett Homecare specializes in companion care, personal care, Alzheimer's/dementia and Parkinson's care, traumatic brain injury, ALS and catastrophic injury care.

"If you or a loved one is growing increasingly dependent on others with everyday activities," the company's brochure says, "Hackett Homecare can help regain and restore your quality of life."

"I'm just very blessed to have some outstanding caregivers who are hard-working, loving and caring and that's what makes it work seamlessly," he said.

Many of his caregivers have been with him for 15-plus years and embody the company's core values. They are the best, the heartbeat of the company and the reason why the company has had success. Robyn, Megan, Crystal, Jeff, Sheryl, Cathy, Tracy, Roberta, Kathleen, Jenn, Pam, Jose, Necole, Natalie, Juanita, Sue, Jamika, Allison and John are some of the phenomenal caregivers that make up Hackett Homecare. His staff consists of registered nurses (RNs), certified nursing assistants (CNAs) and companion aides, and provides care from a few hours at a time to 24/7 around-the-clock care.

"Robyn is one of the kindest and most loving individuals there is with a heart of gold and has a passion to help seniors. Megan provides a wealth of knowledge with her RN care and is a leader in the industry. They work tirelessly to make sure everything runs smoothly."

Above all, Hackett prides himself on the depth and quality of service the company provides, which sets them apart. Hackett said, "I wouldn't place a caregiver into any client's home unless I felt comfortable enough to have them in my parents' home. Having caregivers for my own parents, I completely understand the importance of going the extra mile to only hire high-quality caregivers who have a passion for caring for those in need. If they don't meet the most stringent qualities, we will not place them in any client's home. We are so blessed and I don't take that for granted."

To learn more, visit HackettHomecare.com or email Hackett Homecare@gmail.com. To schedule a free consultation, call John Hackett at (313) 319-8050.

Police departments across the state host No-Shave November fundraiser



COURTESY PHOTO

Officers from the Portage Department of Public Safety with Maggie Varney, founder and CEO of Maggie's Wigs 4 Kids of Michigan.

It's about to get a little hairy at local police departments this November, yet it's all for a good cause — supporting Michigan children experiencing hair loss.

Starting Nov. 1, during No-Shave November, officers from Eastpointe, Franklin/Bingham Farms, Fraser, Harper Woods, Hazel Park, Lathrup Village, the Macomb County Sheriff's Office, Milford, Orchard Lake, Portage, Romeo, Shelby Township, South Lyon, St. Clair Shores, Sterling Heights and Wolverine Lake will raise money by skipping the razor and growing out their hair or, for women, wearing earrings and nail polish, through the 14th annual Pigs 4 Wigs campaign.

Funds raised will be donated to Maggie's Wigs 4 Kids of Michigan, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that provides wigs and support services to children ages 3 to 18 at no charge throughout the state of Michigan. While these 16 departments have committed to the fundraiser so far, any Michigan police department is welcome to join.

Police staff, command and local community members are able to make donations online at wigs4kids.org/how-you-can-help/pigs-4-wigs.html or through cash or check. Commemorative T-shirts are available to the officers featuring the logos of participating departments. Awareness and funds raised during the monthlong event help kids who face cancer, alopecia, trichotillomania and other medical issues.

"Pigs 4 Wigs has become a friendly competition between the departments to sponsor more wigs and support services for the children over the last 14 years," Maggie's Wigs 4 Kids of Michigan founder and CEO Maggie Varney said.

Founded in 2003, Maggie's Wigs 4 Kids of Michigan is celebrating its 23rd year of service and has helped more than 6,000 local children. The organization helps everyone, charges nothing and turns no one away. Call (586) 772-6656, visit wigs4kids.org or follow it on social media.

HELM:

Continued from page 9B

Woods residents ages 60 and older who are facing food insecurity.

A limited number of boxes are available at each distribution. To guarantee a food box, residents should register in advance by calling The Helm at (313) 882-9600 and providing their name, address, phone number and date of birth. Identification is required at pickup.

For more information about The Helm and its programs and services for older adults and caregivers, visit helmlife.org.

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GPT's Purdon Studio Theatre presents 'Stop Kiss'

Intimate drama explores love, identity, acceptance



PHOTOS COURTESY OF GPT



Above, Emma Pop performs as Callie. Right, Oasis Lillard performs as Sara.

Grosse Pointe Theatre's Purdon Studio Theatre will present "Stop Kiss," by acclaimed playwright Diana Son, Oct. 17 and 18, and Oct. 22 to 25, at Grosse Pointe Congregational Church, 240 Chalfonte, Grosse Pointe Farms.

A poignant and thought-provoking drama, "Stop Kiss" tells the story of two women whose unexpected friendship blossoms into love, forever changing their lives. Through a compelling, non-linear narrative, the play examines love, identity, courage and the consequences of intolerance, while reminding audiences that its themes remain strikingly relevant today.

First-time Grosse Pointe Theatre director Dominique Eisengruber said the play has grown in significance over the years.

"I was first introduced to this play in my freshman year of college," Eisengruber said. "While reading it fresh within this past year, I realized that this story does more for me now than it even did before. I see myself and my own journey in coming to terms with my own orientation. I see many of my loving friends facing similar hardships, love, fear and acceptance."

Although the play premiered nearly 30 years ago, Eisengruber believes its message continues to resonate.

"'Stop Kiss' is a timeless story that is just as relevant now as it was in the '90s," she said. "This specifically provides an inside look on a loving, blossoming relationship, but doesn't shy away from showing us the harsh reality of what many queer couples have to face every day — even for something as simple as a kiss."

The production is being staged in the intimate setting of Grosse Pointe Congregational Church, a venue Eisengruber believes enhances the emotional impact of the story.

"This venue is absolutely perfect for this show," Eisengruber said. "It really puts the story into the laps of patrons. You get to see every facial expression, every beat and every actor in the moment the whole time."

The cast of six has embraced the emotional complexity of the play's characters.

"The actors in this cast are doing an exquisite job portraying, analyzing and adapting their characters," Eisengruber said. "The most important things about these characters is their three-dimensionality. Every one of our six actors has thoroughly fleshed out these complex characters."

As a first-time director with Grosse Pointe Theatre, Eisengruber said she has appreciated the organization's welcoming environment and commitment to telling inclusive stories. She hopes audiences leave the theater with a renewed appreciation for empathy and equality.

"Everyone deserves to feel safe expressing love to their partner," she said. "Everyone deserves the same dignity, respect, acceptance and love — no matter what their orientation or identity is. The show is an example of why we still need to fight for equality."

"Stop Kiss" runs approximately 95 to 100 minutes and is presented without an intermission.

Tickets are $20 and available at gpt.org/pst or by calling the Grosse Pointe Theatre Ticket Office at (313) 881-4004.



Emma Pop, as Callie, rehearses a scene with Andy Eisengruber in the role of Detective Cole.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MEGHAN ZELDES

Shenanigans

A group of Grosse Pointe moms hosted an atypical kickball game the evening of Sept. 28, by wearing inflatable costumes to surprise their friend Allison Stackpoole, in celebration of her 39th birthday.





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Dear Gabby: My spouse retired six months ago and now comments on everything I do, from how I load the dishwasher to how I organize the pantry. I love having him home, but I'm starting to miss when he had somewhere to be. — Too Much Togetherness in the City

Dear Too Much: Many retirees underestimate how much structure work provided until it's gone. Suddenly there's extra time, extra opinions and nowhere for that energy to go.

Volunteer, join a club, learn a skill, mentor someone, play golf, take classes — anything that creates a healthy rhythm outside the house, for you and especially for your spouse.

A successful retirement isn't simply leaving work. It's finding a meaningful next chapter.

— Gabby

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



Still haunted by high school



Dear Annie

by Annie Lane

DEAR ANNIE: This might seem a little weird for a 78-year-old man, but this really bothers me. When I was in elementary and high school, I wasn't liked by many of my fellow students. I was shy, a bit awkward and the target of bullying. I never fit in, and I thought high school would never end.

Things were better in college. I graduated and went on to stand out in my profession, receiving honors and positive attention from my peers. It was the opposite of my high school experience.

I've only attended one high school class reunion, and that evening was the longest three hours of my life. I was again left out of conversations, and some memories centered around times I was bullied. Needless to say, I never went back.

Now a group of my old high school classmates get together informally from time to time for breakfast, lunch, etc. I keep getting invited via email, but I haven't been able to bring myself to go.

In retirement, I've become friends with an old classmate who I never interacted with in high school. We were in different circles, but he was always friendly to me. He personally invited me to one of these gatherings. I gave in after many requests.

The minute I entered the room and saw those faces, I was overwhelmed by the past. I made it through the event even though one classmate told a story about a bullying incident where I was the victim. Everyone laughed. I cried inside.

The classmate who pushed me to go apologized after the gathering and said he had no idea that would happen. I'll never go back, but that awful experience is in my head every day.

I've talked with my pastor, which was helpful, but I'm still unhappy. I've never thought of hurting myself, but I've become somewhat of a recluse, afraid to leave my home or go anywhere I might run into an old classmate.

My years are numbered, and I want them to be happy, but they're anything but. My wife is very supportive and understands my plight. She encourages me but doesn't push.

How can I get over this? I've thought of moving to another city where I won't run into anyone from high school, but that would mean taking my wife from her friends and family. — Still Hurting

DEAR STILL HURTING: There's nothing weird about painful memories lingering, no matter how old you are. But these wounds are keeping you from living your life.

Your pastor helped, but I strongly encourage you to speak with a therapist. You don't have to rush to forgive or forget; you just need help leaving the past in the past. At 78, your time is too precious to spend hiding from people who hurt you decades ago.

You've built a good life since high school, and you deserve to enjoy it. Don't sell yourself short just because your classmates did -- classmates who dwell in the past and never really grew up.

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

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Daily Jam opens 3rd location in Grosse Pointe Woods



Food Gossip

by Nina Taormina

The memories made at 20710 Mack in Grosse Pointe Woods were built on family, friendships, neighbors and a weekly routine for so many. It has been one of Mack Avenue's most popular landmarks for decades.

For those of us who grew up here, my generation remembers how special this place was for many different reasons and occasions, but especially on Grosse Pointe North's senior class Toga Day. That Big Boy statue meant everything — so much so that North is its new home.

"This was a Big Boy location for over 60 years and we knew we wanted to keep it a restaurant that still was family oriented," the owners said, "where people can create traditions and memories with their loved ones, while also providing a modern experience with full bar service."

Daniel Curis Jr. and Anthony Ansara, two sons who share the ownership with their families and partnership with ZGrowth Partners, filled me in on everything our newest neighborhood brunch house has to offer. This is Daily Jam.

The Curis and Ansara families have been in the restaurant business for more than 70 years, across three generations. ZGrowth Partners is a firm with experience in franchising, with successful openings of more than 5,000 locations within the U.S. and 75 countries worldwide. These combined forces opened Daily Jam, Grosse Pointe Woods in September 2025, making it its third U.S. location with this name; a fourth is coming soon to Troy.

Seating approximately 100 guests comfortably, this location was ready for a long-overdue renovation. A complete update of the interior and exterior, along with a new state-of-the-art commercial kitchen and full-service bar, was done. When I walked in for the first time, I was impressed with the new look. Growing up frequenting the first two booths on half days with my grandma and her lady friends — they were Big Boys regulars — I was pleased to walk into a sharp yet cozy welcoming space, with a vibe that invites fancy or casual brunches, business lunches, celebrations of all kinds and, of course, friends and family gatherings. Their renovations were perfect.

On to their menu. Simply put by the guys: "Daily Jam is a scratch-made breakfast, brunch and lunch concept with a full bar and specialty coffee program." With unique Southwest-inspired dishes, the brand locally sources as many products as possible, from coffee to select meats and everything in between, served in a casual, comfortable setting. The menu is quite large, but not overwhelming. There's something for everyone, with price points that cap out at less than $16, which is hard to come by these days for this caliber of dining.

When dishes like house-baked French toast topped with your choice of multiple "sweet temptations," chipotle egg burritos, Eddie's breakfast tacos, pear omelets and blueberry lemon pancakes are the most popular, you know Daily Jam isn't another "greasy diner breakfast joint." Don't get me wrong: Those are great, too, but this is far from that.

Lunch favorites consist of sandwiches like a focaccia Roma chicken sandwich and the pear and havarti melt. The Natie Bomb sandwich is grilled in between multigrain bread, stacked with turkey, cheddar, sliced apples, bacon, caramelized onions and chipotle sauce. That explains why they say it's a one of a kind.

"We have several vegan items such as Phoenix sauté, a garden patty melt," the owners said, "and any of our sandwiches and wraps can be made with gluten-free options."

There are burger and salad options, too.

For the kids, the "Little Jammers" section of the menu has all the favorites, but I'm told the Mickey Mouse pancakes with whipped cream ears is bound to become an empty plate.

Dan's brother, Richard Curis, heads up the kitchen and together they roll out seasonal specials and rotating menu features.

The coffee is sourced locally from Great Lakes Coffee Roasting Co. The Jam features a great specialty coffee menu with classic hot options: espresso, Americano, cappuccino, caramel macchiato or vanilla, chai or caramel lattes. Cold brews and chais are offered, too, and are served with a choice of dairy, soy, goat or almond milk. Delicious matcha, smoothies and teas also are on the menu.

Now for the fun part: Boozy Brunch. It's got espresso martinis, classic margaritas or even a tequila sunrise to wake you up, but its mimosa tower is a conversation piece at any table.

Speaking of mimosas, Daily Jam is one of a few places to offer a "beermosa" around here. You guessed it: beer + orange juice. Don't knock it 'til you try it. The menu has mocktails aplenty, too. Bartenders can pour whatever your fancy, all while enjoying its dedicated bar area and big screen TVs.

Follow Daily Jam on Instagram @eatdailyjam. The catering menu is available online at mydailyjam.com or email cater@mydailyjam.com to discuss an order. It also hosts in-house private events.

Need a brunch fix at home? Daily Jam is available on most delivery sites, too. It's open seven days a week from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. If you're lucky, you might get greeted by Ralph, who is the life of the Jam and the face of their partnership.

• Fun fact: The original table number board from Big Boy is still in it's original spot. It was one of the only original items they kept.

Stay tuned. Stay hungry.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Daily Jam Mack Avenue and the original table number sign from Big Boy.



Mimosa tower, smoothies and specialty coffee.



From left, Eddie's breakfast tacos, pear omelet, eggs your way and loaded cinnamon French toast.



The original chop salad, chicken caesar wrap and the Natie Bomb sandwich.

We Tried It!

by Anna Lizer



I consider myself incredibly lucky when it comes to my friends. I have a group of girls I can count on for anything; I can tell them anything and truly consider them my sisters. There is no better group I could hope to go through life with.

I also pride myself on being a pretty good gift-giver. In our friend group, I tend to be the one orchestrating gifts whenever someone gets married, has a baby, celebrates a big birthday or reaches another milestone.



But when many of your friends are getting married and having babies, I think the single girls deserve some celebrating, too. So when one of my dearest friends moved into a beautiful new apartment in Boston, I decided a housewarming gift was in order. The problem was figuring out what to get her.

This particular friend appreciates the finer things in life. She happily spends a little more for something really good, loves to cook and entertain and, despite moving to Boston, is very close to her friends back home in Michigan.

After far too much internet scavenging, we landed on something I had never considered giving anyone before: an $88 bottle of olive oil.

Hear me out.

Flamingo Estate's Personalized Heritage Extra Virgin Olive Oil comes in a 16-ounce bottle with a label hand-finished by a calligrapher in Los Angeles. The oil comes from a fourth-generation olive farmer in Ojai, Calif., where the olives are hand-picked and immediately pressed. The result is a vibrant, peppery olive oil with softer fruit notes. It also arrives in an embossed gift box, which helps explain why you just spent nearly $100 on something usually found next to the cooking spray.

We personalized hers with a message from her Michigan friends. It ended up being exactly what I hoped it would.

She keeps the bottle displayed on her kitchen counter and apparently guests ask about it all the time. It is beautiful enough to leave out, personal enough to have a story behind it and, most importantly, the olive oil itself is actually incredible.

For the friend who has everything, the hostess who doesn't need another candle or someone celebrating a new home, this is one gift I would absolutely give again.

Five out of five alligators.

Find it online at flamingoestate.com.

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

5 Out Of 5



Roasting with grapes

Courtesy of Mombeau's Table

I love the idea of transitioning grapes from summer to fall. Cold, crisp and refreshing during hot summer days and then caramelized, soft and silken when the weather cools off. They add a touch of sweetness and pair so well with woodsy herbs like rosemary and thyme. These two recipes showcase grapes in savory dishes that are utterly cozy and delightful.

The first dish is chicken roasted with grapes, rosemary and white wine. The chicken cooks until tender alongside juicy red grapes and fragrant rosemary. As the grapes roast, they soften and release their juices and natural pectin, giving the wine sauce just enough body to make it perfect for mopping up with a crusty baguette. You might expect the grapes to make the dish overly sweet, but the rosemary and white wine keep everything savory and balanced, while the grapes add just a subtle sweetness and complexity.

To round out the meal, serve it with a chilled bottle of Altanuta Pinot Grigio from northern Italy. Its crisp, bright character is a lovely complement to the richness of the chicken and the sweetness of the roasted grapes.

Next is an hors d'oeuvre that's sure to please at any fall gathering. Red grapes are roasted with plenty of garlic and thyme, along with balsamic vinegar and olive oil, until they're soft, jammy and just beginning to caramelize. The warm grapes are then spooned over a cool, creamy bed of whipped ricotta brightened with fresh lemon zest. Served atop crunchy crostini, every bite is a little sweet, a little tangy, wonderfully creamy and full of fresh, herby flavor. Pair it with a bottle of DAOU Cabernet Sauvignon for a rich, cozy combination that feels just right for fall.

Both wines can be found at Fresh Farms Market.

Cheers, Mombeau





PHOTOS BY KAREN FERGUSON

Chicken with Roasted Grapes and Rosemary

6 bone-in, skin-on chicken thighs

1 tbsp olive oil

1 tbsp butter

2 cups red grapes, halved

2 cloves garlic, chopped

2 tbsp rosemary, chopped

1 cup dry white wine

2 tbsp olive oil

Salt and pepper

Preheat your oven to 375 degrees. Season both sides of the chicken with salt and pepper. In a large, oven-safe skillet, add a tablespoon of olive oil and brown the skin side of the chicken until crisp and golden, about four minutes. Flip the chicken and brown on the other side for another three to four minutes. Remove the chicken from the pan and add the grapes, garlic and rosemary. Add a pinch of salt and saute for a few minutes until the grapes become soft. Pour in the wine and let reduce for one minute. Add the chicken back into the pan and spoon some of the grapes and wine over the top. Place in the oven for 25 minutes or until the center of the chicken reads 165 degrees on a meat thermometer. Serve the chicken directly from the pan, making sure to spoon the sauce and grapes over the top. Best served with potatoes and crusty bread.

Whipped Ricotta with Roasted Grapes

15 oz whole-milk ricotta cheese
Zest of one lemon
Juice of ½ lemon

1 tsp fresh thyme leaves

2 cups red grapes, halved

6 sprigs fresh thyme

2 tbsp balsamic vinegar

3 tbsp olive oil

Salt and pepper to taste

1 baguette, sliced into thin rounds

Preheat the oven to 400 degrees and line a baking sheet with parchment paper. Add the grapes, thyme sprigs, balsamic vinegar, garlic and one tablespoon of olive oil. Season with a pinch of salt and pepper and toss everything together before spreading the grapes into an even layer. Roast for about 30 minutes, until the grapes are soft and juicy with caramelization beginning around the edges.

While the grapes roast, add the ricotta, lemon juice and thyme leaves to a food processor. Whip for about 10 seconds, or until the ricotta is light, creamy and smooth.

Arrange the baguette slices on a separate baking sheet and brush both sides with the remaining two tablespoons of olive oil. Place them in the oven with the grapes and toast for about 10 minutes, flipping halfway through, until crisp and lightly golden. Remove from the oven and allow to cool slightly.

To serve, spread the whipped ricotta onto a serving platter or shallow bowl, creating a generous bed for the grapes. Spoon the warm roasted grapes and all of their flavorful juices over the ricotta. Serve with the toasted crostini alongside for dipping, scooping and spooning.

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Bottle sizes

Decades ago, almost every California winery used standard sizes of bottles, most of which weighed less than 3 pounds when filled. A case of wine, 12 bottles, weighs less than 35 pounds.

I'm not sure when this began to change, but in the last 30 years bottles have become so heavy that they pose an environmental hazard. People have begun to get the idea that the heavier the bottle, the better the quality of the wine they are getting.

Of course, there is no truth to this. The quality of a wine has absolutely nothing to do with the weight of the bottle. But wine marketing specialists love putting ordinary wine in heavy bottles.

Ultra-heavy bottles are a relatively new phenomenon. I suspect it started with cabernet sauvignons, spread to zinfandel and then even some chardonnays are in these environmentally insensitive things. I detest this trend.

In the 1970s, a standard case of wine weighed 33 pounds and almost all wineries used roughly the same bottles. Bottles usually weighed 2 pounds, 12 ounces. Today many cases are 50 pounds and many bottles are 4 pounds, plus.

This puts a greater strain on the backs of retail store personnel who have to restock shelves.

Moreover, many bottles are also wider than they have ever been. A reader wrote years ago about this: "I have a built-in wine rack ... Recently I observed that numerous wineries are switching to a larger-diameter bottle which no longer fits into my rack. And they are also difficult to fit in my wine refrigerator."

One Sonoma County pinot noir producer of some fame sells its wine in bottles that are so wide they don't fit in racks. Soon I stopped buying it.

Starting in the mid-1980s, California winemakers became conscious that thicker bottles felt better to some consumers, so we began to see many iconic wines use more glass. It coincided with the use of more gold on labels and fancier capsules. It was almost as if wineries had discovered the gimmick that sells expensive perfume: the bottle it comes in.

Also, we began to see taller bottles. The standard height of wine bottles in the 1970s was about 11 inches. Today many wineries are using 13-inch bottles.

Heavier bottles use more glass, which makes the boxes they come in wider as well. A pallet of wine typically holds 56 cases. A box that holds ultra-heavy wine bottles is so wide that a pallet can only hold 50 to 52 cases. Result: wine is more expensive to ship.

Not only can you fit fewer cases on a truck, but the added weight also increases fuel costs to move the wine to market.

I see ultra-heavy bottles as an environmental hazard. They offer no benefit to the consumer, but needlessly cost consumers more because of added marketing costs. For more than 20 years, I have boycotted such wines.

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

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What to wear: Halloween edition

Treat yourself to a great fall look — no costume required!

By Olivia Monette and Donna Zetterlund
Special Writers

Halloween time calls for a little drama—but not necessarily a costume. From cocktail parties and neighborhood gatherings to festive dinners and evenings out, the season's best looks embrace the spirit of Halloween with sophistication and style. It's all about rich autumnal colors, luxe textures, classic lines — and just the right lighthearted touch of the unexpected!

Polished dressing is always in season, and these pieces from our own Grosse Pointe boutiques are ideal for making an entrance, whether you're participating in activities for the kids – or adulting for some Halloween fun with your best friends.

Check out this creative sampling of unique fall collection pieces from local shops Savvy Chic Boutique, Glitter & Scotch and Pearl — to find just the right look to express your Halloween spirit this season.

PRACTICAL MAGIC

Go-to style for everyday seasonal fun! Outfits made for walking the neighborhood rounds, handing out candy or gathering around the fire pit. Comfortable as layers for warmth and polished enough for an impromptu neighborhood party.

The Z Supply Clubhouse caramel sweatshirt, below left, is your new go-to for daily cozy style. With its relaxed feel and laid-back vibe, you can handle everything Halloween brings — in total comfort. From ***Savvy Chic Boutique.***









The Z Supply Spooky sweater, above, delivers the cutest fall vibes — along with a little Halloween fun! Perfect for brisk days, pumpkin patches and all your other spooky-season plans. From ***Savvy Chic Boutique.***



Ivory long-sleeve sweater, left, is soft and feminine, with unique shoulder detail and bottom ribbing. From ***Savvy Chic Boutique.***





Above: Luxe brown teddy bear coat is a fall favorite that combines style with practical warmth. From ***Savvy Chic Boutique.***

All pet sweaters from ***Amazon.***

Steve Madden Dorene ankle boot, left, is a stylish and versatile staple that adds the perfect finishing touch to any outfit. From ***Savvy Chic Boutique.***

The Shu Shop Salome Mary Jane sneaker, above, is all comfort — with a playful twist. Stylishly sweet and ready for all your autumn adventures. From ***Savvy Chic Boutique.***





Mock turtleneck in sleek snakeskin, top, is also available leopard print. From ***Glitter & Scotch.***

Transitional wine sleeveless turtleneck sweater, above, is so colorful and gorgeous! From ***Glitter & Scotch.*** *Glitz headband from* ***Amazon.***

A LITTLE HOCUS POCUS

Think office or kids' classroom celebrations, school parades and pumpkin shopping. Grab a festive top with black or blue denims – and add some playful accessories for a subtle nod to Halloween.



Vaughn vegan leather shell in Oxblood, above, brings sophistication to everyday events. From ***Glitter & Scotch.***

Glitter & Scotch *new arrivals, right, make up the perfect fall ensemble for outdoor fun like pumpkin patches and hayrides. Look good and have fun — that's the motto this fall!*



THE HALLOWEEN PARTY

A sophisticated take on the season. Bewitching black velvet, rich autumn tones and elegant statement jewelry create a festive look that's even better than a traditional Halloween costume.







Strictly chic: LA DOUBLE J High Kick top, above, is a luxurious blend of cashmere and silk for weightless softness. The cuffs are trimmed in signature chartreuse ostrich feathers. From ***Pearl.***

Stunning dresses light up the night! Black Altuzarra Betsy dress, far left moves with precision against the body. Toffee Altuzarra Tingley dress, left, is quietly elegant. Both from ***Pearl.***





Inspired by the moon, this artistic brooch, above left, is designed with a central detail made of natural antler. It's perfect for accenting fall clothing and coats. The soft slouch bag, above right, is an artisanally felted blend of Highland wool and alpaca. A truly classic find. Both from ***Pearl.***

Halloween entertaining

There are a few special places in the Pointes that are sure to celebrate every season in style. **Small Favors** and **Party Adventure** have long been Grosse Pointe mainstays for all things fun and festive — and Halloween is no exception.

You'll be amazed at the wide variety of adorable decor items, games and treats available at these shops.

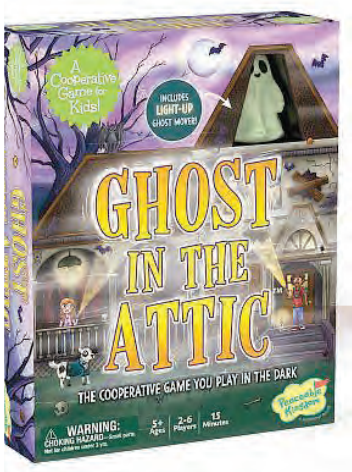
At Small Favors, it's as much fun to shop as it is to celebrate — for treats, games and other fun stuff. Party Adventure is your one-stop party destination, serving up all the tableware and decor you'll need to make your gathering a smashing success.



Small Favors' pumpkin, ghost and black cat Halloween treat baskets, right, are perfect for gathering — or handing out — kids' candy.



Ghost pinata, above, and hanging skeleton, right, both from Party Adventure's vast decor aisles.

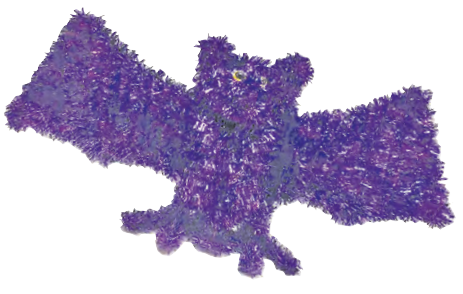


Super fun Ghost in the Attic game, left, is from Small Favors.



Small Favors' assorted Halloween decor, above, makes your place everyone's favorite haunt.

Bring on the candy! Party Adventure's bat pinata, below, comes in purple or black for some "whack-y" fun.





Eerie light-up orange ghosts, above, set the Halloween mood to delight trick-or-treaters. This two-pack duo is almost four feet tall and very easy to set up. From Party Adventure.

Realistic, spooky life-size cauldron, right, makes for an impressive yard display. From Party Adventure.

YUMMY PARTY RECIPE



Blood Orange Margarita

A classic margarita gets a Halloween makeover with fresh blood orange juice. The result is tart, citrusy and just sweet enough, with a gorgeous ruby-red color that looks perfect on a Halloween table.

Ingredients:

2 ounces tequila blanco
1½ ounces fresh blood orange juice
¾ ounce fresh lime juice
½ ounce orange liqueur, such as Cointreau or triple sec
½ ounce agave syrup, or to taste
Ice

For garnish: Blood orange or lime wheel

For the rim: Lime wedge and oarse salt, or a mixture of salt and a little black sanding sugar

Directions:

- Run a lime wedge around the rim of a rocks or margarita glass.
- Dip the rim into the salt or salt-and-black-sugar mixture.
- Fill a cocktail shaker with ice. Add tequila, blood orange juice, lime juice, orange liqueur and agave syrup.
- Shake vigorously for about 15 seconds.
- Fill the prepared glass with fresh ice and strain the margarita over the ice.
- Garnish with a blood orange or lime wheel.

Halloween Twist:
For an especially dramatic presentation, use a black-salt rim and garnish with a thin blood orange wheel. For a party, make a pitcher ahead of time and chill it well before serving. Makes: 1 cocktail

For a pitcher (servings for 8):
Use 2 cups tequila, 1½ cups blood orange juice, ¾ cup lime juice, ½ cup orange liqueur and ½ cup agave syrup. Stir with ice just before serving rather than shaking each drink individually.



Full-size skeleton wheelbarrow, above, and festive stacked Halloween balloon jack o' lantern decoration, right, are from Party Adventure.





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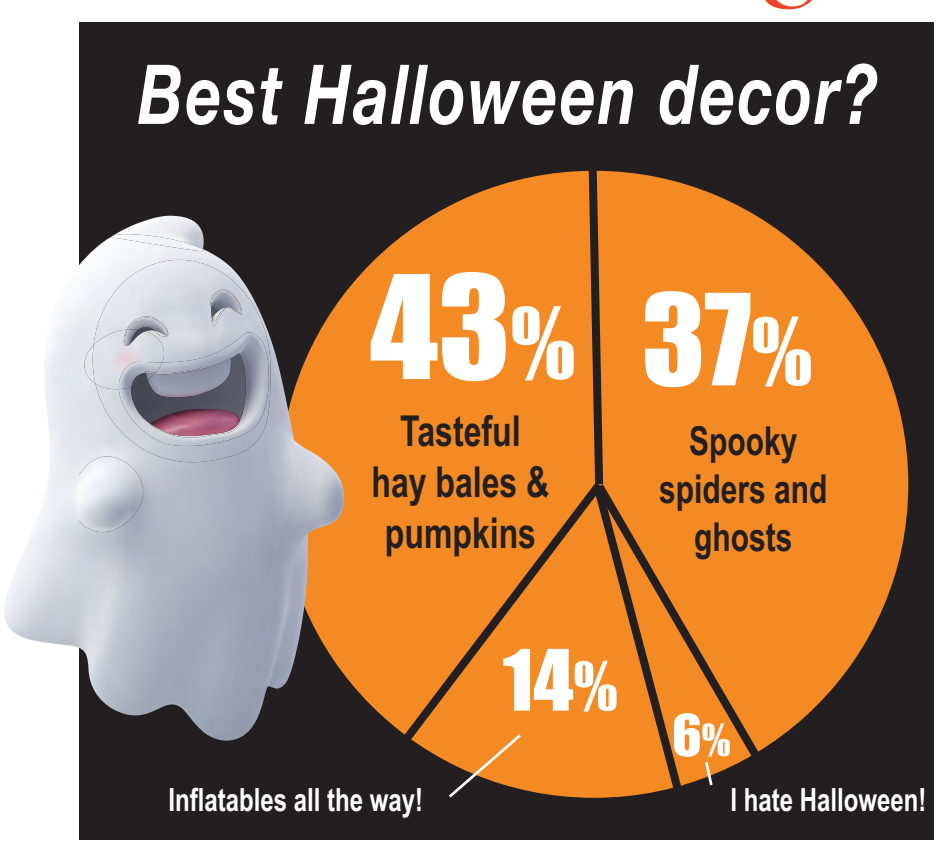
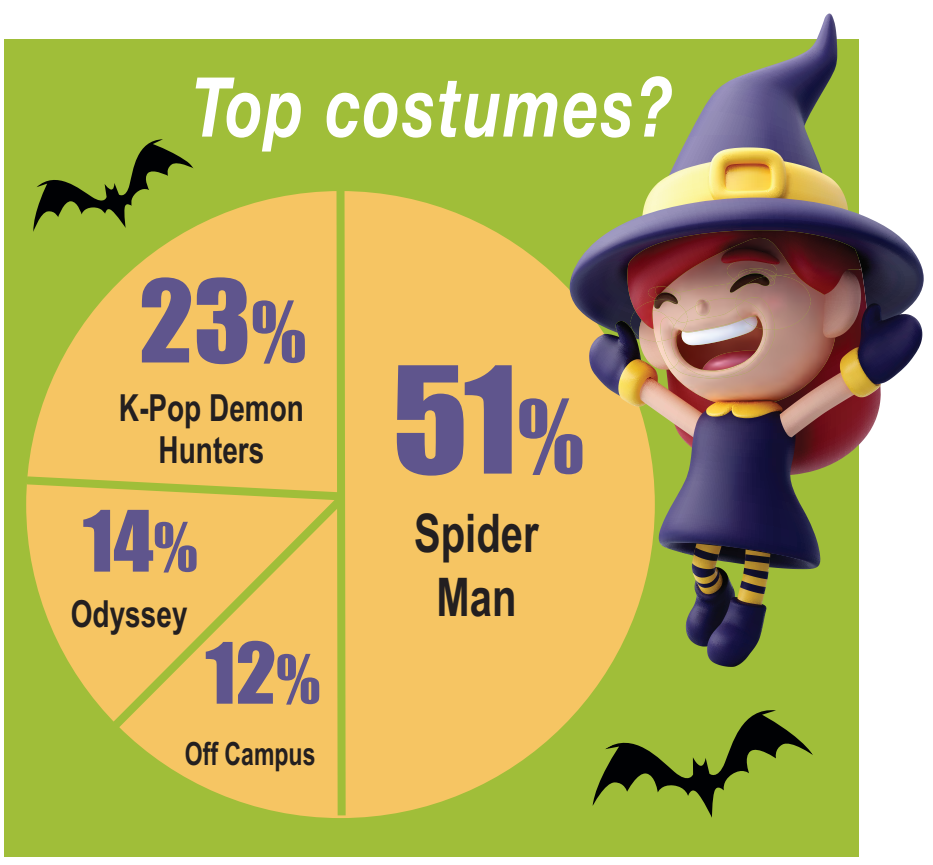
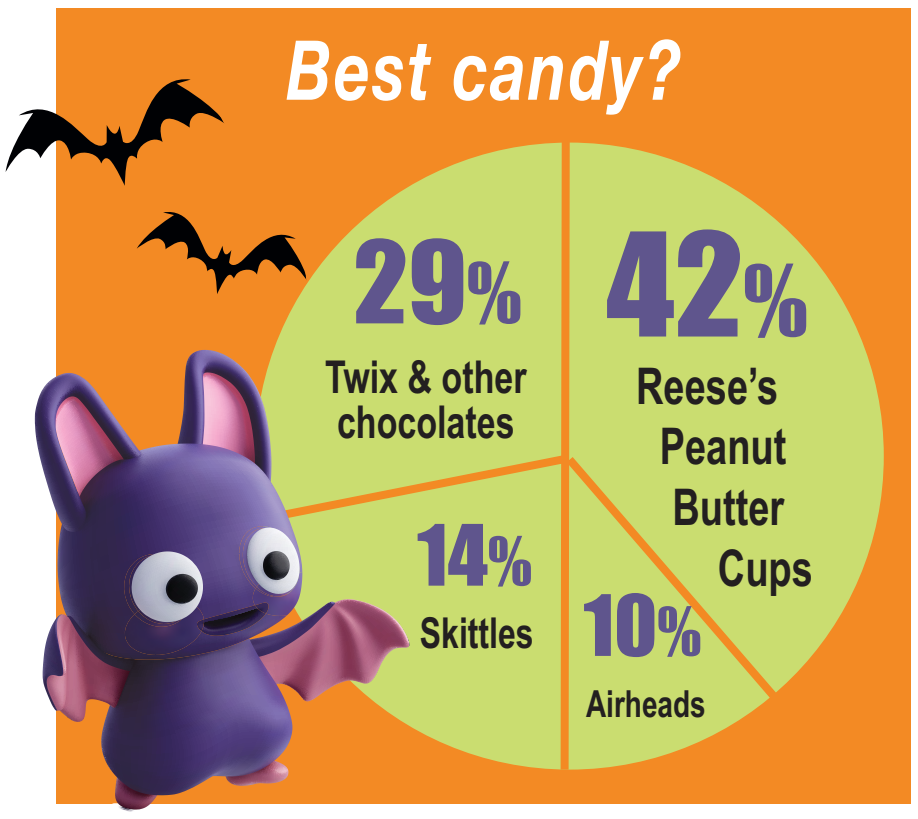
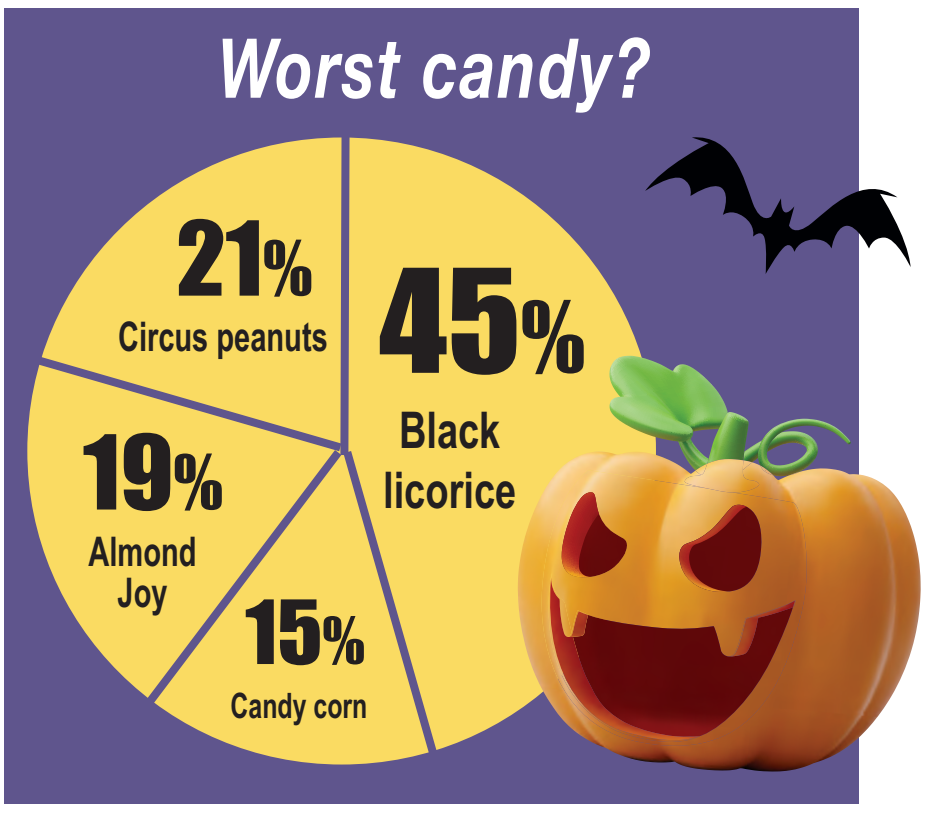
Polling the Pointes...









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SOURCE: 2021 YouGov poll

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PHOTOS COURTESY OF POUCH POTATO PRODUCTIONS

Above, Rebecca Breeds as Lou Wells in the 2024 movie "Kangaroo Island," written by Sally Gifford and directed by Timothy David.

Below, an evening around the campfire.

Movie Junkie Mark

by Mark Domin

"Life is too short to watch mediocre movies"





One of the more unnusual sights on Kangaroo Island.

MOVIE REVIEW
"Kangaroo Island"
2024 - Not Rated
1 hr 53 min
★★★★☆

The title is a dead giveaway as to where this recent film takes place. And as I'm so fond of saying, "Opals aren't the only gems Australia exports." The country produces dozens of excellent movies every year. Unfortunately, very few of these little gems make it to the big screen here in the U.S. Many of the better ones are available online, it just takes a little digging to discover them.

This moving drama deals with several heady topics including dysfunctional families, sibling rivalry, mortality and self discovery. It was filmed in Adelaide, which stood in for Los Angeles, and Kangaroo Island, off the southern coast of Australia. It's another one of those locations that's so beautiful, it'll make you want to hop on a plane and head Down Under for a couple weeks. Cinematographer Ian McCarroll does a fantastic job capturing the island's gorgeous scenery.

It's also worth mentioning that it's the first feature length film for the Australian director Timothy David. Writing credit goes to Sally Gifford.





Rory (Erik Thomson) and Freya (Adelaide Clemens).

Right, Poster for "Kangaroo Island."



Rebecca Breeds ("Clarice") plays 30-something Lou Wells, a down-on-her-luck Aussie actor. Several years before, she was the star of a popular TV show, but her career has taken a down turn. It doesn't help that she has a drinking problem that has caused her to miss interviews for potential jobs. When she appears for a meeting with her talent agency, she's told they're dropping her as a client. "We're just not excited about you anymore," she's told. It's a severe blow that knocks the wind out of her sails.

She's pretty broke and has been living rent-free with her ex-boyfriend Steve (Glen McMillan, "Wonderland"). One morning after a night of serious partying, Steve hands her a one-way ticket back home to Australia, courtesy of her father. She's been avoiding calls from her dad for months, so it's an unexpected surprise. Lou informs Steve that she hasn't gone home in 10 years and has absolutely no intention of returning now.

As luck would have it, while driving one of Steve's cars, she stops on the shoulder of the freeway. A police car pulls up and the officer asks her for her driver's license and registration. She doesn't have either one but she does have the airline ticket and her passport. She pleads with the officer that she's having one of her worst days ever and she's on her way to the airport to catch the next flight to Australia. As improbable as it would be in real life, the cop offers to drive her to LAX.

Ever the mooch, she asks Steve if she can use his membership to get a drink in the airport's VIP lounge. There she just happens to meet three women who are Australia bound. Lou proceeds to get blind drunk with them and when she wakes up, Voila!, it's the middle of the night and she's on a plane bound for, you guessed it, Australia!

Through a series of flashbacks, we get the backstory of her life. Ten years before, Lou met a handsome surfer on the beach named Ben (Joel Jackson, "Jungle"). The two fell in love and were quite an item. But she made it clear right from the start that she intended move to LA to pursue an acting career. When Ben opted to stay behind, that was the end of their relationship. He soon begins dating Lou's sister Freya (Adelaide Clemens, "The Swearing Jar"), and they eventually marry. While Lou did attend the wedding, she naturally felt betrayed and it left a scar from which she never fully recovered.

Returning to the present day, she's reunited with her family. The two sisters were raised by their father Rory (Erik Thomson, "Somersault") — their mother died when they were little girls. The setting is a sprawling estate on a bluff overlooking the ocean. There's still quite a bit of friction between the sisters and it's exacerbated when their dad makes a big announcement at the end of a dinner. He informs them that he's leaving the house and property to Freya, since he figures not only does Lou live in LA, if he leaves it to the two of them, there will most likely be a huge fight over the control of the estate.

Obviously this causes a major rift between the two sisters. It doesn't help that when Lou is alone with Ben, there's still some chemistry between them and he hints that he still has feelings for her. She also observes his promiscuous behavior when he's out at the bar by himself.

Overall, I found the film very engaging. The acting is at a level that's totally believable, which adds to the impact of the powerful storyline. It could have easily slipped into Hallmark territory, but thankfully it never got sappy. And the ending was a bit unexpected. Let's just say it was in the true-to-life arena. I look forward to seeing what's next from this talented director.

Streaming for free on Kanopy with your library card. And to rent on Apple TV, Fandango, YouTube, Prime, and other services.

Note to parents, the film is not rated but I'd probably give it a PG-13 for language.

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.





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

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

10/15

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Previous puzzle solution

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

10/8 Solution

Pointe Word Search

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

CHEER
CLEAN
DRAW
DRIVE
FIND
FINISH
HIDE
LISTENED
NICE
POLITE
RESPECTED
RIDE
START
TALK
TURN
WIN
WORDS

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

Contract Bridge

GOOD PLAY OVER BAD LUCK

South dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 9 7 3
♥ 9 6 4
♦ 7 6 3
♣ 9 8 5 4

WEST
♠ Q 8 4 2
♥ J 5 3 2
♦ 8 2
♣ 10 7 2

EAST
♠ K J 10 6 5
♥ A
♦ Q J 10 9 4
♣ 6 3

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

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
2 ♣*	Pass	2 ♦**	2 ♠
3 ♥	3 ♠	Pass	Pass
4 ♣	Pass	4 ♥	

*strong, artificial **waiting
Opening lead — two of spades.

Maintaining control of the trump suit is often a key factor when declarer is in a suit contract. Sometimes the slightest slip in handling the trump suit can cause declarer to fail in a contract that could have been made.

Take this case where South was in four hearts and West led a spade. Declarer won with the ace and led the king of hearts, taken by East with the ace. East returned a spade, ruffed by South, who next played the queen of hearts, on which East showed out.

It was at this point that declarer realized he was in serious trouble. His only remaining trumps were the 10-8, while West had the J-5 and dummy the nine. South could see that if he led another trump, West would win with the jack and return a spade, guaranteeing at least a one-trick defeat.

Declarer did the best he could by abandoning further trump leads and instead played the A-K-Q-J of clubs. West ruffed the fourth club, and South finished down one, losing three trump tricks and a diamond.

South would have made the contract had he exercised greater care in the handling of his trumps. He should have realized that only a 4-1 trump break could defeat him and taken the necessary step to overcome that danger. Instead of cashing the queen of hearts at trick four (when he had the Q-10-8), he should have led the eight!

This safety play would have assured the contract. In the actual deal, West can do no better than win with the jack and lead the queen of spades. Declarer counters by discarding his diamond loser, leaving West in a hopeless position. A spade continuation can be ruffed in dummy, while any other play allows declarer to win, draw West's two remaining trumps and score the rest of the tricks.

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by Steve Becker

Royal Stars Weekly Horoscopes

Moon Alert: Avoid shopping (except for food and gas) or important decisions for the rest of the day after 5:30 p.m. EDT (2:30 p.m. PDT). The Moon is in SAGITTARIUS.

Happy Birthday for Thursday, October 15, 2026: You're orderly, organized, resolute and independent. You're also intelligent, sociable and connected to those close to you. This year you will reap the rewards for all your hard work. Expect power and leadership. It's a time of major decisions. Promotions and acknowledgement will be yours.

ARIES
(March 21-April 19)

This is a wonderful day to expand your world by learning something exciting that broadens your view of life! You might enjoy a vacation or even feel like you're on vacation. Activities with children, sports events and the arts will delight. Tonight: Do something different.

TAURUS
(April 20-May 20)

Financial discussions can go well today with the exception of agreeing to anything important during the Moon Alert. You might be generous to a family member today.. Tonight: Check your finances.

GEMINI
(May 21-June 20)

Enjoy schmoozing today! Make a date with your main squeeze. Time spent with partners, spouses and close friends will be gratifying. You'll welcome an opportunity to help others if you can. Tonight: Be cooperative..

CANCER
(June 21-July 22)

Your efforts at work or with your health or a pet will be rewarding today! The rewards might even be monetary. You will feel that what you're doing is meaningful, especially because it might benefit others as well as yourself. Bonus! Tonight: Get organized.

LEO
(July 23-Aug. 22)

This is a playful day! Accept invitations to socialize with others. Enjoy good times with kids, as well as a chance to appreciate the arts or express your own creative talents. Romance is also blessed. Tonight: Enjoy yourself.

VIRGO
(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Relax at home today or spend time with family members, especially female. It's easy to be generous to family today, which is an excellent idea, because you will get back exactly what you give. Tonight: Relax at home.

LIBRA
(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

You will likely attract happy and positive people to you today, which is why you'll enjoy talking to others. This is because you have a real sense of belonging. You might even feel that by helping someone else you're helping yourself. Tonight: Discussions.

SCORPIO
(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

You can reap financial benefits today, perhaps with moneymaking ideas, exploring a decision to change jobs or creating a little side hustle. Tonight: Check your money.

SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Today the Moon is in your sign dancing with lucky Jupiter, which encourages a pleasant sense of well-being. This is why it's easy for you to feel warm and friendly to the people around you. You're also willing to offer support to anyone who needs it. Tonight: You're in charge..

CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Today you might feel more content than usual. One aspect of this reassurance is you see physical, financial and emotional support is forthcoming. Discussions with younger, creative people will interest you. Tonight: Enjoy solitude.

AQUARIUS
(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Friendships mean a lot to you, and today you can have a wonderful interaction with a friend or a group. This is a good day to share your hopes and dreams for the future with someone, because this will be mutually beneficial. Tonight: Friendships.

PISCES
(Feb. 19-March 20)

You make an excellent impression on everyone today! In fact, people see you as successful, even affluent. Work-related travel might arise. Certainly, relations with co-workers and health-related issues will be reassuring and uplifting. Tonight: Be modest.

BORN TODAY

Actress, director Penny Marshall (1943), actor Dominic West (1969), actress Josefin Asplund (1991).

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg October 15, 2026

ACROSS
1 Ready and willing partner?
5 Schmutz
9 Rainbow shape
12 Piggy bank deposit
13 Vegetable that makes you cry
15 128 oz.
16 "So there's a collie whose owners are forced to sell her ..."
19 Antacid brand named for the organ it soothes
20 She sounds like you!
21 Kung ___ tofu
23 Goal of counting sheep
25 "... and a wolf hybrid born in the wild, only to be captured ..."
28 Indian cooking method
30 Usually pale beer
31 Mister Rogers' home
32 Request made on a weight bench
35 Are in the past?
36 "... plus there's a Saint Bernard puppy who escapes a pet store robbery to find a family ..."
38 Guitarist's clamp
41 Staggered
42 Wad of Bubble Yum
45 Jiggly custard
46 Sounded right
48 "... and a brave cur who fights a rabid wolf"
52 Emmy or Tony
53 Make a lap
54 Nat ___
55 Land o' leprechauns
56 Rambling account that goes nowhere ... or, in two ways, a theme hint
62 Steering tool in crew
63 Decline a proposal
64 This is one
65 Trivial complaint
66 Alternatives to Levi's
67 Over-head items

DOWN
1 Possible target of a knee MRI
2 Feathery drag accessory
3 Enjoys a podcast
4 Happened next
5 Deer moms
6 Business magazine
7 Birthplace of bossa nova, for short
8 Marisa of "Crazy, Stupid, Love"
9 Many moons ___
10 Destructive frenzy
11 More up to a neat freak's standards
14 Salamander that a heron eats
17 Be a burden
18 Achilles' weakness
22 Folklore baddie
23 NASCAR sponsor
24 Chem class component
25 "That's all she ___"
26 Words said with a wave
27 Baby deer
29 Abbr. on a payphone's 0 key
33 Tooth wider than a canine
34 Not odd
36 Like shad
37 Mystery prizes
38 $$$ execs
39 Williams of "Girls"
40 Noodle dish topped with peanuts and lime
42 Healthy kind of bar
43 Not just my
44 Rest area?
47 Spasm
49 "Which came first?" item
50 Trio on a tripod
51 Like a good pooch
55 Teamwork interferences
57 Part of MoMA
58 Go from blonde to bronde, say
59 10/10
60 Same old routine
61 "Affirmative!"

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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

10/8 Solution

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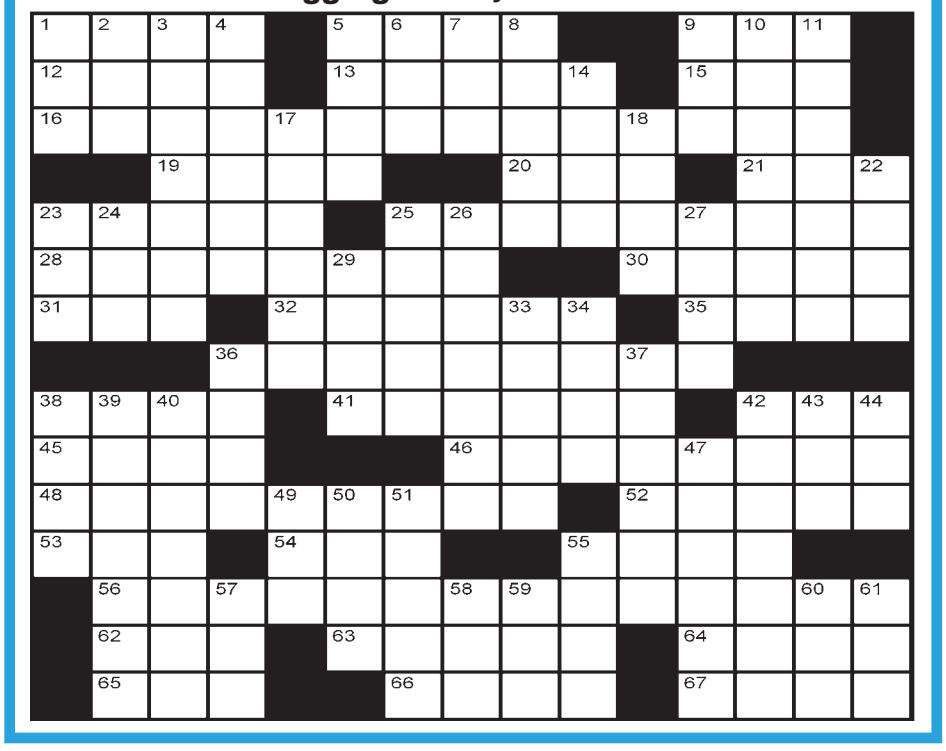
www.upuzzles.com

10/15

Wagging Tale *by Dena R. Verkuil*



Grosse Pointe News THURSDAY COMICS

Peanuts

Charles M. Schulz



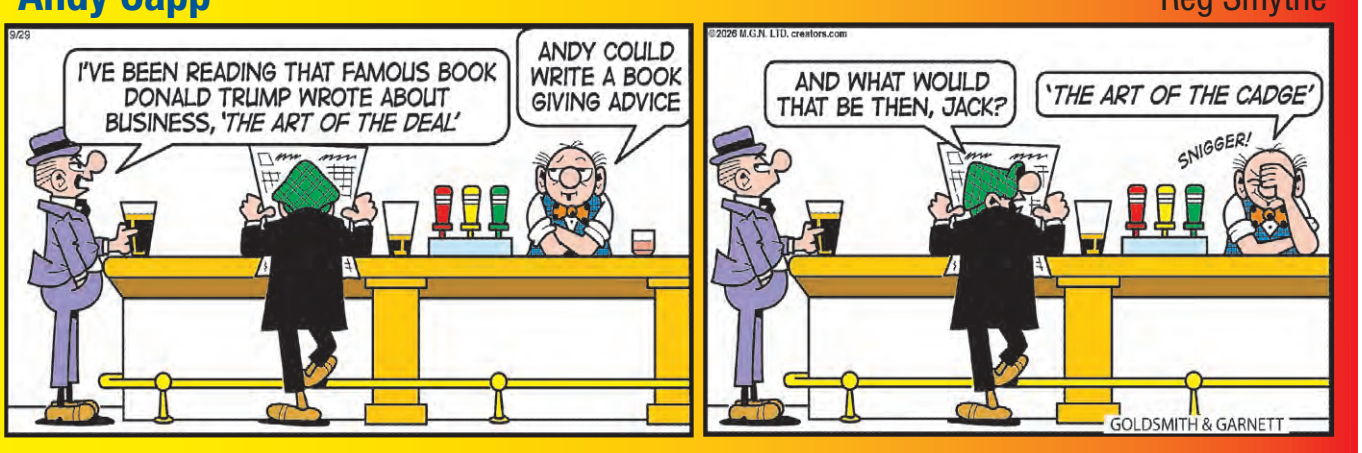
Bizarro

Dan Piraro and Wayno



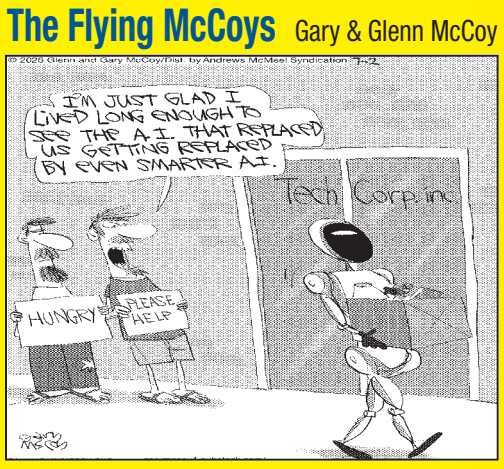
Andy Capp

Reg Smythe



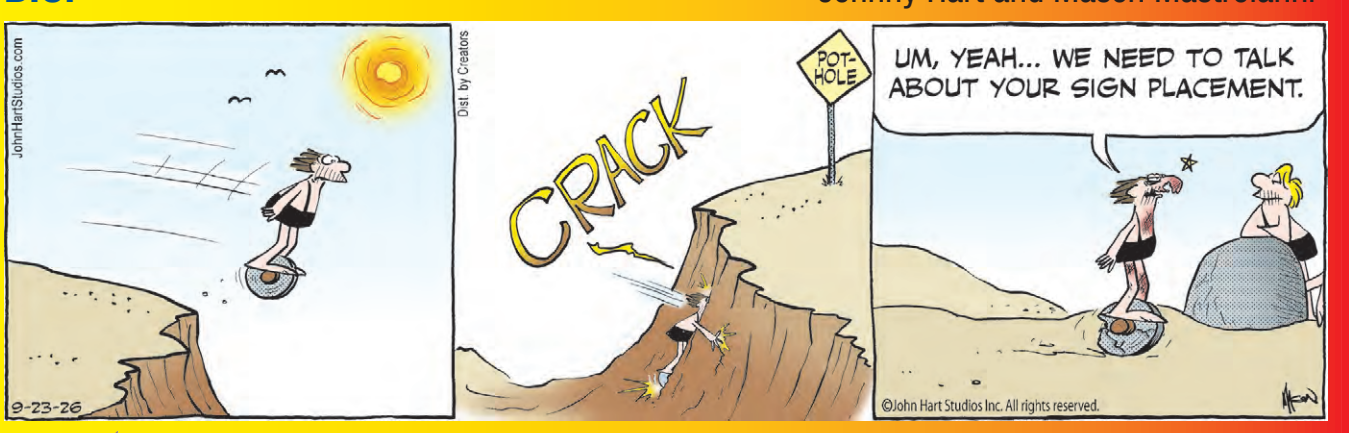
The Flying McCoys

Gary & Glenn McCoy



B.C.

Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni



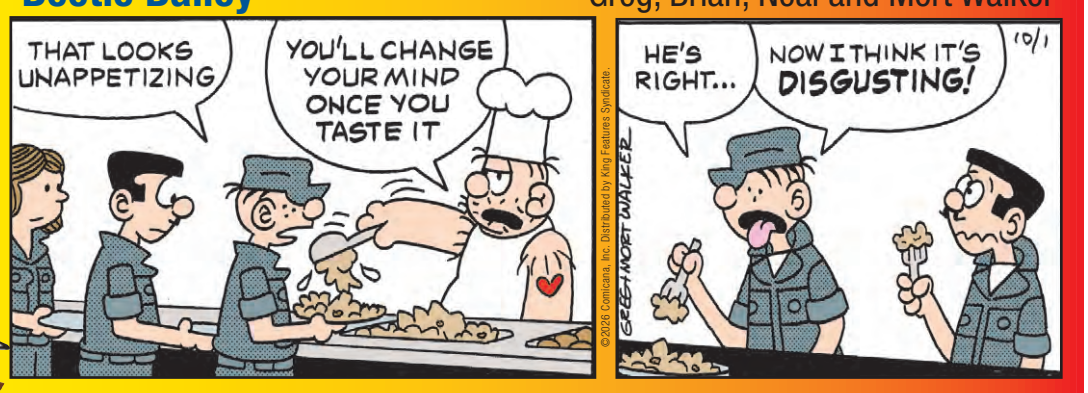
Reality Check

Dave Whamond



Beetle Bailey

Greg, Brian, Neal and Mort Walker



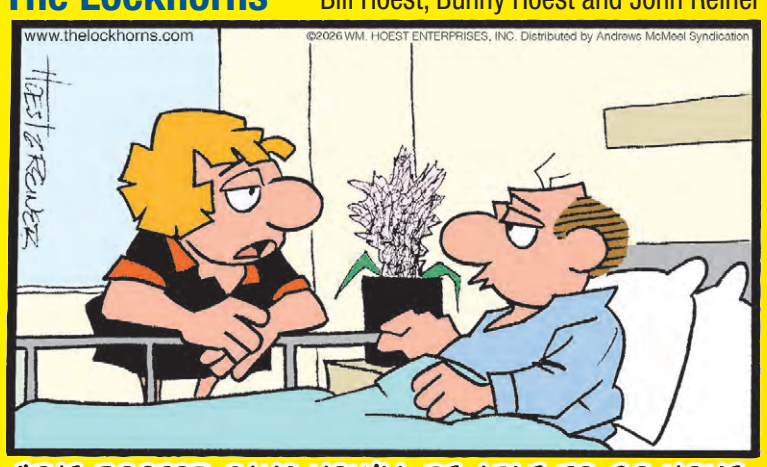
Mother Goose & Grim

Mike Peters



The Lockhorns

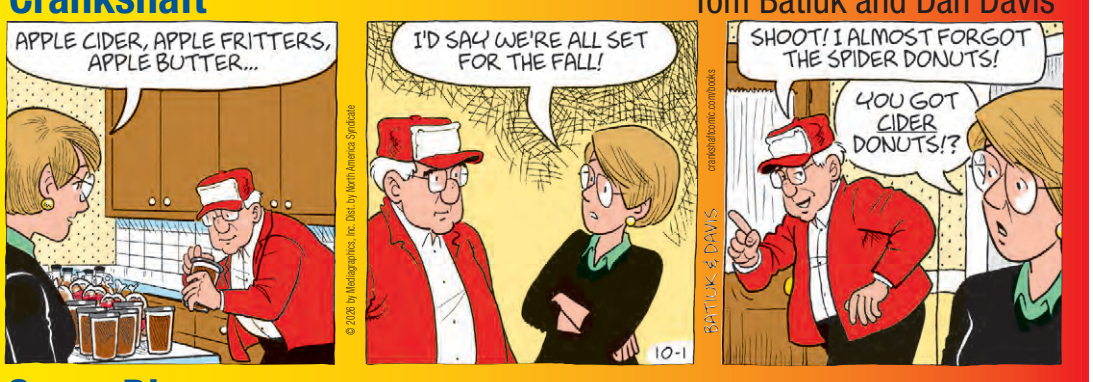
Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner



"THE DOCTOR SAYS YOU'LL BE ABLE TO GO HOME IN ABOUT TWELVE HUNDRED DOLLARS."

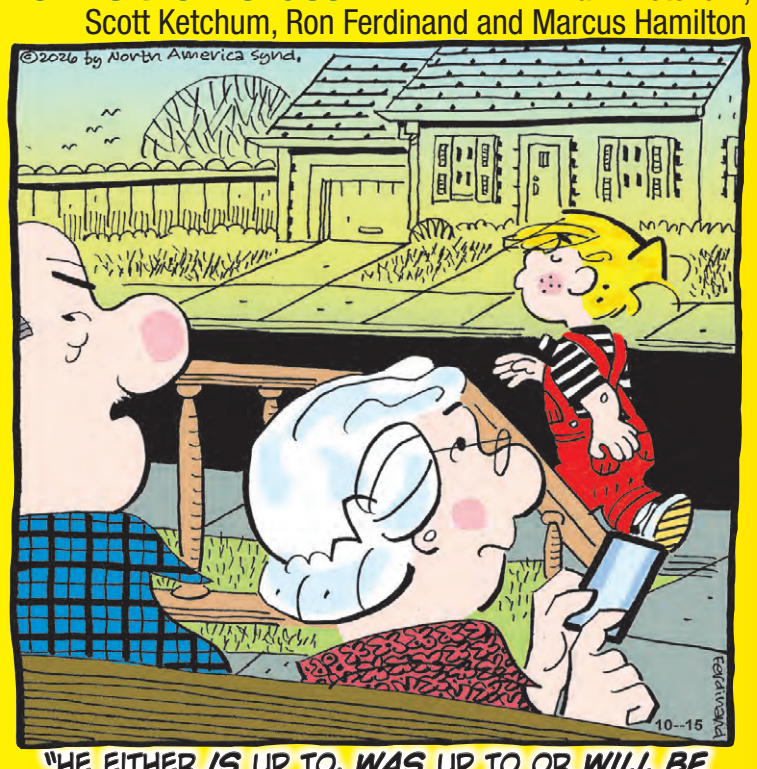
Crankshaft

Tom Batiuk and Dan Davis



Dennis the Menace

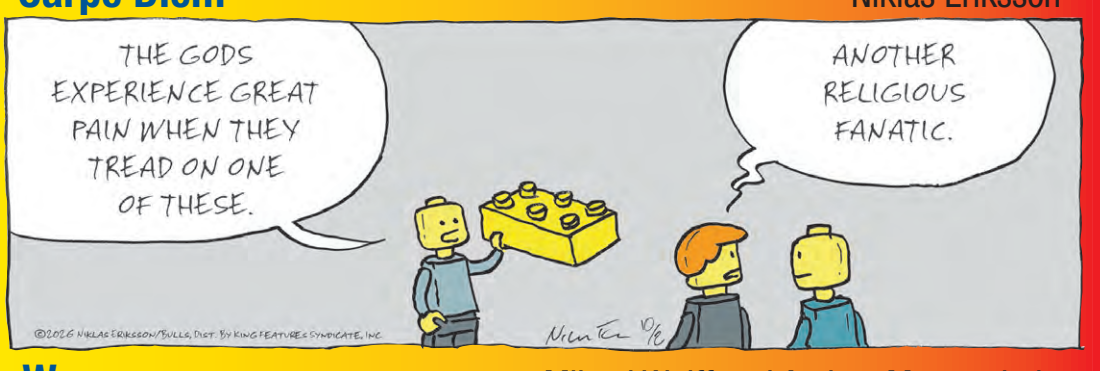
Hank Ketchum, Scott Ketchum, Ron Ferdinand and Marcus Hamilton



"HE EITHER *IS* UP TO, *WAS* UP TO OR *WILL BE* UP TO SOMETHING. IT'S *ALWAYS SOMETHING.*"

Carpe Diem

Niklas Eriksson



Wumo

Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler



Grosse Pointe News

THURSDAY COMICS

Garfield

Jim Davis



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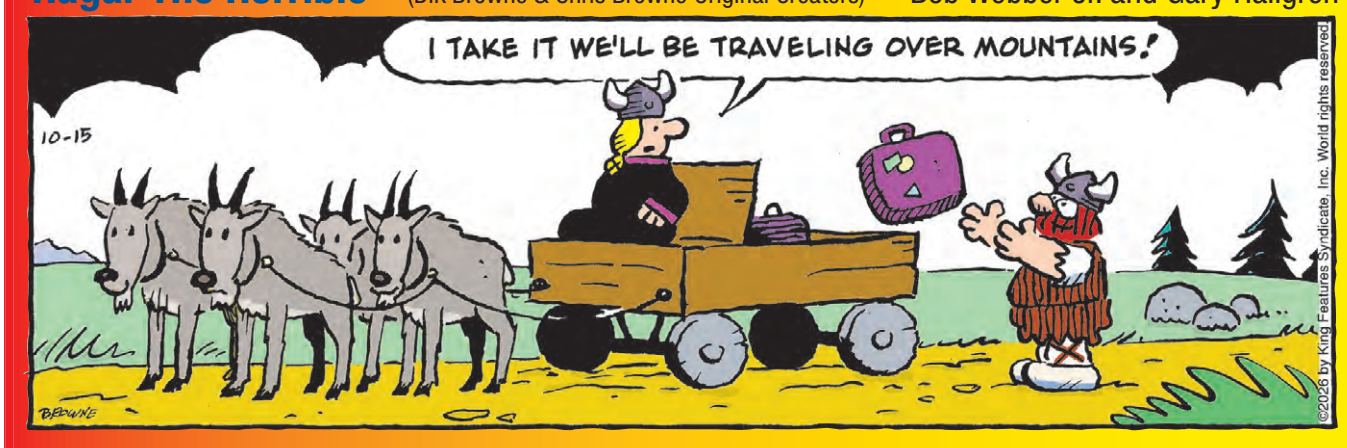
Hagar The Horrible

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



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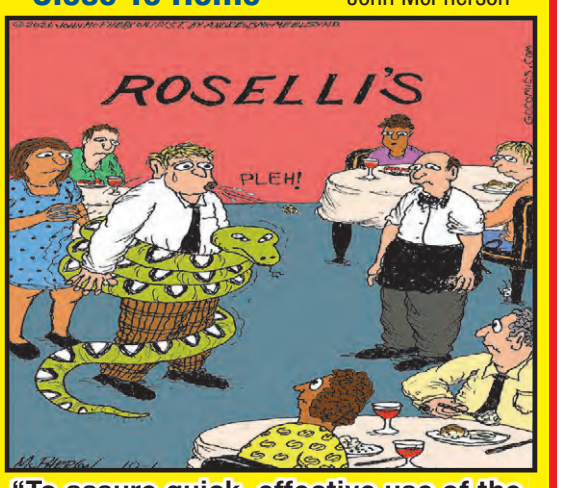
Close To Home

John McPherson



"To assure quick, effective use of the Heimlich maneuver, many restaurants are using pet boa constrictors."

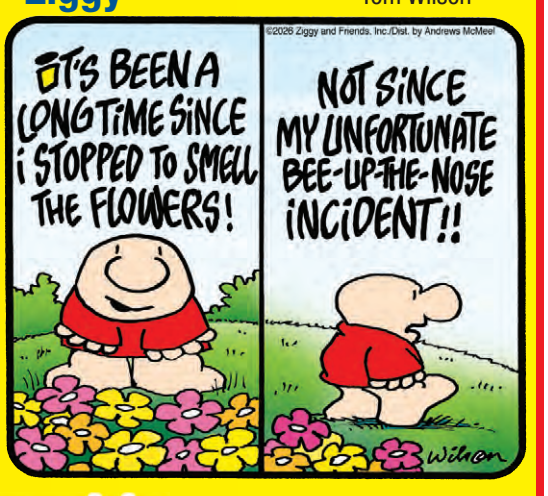
Wizard of Id

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



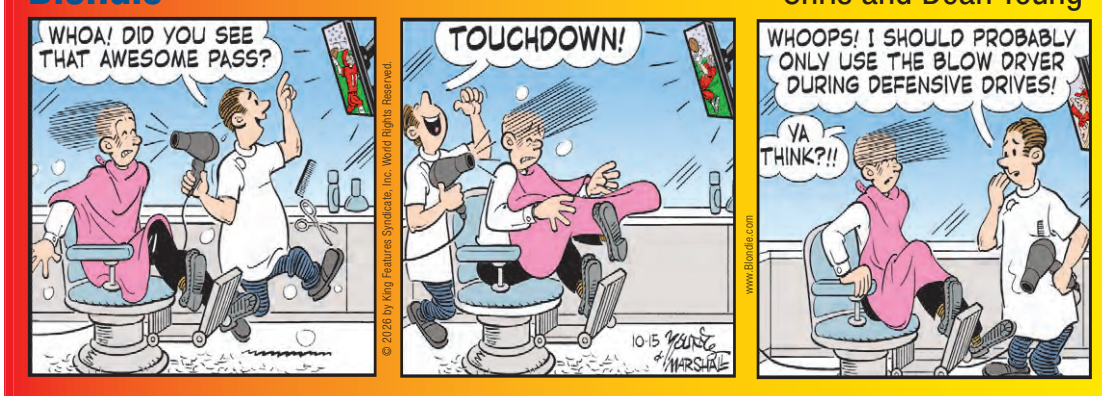
Ziggy

Tom Wilson



Blondie

Chris and Dean Young



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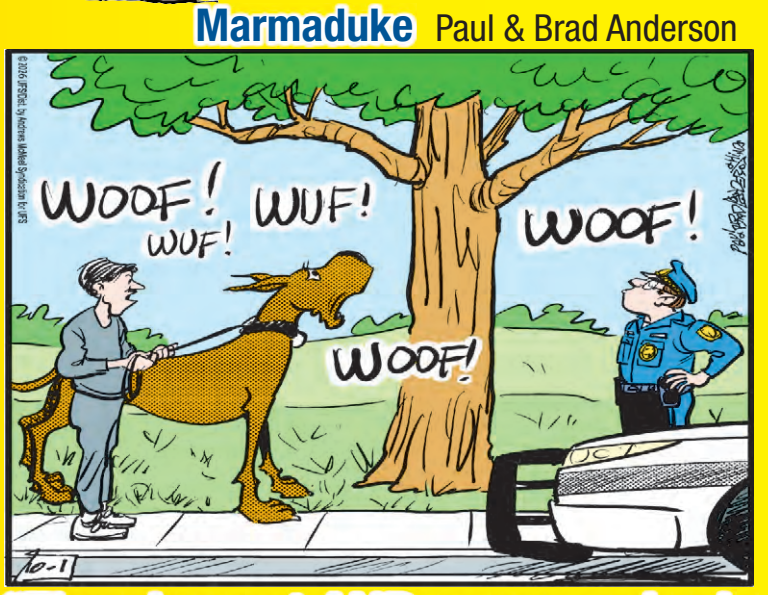
Marmaduke

Paul & Brad Anderson



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"There's a cat AND some squirrels in that tree."

Over The Hedge

Michael Fry and T. Lewis



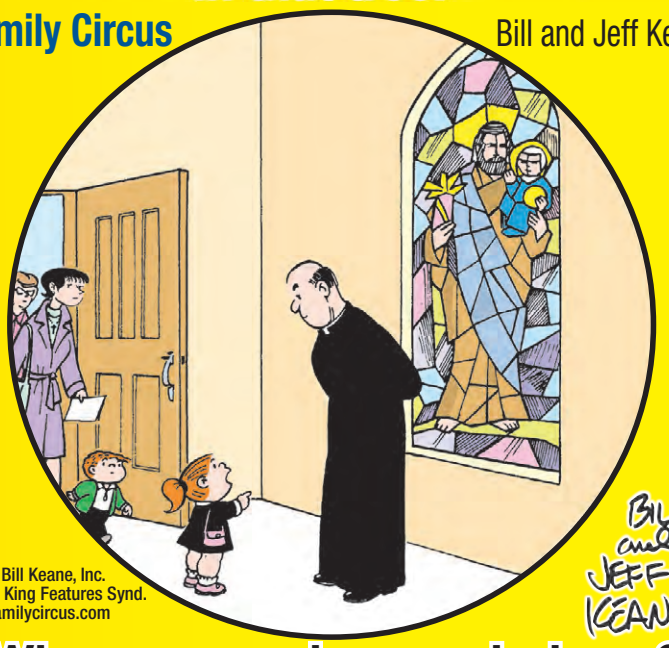
Crock

Created by Bill Rechin and Brant Parker



Family Circus

Bill and Jeff Keane



"Who crayoned your windows?"

Popeye

Bud Sagendorf



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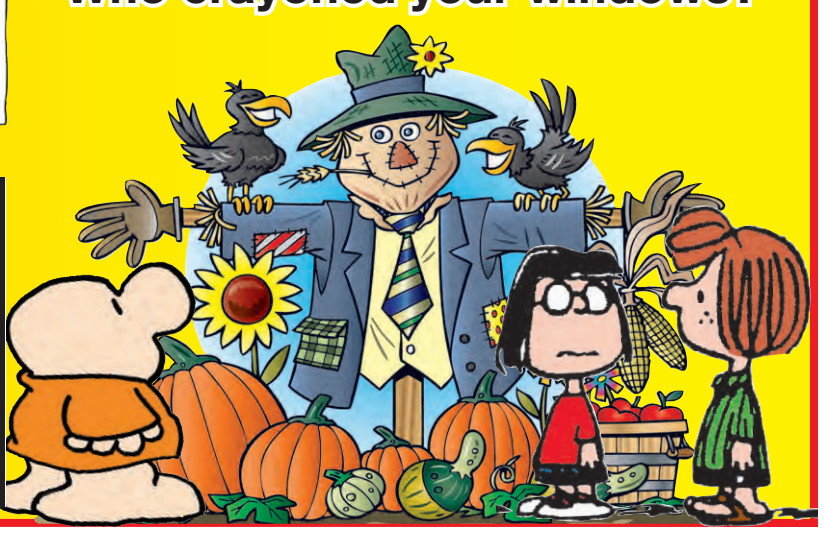
F Minus

Tony Carrillo





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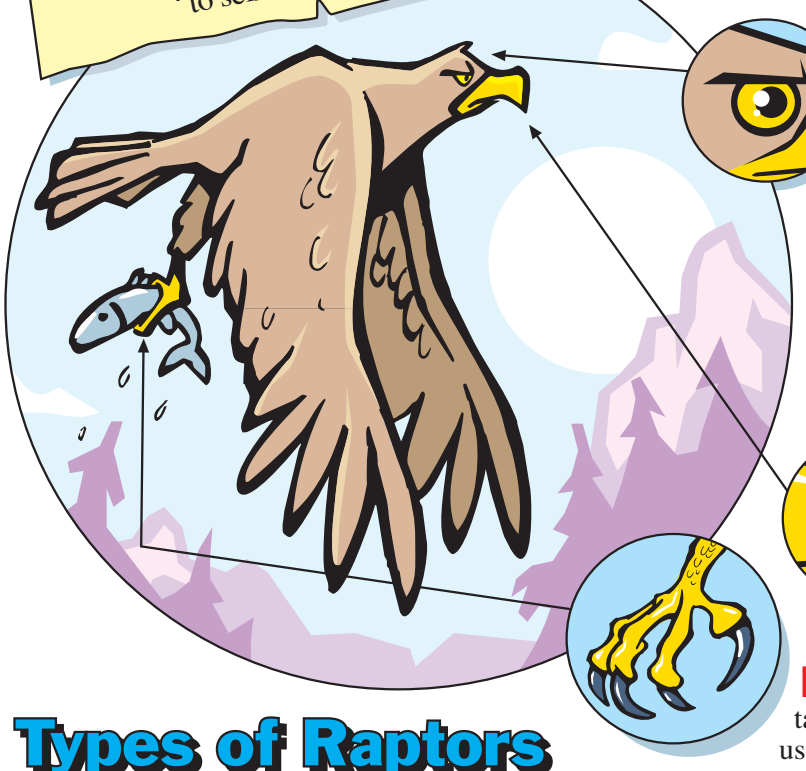
RAPTORS!

Raptors are birds of prey, which means they are predators that hunt and eat other animals. Hawks, eagles, falcons and owls are all raptors. Discover the amazing facts about these magnificent creatures on today's *Kid Scoop* page.

The word raptor comes from the Latin word ***rapere***, which means "to seize or grasp."



Adaptations

Raptors have three key adaptations making them excellent hunters.

EYES: Raptors have keen eyesight that helps them spot their prey from great distances. The Australian wedge-tailed eagle can spot a rabbit from about 1.2 miles (2 km) away. This is about three times farther than a human can see. Raptors can also see more colors than people, which helps them see camouflaged prey.

BEAK: They have a sharp, hooked beak for tearing their meat into bite-size pieces.

FEET: The sharp, powerful talons or claws of raptors are used to catch and kill prey.

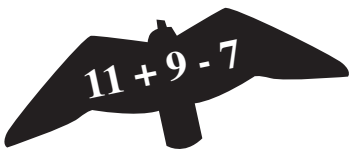
Standards Link: Life Science: Students know that adaptations in physical structure may improve an organism's chance for survival.

Types of Raptors

Read about these three raptors. Then do the math to match each one to its silhouette.

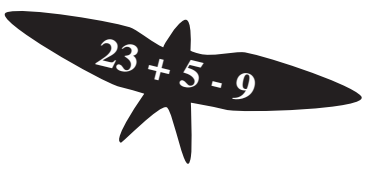
Golden Eagle = 30

Habitat: Found throughout the Northern Hemisphere.
Wingspan: About 7 feet (2.1 m)
Diet: Usually small mammals such as rabbits and squirrels. Golden eagles have been seen attacking and killing pronghorn antelope, which are several times bigger than they are.



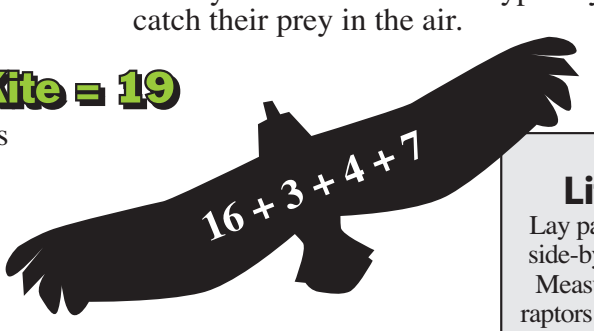
Peregrine Falcon = 13

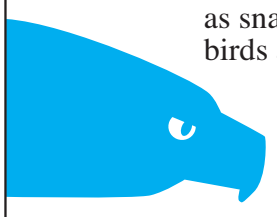
Habitat: Found on every continent except Antarctica.
Wingspan: 3.5 feet (1 m)
Diet: Mainly hunts birds and can typically catch their prey in the air.



Swallow-tailed Kite = 19

Habitat: Southeastern United States
Wingspan: 4 feet (1.3 m)
Diet: Slow-moving prey such as snakes, insects, baby birds and rodents.





Visit HawkWatch International's website to find more information about raptors. Discover places in your area where you can see raptors migrating. Learn how scientists study raptors using satellites at **www.hawkwatch.org**

Raptor Code

Use the code to find out some amazing raptor facts!

Number of different kinds of raptors that can be found worldwide: ■ ◡ ◤

Speed a peregrine falcon can reach when diving after prey: more than ◤★★ mph!

The smallest raptor, the American kestrel, is about the size of a robin and weighs about ■ oz.

The largest raptor is the harpy eagle, which nests in tall rainforest trees of Mexico, Central and South America. It has a wingspan of over ◘ feet.

SECRET CODE

↑ = 1	◣ = 6
◤ = 2	◘ = 7
◠ = 3	◡ = 8
■ = 4	◥ = 9
◢ = 5	★ = 0

Standards Link: Life Science: Students know different animals inhabit different kinds of environments.

Extra! Extra!

Life-size Silhouettes

Lay pages of the newspaper on the floor side-by-side and tape the edges together. Measure and mark the wingspan of the raptors mentioned on this page. Draw and cut out life-size silhouettes for display.

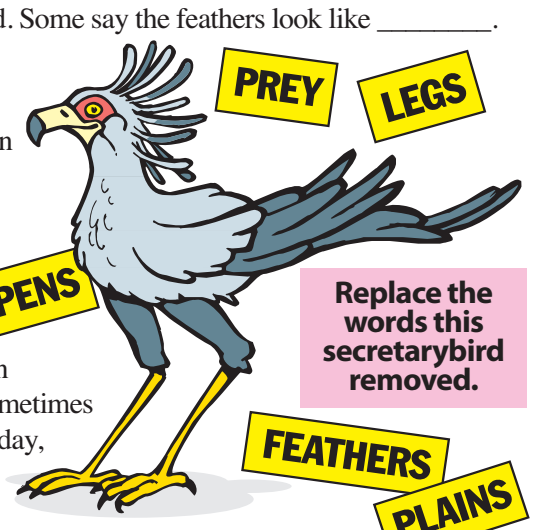
Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow multiple-step directions.

Secretarybirds

The secretarybird gets its name from the crest of _____ on the back of its head. Some say the feathers look like _____.

It has the longest _____ of any raptor and is known for running—not flying—after its _____.

These unusual birds walk through the African _____, sometimes up to 20 miles per day, looking for food. They will eat insects, mammals, birds, tortoises, eggs and snakes.



Standards Link: Life Science: Students know animals have structures that serve different functions.

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.

FALCON
EAGLES
PREY
RODENTS
SPEED
OWLS
RAPTORS
COLORS
BEAK
EYES
TREES
DRAW
SEE

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

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

Kid Scoop FIT & FUN

Try these exercises to have fun and exercise the owl way!

Fly like an owl.



Stretch your arms wide apart and swoop around outdoors.

Perch like an owl.



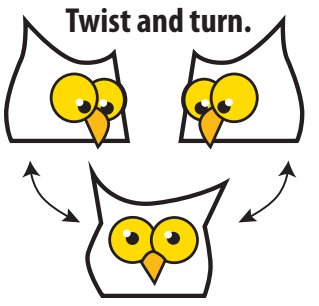
Squat down like you are sitting on a tree branch watching for mice on the ground. Fold your arms into wings with your thumbs in your armpits. How long can you stay in this position?

Hop like an owl.



Start in the perch position. Then hop to the right, hop to the left, hop forward, and hop backward.

Twist and turn.



While sitting in the perched position, turn your head as far to the right as you can. Then turn your head as far left as possible.

Standards Link: Physical Education: Understand the health benefits of physical activity and exercise.

Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word:
SILHOUETTE

The noun **silhouette** means the outline of an object filled in with solid black.

The **silhouette** of the eagle could be seen against the bright sky.

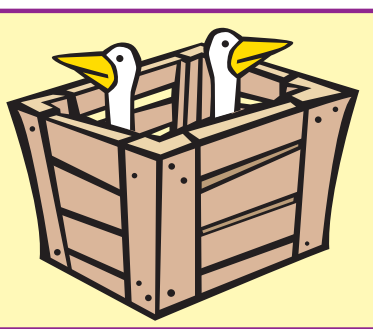
Try to use the word **silhouette** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.

FROM THE Kid Scoop® LESSON LIBRARY

Raptor Parts of Speech

Look through the newspaper and find five nouns, five verbs and five adjectives that describe one of the raptors mentioned on today's page. Write a paragraph about that raptor using facts on this page and the words you found.

Standards Link: Grammar: Recognize parts of speech in writing.



What do you call a crate of ducks?

ANSWER: A box of quackers.

Write On!

Bird Report

Write a paragraph reporting on your favorite bird. Include at least three facts about this bird.

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South, ULS boys tennis teams headed to states after regional wins

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The time of fall has come where the biggest matches of the season in varsity boys tennis are taking place on the courts. The squads from Grosse Pointe North, Grosse Pointe South and University Liggett School battled through their respective MHSAA regional tournaments last week with hopes of making it to states. Both South and Liggett emerged as regional champions in their respective divisions with dominant performances.

Division 2

Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South were part of the Division 2 regional tournament Wednesday, Oct. 7, hosted by South. It was a big day for the Blue Devils, who emerged as regional champions and had players win individual regional titles in seven of the eight flights.

"Seven flight titles and a doubles sweep show our depth, and the guys have worked hard all season to earn back-to-back MAC Red and regional championships," South boys tennis head coach Brian Kean said. "... I'm proud of how these guys compete and support each other, and we're heading into states with confidence and plenty of motivation."

Three of South's seven victories came in singles play. Senior Matthew Bartoszewicz took home the No. 1 singles regional title after defeating Liam Nantais from University of Detroit Jesuit in the championship match. Nate Yeamans earned another win for the Blue Devils in No. 3 singles and Jack Gryzenia rounded out the singles field with a championship for South in No. 4 singles.

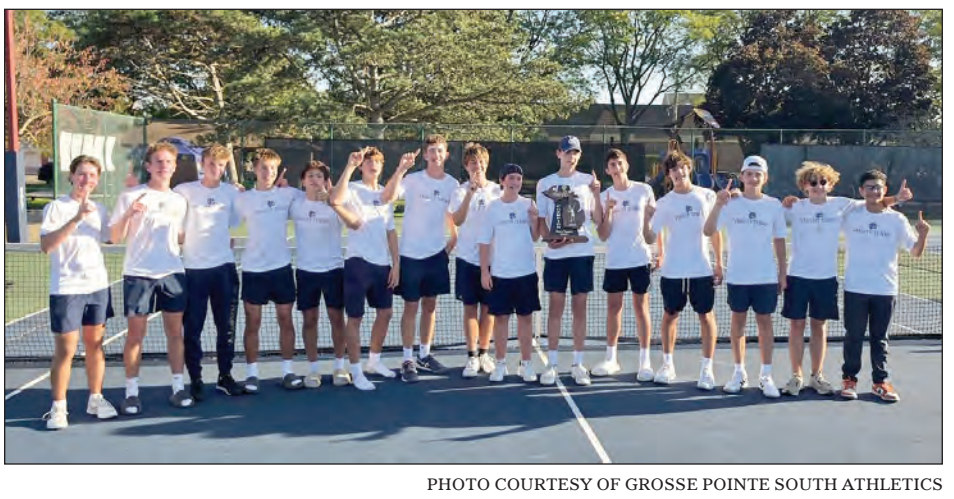

PHOTO COURTESY OF GROSSE POINTE SOUTH ATHLETICS

The Grosse Pointe South varsity boys tennis team celebrates with the regional championship trophy after clinching a spot in the Division 2 state finals Wednesday, Oct. 7.

The Blue Devils dominated doubles play, sweeping all four flights. Oscar DeLuca and Henry Logan won the title in No. 1 doubles. The pair of Max Prather and Luke Brennan brought South another win in No. 2 doubles. Davis Gryzenia and Weston Jerabek emerged victorious from the No. 3 doubles bracket, while Peter Struck and Matthew Guthat finished off the sweep by winning No. 4 doubles.

North finished the regional tournament in fifth place, leaving the team outside of a state-qualifying spot. Ajay Sarnaik advanced as far as the semifinals in No. 1 singles and Liam Haney reached the semifinals in No. 2 singles. North's A.J. Martinez made it to the semifinals in No. 4 singles.

The Norsemen had two doubles teams make it to the semifinals in their respective flights. Benson Hilliker and Alex Steiger got to the semifinals in No. 1 doubles, while Matthew McBrady and Tyler Collins reached the semifinals in No. 3 doubles.

South moves on to the Division 2 state finals after its regional victory. The state tournament begins Friday, Oct. 23, at the Midland Tennis Center.



PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY LIGGETT ATHLETICS

The University Liggett varsity boys tennis team will defend its Division 4 state championship after earning a spot in this year's state finals by winning the Division 4 regional tournament Thursday, Oct. 8.

Division 4

University Liggett's boys tennis team hosted the Division 4 regional tournament Thursday, Oct. 8. The Knights clinched their spot in the state finals to defend their Division 4 state title by finishing first at regionals, dominating the day with victories in seven flights.

The only flight the Knights did not win was No. 1 singles, with Tise Courtright making it to the semifinals. Yurii Polnyi earned a win for

See TENNIS, page 4D

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Eshman makes big impact on North soccer's outstanding season

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The Grosse Pointe North varsity boys soccer team has a new identity this fall. That identity is success, proven by a 16-1-1 regular-season record as the Norsemen prepare for the playoffs. Plenty of factors have helped shape the new, winning culture at North — a new coach, a new mentality and some new faces on the field.

One of those new faces who has made a mark right away in what has been an almost perfect season for the Norsemen is senior Matthew Eshman. Eshman joined the North soccer program for the first time this year as a senior rather than continuing to play high-level club soccer. It was a big decision for the direction of his career, but one Eshman is glad he made as his time with North this fall has helped him remember why he has loved soccer since before he can remember.



COURTESY PHOTO

Matthew Eshman joined North's varsity boys soccer team this fall as a senior. He leads the team with 45 goals as North finished the regular season with a 16-1-1 record.

"I realized I wasn't really looking to play college soccer," Eshman said. "Continuing to play at that high level, to me, wasn't as beneficial as having fun. ... Taking that step down from high-level club soccer to play high school was a really good transition. It's a more Grosse Pointe-centric team and joining the team was pretty easy. The team was welcoming and the coaches were welcoming and it was such a great environment to be in."

Eshman's time at North this fall has been great for both him and his teammates. The Norsemen's 16 wins this year have far surpassed the six the team had last season. The team also claimed the MAC Blue Division championship in a landslide, finishing five wins ahead of second-place Port Huron Northern.

To help North's winning efforts, Eshman scored 45 goals and tallied 11 assists this season. Depending on how

See ATHLETE, page 4D

Magical Matthew

- Leads North boys soccer with 45 goals in 18 games
- Recorded 11 assists this season
- Playing first season of varsity soccer as a senior

Grosse Pointe News
ATHLETE OF THE WEEK
Matthew Eshman
School: Grosse Pointe North
Sport: Soccer
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North volleyball bounces back against Chippewa Valley

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The Grosse Pointe North varsity volleyball team has looked strong for much of the season so far. However, a losing skid, even just a few matches long, still can be tough to endure. What matters more is how a team bounces back from those losses. The Norsemen bounced back in a big way Thursday, Oct. 8, earning a 3-1 victory at home over MAC White Division rival Chippewa Valley.

"The team showcased great teamwork, determination and a balanced offensive attack against Chippewa Valley," North volleyball head coach Chelsea Brozo said.

The victory last Thursday was a comeback win for the Norsemen after the team dropped the opening set of the match 25-14. North bounced back to win the second set 25-17 and did not look back. The Norsemen took the third set 25-22, then closed out the win by taking the fourth set 25-17.

Sophomore Mackenzie Brozo helped lead North's offensive attack with 12 kills. Madison Jewell had 32 assists in the win as well.

The victory helped North improve to 17-8 this season as the team currently sits at fourth in the MAC White Division standings. The Norsemen hosted MAC White Division leader Fraser after press time Wednesday, Oct. 14. North is in action again Saturday, Oct. 17, going on the road to face Cardinal Mooney.



PHOTOS BY MIKE ADZIMA

Grosse Pointe North's Mackenzie Brozo prepares to serve against Chippewa Valley Thursday, Oct. 8.



North players celebrate after scoring a point in the team's win over Chippewa Valley Thursday, Oct. 8.

South, ULS girls golf teams clinch state finals spots

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The time for fall golf is nearly at an end as the calendar gets deeper into October, but that means the biggest tournaments of the varsity girls golf season have arrived. Golfers from Grosse Pointe North, Grosse Pointe South and University Liggett School competed in their respective regional tournaments last week with hopes of qualifying for the state finals. The Blue Devils and Knights did just that, finishing near the top of their regions to clinch spots in the state tournament.

Division 2

North and South hit the links Wednesday, Oct. 7, in the Division 2 regional tournament at Farmington Hills Golf Club. After 18 holes, the Blue Devils ended up third on the leaderboard and clinched a spot in the Division 2 state finals.

Freshman Keira Leech led the way for South, shooting a low score of 92 that landed her sixth overall in the individual standings. More freshmen had big contributions for South, with Ella Kalmink shooting a 96 and Josephine Messenger finishing the round with a score of 98. Senior Tinley Gram had a score of 102 for the day, while freshman Stella Hampton shot 113.

North's team finished the day in eighth place, falling out of a state-qualifying spot. Junior Megan Huizdos had the 12th-best individual score overall in the tournament, shooting a 95. Twila Shappy-Behn had a score of 99 and Catie Kaslatas shot 101.

South will compete in the Division 2 state finals beginning Friday, Oct. 16, at Michigan State University's Forest Akers West Golf Course.

Division 4

University Liggett's varsity girls golf team, in just its second year as a program, qualified for the Division 4 state finals after finishing second in the Division 4 regional tournament Wednesday, Oct. 7, at Forest Akers East Golf Course in East Lansing. It was another major milestone for the program after the Knights also won the Catholic League Cardinal Division tournament championship in late September.

At regionals, Liggett finished second in the team standings to earn its spot in the state championships. Sophomore Olivia Robinson and freshman Maria Saqqa tied for the team's best score at 91, good for eighth overall in the tournament field. Senior Natalie Greene was just one shot behind at 92, while sophomore Olivia Boggs finished the round with a score of 97.

The Knights advance to the Division 4 state finals, which are scheduled to begin Friday, Oct. 16, at The Meadows at Grand Valley State University.

MORE SPORTS EVERY WEEK

Grosse Pointe News

ATHLETE OF THE YEAR 2025

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Interested parties are invited to attend.

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Christopher Hardenbrook
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17147 Maumee
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10/15/2026 AT 2:00 P.M.

CITY CLERK:
Paul Antolin
LOCATION:
City of Grosse Pointe Woods
20025 Mack Plaza Drive
DATE OF TEST:
10/16/2026 AT 1:30 P.M.

CITY CLERK:
Leslie Frank
LOCATION:
City of Harper Woods
19617 Harper Avenue
DATE OF TEST:
10/15/2026 AT 2:00 P.M.

CITY CLERK:
Derrick Kozicki
LOCATION:
City of Grosse Pointe Farms
350 Lake Shore Road
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10/15/2026 AT 2:00 P.M.

CITY CLERK:
Courtney Smith
LOCATION:
Village of Grosse Pointe Shores, a Michigan City
795 Lake Shore
DATE OF TEST:
10/15/2026 AT 2:00 P.M

GPN: 10/15/26

South football wins big over Eisenhower on homecoming

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Grosse Pointe South senior running back Charlie Michelotti steps into the end zone for his first of three rushing touchdowns in the Blue Devils' 42-6 win against Eisenhower Friday, Oct. 9.

All the fanfare, traditions and excitement leading up to homecoming night in high school football can be made better with a big win on the field. There can be added pressure for a team to win big on its homecoming night, but the Grosse Pointe South varsity football team had no problem doing that Friday, Oct. 9, giving the homecoming crowd plenty to cheer about in a 42-6 win over Eisenhower.

"Homecoming is always a really nice win to get for the kids," South football head coach Chad Hepner said. "We're happy that they were able to stay focused and take care of business on the field. Eisenhower is down a bit this year, but that's a great, storied program with a lot of history and tradition, so anytime you can get a win over them, it's great."

One of the biggest highlights of the homecoming win for South was the performance of running back Charlie Michelotti. The senior scored three touchdowns in a row to start the game, all on the ground. His first came in the first quarter to put South up early; he added two more in the second quarter to help the Blue Devils go up 21-3.

"He's absolutely a powerhouse for us," Hepner said about Michelotti's performance. "He runs with so much power and he's elusive. We haven't had too many guys like that here at South in the past, so to have him and Sam (Rouleau) both as running weapons, it makes it hard for teams to defend us."

Rouleau, South's senior quarterback, also had a rushing touchdown in the game while finishing with 30 yards on the ground. He went 9-for-10 passing for 128 yards and one touchdown, a 74-yard connection with senior receiver Trey Grabowski in the second quarter. South's final score was a rushing touchdown by Brody Vinyard, who ended the night with 22 yards on the ground.

South's defense was stout on a night when Eisenhower failed to reach the end zone. Along with his impressive night on the offensive side of the ball, Michelotti also had an interception on defense. Henry Getz also forced a fumble for South's defense that was recovered by teammate Alex Young.

The win brought South's record this season to 6-1 through seven weeks. It was the final game in MAC Red Division play for the Blue Devils, with the team finishing with a 4-1 record in the division.

Up next for South is a matchup on the road against Port Huron Northern from the MAC White Division. The Huskies are 1-6 this season after falling to Lakeview 42-12 in their last game.

Kickoff between South and Port Huron Northern is scheduled for 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 16, at Memorial Stadium in Port Huron.



Brody Vinyard (No. 2) celebrates with teammate Cole Lupo after scoring a touchdown for Grosse Pointe South against Eisenhower Friday, Oct. 9.

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North football routs Sterling Heights 43-0

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Following a close loss to Marysville the week before, the Grosse Pointe North varsity football team knew its home matchup against Sterling Heights Friday, Oct. 9, would be a good chance to bounce back. The Norsemen had no problem doing that, handling the Stallions with ease on their way to a 43-0 victory.

"It was a good team win," North football head coach Joe Drouin said. "We were able to get all of our support players in the game with meaningful time. That's important as we prepare for the last two games and playoffs. It gives our depth players experience."

North began putting points on the board early and never looked back. Brayden Kozlowski had his first of two rushing touchdowns on the night to give the Norsemen a 7-0 lead in the opening minutes of the game. Kozlowski then broke off a 34-yard touchdown run later in the opening quarter to help extend North's lead to 15-0.

The Norsemen continued adding to the lead in the second quarter when Peter Rheaume caught a screen pass from quarterback Edward Macaulay and ran it 61 yards for a touchdown. Macaulay went just 3-for-5 passing in the game, with two of his completions going for touchdowns; the second was a 37-yard touchdown to Owen Kozlowski later in the game.

Special teams also came up big for North a couple of times. Sterling Heights fumbled a kickoff return in the first half; North's Lamar Smith recovered it and returned it for a touchdown. Luke Bruveris gave the Norsemen another special-teams score with a 55-yard punt-return touchdown.

The win brought North's record to 5-2 this season and was the final game in MAC Gold Division play for the Norsemen. The team finished 3-2 in division play, coming in third in the standings behind co-division champions Lamphere and Marysville.

With two games left in the regular season, including one against crosstown rival Grosse Pointe South, the Norsemen want to be firing on all cylinders as the playoffs approach.

"The next couple of weeks sum up our season motto — 'Beat Yesterday, Win Today, Chase Tomorrow,'" Drouin said. "Improve the small things from Sterling Heights, win against Fraser and prepare for the guys across town."

North heads on the road to face Fraser in Week 8. The Ramblers are 1-6 this season after a 34-14 loss to L'Anse Creuse North in their previous matchup. Kickoff between the Norsemen and Fraser is set for 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 16, at Fraser.

ATHLETE:

Continued from page 1D

things go in the playoffs for North, Eshman could seriously challenge the single-season record of 50 goals, which has stood at North for more than 40 years.

Personal accomplishments aside, Eshman's main goal is seeing how far he and his teammates can continue their run of success this season. He may be the leading goal scorer, but Eshman does everything for the team and mainly is focused on keeping the wins and good vibes with his teammates going into the playoffs.

"Everything is fun because we know that we've earned it," Eshman said. "We've put up a lot of wins and, based on the way we play, it shows in our environment and how much fun we have."

District play in the Division 2 state playoffs for North begins this week. After everything the team has accomplished this season, Eshman and his teammates want to see their efforts lead to a district championship and more. To do that, most teams have the mentality that they need to play at their peak during this time of the season. Eshman feels like both he and his teammates have reached that point where they are ready to compete with anyone in the postseason.

'We've put up a lot of wins and, based on the way we play, it shows in our environment and how much fun we have.'

MATTHEW ESHMAN, SENIOR GP NORTH VARSITY SOCCER

"The team has been doing a lot better at communicating," he said. "Individually, we have some great players, but as a team, we've been working so well together lately. … I definitely feel like going into districts, I think we're all on a better page of how we're going to play and how we're going to approach it."



COURTESY PHOTO

Matthew Eshman takes a shot for the Norsemen.

No matter how long North's playoff run ends up being, Eshman knows his decision to play even one year of high school soccer with his friends and classmates was well worth it. He got to make new friends and become even closer to the friends he had on the team before he joined. He also got to experience the growth of a new culture within the North soccer program. Even with just one year on the team, the people around him see that his time with the Norsemen has had a great impact.

"Not only is he a fantastic player on the field, but he is an even better person off of it," North boys soccer head coach Nino Maniaci said. "With this being his first and only season playing high school soccer, I am most impressed with the way he has embraced the culture of high school soccer. He shares the passion with his teammates and the guys love being around him every day."



TENNIS:

Continued from page 1D

Liggett in No. 2 singles. Justin Platt won the regional title in No. 3 singles for Liggett and Fernando Romine took home the win in No. 4 singles.

Like South, Liggett also completed a sweep in doubles play. Davis Ford and Charlie Laethem finished atop the No. 1 doubles bracket. Ian Moya and Lucas Ferguson gave the Knights another victory in No. 2 doubles. Jack Ingle and Matteo Marciano won No. 3 doubles, while Quentin Zhou and Graeme Zelond rounded out the field with a victory in No. 4 doubles.

Liggett will look to make it back-to-back state championships at the Division 4 state finals beginning Wednesday, Oct. 21, at the Midland Tennis Center.

GROSSE POINTE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

Grosse Pointe Public School System will receive sealed bid proposals until **2:00 p.m. EST on October 27th, 2026** for Paving Contractor Services. Grosse Pointe Public School System will not consider or accept a bid received after the date and time specified for the bid submission.

Pre-bid Clarifications must be sent to Gary Kent from Plante Moran Realpoint at gary.kent@plantemoran.com by **October 16th, 2026 at 2:00 p.m. EST**

All bids must be addressed to: Grosse Pointe Public School System, 20601 Morningside Dr., Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236. Attention Ben Matteson, Director of Operations.

All bids must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the owner or any employee of the bidder and any member of the board, board of directors, or the superintendent of the school district. A sworn and notarized Iran Disclosure Statement must also be included along with a Familial Disclosure Statement, Criminal Background Disclosure Affidavit, and a Non-Collusive Affidavit.

Bid documents may be viewed and downloaded at:

https://app.e-builder.net/public/publicLanding.aspx?QS=00eeee384ac94300976b868967ddb0b3

Documents will be available for viewing on **October 9th, 2026.** Any questions, contact Gary Kent from Plante Moran Realpoint at gary.kent@plantemoran.com.

Published: GPN, October 15, 2026

GROSSE POINTE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

Grosse Pointe Public School System will receive sealed bid proposals until **1:00 p.m. EST on October 23rd, 2026** for Roofing Contractor Services for the 2027 Kerby Roofing Project. Grosse Pointe Public School System will not consider or accept a bid received after the date and time specified for the bid submission.

Pre-bid Clarifications must be sent to Gary Kent from Plante Moran Realpoint at gary.kent@plantemoran.com **by October 16th, 2026 at 2:00 p.m. EST**

All bids must be addressed to: Grosse Pointe Public School System, 20601 Morningside Dr., Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236. Attention Ben Matteson, Director of Operations.

All bids must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the owner or any employee of the bidder and any member of the board, board of directors, or the superintendent of the school district. A sworn and notarized Iran Disclosure Statement must also be included along with a Familial Disclosure Statement, Criminal Background Disclosure Affidavit, and a Non-Collusive Affidavit.

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Published: GPN, October 15, 2026

FALL SPORTS



Varsity Football



Varsity Girls Swim & Dive



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Varsity Boys Tennis



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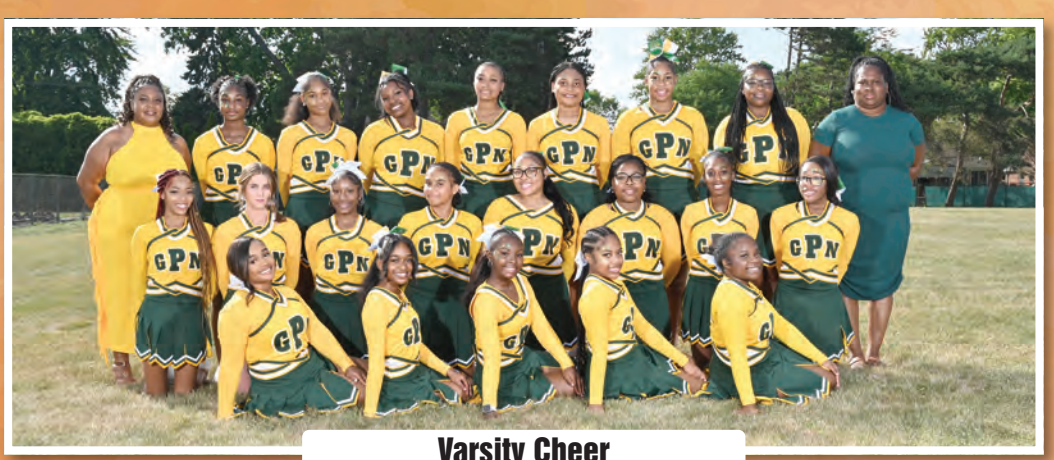

Varsity Cheer

Photos courtesy of
Visual Sports Network

FALL SPORTS



Varsity Football



Varsity Boys Tennis



Varsity Boys Cross Country



Varsity Boys Soccer



Varsity Girls Golf



Varsity Volleyball



Varsity Field Hockey



Varsity Girls Cross Country



Varsity Cheer



Varsity Girls Swim & Dive

Photos courtesy of
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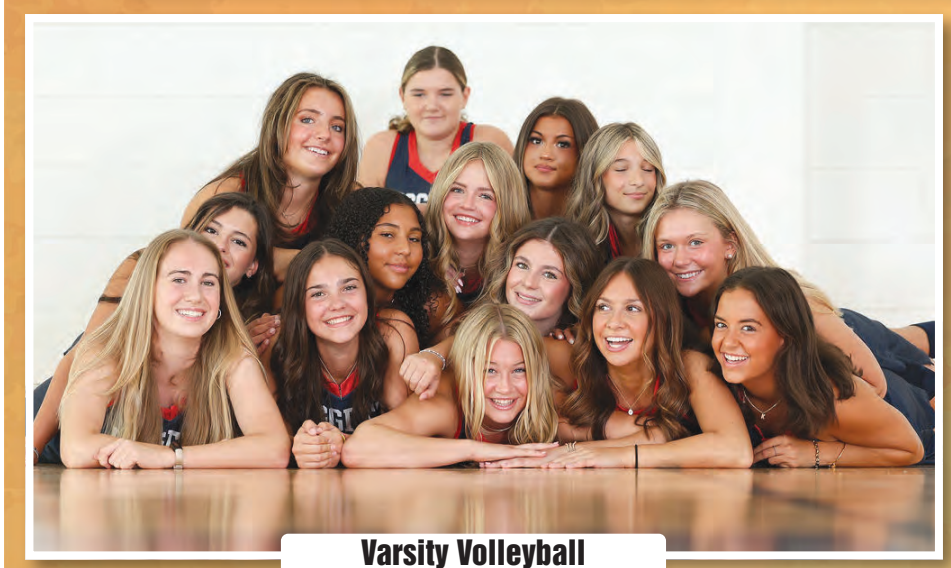
FALL SPORTS



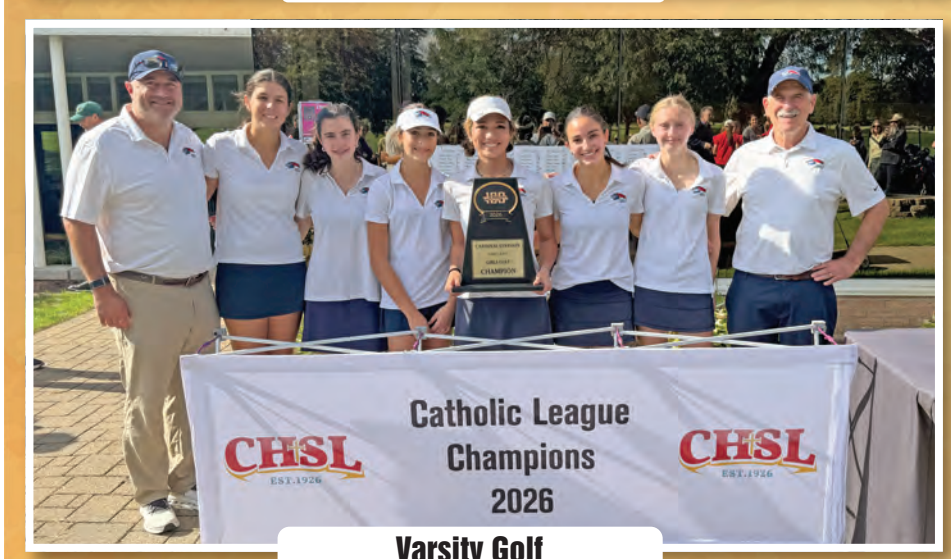
Varsity Football



Varsity Volleyball



Varsity Soccer



Varsity Golf



Varsity Cheer



Varsity Cross Country

Photos courtesy of Leon Halip

HITS & HIGHLIGHTS

FIELD HOCKEY

The Grosse Pointe South varsity field hockey team closed out the regular season Monday, Oct. 12, with a 7-0 shutout victory against Novi. Therese Carron scored twice for the Blue Devils, with Wells Webber, Charlotte Weldon, Hannah Agnone, Annie Paradise and Maddy Roy all contributing to the scoring as well. Bethany Sabol earned the shutout in net.

South begins the Division 1 state playoffs in the regional tournament Monday, Oct. 19, hosting either University Liggett School or Dearborn.



COURTESY PHOTO

CROSS COUNTRY

The Grosse Pointe North varsity girls cross-country team finished third amongst Division 2 teams and 15th overall at the Wayne County Championships at Willow Metropark last Saturday, Oct. 10. Willa VanderWerp earned a medal at the race for finishing 20th overall, leading the way for the Norsemen. Erin Doolittle finished 63rd, Sydney Jensen was 75th and Evan Brunette came in at 85th. Annalise Miller, who stepped in as North's fifth runner that day, finished 108th to secure the final points that pushed North into third place for Division 2.

The Norsemen race again Saturday, Oct. 17, in the Father Gabriel Richard Invitational at Hudson Mills Metropark.

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114 Music Education
115 Party Planners/Helpers
116 Local Harvest
117 Secretarial Services
118 Tax Service
119 Transportation/Travel
120 Tutoring Education
121 General Services
122 Alterations/Tailoring
123 Decorating Services
124 Beauty Services
125 Financial
126 Contributions
127 Video Services
128 Photography
129 Personal Training
130 Art Frame/Restore
131 Counselors/ Therapists

HELP WANTED
200 Help Wanted General
201 Help Wanted Babysitter
202 Help Wanted Clerical/ Office
203 Help Wanted Dental/ Medical
204 Help Wanted Domestic
205 Help Wanted Legal
206 Help Wanted Part Time
207 Help Wanted Sales
208 Help Wanted Nurses Aide/Caregiver
209 Help Wanted Professional
210 Help Wanted Restaurant
211 Help Wanted Management
212 Job Fair

SITUATION WANTED
300 Situations Wanted Babysitter
301 Clerical
302 Convalescent Care
303 Day Care
304 General
305 House Cleaning
306 House Sitting
307 Nurses Aides
308 Office Cleaning
309 Sales
310 Assisted Living
312 Organizing

MERCHANDISE
400 Antiques / Collectibles
401 Appliances
402 Arts & Crafts
403 Auctions
404 Bicycles
405 Computers
406 Estate Sales
407 Firewood
408 Furniture
409 Garage/Yard/ Rummage Sale
410 Household Sales
411 Clothes/Jewelry
412 Miscellaneous Articles
413 Musical Instruments
414 Office/Business Equipment
415 Wanted To Buy
416 Sports Equipment
417 Tools
418 Toys/ Games
419 Building Materials
420 Resale/Consignment Shops
421 Books

Real Estate

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

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

Guide to Services

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

BORDER ADS STARTING AT:
$26.00 per column inch

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

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

Place an Order

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

YOUR ADVERTISEMENT

CLASSIFICATION NAME: _____

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

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

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

YOUR CONTACT AND BILLING INFORMATION

NAME: _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____

CARD NO: _____ EXP. DATE: _____

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

Announcements

100 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

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.

100 ANNOUNCEMENTS

CARDINAL COVE INTERIORS

Reserve your Christmas decorating date with Clare Jamieson Duross of Cardinal Cove Interiors. Now booking in the Grosse Pointe area 11/16 to 11/25. Christmas, beautifully styled...one less thing on your holiday list. Email cardinalcoveinteriors@gmail.com

Special Services

121 GENERAL SERVICES

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



Help Wanted

200 HELP WANTED GENERAL

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

HUSTLE & GLOW
EMBRACE LIFE; LEAVE THE CLEANING TO US

Home Cleaning Care Specialist
Full or Part- time
$15- 18/hr
Reliable person and vehicle.
Mileage reimbursement.
Paid calendar holidays for full- time.
Residential cleaning experience is a plus, will train the right person
Must pass drug and background screening.
Email: Jen@hustleglowcleaning.com with your current resume.



ST. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church
seeks a part- time Director of Youth Ministry to lead youth activities, nurture faith, coordinate volunteers, and support middle and high school students. Interested? Contact katherine.trost@stpaulgp.org

200 HELP WANTED GENERAL

*** KITCHEN HELP ***
Dishwashers
$17.00/ hour.
No experience necessary.
Call RJ
(313)574-4277

UNIVERSITY LIGGETT SCHOOL
is seeking a Child Care Attendant for its Extended Day Program, Monday through Friday, 2:30– 6:00.p.m. Please visit uls.org/careers for more information.

203 HELP WANTED DENTAL / MEDICAL

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

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

LOOKING for in- home care?
At any hours, day or night. Care for elders or children. References available upon request. Caregiver for 35 years.
(586)335-5538

305 SITUATION WANTED HOUSE CLEANING



YOU FINALLY FOUND US!
Women who actually like to clean. Thorough, reliable, trustworthy. Experienced. References. Also outside FALL CLEANUP.
(313)550-2890

Merchandise

409 GARAGE / YARD / RUMMAGE SALE

AND THERE'S MORE!
Garage Sale
10/ 15 Thursday &
10/ 16 Friday 10- 5
10/ 17 Saturday 9- 1
61 Fontana
Grosse Pointe Shores
Clothes, accessories, housewares, decor and more.

406 ESTATE SALES

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

663 BALFOUR
GROSSE POINTE PARK
FRIDAY AND SATURDAY
OCTOBER 16 AND 17
9:00 - 4:00

This is a very nice sale in a beautiful Park home! We have a dining set for six, round kitchen table and chairs, baby grand piano, upholstered and leather sofas, lots of oriental carpets to choose from, antique pine armoires, trunks, and cradle, five piece queen Bernhardt bedroom set, iron bed, artwork, framed maps, safe, designer women's clothes, shoes and jewelry, Schwinn exercise bike, books, Ryobi table saw, Husky tile saw, band saw, bikes including Peugeot, Specialized, Giant, Cannondale, and Diamondback, lots and lots more!

HUGE SALE next Thursday, Friday and Saturday in Grosse Pointe Farms! IMPORTANT NOTE! *Next week's home is at ground zero of construction on Lakeshore. Follow my signs!*

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

325101

415 WANTED TO BUY

BUYING BOOK COLLECTIONS
Vintage Paperbacks
Call or Text Mark:
(248)302-7114



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

Property For Rent

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

709 TOWNHOUSES / CONDOS FOR RENT

CONDO FOR RENT
2 bedroom, 2 bath, 950 sq. ft.
520 Riviera Terrace
9 Mile & Jefferson.
$1,350/month.
Please see Zillow ad for details and application: https://www.zillow.com/homedetails/520-Riviera-Dr-520-Saint-Clair-Shores-MI-48080/2058740142_zpid/

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

DIRECTORY OF SERVICES

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

907 BASEMENT WATERPROOFING

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

911 BRICK / BLOCK WORK

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

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

REDBARON ENTERPRISES HANDYMAN SERVICE & CONSTRUCTION

•Chimneys
•Porches
•Concrete
•Steps
•Stonework
•Tuckpointing
•Patios
•Fireplaces
•Brick Work
RedBaron Enterprises.com
(313)408-1166

912 BUILDING / REMODELING

HADLEY HOME IMPROVEMENT INCORPORATED

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

912 BUILDING / REMODELING

NAUTICAL TILE

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

914 CARPENTRY

REDBARON ENTERPRISES HANDYMAN SERVICE & CONSTRUCTION

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

920 CHIMNEY REPAIR

DEBEERS HOME IMPROVEMENT MASONRY
313-886-8088

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

927 DEBRIS / CLUTTER REMOVAL

REDBARON ENTERPRISES HANDYMAN SERVICE & CONSTRUCTION

Debris Removal
•Clean Outs
•Hauling
Unwanted Items
•Dumpsters Available
RedBaron Enterprises.com
(313)408-1166

REDBARON ENTERPRISES HANDYMAN SERVICE & CONSTRUCTION

DUMPSTERS AVAILABLE
•Clean Outs
•Basement/ Garage Clean Out
•Debris Removal
(313)408-1166

929 DRYWALL / PLASTERING

Nick Karoutsos Painting Since 1965
586.778.9619
• PLASTER & DRYWALL REPAIR
• INSURANCE WORK
• HANDYMAN SERVICES
~All Work Guaranteed~
FREE ESTIMATES - LICENSED - INSURED

936 FLOOR SANDING / REFINISHING

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

939 GENERAL SERVICES

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

943 LANDSCAPERS / TREE SERVICE/GARDENER

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

JOHNNY CUTS LAWN SERVICE & MORE

Serving Grosse Pointe and the surrounding areas.
FALL CLEANUPS
mulch- redos, landscaping, weeding, hedge trimming.
•Professional Help•
Call or Text:
Johnny Harrison
(313)550-3585

943 LANDSCAPERS / TREE SERVICE/GARDENER



DAVE's TREE & SHRUB
Specializing In:
Tree Removal / Trimming
Stump Grinding • Gutter Cleaning
FREE ESTIMATES
35% AUTUMN DISCOUNTS
SENIOR DISCOUNTS
★ FIREWOOD AVAILABLE ★
25 Years Experience
(586)216-0904
davestreeandshrub.com

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

944 GUTTERS

REDBARON ENTERPRISES HANDYMAN SERVICE & CONSTRUCTION

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

NO more cleaning out gutters.
Guaranteed!
LeafFilter is backed by a no- clog guarantee and lifetime transferrable warranty.
Call today 1(866)495-1709 to schedule a FREE inspection and no obligation estimate.
Get 15% off your entire order. Plus, Military & Seniors get an additional 10% off.
Limited time only. Restrictions apply, see representative for warranty and offer details.

DON'T FORGET-
Call your ads in EARLY!
Classified Advertising
(313)882-6900 x4
Grosse Pointe News

944 GUTTERS

HADLEY HOME IMPROVEMENT INCORPORATED

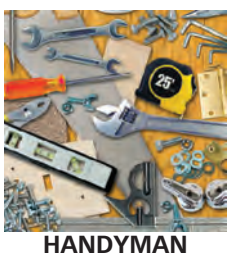
SEAMLESS GUTTERS
Temper Aluminum Gutter Covers
Insured
Free Estimates
(313)886-0520
Grosse Pointe Woods

945 HANDYMAN

GROSSE POINTE HANDYMAN SERVICE

Based in Grosse Pointe
Top Quality Work at Reasonable Cost
Carpentry
Electrical
Plumbing
Windows/ Doors
SetUp and Install…
Furniture TV's
Cabinets
Drapery
Wall Hangings
Digital Based Systems
30+ Years Experience
Joe@GrossePointeHandymanService.com
(313)856-2929

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



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

945 HANDYMAN

REDBARON ENTERPRISES HANDYMAN SERVICE & CONSTRUCTION

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

948 INSULATION

REDBARON ENTERPRISES HANDYMAN SERVICE & CONSTRUCTION

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

HADLEY HOME IMPROVEMENT INCORPORATED

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

954 PAINTING / DECORATING

GROSSE POINTE PAINTERS INC.

FREE ESTIMATES
Interior/Exterior
Commercial & Residential
313.882.9234

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

954 PAINTING / DECORATING

REDBARON ENTERPRISES HANDYMAN SERVICE & CONSTRUCTION

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

Nick Karoutsos Painting Since 1965
586.778.9619
• INTERIOR & EXTERIOR
• RESTORATION
• CUSTOM PAINTING
~All Work Guaranteed~
FREE ESTIMATES - LICENSED - INSURED

957 PLUMBING & INSTALLATION

REDBARON ENTERPRISES HANDYMAN SERVICE & CONSTRUCTION

Plumbing
Diagnosis
Installation
Repair
Hot Water Tanks
Snaking
RedBaron Enterprises.com
(313)408-1166

960 ROOFING SERVICES

REDBARON ENTERPRISES HANDYMAN SERVICE & CONSTRUCTION

NEW INSTALLATION
Roofs, Gutters
Repairs
Siding
Financing Available!
RedBaron Enterprises.com
(313)408-1166

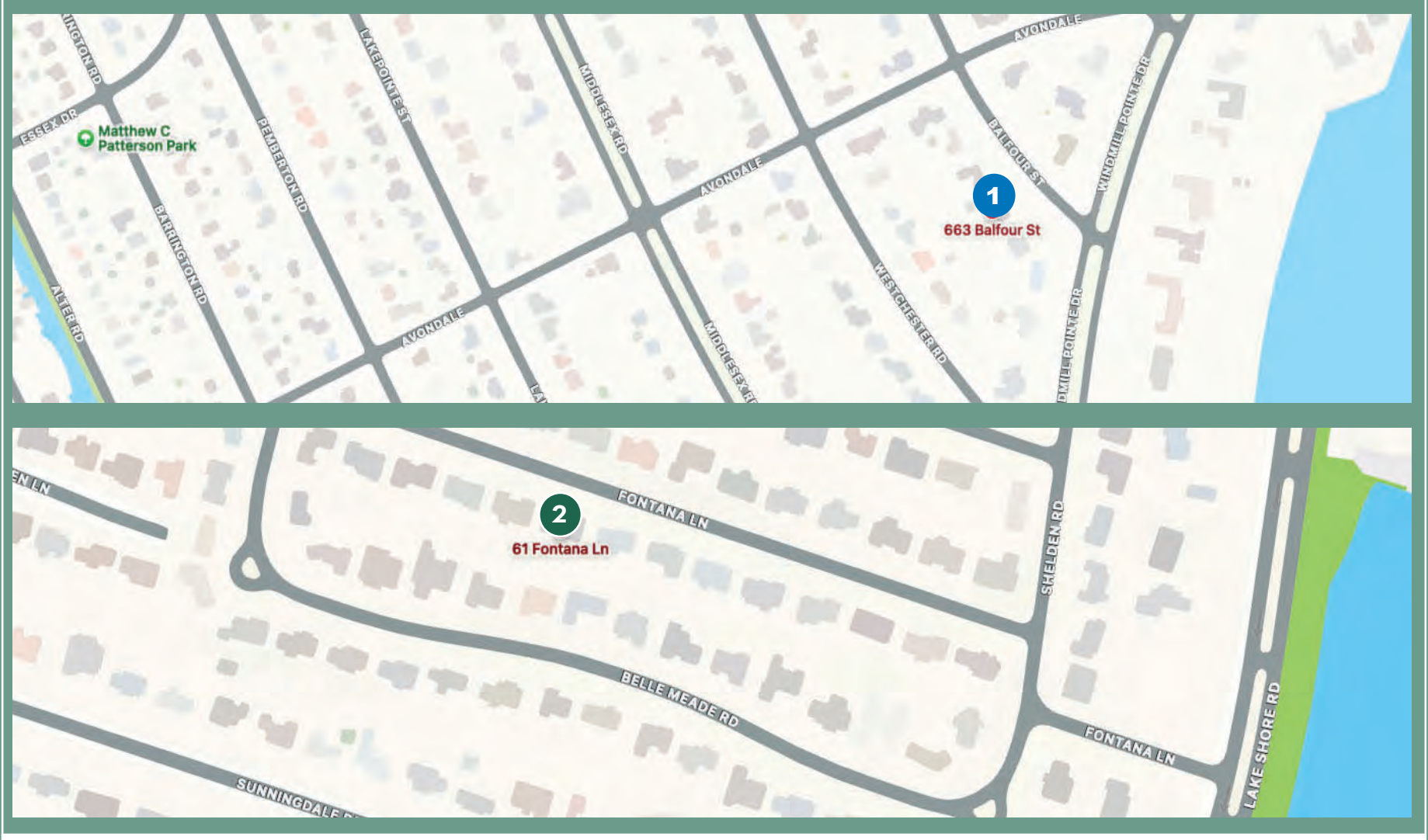
HADLEY HOME IMPROVEMENT INCORPORATED

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

981 WINDOW WASHING

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

Grosse Pointe News Yard & Estate Sale Map



THIS WEEK: October 15, 2026

1. 663 Balfour, GPP | 2. 61 Fontana, GPS

● = YARD SALE ● = ESTATE SALE

See Classifieds for more details



PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY LIGGETT ATHLETICS

Knights repeat as CHSL champs

The University Liggett School varsity boys soccer team made it back-to-back Catholic League Cardinal Division titles by defeating Everest Collegiate 2-1 in this year's league championship game Thursday, Oct. 8. The win helped the Knights improve to 16-0 this season as the team prepares for the Division 4 state playoffs. Playoffs begin for Liggett with the district tournament Tuesday, Oct. 20.



FOLLOW
GROSSE POINTE NEWS SPORTS

Send your best sports photos and achievements to our DMs on Instagram or to our email, sports@grossepointenews.com, for your chance to be featured on our social media and even in the sports section of the Grosse Pointe News each week!

Scan the QR code above to follow us!

CITY OF HARPER WOODS
PLANNING COMMISSION
19617 HARPER
HARPER WOODS, MICHIGAN 48225

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Harper Woods Planning Commission will be holding a Public Hearing on Wednesday, November 4, 2026, at 7:00 pm. for the purpose of obtaining public input and comment on a request for Special Land Use approval for the property at 19616 Kelly Road (Parcel #42 001 06 0074 000). The request is to facilitate the modification of the site and the addition of an accessory drive-through facility at an existing marijuana retail establishment (Essence Cannabis dispensary). Drive-through facilities are only allowable via Special Land use approval.

The public hearing will be held in the Municipal Building, 19617 Harper, Harper Woods, Michigan 48225.

Interested parties who are unable to attend this hearing may submit their comments in writing to the City Clerk's Office before 5:00 p.m. on November 4, 2026.

Leslie M. Frank, City Clerk

POSTED: October 9, 2026
PUBLISHED: October 15, 2026

Grosse Pointe News

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Do you know an outstanding high school athlete?

Nominate them for Athlete of the Week and put them in the running for Athlete of the Year.

To nominate a future Athlete of the Week, scan the QR code or visit our website.

grossepointenews.com/athlete-of-the-week

CITY OF HARPER WOODS
WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN
SYNOPSIS: REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 5, 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

MOTIONS PASSED
1) To receive, approve and file the minutes of the regular City Council meeting held September 21, 2026.
2) To open the Public Hearing on the proposed text amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to allow for a drive through operation in an MU-2 District, subject to Special Land Use approval.
3) To postpone the employment agreement between the City of Harper Woods and Hadasha Green to serve as the Director of Probation.
4) To adjourn to Budget Session.
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 10:22 p.m.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED
1) approve the Accounts Payable/Payroll Vendor listing for Check Numbers 136139 through 136236 in the amount of $499,821.08 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 Turf and Timber LLC in the amount of $18,900.00 for the removal and trimming of trees and site clean up at several locations.
3) approve payment to Nu Appearance Maintenance, Inc. in the amount of $8,123.75 for contractual lawn cutting, trash pickup in various areas of the City. It also includes lawn cuttings at various residential homes that were not in compliance with the Ordinance and lawn restorations due to main breaks.
4) approve payment to Simplified Business Solutions in the amount of $11,879.68 for the email hosting, security and backups of our computer system for the month of September and for IT support services for all departments.
5) to place for first reading and consideration of adoption, the proposed zoning ordinance amendment to allow drive-through operations at marijuana facilities in the MU-2 district, subject to Special Land Use approval, and further to direct the City Clerk to publish a notice of this in accordance with City Charter requirements.
6) to approve the five (5) year agreement between the City of Harper Woods and Medstar, Inc. to provide Advanced Life Support Ambulance Service with no cost to the City, and further to authorize the City Manager to sign the agreement.
7) to approve the payment to the Michigan Department of Transportation in the amount of $7,635.85 for the city's proportionate share of the TAP Grant, Sidewalk Program.
8) to approve payment to Premier Group Associates, LLC in the amount of $39,676.31 for Progress Payment No. 4 on the Roscommon Pocket Park project, #180-329.
9) to authorize the termination of the City's existing agreement with Point and Pay in connection with BS&A's discontinuation of its affiliation with Point and Pay, and authorize the City to enter into an agreement with BS&A to provide payment processing services through BS&A, with a one-time conversion cost of $700 for two docking stations, and further to authorize the City Manager to sign the agreement.

Valerie Kindle, Mayor

Leslie M. Frank, City Clerk

Published: GPN, October 15, 2026

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF INGHAM
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Trust

LEE ANDARY,
Deceased
Date of Birth: 1931
Date of Death: September 3, 2026

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The Decedent, Lee Andary (aka Lee Sha Andary), a resident of Wayne County, Michigan, died September 3, 2026. The Decedent was Grantor under the Lee Andary Revocable Trust, under agreement amended by restatement on November 23, 2018 ("Trust") at the time of his death. Creditors of the Decedent/Grantor are notified that all claims against the Decedent, his estate, or his Trust will be forever barred unless presented to Michael T. Andary, successor Trustee of the Trust, within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice. This notice is published pursuant to MCL 700.7608. There is no personal representative of the Decedent's estate to whom Letters of Authority have been issued. Notice is further given that the Trust estate will be thereafter assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it.

Date: October 15, 2026
Attorney:
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Trustee:
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