

# Grosse Pointe News

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## 'Front Lines' documentary televised June 27

*By Staff | on June 20, 2018*

Award-winning producer/director Keith Famie's 2-hour documentary, "Those on the Front Lines of Alzheimer's & Dementia," airs 9 p.m. Wednesday, June 27, on Channel 56 in Detroit.

The film is produced by Famie's Visionalist Entertainment Productions. The broadcast is hosted by JoAnne Purtan, morning host at WOMC-FM radio.

Nearly two years in the making, the documentary features heartfelt stories and leading professionals from around the world sharing the work they are doing to better understand a pathway to help those diagnosed with multiple forms of dementia. The film also explores the value of how the medical community is embracing the holistic world as the nation faces the fastest and largest aging population of baby boomers.

"I am so honored to be working with Keith Famie to help shine a light on a disease that robs too many families of years together and precious memories," Purtan said. "As I learned early in my career as a health reporter and have confirmed by working on this project, from caregivers to scientists working on cutting edge research, there are so many wonderful people working to help those battling Alzheimer's. We hope that by sharing their stories, this documentary can provide hope for families facing so much heartache and uncertainty."

Famie, who lost his father to Alzheimer's in 2003, always vowed he would one day take on the daunting task of creating a film with the intention of helping society better understand and deal with the complicated emotional journey anyone goes on with dementia, caregivers included.

"We are so honored to have JoAnne as our host for this film, which we know will help so many," Famie said. "Viewers trust her to bring them stories that impact their lives and this film is designed to touch so many. We anticipate the film will tour many communities, as well as air throughout the state of Michigan and, eventually, other major PBS stations around the country."

Famie visited Grosse Pointe last November to film spots for the documentary, including a stop at the home of Denise Robison Mullen, 78, who was learning to play banjo for the first time in an attempt to stave off dementia. He also spent time with the Grosse Pointe Senior Men's choir to film a spot about socialization, another key to good health.

To learn more about the production, visit [ontodayfrontlines.com/alzheimers/](http://ontodayfrontlines.com/alzheimers/).