

GROSSE POINTE CIVIC NEWS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF CITIZENS ASSOCIATION
OF GROSSE POINTE TOWNSHIP

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MARCH, 1932

No. 9

Farms Election—Close Balloting Expected

Citizens of Grosse Pointe Farms Monday, March 14, will elect three of the six candidates nominated for village trustee at the primary election on February 15. Indications are that the contest will be very close.

In the primary two newcomers lead the field. The nominees and the votes they received in the primary follow: Frank G. Van Dyke, 212 votes; Frank E. Price, 207; Joseph W. Snay, 193; Edward A. Batchelor, 182; James M. Rasmussen, 182; William J. Mason, 173.

Snay, Rasmussen and Mason are at present incumbents in office. They have been in local politics for a number of years. Snay was nominated for justice at the township primary election last Monday. Mason is chief of police in the Village of Lochmoor. Rasmussen is present township treasurer. He lost the democratic nomination for township clerk in the primary election last Monday.

The Grosse Pointe Civic News interviewed each of the candidates, asking for a statement so that the voters would know what they might expect of them if elected to the village council.

The statements follow:

Joseph W. Snay: "I am running for reëlection on my past record. I have been trustee for nine years. That's all I can say."

Frank G. Price: "If elected to the office of trustee, I will make a sincere effort to place the village affairs on a business basis, eliminating unnecessary expenses. It has been charged that, if elected to office, I will eliminate the fire department. This is absolutely false. I have made no statement relative to any specific method of reducing expenses.

"I have declared that I will do all in my power to lower the taxes by

economy in conducting the village affairs but I will not curtail any necessary or desirable service to the citizens. With the large amount of taxable property in Grosse Pointe Farms, I believe sufficient revenues can be derived with fair assessments to provide all the requirements of a well-governed community. I am not a politician but a business man. I think that the principles of good business can be applied to our village government with benefit to the entire community. To those who wish an efficient village government, economically operated, I appeal for support."

Edward A. Batchelor: "I believe the people of Grosse Pointe Farms want a smooth-working, efficient village government, economically operated. That will be my aim if I am elected a village trustee at the coming election. I believe in adequate fire and police protection. I have no desire to reduce the efficiency of any department by reducing the wages of the employees.

"However, it is a time when economy is absolutely vital to reduce the burden on the taxpayers. I do not represent any one class and it will be my creed to look at every problem from the viewpoint of the general good. I have no ax to grind, save that of protecting the rights of the citizens."

Frank G. Van Dyke: "I have no preconceived ideas on what I will do if elected to the position of trustee of the village, except that I will, to the best of my ability, represent all the people all the time. I believe the people want an economical administration. I will attempt to inject business methods into the operation of the village affairs, so that there is an adjustment of expenditures to income."

William J. Mason: "I have no statement to make, except that I am up for reëlection. If elected, I will do the best I can, as I always have. It's up to the people. If they want me, all right; if not, all right."

James M. Rasmussen: "I have nothing to say."

Other officials seeking reëlection in the Farms but without opposition, include the President, Michael C. Beaupre; Clerk, John R. Kirby; Treasurer, Gervase Meldrum, and Assessor, Walter A. Allard.

TOWNSHIP PRIMARY RESULTS

In the Grosse Pointe Township primary election held last Monday, Edmund C. Vernier, supervisor for 30 years, was returned the Democratic nomination, unopposed. He received 1,594 votes. Other Democratic nominees and the number of votes each received follow: For Justice of the Peace, William Dorn, 999; Clerk, Ralph E. Beaupre, 762; Treasurer, Adolph L. Damman, 829; Constables — Andrew T. Phillips, 1,234; Daniel G. Allor, 997; Samuel A. Gordon, 792, and Joseph Trombly, 701; Board of Review, John F. De Yonker, 1,158.

Unsuccessful candidates were: For Clerk, Charles A. Paye with 670 votes and James A. Rasmussen with 501 votes. For Treasurer, Arthur F. C. Vernier, 628 votes; Stephen H. Van Tiem, 486. For Justice of the Peace: Henry D. Merithew, 442; Nic D. Bragg, 203; John H. Flancher, 117. For Constable: Ernest G. Nagel, 551; Robert Piche, 513; Frank W. Defer, 511, and Louis Jazzbo Wisser, 122.

Republican nominees were: Supervisor, William J. Hudson; Clerk, John P. Cronin; Treasurer, Edward Van Assche, and Justice of the Peace, Joseph W. Snay. Detailed figures on the Republican count of the primary were not available.

Grosse Pointe Civic News

Grosse Pointe, Mich.

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Printed as the official publication of the Citizens Association of Grosse Pointe Township, under the authority of the following board of directors:

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LOCAL GRADUATES

GOOD "U" STUDENTS

A report of the work done at the University of Michigan by the first graduates to complete a full, four-year course at the new Grosse Pointe High School shows that of the 46 courses taken by the 10 freshmen during their first semester, only two courses were failed.

A summary of the report from the Registrar's office follows:

Number of freshmen, 10; total hours of enrollment, 154; number of hours of A mark, 17 (11%) 50.6; number of hours of B mark, 61 (39.6%); number of hours of C mark, 56 (36.3%); number of hours of D mark, 12 (7.8%); number of hours failed, 8 (5.2%) 13.0; number of students warned, 0; number of students on probation, 1; number of students dismissed, 0; total number of courses, 46; number of courses failed, 2; percentage of courses failed, 4.3%; number of courses A, 5; percentage of courses A, 10.9%.

WATER REPORT READY

The first annual report of the Grosse Pointe Farms Water Department prepared by the superintendent of the department, Murray M. Smith, has been presented to the President and Trustees of the village. A resumé of its contents will appear in the next issue of the Civic News.

SCHOOL NOTES

The financial report of Dr. S. M. Brownell, superintendent of schools, submitted at the board meeting last Monday night, indicates that \$50,311.70 less had been spent to March 1, than to a similar period of a year ago.

At the beginning of the current fiscal year, according to the report, the school district owed \$150,788.33. At the present time the district has a cash balance of \$58,403.09. With an estimated income of approximately \$51,000 to June 30, it is estimated that the expenditures to that time will be in excess of the present balance and estimated loans will be approximately \$130,000 to \$135,000. From a cash point of view, the district is approximately \$20,000 better off than a year ago.

Enrollment figures at the beginning of the second semester showed a total of 3,527 pupils attending classes in Grosse Pointe schools, an increase of 263 over a year ago.

No action was taken by the Board of Education at its Monday night meeting on the personnel report for the 1932-33 school year, submitted to the board by Dr. S. M. Brownell, superintendent.

It had been rumored that the report did not recommend the reappointment of Fred Kerby as principal of the George Defer School and a large number of his friends appeared at the board meeting in his behalf. A resolution that Mr. Kerby be retained at his present salary and position was offered but did not carry.

An analysis of the results of the February achievement tests for grades 1 to 6 in the Grosse Pointe schools shows that all grades are above standard in reading. All grades are above standard in arithmetic, spelling, and language usage. Grade 6B is above standard in grammar, history and geography. Grade 6A is above standard in grammar and geography, but below in history.

The average score of Grosse Pointe pupils for the system on the Detroit Word Recognition Test is above the author's standards for both grades 1B and 1A.

The average score for the pupils on the Detroit Reading Test is above standard in both grades 2B and 2A.

As four months elapse between September and February, the expected growth in each subject is four months. Following is the average growth in months as measured by the Public School Achievement Tests for the entire system: Reading, 8.7; arithmetic (computation), 10.1; arithmetic (reasoning), 10.2; language usage, 11.0; spelling, 8.7. Total, 9.9.

MAY RACE TO BECOME CITY

Possibility of a race on the part of some of the Grosse Pointe communities to be the first to incorporate as a city in order to have the name, "City of Grosse Pointe," was seen this week by observers of affairs in the Pointe communities.

Grosse Pointe Park is the latest to definitely decide to study the advantages of a city form of government. As reported in the last issue of the Civic News, the "Village" and the "Farms" are considering the change, with the possibility of combining the two governments into one.

There is little question but that each of the communities, in the event of a change, would prefer to have "Grosse Pointe" as their city name.

No definite action has been taken as yet by Grosse Pointe Park officials, according to Waldo J. Berns, Village Clerk.

"We are considering the merits of a city form of government but will take no action quickly," said Mr. Berns. "The possibility of Grosse Pointe Village becoming a city, as reported in the Civic News, has forced us to consider the change, as we would be cut off from the rest of the Township.

"It is not likely that we would combine with any of the other Grosse Pointe communities, for we feel that we are in a better financial position than the rest and it would not be fair to our citizens.

"Before long we will probably have a meeting to consider the matter. If it seems advisable, we will then have a large mass meeting to feel the pulse of the people. After all, the matter will be up to the citizens."

GROSSE POINTE PUBLIC GROUPS

More than 60 organizations of various types serve the people of Grosse Pointe. Society, art, civics, athletics, education, charity and other motives activate these groups in the development of our community life.

Most of the groups are of recent origin. Ten years ago the community life of Grosse Pointe was at low ebb. Accessibility to Detroit saw the majority of our people turn to the metropolis for most of their activities, even education.

The growth of a good school system in the last five years, the development of the Neighborhood Club, with its excellent appointments, in its new location; new libraries, churches and lake front parks, have seen the attention of Grosse Pointers turn towards home.

Besides the organizations listed below, there are six churches, with their customary guilds and orders; six parks, three private schools, with an enrollment of 385; four parochial schools, with 1,135 pupils, and seven public schools, with an enrollment of 3,456 (as of October, 1931).

No attempt is made to classify the political groups. This, in itself, would take considerable space, besides diplomatic handling. However, it would prove interesting and may be attempted in a future issue.

Of the listed groups, 12 are centered in the High School, while 14 of the organizations hold forth in the Neighborhood Club, which last year showed an attendance of more than 156,000. Many groups, not organized into clubs, participate in recreational activities, both in the Neighborhood Club and the High School. In the list which follows, the name of the presiding officer is given:

CIVIC

Citizens' Association of Grosse Pointe Township, Lincoln Maire.

Tax Investigating Committee of Six, Frank E. Price.

Grosse Pointe Park Protective Association, Charles S. Cole.

Taxpayers' Association of Grosse Pointe, Edwin H. Lindow, Sec.

CLUBS

Grosse Pointe Doctors' Club, Dr. B. H. Warren.

Eastern Michigan Horticultural Club, William Criehton.

Garden Club, Mrs. Fred Murphy.

Little Garden Club, Mrs. Charles Crouse.

Amateur Art Exhibitors, John Vogt.

SOCIAL AND ATHLETIC

Country Club, Clarkson C. Wormer, Jr.

Grosse Pointe Club, Samuel T. Douglass.

Lochmoor Club, Arthur J. Scully.

Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, C. Hayward Murphy, Commodore.

Otsiketa Club, Napoleon Desrocher.

Grosse Pointe Hunt Club, William Hendrie.

Riding and Polo Association, Charles F. Hammond, Jr.

Grosse Pointe Ice Boat Club.

Grosse Pointe Badminton Association, Renville Wheat.

Lions Club, A. J. Genich.

SOCIAL SERVICE

Grosse Pointe Cottage Hospital, Mrs. Murray Sales.

Bonne Secour.

St. Vincent De Paul Society, Charles Poupard.

PARENT-TEACHER GROUPS

Trombley School, Lyman Abbott.

Defer School, Mrs. Tore Franzen.

Richard School, Clarice Adams.

Kirby School, Mrs. Arthur Holmes.

Mason School, William Hudson.

High School Mothers' Club, Mrs. Walter E. Neumeyer.

HIGH SCHOOL GROUP

Varsity Club, Student Council, Pointe Players, Girl Reserves, Hi Y, National Honor Society, Glee Club, Honor Court, Girls' Aquatic Club, Girls' Athletic Association, Press Club and Service Club.

COMMUNITY GROUP

Neighborhood Club, Mrs. Lucian Moore, Jr.

Badminton Club, Mrs. Thaddeus Walker.

Pointer A. C., Patrick Carrier.
A. O. C. Girls, Marge Martins.
Racquetters' A. C., Fred Grover.
Chauffeurs' Club, Carl Steinhoff.
Delta Sigma Chi, L. Snyder.
N. A. C., Irving Froehlich.
Camp Fire Girls, Edith Baker.
V. V. V. Girls, May Stock.
Blue Birds, Betty Shoemaker.
Grosse Pointe A. C., Barnard Hagen.

VILLAGE ELECTS OFFICERS MONDAY

Little opposition is noted in the Village of Grosse Pointe election to be held Monday, March 14. William C. Bishop is the only opponent for the two-year term of trustee. The present incumbents, Chester F. Carpenter, D. M. Ferry, Jr., and William Fisher, seek reelection.

Others running for reelection include: President Richard P. Connor, Clerk Norbert P. Neff, Treasurer Edwin Watko and Assessor Neil Blondell.

NOT ON COMMITTEE

E. B. Whitcomb announces that he is not a member of the Committee of Six, investigating tax problems in the Grosse Pointe area, as reported in the last issue of the Civic News.

JAPAN, TOO

That municipal and public utility problems are not only problems of the Western World but also of the Far East is indicated in a letter received from The Tokyo Institute for Municipal Research by the Civic News.

The Institute, under the joint auspices of the six largest cities of Japan (Tokyo, Osaka, Kyoto, Nagoya, Yokohama and Kobe) is now preparing a bill to regulate public utilities and is seeking advice from many municipalities throughout the United States.

LAKE SHORE MOTORBUS SCHEDULE

Leave Jefferson Beach	Leave Vernier Road	Leave Weir Lane	Leave Fisher Road	Leave City Limits	Arrive Grand Park, Detroit	Arrive Circus Detroit	Leave Grand Park, Detroit, For Grosse Pointe
6:15 A. M.	6:23 A. M.	6:28 A. M.	6:35 A. M.	6:43 A. M.	7:11 A. M.	7:41 "	
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11:35 "	11:43 "	11:48 "	11:55 "	12:03 A. M.	(City Limits Only)	(City Limits Only)	9:35 "
12:30 A. M.	12:38 A. M.	12:43 A. M.	12:50 A. M.	12:58 "	(City Limits Only)	(City Limits Only)	10:35 "

*Indicates Kercheval Buses to Fisher Road.

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