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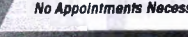
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Grosse Pointe News

VOL. 77, NO. 47, 28 PAGES
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NOVEMBER 24, 2016
GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

WOW working in backyards

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — When Santa comes to town in this Friday's 41st annual Grosse Pointe parade in his honor, he'll ride the wake of installation crews for Wide Open West.

"They're installing infrastructure to bring their cable TV, Internet and phone service to the Shores," said Diane Schelowsky, administrative assistant in the Grosse Pointe Shores public works department.

Wires are networked underground, not strung from utility poles.

"They are working on Fordcroft and Woodland Shore," said Brett Smith, department director.

"(WOW) will be accessing public easements and needs to be on private property to install this," Schelowsky said.

Wiring the city is subcontracted to Scotty's Underground

Construction.

"It will be clearly marked on their vehicles that they're working for WOW," Smith said. "(Installers) will wear WOW badges."

Some crewmembers working in rear yards were mistaken for trespassers and reported to the public safety department.

"We have great folks who take great pride in their neighborhood," said Mark Wollenweber, city manager. "They call if they see something like that. Public safety appreciated it."

"Seeing a stranger in your backyard can be intimidating, so we want these people properly identified," Smith said.

Municipal officials spent the last few years courting Wide Open West as competition to Comcast.

In January, a WOW executive informed Wollenweber of intentions to wire the city,

See WOW, page 3A



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Multi-age Montessori students in Kate Kingsley's class at Grosse Pointe Academy celebrated Thanksgiving Monday, Nov. 21, with food, decorations and lessons. Above, from left, Ryleigh Willson, Taylor Rivers and Joey George, hold a Happy Thanksgiving sign. Right, Audrey Darke helps set the table for the Thanksgiving feast.

Giving thanks



Misaligned traffic lights make city see red

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — Newly erected traffic lights at the intersection of Lakeshore and Vernier don't signal an end to the project.

A municipal traffic consultant evaluated the federally funded and contracted lights on behalf of Grosse Pointe

Shores officials.

"He identified several issues that need to be corrected," said John Schulte, public safety director. "Most are minor, but some could be a hazard based on the placement of signals."

Two signals for eastbound Vernier don't align with traffic lanes, Schulte said. "The problem is as you approach north-

bound. You get a flashing amber light, which allows you to enter the intersection. Except, when you get into the intersection, there's nothing that tells you to go. If there's southbound traffic, you don't know when the signal is going to be red for you again."

Schulte suggested the signal be moved north of the intersection, "so you

can actually see it once you're inside the intersection. We'll make those corrections, but we'll probably have to put up a new pole."

A signal governing left turns from northbound Lakeshore to westbound Vernier hangs too far forward in the intersection.

"When you get in the

See RED, page 3A

Coming soon

The Grosse Pointe Santa Parade, sponsored by the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce, begins 10 a.m. Friday, Nov. 25, along Kercheval, from Lewiston to Cadieux. For a lineup of participants, see page 3A.



Sewer line tests in flooding area

By Kathy Ryan
Describer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Testing is currently being conducted on the sanitary sewer lines in the area affected by sewage backups following torrential rains in late September.

According to City Manager Dale Krajniak, workers from Stantec, the Park's engineering consulting firm, and city employees are testing the lines using a non-toxic smoke that is blown into the lines while workers check for smoke in yards, homes and manholes. The purpose is to determine if there are any clean water sources connected to the sanitary sewers. Those primary sources include downspouts, storm catch basins and footing drains.

Residents will be notified of smoke testing on their blocks by a red door hanger notice distributed

two days prior to testing. To prepare for the testing, homeowners are urged to minimize the possibility of smoke getting inside houses by doing the following: make sure to run water in all drains in tubs, showers, sinks and floor drains; cover floor drains that do not have a water trap with a wet rag and fill a sump pump with enough water to cover pump inlet.

Smoke should not enter the house and residents are advised that if it does, contact work crews immediately. Residents with respiratory illnesses or other health concerns are asked to call Courtney Johnson, Department of Public Works, (313) 822-4391. If smoke enters the house, residents are advised to open windows and doors to ventilate the house.

According to Krajniak, the smoke used is non-

toxic, non-staining and has no odor. It is white or gray in color and is not a fire hazard.

Residents with questions should contact Pat Thomas at the Department of Public Works, (586) 634-1862.

Krajniak discussed the testing at the Nov. 14 city council meeting. He also told members of the council several updates had been done to the pump house, including raising transformers from the ground floor to a mezzanine level, moving the switching gear and upgrading control panels to allow for remote monitoring of the pumps. He also said the city is exploring options with the Great Lakes Water Authority in the event it needs additional capacity or release points in case of another "extreme event," similar to the Sept. 29 storm

See TESTS, page 5A

Santa due at tree lighting

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — Santa Claus curbs his sleigh and rides a red fire truck to the annual Lighting of the Village tree-lighting ceremony, 6 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 27, at city hall, 795 Lakeshore.

Festivities begin at the lobby entrance and

include lighting a Christmas tree near the corner of Lakeshore and Vernier.

A chorus of school children leads holiday sing-alongs. Mayor Ted Kedzierski and Christmas Carol introduce Santa.

Inside, members of the Grosse Pointe Shores Improvement Foundation serve complimentary hot cocoa.

Santa meets children while sitting in an easy chair beside a Christmas tree in the public safety department lobby.

City hall administrative, public works and municipal court offices are closed Thursday and Friday, Nov. 24 and 25, for Thanksgiving.

Regular hours resume 8:30 a.m. Monday, Nov. 28.

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Classified ads 3C
Schools 1D

Pointer of Interest

See story, page 4A



Grace Pellegrino

Home: Grosse Pointe Park

Age: 17

Studying for career in meteorology since sixth grade



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Yoga studio recognized among top in metro area

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

In less than four years, Full Lotus Yoga has made quite a name for itself.

The yoga studio not only offers a variety of classes for clients of all flexibilities, along with massage and reflexology services, it also collects for and donates to charities once a month. Most recently, the studio was honored among the top 20 yoga studios in metro Detroit by expertise.com.

"They rank different businesses and services all over the country, everything from catering and photography to chiropractors and yoga studios," Full Lotus owner Liz DeFour said. "They looked at 221 yoga studios and ranked them based on their reputa-

tion, credibility, experience, availability and professionalism."

DeFour said she's excited at the honor and credits her strong teaching staff for the services they provide.

"I'm really proud of our staff and teachers at the studio. They teach excellent classes and provide excellent services to students," she said. "They make students feel at home. They're more than clients; they're friends. And a lot of our students are wonderful and friendly. This is a great community with good people."

Next up for Full Lotus is another first, when YogaWorks hosts teacher training at the Grosse Pointe Woods studio.

"YogaWorks, a world-renowned program, is

hosting their very first teacher training ever in Michigan here in the studio," DeFour said. "We're honored they picked us to host their training."

New York-based instructor Jess Blake leads 200 hours of teacher training, Fridays through Sundays, Feb. 24 to May 21.

A free class and informational session with Blake is planned at 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10, during which prospective students can meet the trainer, get an overview of the program and learn the benefits of

being a YogaWorks student. A question-and-answer session is included.

"Teachers who are already certified can do the training for half off and be certified by YogaWorks," DeFour said. "We're really excited."

On the charity side of things, Full Lotus this month is collecting yoga mats to donate to Yoga By Design, which provides yoga classes to students at inner city schools. Donations are collected Sundays during the studio's 11 a.m.

community yoga class.

"It's nice because it helps educate people, too," DeFour said of the monthly charity collections. "We invite a representative from the nonprofit to take the class and then speak to students about the group they represent We try to help local nonprofits."

Organizations that would like to benefit from Full Lotus students' generosity may call (313) 885-9642 or email fulllotusyoga@gmail.com to join a waiting list.

Full Lotus classes range from gentle restor-

ative yoga to hot vinyasa, which uses dynamic flowing movements to build strength and flexibility.

"We have workshops all the time and community events that are followed by social time with food and time to hang out with teachers," DeFour said, adding the next workshop, "Yin and Chocolate," is Friday, Dec. 2.

Full Lotus Yoga is located at 20365 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods. For more information, visit fulllotusyoga.net or call (313) 885-9642.

Village Market expansion nears

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — Village Food Market stays open during its renovation and expansion starting this year, weather permitting.

"If not, we'll start next spring," said Mark Garmo, owner.

Work is expected to last nine to 12 months.

"Keeping the market open extends the construction period," said Roman Bonislowski, a principle at Ron and Roman architects.

Expansion into adjoining former offices of Bolton Johnson Realty and, on the other side of the market, land occupied formerly by Preferred Cleaners at the corner of Mack and McKinley, adds 1,255 square feet of usable floor space and the

opportunity to widen the current layout's narrow aisles.

"People love shopping there, but it's not always the easiest thing to do," Bonislowski said. "This addition makes sense to improve conditions inside the market."

Diagonal parking spots remain in front while the rear parking lot is reconstructed.

Site plan renderings show the single-story market expanded to two stories.

Exterior walls of brick-and-mortar with limestone detailing — no faux facade — support acid-etched picture window treatments, dark brown aluminum window frames, dark green awnings and touches of Boston ivy.

"We're big believers in greening a building," Bonislowski said. "It was

important for us to do something that will fit into the neighborhood when it's done."

Customers will enter the canopied front door on Mack to a two-story mezzanine and displays of fruits and vegetables. Nearby is a bakery, hot food and pizza zone.

Ground-floor space is layered between basement storage and second-floor offices, an employee lounge and more storage.

"It's a complete redo interior and out," Bonislowski said. "It's a bit of a cluster now."

The forthcoming building's 30-foot front entrance peak meets city code, as do 40 on-site parking spots when combined with 85 public, on-street parking spaces within a 300-foot radius of the location, according to John Jackson, Farms planning consultant.

Daily deliveries of supplies are scheduled between 6 a.m. and 3 p.m., with hours of operation 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday, according to Garmo.

Gassed up for the year

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — Citywide gas line replacement is wrapping up for the year.

"All mains and service lines are installed, except for a few in the Willison subdivision," said Brett Smith, director of public works in Grosse Pointe Shores.

DTE Energy contractors return in spring to finish the job. They'll start on Woodland Shore and move north to Colonial, Smith added.

When utility representatives announced plans in late 2015 to swap metal, underground gas distribution pipes with plastic ones, they said

work would end this November.

That includes restoring property disturbed by excavation, directional drilling and more.

"They have three restoration crews working," Smith said. "They're trying to have restoration done before snow flies. They're getting a lot of work done and they're getting it done quickly. I've had very few complaints."

Anything missed this year will be fixed next spring, he added.

The utility posted a cash bond to repair damaged municipal and private property, including sod and lawn sprinklers, according to Mark Wollenweber, city manager.

Curbing drunken drivers

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — One day, or night, drunken drivers will learn to avoid Grosse Pointe Shores.

Last year, 17 learned the hard way from Officer Michael O'Brien.

He led the Shores department of public safety during 2015 in drunken driving arrests.

O'Brien also led the department the year before.

He marks his third year with the Shores in December.

"We're very proud of him," said Chief John Schulte. "Mike is a former Michigan state trooper. He came to Grosse Pointe, works diligently and writes exemplary reports."

"Since I was a kid I wanted to be a law enforcement officer," O'Brien said. "My dad was a reserve deputy with Shiawassee County."

Mothers Against Drunk Driving honored O'Brien for his commitment to taking drunken drivers off the road.

"We enforce our laws," Schulte said. "We protect our streets. I'm proud of enforcement actions taken by my officers."

— Brad Lindberg

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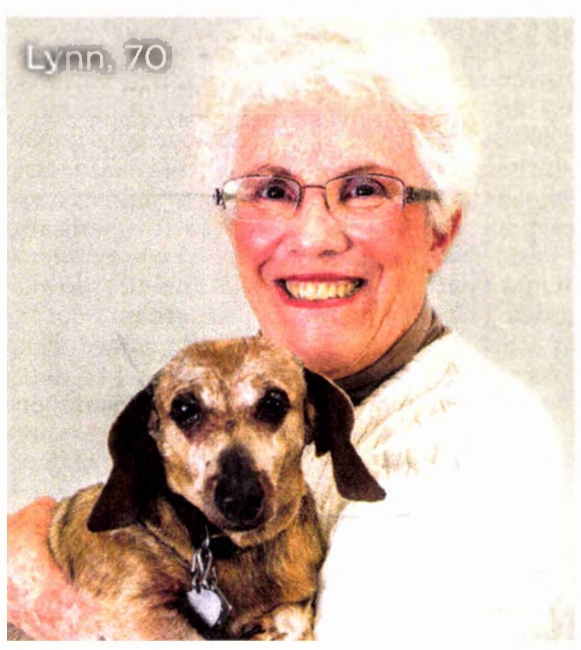
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In order of appearance

The following is the order of participants in the Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Parade, which begins 10 a.m. Friday, Nov. 25. The parade is sponsored by the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce.

1. Tassie on Motorcycle
2. Honor Guard
3. Detroit Mounted Police
4. Grosse Pointe City, Farms, Park, Shores and Woods Public Safety trucks and cars
5. Medstar
6. Wayne County Community College District banner
7. WCCCD Mary Ellen Stempfle University Center — fire trucks
8. Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce banner
9. Grosse Pointe Mayors banner
10. Grosse Pointe Mayors trolley
11. City of Grosse Pointe Woods banner
12. City of Grosse Pointe Woods trolley
13. Parade Marshal banner
14. Parade Marshal car, Beverly Leinweber
15. Grosse Pointe Farms Foundation banner
16. Congresswoman Brenda Lawrence and car
17. Military Missing in Action Empty Wheelchair
18. Flint Scottish Pipe Band
19. Grosse Pointe War Memorial banner
20. Grosse Pointe War Memorial trucks and tanks
21. ServPro Truck
22. I Heart GP float
23. Kerby Girl Scout troops
24. St. John Providence banner
25. Grosse Pointe South Homecoming Queen and car
26. Grosse Pointe South Band
27. Ray Laethem Motor Village banner
28. Parade Company float No. 1
29. Mason School
30. Mason Girl Scout Troop 71141 and Cub Scout Pack 290
31. Parcels Girl Scout Troop 71059
32. Grosse Pointe Lions Club banner
33. Grosse Pointe Lions Club float
34. Detroit Institute of Ophthalmology classic car
35. Model A car
36. Model T car
37. Grosse Pointe Woods/Shores Little League 11U
38. Grosse Pointe News banner
39. Grosse Pointe North High

40. Wesley Orthodontics banner
41. Solar car from Grosse Pointe Public School System
42. Hupmobile
43. Detroit Electric car
44. Sine & Monaghan banner
45. Chandler Park Band
46. Our Lady Star of the Sea float
47. Grosse Pointe Power Squadron
48. Edsel and Eleanor Ford House banner
49. Edsel and Eleanor Ford House float, with Meloday Malos singing
50. St. Paul Catholic School
51. St. Paul Catholic School Girl Scouts
52. St. Paul Catholic School Cub Scout Pack 61
53. Madison Maintenance banner
54. Shrine Lancers mini cars
55. Northern Trust banner
56. Genesis Cadillac banner and car
57. Kerby Cub Scouts Pack 481
58. The Hill Association banner
59. De La Salle High School Marching Band
60. Christian Financial banner
61. Monteith Girl Scout Troops 75755 and 70950
62. Monteith Cub Scout Pack 85
63. Jumps Restaurant banner
64. Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe banner
65. Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe float
66. University Liggett School banner
67. Grosse Pointe Academy
68. Casali School Dancers
69. Backer Landscaping banner
70. Small Favors banner
71. Detroit Fire Department clown team
72. LaLonde Jewelers banner
73. Faircourt Dental float
74. Aitken & Ormond banner
75. Defer Brownie Troop 75939
76. Defer Girl Scout Troop 70993
77. Defer Cub Scout Pack
78. Trombly Cub Scout Pack 86
79. Higbie Maxon Agney banner
80. Fitzgerald Band
81. Advantage Living Center banner
82. Golden Retriever Rescue Group
83. Doggie Scoops
84. Grosse Pointe Historical Society car
85. Grosse Pointe City Foundation banner

86. Maire Brownie Troop 71018
87. Maire Daisy Troop
88. Maire Cub Scout Troop
89. TCBY character
90. Emerald Dance
91. The Shoe Tree banner
92. Detroit Boat Club
93. Redford Unicycle Club
94. Grosse Pointe Magazine banner
95. Detroit Circus jugglers
96. Pointe Capital Management banner
97. Junior League of Detroit banner and car
98. Art Van banner
99. Art Van float
100. Hellenic Society of the Performing Arts banner
101. Hellenic Society dancers
102. Henry Ford Medical Center-Cottage banner
103. Eastside Tennis and Fitness float
104. Sanders Fine Chocolatiers banner
105. Wayne State Theatre and Dance
106. Capricious banner
107. Republican Women's Club
108. Beaumont Hospital banner
109. Wakefield, Sutherland, Lubera banner
110. Big Heads
111. Robert Loomis & Associates banner
112. Lakeshore Longhouse truck
113. Bulldogs hockey club
114. Talmer (Chemical Bank) banner
115. Grosse Pointe's Got Talent banner
116. Parade Company float No. 2 with Donte Spindler
117. Bob Maxey Lincoln banner
118. Grosse Pointe Schools Gearheads Robotics team
119. Big Boy character
120. American House banner
121. Bayview Yacht Club
122. Varsity Club clowns
123. Morning Glory banner
124. Churchill's Cigar Bistro banner
125. Ecorse High School Band
126. Punch and Judy Building banner
127. Grosse Pointe Geek banner
128. St. Clare of Montefalco
129. Ferry Cub Scout Pack 34
130. Ferry Brownie Troop 71293
131. K-9 float
132. White carriage with Hannah Ayrault singing
133. Christmas carol float
134. Wellness Train float
135. Santa's sleigh

Q&A one week, decision the next

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — Applicants seeking to complete the term of a retiring city councilman can pitch themselves to the rest of the council next week in the random order of names drawn, from a hat if available.

Members of the Grosse Pointe Farms council scheduled heart-to-hearts during the regularly scheduled work session 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 5, at city hall, 90 Kerby.

Ten residents applied for appointment to fill the term of Councilman Martin West.

In October, he announced plans to leave office after the Monday, Dec. 12, meeting to spend more time in Arizona, one year before his scheduled term ends. He'd been commuting to council

meetings while wintering near Phoenix.

Candidates seeking to replace West are Patrick Beard, Andrew Casazza, Anthony Chalut, John J. Gillooly, James Gilmore, Jeremy Henner, Michael Kelly, Edward Lambrecht III, Paul Tylenda and Elizabeth Vogel.

"We have 60 days after (West's) resignation to fill his seat," said Councilman Peter Waldmeir. "We have a goal of seating a new member by the council meeting, Dec. 12."

Members plan to spend about five minutes with each candidate "to discuss their interest in the position and qualifications," Waldmeir said. "We might be able to come to agreement Dec. 12 or not, but we can begin that process."

Appointments require a majority vote of the council, in this case four of six because West said he'll abstain.

The Week Ahead

THURSDAY, NOV. 24

- ◆ City of Grosse Pointe municipal offices and court closed for Thanksgiving.
- ◆ Refuse and recycling collection rescheduled to Saturday, Nov. 26. Leaf pickup rescheduled to Monday, Nov. 28.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Farms municipal offices and court closed for Thanksgiving.
- ◆ Rubbish collection rescheduled to Friday, Nov. 25.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores municipal offices and court closed for Thanksgiving.
- ◆ Rubbish collection rescheduled to Friday, Nov. 25.

FRIDAY NOV. 25

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Parade, 10 a.m., Kercheval from Lewiston in Grosse Pointe Farms to Cadieux in the Village district of the City of Grosse Pointe.
- ◆ City of Grosse Pointe municipal offices and court closed.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Farms municipal offices and courts closed.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores municipal offices and court closed.

SUNDAY NOV. 27

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores Lighting of the Village holiday ceremony, 6 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 27, city hall, 795 Lakeshore.

RED:

Continued from page 1A

intersection, you can't actually see the green arrow," Schulte said.

The consultant is unsure who's at fault, the project engineer or construction crew.

"We're asking engi-

neers to provide him with construction plans so he can evaluate them," Schulte said. "We'll make the corrections and move forward."

Wayne County owns, programs and maintains the traffic lights.

Work at the corner began a year ago.

"The project was taking

so long," said Brett Smith,

director of public works. Shores officials tried unsuccessfully last month to have the contractor attend a city council meeting and explain why work wasn't finished by the original June deadline.

"The contractor was advised by their attorney

that there are certain issues they cannot speak about publicly," said Mark Wollenweber, city manager, last month.

"At least we have traffic signals," Smith said. "However, we have some issues."

Restoration of turf in the construction zone is incomplete, Smith said.

WOW:

Continued from page 1A

multi-million dollar investment.

"It came out of the blue," Wollenweber said at the time. "I think I've written them on behalf of the city at least five or six times in the last several years."

Wooing WOW required amending a peddler ordinance to let the cable provider's sales team drum up business door-to-door.

WOW's crews are buried by directional drilling, not by excavating trenches.

"They can do a bunch of houses without digging up yards," Smith said. "They dig a 3-foot-square hole and a directional drill puts the wires in."

"They'll put down flags

marking existing utilities," Schelowsky said.

Residents are asked to leave flags alone until work is finished. Residents are encouraged to set markers of their own showing the location of sprinkler systems, invisible dog fences and underground lighting wires.

Damaged property will be restored to preexisting conditions, according to Schelowsky.

She said WOW requests complaints be filed at MIconstruction@wideopenwest.com.

Inquiries are directed to wowway.com/coming-soon.

"If they're working in your area and you have questions, call me and I'll take care of it," Smith said.


The public works telephone number is (313) 886-0020.


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4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

Chasing her dreams

Park resident driven to succeed in meteorology

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Tornado Girl and Lightning are just a couple of the fitting nicknames Grosse Pointe South High School senior Grace Pellegrino has earned.



Grace Pellegrino

Rightly so.

The 17-year-old Park resident has been enthralled with weather since childhood, watching dark clouds roll in and seeking out storms. Since making up her mind in sixth grade, Pellegrino has been focused on meteorology as a career, not just a hobby.

"Ever since I was little, I was never afraid of storms," she said. "I loved to stand outside and watch the clouds. If there was a storm, I'd ask my dad to drive around and find it. We go down to the water and watch — it's really beautiful."

When she's not working at Windmill Pointe Park's movie theater or in school, she spends much of her time watching weather-related documentaries and weather videos on YouTube, checking out Discovery Channel and The Weather Channel and studying up on the subject. She's had endless encouragement not only from her parents — Cheryl and Bill — but also from Channel 4 meteorologist Andrew Humphrey, whom Pellegrino met five years ago.

"I told him I was interested in meteorology," Pellegrino said, adding Humphrey has become a mentor and advisor, sug-

crazy. Who wants to go out into a storm?" she said. "I just think it's so cool how everything changes and can come to a standstill and then all hell breaks loose. There's so much adrenaline."

Pellegrino, who has run cross country and track her entire high school career, said she realizes how unusual it is for someone to be set on a career so early in life, but she's got a lot of support behind her decision.

"It's pretty rare to know exactly what I want to do since sixth grade. I try my best to stay on that course," she said. "I've heard a lot that I'd be really good at this. That's what kind of motivated me. Everyone thinks it, so I might as well try it."

Added Pellegrino's mother, "We've been so lucky with her ... She has a good head on her shoulders, a good heart and a good work ethic. It's so unusual for kids to know what they want to do, but I think she's going to be fine in the future."

Pellegrino said she stays in touch with Humphrey for his guidance as much as possible.

"He gives me advice and is motivating me," she said. "He told me if I have any questions to give him a call."

"Grace is clearly smart and friendly and she loves weather and STEM," Humphrey said. "She seems to have a fire for meteorology that will lead to a bright future in the field if she keeps it burning with continued encouragement from her parents and teachers."

gesting colleges and resources to help her achieve her goal.

"After Grace's mother and father told me about her passion for meteorology when she was still in middle school, I encouraged the whole family to nurture it," Humphrey said. "I gave them a tour of WDIV, including the weather office. They saw a live Local 4 News weathercast, right in the studio. Hopefully, seeing broadcast meteorology in action helped make it more real for her."

Pellegrino said she's not against being on television, though she'd prefer being behind the scenes.

"I do news at school," she said. "Everyone says I'm pretty good at it. But I'd like to be more behind the scenes, doing research and getting data. I want to move around and travel. My dream job is a meteorological research scientist."

Her dream school is the University of Oklahoma and she has applied to Central Michigan University. Her next step, however, is getting an internship at a news station.

"My friends think I'm



Left, several business owners were honored for their beautification efforts. Below, many residents earned beautification awards this year as well.

PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT



Woods beautification awards

By Kathy Ryan
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — Mayor Robert Novitke presented awards to several businesses and residents at the annual beautification awards program Wednesday, Nov. 9, at the Lochmoor Club.

Wednesday's ceremony marked the 43rd year the awards have been presented, a tradition, Novitke said, that was a testimony to the dedication of both residents and volunteers.

"Our residents and our businesses do such a wonderful job every year showing how highly this community regards our homes and our neighborhoods," Novitke said. "And the members of our beautification commission are to be commended for telling our residents that 'we notice.' That's the purpose of these awards."

Awards are given in five categories: residents, residential renovation awards, business awards, business renovation awards and the

Landmark Award.

Recipients of the residents award are George and Christine Backos, Peter and Barbara Janutol, George and Cheryl Koch, Erik and Stephani LaBelle, Costa and Vicky Malliaras, John and Anne Marten, Robert and Barbara Michalik, Daniel and Heather Muschong, Shelley Owens, Bryan and Beth Plumridge, Anthony and Kristi Schena, Alan and Kathy Tibaudo, Russell and Tracy Van Houten, Sam and Donna Ventimiglia and David and Nancy Welke.

Residential renovation awards were given to Costa and Vicky Malliaras and Al and Faye Nelson.

Business awards were given to Alternative Gynecology, Delight Bakery and Café, Gratitude Salon, Grosse Pointe Monogramming, Grosse Pointe Stone Works, Salon Tresor and Viviano Flower Shop.

Business renovation awards were given to Licavoli's Market and MedPost Urgent Care-

Grosse Pointe.

The Landmark Award for 2016 was presented to Woods Wholesale Wine.

Beautification Commission Chairwoman Debbie McCarthy thanked the recipients and volunteers who make up the commission.

"Our recipients are always proud to be recognized for what they do to keep our city a beautiful place to work and live," McCarthy said. "I think these awards encourage others to maintain and beautify their homes and businesses. I also want to thank all the work done by our commission members in maintaining the quality of our city and in recognizing those who contribute to that."

McCarthy said the work of the commission is fully funded through its annual flower sale in May.

"The success of the flower sale is due to the commitment of our volunteers," she said. "I can't thank them enough."



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Village tree lights up for Christmas

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — The milk carton expiration date reads December and hints at Yuletide, yet the outdoor thermometer registers 65-degrees worthy of September.

Both notions combined for an inviting evening to attend the annual Lighting of the Village Christmas tree celebration in the Village shopping district Friday, Nov. 18.

"This is by far the biggest crowd we've ever had to the Village tree lighting, where we kick off the holiday season in downtown City of Grosse Pointe," said Mayor Dale Scrace.

"It's our pleasure to sponsor this fantastic event," said John Shook, president of the Grosse Pointe Foundation. "To kick off the holiday season and see so many people enjoy this event more than makes it worth while."

An estimated 400 to 500 people gathered for the lighting at the corner of Kercheval and St. Clair, according to Public Safety Director Stephen Poloni.

None wore the winter coat, hat, scarf, gloves and boots required in years when autumn



City of Grosse Pointe Mayor Dale Scrace counted down to the tree lighting while Aubrey Lindow, Alexander Hurley, Vivian Lindow and Lillian Lindow got ready to plug in the lights on the tree.



Families roasted marshmallows during the event.

weather didn't hold on so long.

Many enjoyed free coney dogs from Harvard Grill, complimentary hot chocolate from the Grosse Pointe Boat Club, free s'mores provided by the municipal recreation department and carols sung by the Grosse Pointe South High School choir.

The lure was simple for City residents Seth and Julie Krupp and their three young children, Samuel, Caroline and Camille:

"The weather," Julie Krupp said. "It's beautiful."

"He's been a very good boy this year," said Seth Krupp.

Santa Claus visits the Village during the 41st annual parade in his honor starting 10 a.m. Friday, Nov. 25.

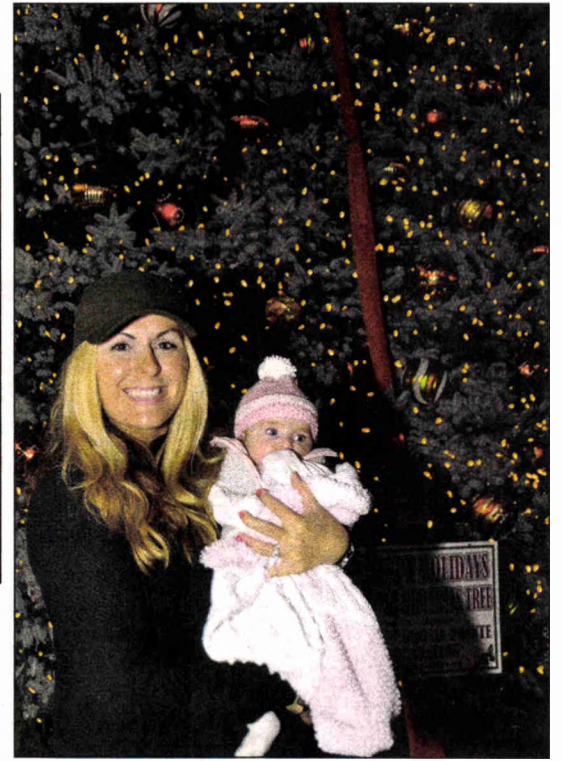


The Mattei, Alderman and Kletzka families gathered before the tree-lighting ceremony to eat coney dogs provided by Mike Muir of Harvard Grill.

The route is on Kercheval at Lewiston in Grosse Pointe Farms to Cadieux in the City.

"Merry Christmas and happy holidays to everybody," Scrace told the crowd. "I want all of you

to support our Village, Fisher Road and Mack Avenue merchants. Please shop local."



Carrie Donaghue holds her 9-week-old daughter, Emerson, in front of the lit tree.

TESTS:

Continued from page 1A

where five inches of rain fell in less than 12 hours.

One option Mayor Robert Denner said was not being explored was the re-opening of sewer lines into Fox Creek. Those lines were sealed several years ago when routine sewage overflows polluted the canal that runs out into the lake, causing concerns among residents who lived on Fox Creek as well as for the lake itself.

"No one is actively pursuing opening up lines to Fox Creek," Denner said. "It's not a great idea for the environment and we would have to go through the courts and then to the state for permission to do so. We are not pursuing that option."

In response to questions from residents regarding insurance claims, city attorney Dennis Levasseur said he will contact the city's insurance investigator to

determine the status of his investigation in both the Bedford flooding that occurred in July and the September flooding/sewage backups in September. Residents commented they have not had any feedback or contact from the investigator.

"Insurance carriers act at their own pace, but I will push them harder," Levasseur said. "Now that I'm aware of the problem, I can be aggressive when needed."

Denner advised residents he would be convening a meeting of the city's Public Service committee, which he has des-

ignated as the clearing house for flood related information. Though a date had not been set at press time, Denner said a meeting would be held "in the next few weeks" and advised residents to watch the city's website, grossepointepark.org, for information.

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Speeding crackdown

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — While a prospective patrolman mulls a conditional offer of employment, his potential future colleagues are making life hard for speeders.

“As we always do this time of year, we’ve increased traffic enforcement on the south end of Grosse Pointe Shores, on east-west streets,” said Chief John Schulte.

Officers are targeting Cook Road and other cut-

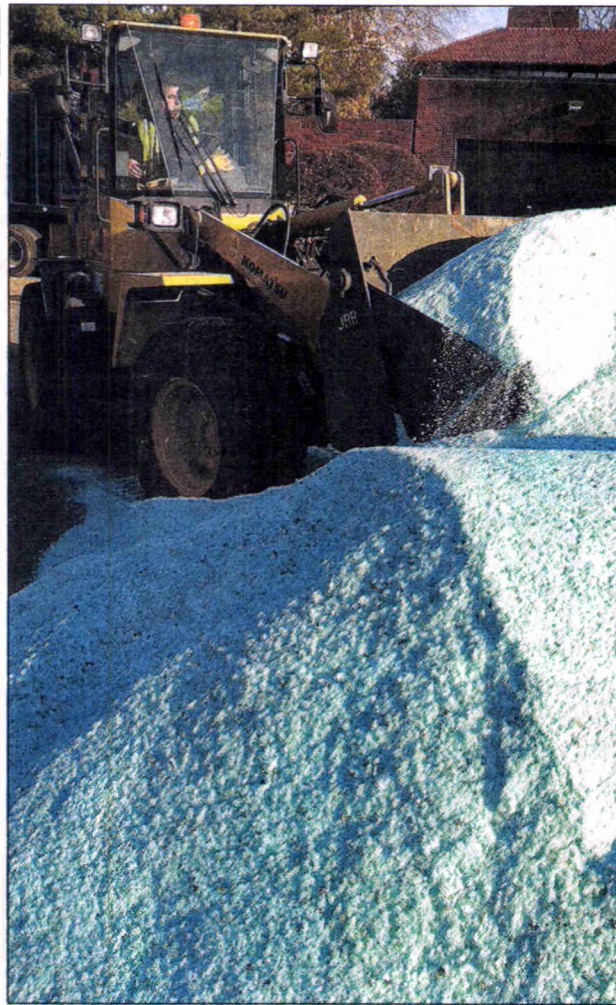
throughs to Lakeshore from Woodland Shore north to Lochmoor.

“Speeds are excessive in there,” Schulte said. “In the last two weeks, we’ve had targeted enforcement in that area and issued 24 violations. We want speeds to be low on those streets for our residents.”

The employment offer is to a 26-year-old firefighter-paramedic employed by Medstar Ambulance.

If he successfully com-

See **SPEEDING**, page 7A



Preparing for winter

Upon the delivery of 50 tons of road salt to the Grosse Pointe Shores public works department Thursday, Nov. 17, mechanic Scott DeGeer put down his tools and took up the controls of a front-end loader. He'll require nearly 50 trips to transfer salt from where a supplier dumped it in the municipal parking lot to a temporary storage bin inside the DPW garage. “That amount will last two snow storms, depending on the storms,” said Brett Smith, department director. “If we get freezing rain, we’ll use it all.” Road salt is dyed blue so salt truck drivers can see where they’ve spread it on snow and ice-covered roads and sidewalks. Smith is prepared each year to buy 350 tons of salt. The loader has a bucket with 1 1/2-yard capacity which, in the case of salt, weighs about 2,000 pounds, DeGeer said.

PHOTOS BY BRAD LINDBERG

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Verifying disconnected downspouts

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — Although the city’s storm water drainage network was separated from sanitary sewers during the 1990s, municipal officials are concerned storm runoff is sneaking into the sanitary system through downspouts.

A survey of properties is thereby being planned

to identify downspouts still attached to sanitary lines.

“You may see someone walking around your house looking at your downspouts,” said Councilman Bruce Bisballe, chairman of the Grosse Pointe Shores finance committee. “You’re not supposed to have your downspout connected to your sanitary system.”

Infiltration from down-

spouts poses at least two problems:

- ◆ it risks overloading sanitary sewers during heavy rains, increasing the chance of backups into basements and
- ◆ inflates sewage fees paid to the Detroit Water Authority to treat rainwater along with waste water.

“We’re trying to minimize the amount of waste water (fees) we’re paying Wayne County,” Bisballe

said. “We want to get cheap with those guys.”

The downspout survey is prompted by two cases in recent years of flooded basements during storms in Grosse Pointe Farms and one this fall in Grosse Pointe Park.

“The biggest culprit of the overflow is when downspouts from the roof put all that water into the sanitary system as opposed to dispersing it,” Bisballe said.

Home invasions related?

By Kathy Ryan
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — Police continue to investigate two recent home invasions and an attempted invasion on three different blocks west of Mack.

“At this point, it’s still too early to determine if they are related,” Public Safety Director John Kosanke said, “but officers and detectives have collected evidence and we’re waiting for test results to be returned.”

According to police reports, the first break-in occurred Wednesday, Nov. 2, at a house in the 1900 block of Oxford. The house had been vacant about an hour when the homeowner returned at 12:30 p.m. and found a window pried open. Police determined entry was made through a first-floor window and the unknown suspect exited through a second-floor

window. Jewelry and an iPad were taken.

Thursday, Nov. 3, a homeowner in the 1900 block of Severn returned home to discover a sliding glass door wall pried open and all upstairs bedrooms ransacked. Jewelry and cash were taken.

According to Kosanke, a security alarm may have thwarted another break-in Friday, Nov. 4, in the 2200 block of

See **HOME**, page 7A

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Immortalized

Someone inscribed the names, Adam, Ada and Daud, in two slabs of freshly-poured concrete sidewalk on Maumee near the intersection of Fisher, the owner of a nearby business told police Saturday morning, Nov. 19.

"(He) also stated there was an inappropriate drawing in the concrete," said a patrolman.

Three caught

A 26-year-old female victim of a car break-in around 10:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 16, in the 800 block of Washington learned a few days later police recovered a gold bracelet taken from her unlocked vehicle.

"I thought it was gone," she said at headquarters Saturday, Nov. 19.

"A citizen who wanted to remain anonymous said he observed three teens wearing backpacks looking into car windows," reported one of many City of Grosse Pointe patrolmen responding to the complaint.

Officers soon arrested two 16-year-old juveniles and one adult, 17, all from Detroit.

"They caught all three?" said the woman. "Awesome."

An officer caught them walking near the intersection of Goethe.

"They stated they were on their way home," said an officer.

A search of backpacks revealed the bracelet.

Wayne County authorities instructed city police to release the juveniles, one of whom carried brass knuckles in his waistband, according to police.

The adult was released because he didn't possess stolen items or contraband.

— Brad Lindberg

Report information about these and other crimes to City of Grosse Pointe Public Safety,

Grosse Pointe Farms

Bike stolen

A choir member sang the blues last week about the theft of his Trek bicycle from racks on the campus of Grosse Pointe South High School.

He told police he parked it 3 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 8, prior to choir practice. It was gone upon his return the next morning.

The bike is gray with a red stripe on the top bar.

Abandoned

A light blue 2006 Ford Fusion, parked 48 hours early last week in the area of Webster and Cloverly, qualified as abandoned.

Police ordered it impounded shortly before 12:30 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 15.

Theft attempt

Overnight Friday, Nov. 11, someone tried to steal a white 2007 Dodge Caravan parked curbside in the 400 block of Colonial Court.

The owner found it the next morning moved 10 feet back from where it had been parked the night before.

The transmission was in neutral. The ignition cylinder was on the center console.

Smashed

A patrolman, looking for a black 1994 GMC

Sierra reportedly involved in a hit-and-run on Jefferson in Grosse Pointe Park shortly before 9 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 13, pulled over the vehicle on westbound Lakeshore.

"(It) had heavy front-end damage and heavy smoke coming from the driver-side front wheel," said the officer.

The driver, 58, of Detroit, allegedly said, "I was just trying to make it home."

He reportedly wouldn't identify himself. Officers learned his identity by tracing his Bridge Card.

The man registered a .23 percent blood alcohol level and had three half-empty 40-ounce bottles of beer in the Sierra, police said.

— Brad Lindberg

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

Grosse Pointe Shores

Due in court

A man with something other than driving on his mind got a break last week when he couldn't post bond for violating a suspended operator's license and running a red light.

A patrolman pulled him over at 12:15 a.m. Monday, Nov. 14, for disregarding the light from eastbound Vernier to northbound Lakeshore.

"(He) stated he (was) driving in from Lake Isabella because of a new job starting later today

and wanted to see where it was," reported the officer. "He stated he (was) not thinking when he made the turn."

"(Due to (him) being homeless, (having) no money or means of obtaining bond, he was released on a personal bond and given a court date of (Wednesday) Dec. 7, at 8 a.m."

— Brad Lindberg

Report information about this and other crimes to Grosse Pointe Shores Public Safety, (313) 881-5500.

Grosse Pointe Park

Jewelry theft

A home health care aide has been arrested and charged with stealing several items of jewelry from an elderly resident living in the 1200 block of Yorkshire. According to police the arrest was made at noon, Saturday, Nov. 19, when the aide, a 33-year-old Roseville resident, came to the house. Police said she had been stealing items for more than a year before the resident noticed the jewelry was missing.

Bullet hole

The owner of a 2014 GMC discovered an apparent bullet hole in the windshield of his vehicle that had been parked overnight Saturday, Nov. 19, in the area of Lakepointe and Charlevoix.

Pot possession

Police arrested a 19-year-old Harper Woods resident at 6:20 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 20, in the alley near Maryland and Charlevoix. According to police, they were investigating a suspicious vehicle when they discovered the young man in the car and in possession of marijuana.

Tampering with auto

At 3:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 18, a resident in the 900 block of Whittier discovered the door to his vehicle ajar and the car rummaged through. Nothing was taken. Police remind drivers to always lock their vehicles.

— Kathy Ryan

Report information about these and other

crimes to Grosse Pointe Park Public Safety, (313) 822-7400.

Grosse Pointe Woods

Suspect arrested

A 73-year-old resident of the 1700 block of Lochmoor surprised an intruder in her garage around 10 a.m. Monday, Nov. 14, and he fled. Police were called and quickly located the suspect walking along Mack and he was detained. The suspect, a 46-year-old homeless man, did not speak English. A translator was called and the man was placed under arrest.

— Kathy Ryan

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

HOME:

Continued from page 6A

Allard. The alarm was activated at 1:58 p.m. and no entry was made. The homeowners were not home.

"We urge residents to use their alarms if they have them," Kosanke said. "Even if you are going out for a short time, turn it on. We believe it made a difference for the Allard house."

SPEEDING:

Continued from page 6A

pletes police academy training, he'll join former Medstar paramedics-turned-lawmen Officers Jason Cook and Jesse Lafriniere, hired in 2013. "Cook has assisted us

finding personnel from Medstar," Schulte said.

The next set of classes at the academy starts Jan. 16 and runs 17 weeks.

"We will bring him on before he goes to the academy to get him oriented to the community," Schulte said.

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I SAY By Mary Anne Brush

Navigating this new world

There's a certain irony when your 19-year-old son chastises you on your use of social media.

We teach our kids whatever they post is there for everyone to see. We want them to be aware of the ramifications as they apply for college and interview for that first coveted job.

Now we're reading about the "social media footprint" of prospective appointees for governmental positions casting doubt on their fitness for office. Elected officials have lost jobs and damaged reputations due to an insensitive tweet or retweet.

As parents, I believe there are times we can learn from our children. For example, I see adults texting in cars far more often than young people. My 20-something daughter once shouted "It can wait!" to a middle-aged woman driving with one hand on the wheel and her eye on her phone. And having a designated driver is assumed among the 21-year-old and over set. Isn't that what an Uber is for?

Adults my generation are still navigating all this. "Honestly, Mom, do you actually read things people post on Facebook?" my son asked. "And when you post stuff, do you really think it's going to change anybody's mind?"

Yes, I said, I do — at least to the first question. If it's someone whose opinion I respect, I will check it out. I do try to understand other people's perspectives. Or at least I think I do. As for changing someone's mind, no, sadly it won't. And it may — and has — resulted in hurt feelings and even lost friendships.

As far as media in general is concerned, my son admitted he no longer knows what to believe, especially on Twitter.

"It's like on the Internet, everybody has to be first," he said. "That's how false information is spread."

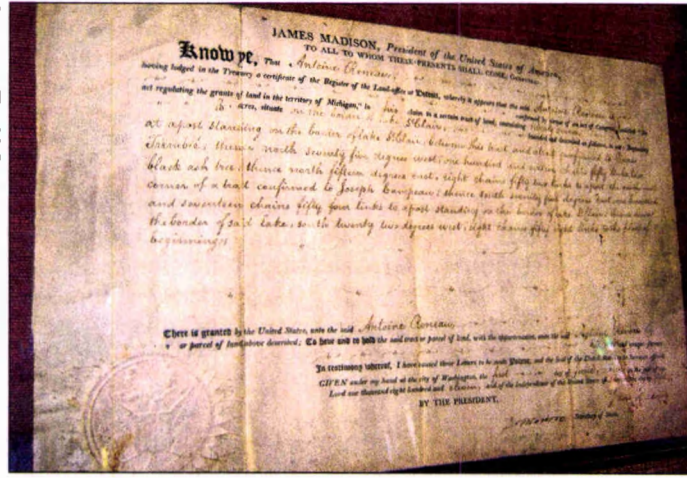
I told him his grandparents got their news from the calm and soothing voice of Walter Cronkite — "the most trusted man in America," according to an opinion poll — on the CBS Evening News. My son may not have heard of Walter Cronkite, but he got the point.

Imagine a world, I might have told him, where there were three television networks and no cable TV. Imagine a world where journalists had time to check their sources and verify information while meeting a predictable deadline — where news was, literally, hot off the press. Imagine a world where being first wasn't more important than being factual and reality didn't blend into entertainment.

Today we have access to instant information. There are many advantages to this, but there also are pitfalls. We hear about how we are each in our own "echo chambers" with information readily available to reinforce our existing opinions or biases. We also are easily duped, as is becoming increasingly evident with reports of a proliferation of false news stories serving as clickbait for profit.

When I was a child, there was a rumor Paul

See WORLD, page 9A



Pure Grosse Pointe

When Lornie McCormick-Goodhart passed through Grosse Pointe in July, she stopped by the Grosse Pointe Historical Society to share a deed that identifies the Reneau ribbon farm property, which passed through Wayne and Erin counties. It was confirmed through library archives the property did pass through Gaukler Pointe, currently part of the Edsel and Eleanor Ford House. The 1811 deed to Antoine Reneau's farm is signed by both James Madison and James Monroe.

COURTESY PHOTO

LETTERS

The Grosse Pointe News welcomes your letters to the editor. All letters should be typed, double-spaced, signed and limited to 250 words. Longer letters may be edited for length and all letters may be edited for content. We reserve the right to refuse any letter. Include a daytime phone number for verification or questions. The deadline for letters is 3 p.m. Monday. Letters to the Editor can be e-mailed to jmcveigh@grossepointenews.com.

In mourning

Since when does a plea for unity and respect for the rights of others engender protest? I stand in support of Moussa Hamka, our Grosse Pointe superintendent and the parents and students who supported Hamka at the Grosse Pointe Board of Education meeting. I mourn the loss of civility in our society.

MARY KAY DOMZALSKI
Grosse Pointe Park

Our principles and principal

On Nov. 14, the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education regular meeting was punctuated by discussion of Principal Moussa Hamka's remarks to his student body the day after the national election. The transcript of that message was read into the minutes of the meeting. To paraphrase, Hamka pledged that under his leadership Grosse Pointe South High School will be a safe and wholesome institution for women, Muslim, African American, Hispanic and LGBT students. The spirit of the message was that of unity, understanding and dialogue. He made it very clear he plans to support president-elect Trump and expects all his students to do the same. More than a hundred people showed up to support him. Not a single contrarian comment was voiced. Many of his students sat through a four-hour board meeting to emotionally voice their support.

This demonstration should be taken as unambiguous support for Hamka and

(Superintendent Gary) Niehaus. As parents, we understand we cannot protect our children from every eventuality. We cannot bubble wrap them physically or emotionally when we let them out of our sights. There will always be those who attack the unfamiliar with ignorance and cruelty. Knowing South has a principal and staff who care and respect our children makes it a little bit easier.

One criticism of Hamka's statement is that it did not specifically mention white males. If one day in the 95-year history of GPPSS white males felt excluded, that's a price I'm willing to pay.

AAMIR SIDDIQUI
Grosse Pointe Park

A few questions

The United States of America has always prided itself on the peaceful transfer of power. Why has this not happened this presidential election year? The lack of respect is glaringly apparent.

When we move our focus from adults to students, it also is glaringly apparent something is seriously wrong with our education system. Why are high school and college students all of one mind? Where is diversity among students? Are they being taught to think one way only? Why is it permissible to skip classes and march in unison throughout the streets? Why is it not taught that the outcome of an election is the voice of the people? Why is it not taught to respect the peaceful transfer of power? Where is the knowledge of and the dedication to the Constitution of the

United States?

Likewise, the media. Why do I know where a new person stands politically? How can you fairly report the news if you are biased? Has the media appointed itself the "fourth power," side by side with the Executive, Legislative and Judicial branches?

Why is this happening? Is revolution preferable to peace?

M.E. HAELEWYN
Grosse Pointe Woods

Appreciate the efforts

In light of an issue which arose at last week's Board of Education meeting, I would like to thank Chris Clark, principal at Pierce Middle School, for addressing his student body Nov. 9, the day after the presidential election. My son is in sixth grade at Pierce and last year we dealt with racism for the first time. We knew it would come at some point and we also knew it wouldn't be the last time. With that, our family closely followed the national election and had been more than concerned with the rhetoric that emerged over the past year. On Nov. 9, Mr. Clark addressed the tenor of the day and, as reported to me, told the students that Pierce was "a safe place" for all. I know my son did not go to school full of terror that morning, but I also know he came home feeling a bit more secure. Thank you, Mr. Clark. Our family appreciated your efforts.

BETH NEWHART
Grosse Pointe Park

Building a better Grosse Pointe

Grosse Pointe has an opportunity to turn its reputation for the better into a community that stands on the side of love, not divisiveness. Grosse Pointe South's Principal Moussa Hamka, in response to growing racial, social and religious intolerance across our nation, gave an impassioned, positive and inclusive speech over the intercom Nov. 9. In those words, their subsequent reading by Superintendent Gary Niehaus during

November's school board meeting and the standing ovation received, a new vision of Grosse Pointe began to emerge.

A few parents in a vocal minority have started a witch hunt against this man for his vision of creating a safe space where students of all religions, colors, political beliefs and family history can learn and grow together. Their vitriol against Hamka is tearing apart a fragile new peace beginning to emerge in our community. People who take risks in the name of their student body, who offer support and open doors to engage students in speaking about their experiences at South — these are the qualities of bravery and leadership I want to represent my children's school district.

Regardless of which side of the political divide we stand on, Hamka's message of love, support, unity and connection created ripples of solidarity between students. My only hope is that our community continues to rally around him, to show our children that in being brave and standing for unity we can build a stronger, brighter and more vibrant Grosse Pointe for all people.

SARAH SCHROEDER
Grosse Pointe Woods

Saddened

I am shocked and saddened by the recent attacks on Grosse Pointe South's principal, Moussa Hamka, made by a small number of disgruntled residents.

However, the nature of the attacks angers me. During his address to the student body Nov. 9, after having dealt with several instances of bullying and insensitivity, Mr. Hamka gave an impassioned address regarding the importance of unity. I am horrified local people are using white nationalist rhetoric by claiming white students felt alienated when Mr. Hamka indicated he stood behind marginalized groups of students.

Claiming alienation of See LETTERS, page 9A

GUEST OPINION By Judy Gafa and Margaret Weertz

Time for 21st Century classrooms

Recently we implemented three pilot 21st Century classrooms at Mason, Maire and Kerby schools. We hope you had a chance to visit them during the Nov. 13 Grosse Pointe Public Schools System open house. You would have been greeted by students eager to show off their stations. From using Chromebooks, white boards, green screens and quiet rolling chairs, the students show how all the stations flow and work together. We saw students who were engaged and excited to learn. Two years ago during the Michigan Association of School

Boards leadership conference, I, Judy Gafa, attended a session that addressed how different classroom configurations and specially designed furniture promote learning. Many of our peer districts have already implemented these classrooms throughout their schools. We sometimes hear that our schools aren't competitive. We disagree. It is because of our involved parents, dedicated staff and engaged students that GPPSS stays competitive. Now is the time to provide the proper technology and tools, which includes 21st

Century classrooms, so our students continue to excel into the future. While some people see only the expense, we see collaborative work spaces that mirror real life work spaces at Ford Motor Company, Google and Quicken Loans, to name a few. We encourage you to visit one of these classrooms and see how our students benefit from this exciting new environment. Gafa is president and Weertz a trustee on the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education.

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LETTERS:

Continued from page 8A

whites is the cornerstone of the white nationalist movement. The community of the Grosse Pointes is too well educated and too smart to allow the unfounded fears and hatred of white nationalism permeate our community. Grosse Pointers need to denounce this racially charged rhetoric, as silence is complicity.

ANNEMARIE ROGERS
Grosse Pointe Farms

Proud of our community

I was proud of my community last Monday night when I saw the large crowd of parents, students and community members that came out to support Moussa Hamka, the principal of Grosse Pointe South High School.

I was proud when Dr. Gary Niehaus read Mr. Hamka's speech to the room — both because the words inspired unity and because our superintendent was demonstrating publicly his support of our principal.

I was proud when I heard so many parents and students speak about their own specific reasons for being at that meeting. Several stu-

dents described how anxious they felt after the election and how Mr. Hamka's words eased their concerns — at least a little bit. Many parents described the impact Mr. Hamka's support had on their children.

I will continue to proudly speak the truth each and every time I hear others in this community questioning the leadership of Mr. Hamka, Dr. Niehaus and other leaders who are doing their job to ensure all of our children feel safe and supported in school so they can learn. After all, isn't that the vision of One GP?

TONYA WELLS
Grosse Pointe Farms

Expressing support

I understand that Grosse Pointe South Principal Moussa Hamka has been criticized by some for reassuring students that South is a safe place for all students, regardless of faith, race, gender or sexual orientation.

As a parent of three South graduates, I want to express my support for Mr. Hamka. I was impressed by his swift response in dealing with the appearance of racist comments and photos on social media sites and I

am happy he is taking a proactive stance by letting students know South is a welcoming and safe place for all students. My kids were lucky to have been South students and our family is among those who support the work of Mr. Hamka in ensuring the safety of a diverse, inclusive community.

DAVID ELSILA
Grosse Pointe Park

Stirring up emotions

I write to express my support and admiration of Grosse Pointe South's principal Moussa Hamka. I have been shocked to hear about the concerns over his post-election statement regarding the acceptance and safety of all students at his wonderful high school. Mr. Hamka said nothing that isn't being said by leaders of schools and businesses across our country as we all

learn to move forward with a newly-elected president. No one can deny that the election of Donald Trump has stirred a new level of emotions, good and bad, in many people throughout our community. We cannot expect our school leaders to ignore this fact. Mr. Hamka spoke eloquently and necessarily to promote a peaceful learning atmosphere in his school. I look forward to sending my four children to South under his leadership.

LIBBY ROBINSON
Grosse Pointe Farms

All are safe

Thank you Dr. Gary Niehaus and Mr. Moussa Hamka for your leadership following the Presidential election. We appreciated Mr. Hamka's announcement calling for unity and letting the students know they were safe at school. This was important because there

WORLD:

Continued from page 8A

McCartney was dead and in fact had been for several years. That the world believed this for a while was shocking. Now this type of misinformation is commonplace — and Paul McCartney, as far as I know, is alive and well.

"Your world frightens and confuses me," Cirroc, the unfrozen caveman lawyer played by Phil Hartman, used to say on "Saturday Night Live." This is the world we are navigating today. To borrow Cronkite's well-known parting catchphrase, "And that's the way it is."

Brush is a Grosse Pointe News staff writer.

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HollyFest returns Dec. 1

Fundraiser supports Family Center services

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

The Family Center invites the community to celebrate the holidays, mingle and dine, all while helping support the countless services the organization provides.

HollyFest returns 6 to 11 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1, at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, 788 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Shores, bringing with it a variety of covetable auction items, live music and more.

"This year's HollyFest will feature a tribute to Ron and Diane Strickler, who recently announced their intention to bestow upon the Family Center the single largest gift in all of our 16 years," said Beth Vernon, who co-chairs the event with Anne Prokop.

"Diane and Ron Strickler have pledged a quarter million 'Leadership Gift' to the Family Center," added Family Center Executive Director Debbie Liedel. "This major gift will become part of a challenge initiative in 2017 to allow the Family Center to grow and offer more



From left, Beth Vernon and Anne Prokop, Hollyfest committee co-chairwomen, and Debbie Liedel, executive director of the Family Center.

programs and resources to families and individuals seeking support."

In addition to cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, a sit-down dinner and dessert, HollyFest features a holiday performance by the Grosse Pointe South Tower Belles choir, as well as silent and live auctions.

"We have so many new and exciting items to auction off this year," Vernon said. "Some fun ones are a celebrity chef seven-course catered dinner for six from Chef Bobby Nahra, The HandleBar

Detroit and Atwater Brewery pub crawl, two weeks of horse camp at Black River Farm and Ranch, a Pangborn Design Collection tote and so many more."

Proceeds from HollyFest raise more than one-third of the Family Center's annual budget.

"As a nonprofit that is supported exclusively through community donations, HollyFest is most significant to our existence," Vernon said. "HollyFest is our chance each year to celebrate all

of our success and to express our gratitude to this incredible community that we serve."

Plus it allows guests to "mix and mingle with some of the greatest philanthropically-minded community leaders," Vernon added.

Tickets are \$125 per person and may be purchased online at familycenterweb.org, by calling (313) 432-3832 or mailing to The Family Center, 20090 Morningside Dr., Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236.

Fundraiser benefits Belle Isle Aquarium

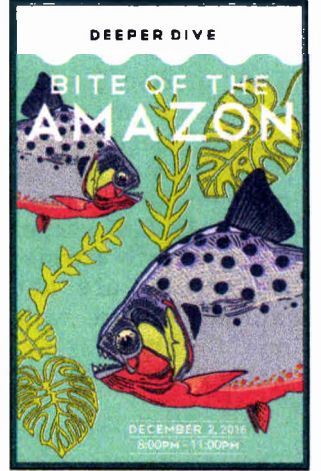
The Belle Isle Conservancy hosts "Deeper Dive: Bite of the Amazon," an event to raise funds for the operation and maintenance of the historic Belle Isle Aquarium, 8 to 11 p.m. Friday, Dec. 2, at the aquarium.

The conservancy invites guests to experience the grand reveal of the latest addition to its aquatic collection, red-bellied piranhas from the Amazon River, which have inspired the Amazon-themed evening.

The event features South American-inspired small bites 8 to 10 p.m., as well as beer, wine and specialty craft spirits.

Last year, the Belle Isle Conservancy garnered so much support the third annual "Light Up the Aquarium" fundraiser sold out. With so many eager supporters, a new event began to take shape. The new "Deeper Dive" series of events will allow more guests to experience the Belle Isle Aquarium after dark.

"We are so excited to launch our new 'Deeper Dive' event series at the aquarium," said Fred Huebner, aquarium general manager. "The con-



cept is to host such an event several times a year to celebrate new exhibits and to bring awareness to the variety of species that we house at the aquarium. This first 'Deeper Dive' event will have an Amazon flare, showcasing our exciting South American collection. Plus, at the event we will release details on a new exhibit coming in early 2017."

"The conservancy is very fortunate to have such a treasure in its possession that provides the metro Detroit community with the chance to discover a variety of aquatic species, up close and personal, right here in the city," said Michele Hodges, president of the Belle Isle Conservancy.

See FUNDS, page 3B



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This exquisite custom home has been appointed with the finest finishes. The home features spectacular water views from most rooms and only minutes from the Country Club of Detroit, Grosse Pointe Yacht Club and Grosse Pointe Farms Pier Park. A beautiful landscape private front yard with a blue stone patio adorn the front of the home. The home boasts a large gourmet kitchen which includes a large island, granite counter tops, high end cabinets and appliances. The amazing great room with custom built in entertainment center and cozy fireplace is a great place for family gatherings. The home features first and second floor master suites with spacious walk in closets and private spa bathrooms. The additional 3 bedrooms are all on-suites with custom closets and private spa baths. The large dining room and paneled den add sophistication while an upstairs laundry room provides convenience. The lower level has a finished rec room and plenty of storage. Designed with uncompromised quality and located in a setting which can not be replicated. This 5 bedroom home is a very special find. **\$1,475,000**



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2B | COMMUNITY

AREA ACTIVITIES

BNI

Business Network International meets 7 a.m. Friday, Nov. 25, at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 20338 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods. Call Ryan Marier at (313) 638-7526.

Ecumenical Breakfast

The Grosse Pointe Men's Ecumenical Breakfast meets 8 a.m. Friday, Nov. 25, at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Reservations are not required; all are welcome. Breakfast is \$7. Call (313) 882-5330.

Blood drive

The American Red Cross has planned several blood drives. To register for any of the following, visit redcrossblood.org.

◆ 7:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Friday, Nov. 25, St. John Hospital & Medical Center, 22101 Moross,

Detroit.

◆ 1 to 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 25, Our Lady of Hope Catholic Church, 28301 Little Mack, St. Clair Shores.

◆ 1:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 29, Pierce Middle School, 15430 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Park.

Libraries

Central branch, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms (313) 343-2074

◆ 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Nov. 25, Santa Claus Parade warming station, with face painting and door prizes.

Ewald branch, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Park (313) 821-8830

◆ 6 p.m. Monday, Nov. 28, Family Movie Night, featuring "Minions."

Woods branch, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods (313) 343-2072

◆ 1 to 3 p.m. Friday, Nov. 25, Santa Claus Parade warming station, with face painting and

door prizes.

◆ 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 29, Tuesday Night at the Movies, featuring "Cafe Society," starring Steve Carell, Jesse Eisenberg and Blake Lively.

Toastmasters

Northeastern Toastmasters meets 7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 28, at the Mary Ellen Stempfle University Center, 19305 Vernier, Harper Woods. Call Wendy Bradley at (313) 884-1184 or Ron or Marcia Pikelek at (313) 884-4201.

Beaumont

Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe, 468 Cadieux, City of Grosse Pointe, welcomes members of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra noon Tuesday, Nov. 29, for an Arts of the Spirit concert in the hospital's lobby.

SOC

Services for Older Citizens, 158 Ridge, Grosse Pointe Farms, offers a painting program, during which participants paint a snowman in the woods, 1 to 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 30. Cost is \$20. Advanced registration is required, but painting experience isn't. Participation maxes out at 10. Call (313) 882-9600.

SJP volunteers honored

Eight volunteers were recognized for their dedication to St. John Providence, its hospitals, services and fundraising events. They were honored as distinguished volunteers by the Greater Detroit Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals at the 25th annual National Philanthropy Day Dinner Nov. 10. Distinguished volunteers are advocates, leaders and mentors whose passion for their respective causes inspires philanthropic action and community involvement in southeast Michigan.

Among the winners was City of Grosse Pointe resident Courtenay Kotas, who was recruited to the SJP "Hospice Walk With Me Event" committee in 2012. She co-chaired the event for two years. Kotas possesses an enthusiastic nature, persistence and a focus on growing the event and raising funds for hospice and palliative care programs.

Grosse Pointe Shores residents Edward Schervish M.D., and Rhonda Schervish also were honored. The couple are dedicated fundraisers for the St. John Guild and St. John



Edward Schervish M.D., and Rhonda Schervish.

Hospital & Medical Center. Edward Schervish has contributed many hours on the Guild Board of Directors. He brought the medical staff and guild together to create an annual golf fundraiser and has chaired the event 11 years. He and his committee have made this a successful, prestigious event and his leadership is valued.

Rhonda Schervish began volunteering as soon as she became a guild member. She assisted with the joint fundraiser Run for a Reason, which she now chairs. Her ideas, organizational skills and charisma have elevated the event beyond expectation.

Other distinguished



Courtenay Kotas

volunteers include:

- ◆ Karen Gabrys, of Plymouth,
- ◆ Jimmie Garland, of Adrian,
- ◆ Maryann Muller, of Onsted,
- ◆ Robert Riccardi M.D., of Warwick, R.I. and
- ◆ Christa Williams, of Northville.

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The Family Center

ASK EXPERTS articles

ASK THE EXPERTS
By Marian Battersby

Find time to include seniors

Q: I often feel bad for not including my elderly father in our family meals. So many things intervened and I feel overwhelmed at the prospect of coordinating these events. How can I make this happen?

A: You are not alone with your frustration. A recent survey by Home Instead Inc., in North America, indicated 50 percent of those surveyed do not have enough sit-down dinners with their senior relatives. This is true even when the senior lives within 5 miles.

The biggest obstacles were conflicting schedules (52 percent) and time constraints (40 percent). Most families today are busy juggling children, jobs and caregiving responsibilities.

Making the effort can be rewarding to all. Eating with multigenerational family members is a good way to reconnect and get to know each other better. Younger family members build stronger bonds with older family members. Senior relatives can share life experiences to enrich those present.

An added benefit is seniors eat better when eating with others. It is not what is on the plate, but who is at the table.

Family dinners can be a team effort. Invite your senior to pick out a recipe, have a grandchild provide rides to and from their home. Involve seniors and grandchildren in the preparation of the meal.

Let your senior sit in a

place where they can participate in conversations. Encourage children to share something special or address an experience as a family.

To assist families in this worthy endeavor, Home Instead Inc., has developed a website with a multitude of topics. Conversation starters, activity suggestions and meal-planning guides are available. Traditional family recipes developed by Food Network celebrity chef Melissa d'Arabian are made simple and delicious for all to enjoy.

To access all of these aids, visit sundaydinnerpledge.com. Make family dinners fun.

Marian Battersby is the franchise owner of Home Instead Senior Care, an accredited non-medical home care agency in Grosse Pointe Woods. She is a Certified Dementia Practitioner. Battersby can be reached at (313) 647-9682. Home Instead Senior Care is a member of the Family Center's Association of Professionals.

The Family Center serves as the community's hub for information, resources and referral for families, individuals and professionals. Its mission is to serve the community through programs and resources vital to today's families. As a non-profit organization, it is completely supported by community donations. All gifts are tax-deductible. To volunteer or contribute, visit familycenterweb.org, call (313) 432-3832, email info@familycenterweb.org or write to: The Family Center, 20090 Morningside Drive, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236.

FUNDS:

Continued from page 1B

"And, it's especially fulfilling that the aquarium serves as a learning space for Detroit and Hamtramck public school students. The aquarium is such an important place to so many in the community, across many generations, and introducing 'Deeper Dive' is our opportunity to work together to keep the aquarium up and running for all of us to enjoy for years to come. The 'Deeper Dive' event series will provide even the most seasoned aquarium goers with a new, exciting and intimate perspective of this beautiful, historic building and the animals that call it home."

Advance tickets for "Deeper Dive: Bite of the Amazon" are \$40 for general admission, which includes two drink tickets. VIP admission costs \$100 and includes a 7:30 p.m. champagne preview and open bar privileges during the duration of the event. General admission is \$50 at the door; VIP tickets must be purchased in advance. Additional drink tickets will be available for purchase. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit belleisleconservancy.org/deeperdive.

GP Yacht Club honors 50-year members

The Grosse Pointe Yacht Club is honoring two past commodores for 50 years of membership. As is tradition, 50-year members are acknowledged each year at the club's annual meeting in November. This year's honorees are Past Commodore Sloane Barbour Jr. and Past Commodore Tymon Totte D.D.S.

Building lifelong friendships and establishing family traditions top the list of reasons they are committed to the club. It was because of family Totte first came to the club. His uncle, John R. Wilt, with whom Totte lived for several years, was a member and served as commodore in 1961. Totte's mother-in-law also was a member.

"I was sort of born here," he said.

In 1966, Totte became a junior member of the club.

"My three children were raised here," he said, recalling days of summer camp, tennis and bowling. Totte also is an active boater and enjoys the fine dining offered at the club. "My social life developed here and I've associated with some tremendous people."

It was a friend, C.A. "Bud" Griener, who intro-

duced Barbour to the club.

"He came into my place of business and tells me I need to join the yacht club," Barbour said. "I told him I could never afford the club. He told me I couldn't afford not to."

Fifty years later, Barbour said, "I can't imagine my life without the yacht club. It's my home away from home."

One of the highlights of membership for Barbour is the active sailing program. Barbour enjoys participating in the club's annual regatta every July and the Bluenose Regatta in September. He also often serves as chairman for these races. Barbour also is very proud of the club's junior sailing program for children and said he was instrumental in securing GPYC employee Wally Cross as head of the club's sailing program. Cross brings with him 30 years of professional sailing experience and a fresh perspective to generate excitement for the sport by introducing Stadium Sailing to the community.

While Totte and Barbour both enjoy boating activities at the club, many members join for the social benefits — taking their families to Mother's Day brunch,



From left are Past Commodore Sloane Barbour, GPYC member Bill Champion and Past Commodore Kevin Granger.

swimming in the pool with views of Lake St. Clair and participating in holiday events. The club also continues to make improvements to the property — such as the planned construction of a family recreation center and marine recreation center at the southeast end of the harbor.

In addition to Totte and Barbour, 12 GPYC members already have exceeded the 50-year membership mark and were honored at the



Past Commodore and Mrs. Tymon Totte D.D.S.

annual meeting in previous years. They are Mary Lundell, John H. Williams M.D., Mary Brown, Lucy Milner, Jere McBride, Peggy Touscany, Harvey C. Fruehauf Jr., Past Commodore William D. Plante, Roland J. Rinke, Edgar T. Rinke Jr., Manuel J. Moroun and Thomas A. Cracchiolo.

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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.

Walter Joseph Short

Former Grosse Pointe City resident Walter Joseph "Bud" Short, 76, passed away peacefully Wednesday, Nov. 16, 2016, in Scottsdale, Ariz.

Bud was born March 7, 1940, at Penrose Hospital in Colorado Springs, Colo., to Fredrick and Frances "Pink" Short. He attended Cheyenne Mountain High School and earned a bachelor's degree in business from Colorado State University. He earned a Master of Business Administration degree in retailing from New York University.

Upon graduation, Bud worked as a buyer at Kaufman's department store in Colorado Springs. He went on to co-found the women's clothing stores, Scots Ltd. and Carousel, and he later owned and managed the Mark Cross store at the Broadmoor Hotel. His entrepreneurship extended to restaurant ownership and furniture manufacturing.

In the 1990s, Bud began a second career in academia as a professor in the PGA golf management program at Ferris State University in Big Rapids. In 1996, he and his wife founded the educational publishing company The Short Books. They sold the business in 2001 and retired to Scottsdale.

Above all, Bud was a family man. He met his first wife, Jeannette Cheley in Denver. Their families had been neighbors and a romance bloomed. They had two children, Cara and Andy. After his wife's passing, he married his high-school sweetheart, Loretta Jewett, and became stepfather to Alicia and Joe Rosenthal. He was a deeply devoted husband and father to his children and nine grandchildren.

He loved the American West and often was found sporting shiny cowboy boots and perfectly pressed Wrangler jeans. As a child, he hiked to a nearby ranch and talked the owner into giving him a horse named Apache in exchange for taking care of the animal. He was a natural athlete who captained his high school hockey team. Later in life, he was an avid tennis player, skeet shooter, fly fisherman and golfer.

Bud was an unwavering pillar of dignity, honesty, kindness and strength.

Bud is survived by Andy and Jill Short and their children, Andrew and Katie; Cara and Bob Magers and their children, Anabel and Sara; Alicia Bonahoom and her children, Claire, Joe and Alex; Joe and Karri Rosenthal and their children, Jonah and Livia; brother, Bill (Jean) and numerous nieces and nephews.

A funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 10, 2016, at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse

Pointe Farms.

Donations may be made to Hospice of the Valley at hov.org.

Robert J. Klempay

Robert J. Klempay, 64, died unexpectedly Friday, Nov. 11, 2016, while on vacation at his winter home in Venice, Fla.

He was born Sept. 2, 1952, in Detroit, the third of six sons, of Michael and Margaret Klempay. Bob grew up in Harper Woods and was a member of the Charter Class of 1970, the first graduating class, at Grosse Pointe North High School.

He entered the police academy April 1978. He was a member of the Harper Woods Police Department and served as a patrolman from 1978 until 2002 when he was forced to take a medical retirement. Shortly after Bob retired, he became "Papa" to his newborn granddaughter, Serina. They were inseparable.

Bob was a strong-willed person, opinionated and brutally honest. You always knew where you stood with him. But the other side of Bob was a man who loved his family, was quick to smile and crack a joke. His family described him as sentimental, caring, easy-going and generous. A quick goodbye could turn into a 40-minute conversation because he had the gift of gab. To have known him was to love him.

His parents instilled a strong work ethic in their six boys and Bob passed this trait on to his son and daughter. Bob's career with the Harper Woods Police Department was important to him. He wore badge No. 143 with the same pride he had for his family and the life he lived. Bob's hobbies included traveling, particularly trips to Las Vegas and cruising the Caribbean. He enjoyed art and computer games. He tried to embrace technology, but often found himself infuriated to the point of being comical when technology didn't work for him. He had a vast library of videos and eclectic music.

Bob is survived by his wife, Karen; their daughter, Kristin Schram (William); granddaughter, Serina; siblings, Michael (Sandy), George (Peggy), Tom (the late Renee), Joe (Laurie Lancaster) and Steve; eight nieces and nephews and five grandnieces and grandnephews.

He was predeceased by his beloved son, Keith in 2001.

A funeral Mass was celebrated Nov. 17 at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, St. Clair Shores, followed by interment in White Chapel Memorial Cemetery, Troy.

Donations may be made to Grosse Pointe Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge 102, 23210 Masonic, St. Clair Shores, MI 48082.

Share a memory at ahpeters.com.

Eugene G. O'Brien

Eugene "Ginks" O'Brien, 94, of Grosse Pointe, passed away peacefully at home Tuesday, Nov. 15, 2016, with his wife by his side.

He was born July 3, 1922, in Grosse Pointe, to Eugene and Florence (nee Calkins) O'Brien, and graduated from Grosse Pointe High School in 1940. He was a member of the Detroit Boat Club heavyweight four-man rowing crew that won the U.S. National Championship. The team was selected for the 1940 Olympics, which never took place because of World War II. Ginks attended the University of Michigan two years, where he was a member of Delta Kappa Epsilon, and then proudly served in the U.S. Marine Corps as a pilot in the Pacific during the closing years of World War II.

Ginks began his career as an independent insurance agent upon his return from the war, spending more than 30 years with Bosquett & Co. He married Eleanor Eckert in 1948 and the two were fortunate to celebrate 68 years together. He was a member of the Detroit Boat Club, Detroit Athletic Club, Bayview Yacht Club, Grosse Pointe Senior Men's Club, Magnificent Old Geezers, past president of the Detroit Racquet Club, past commodore of Grosse Pointe Boat Club and an elder of Grosse Pointe Memorial Church.

He was a lifetime boater, avid golfer, accomplished squash and racquets player and enjoyed singing and photography. He will be remembered for his great sense of humor, Saturday errands with his grandchildren in his Mustang convertible, annual vacations at the beach in Grand Haven and the genuine interest and involvement in his children's and grandchildren's lives.

Ginks is survived by his wife, Eleanor; children, John O'Brien (Dianne), Julie Russ (Peter) and daughter-in-law, Rachel O'Brien Melvin; grandchildren, Neely Green (Corbin), Jean Bean (Chris), Devin O'Brien, Brien Morrell (Amanda), Lauren Jessen (Jeff), P.J. Russ and Katie Chan (Brandon); great-grandchildren, Connor Morrell and Eleanor, Joe and Jack Green.

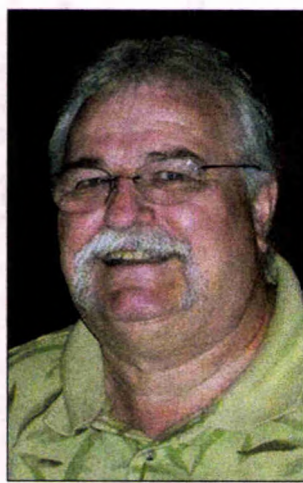
He was predeceased by his son, Joseph William O'Brien; grandson, Patrick Warren O'Brien; sisters, Patricia O'Maley and Marjory Morin and brother, Joseph William O'Brien II.

A memorial service will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 26, at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Friends of Detroit Rowing, 27551 Rackham Drive, Lathrup Village, MI 48076.



Walter Joseph Short



Robert J. Klempay



Eugene G. O'Brien



Vincent J. Gallant M.D.

Vincent J. Gallant M.D.

Vincent J. Gallant M.D., passed away peacefully Friday, June 24, 2016.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Ellen; children, Vincent Jr., Tom, John, Carol LaVasseur and Elizabeth Grundy; grandchildren, Lauren, Elise, Marne, Quinn, Ava, Jack, Kayla, Bella and Drew Gallant, Randall LaVasseur Jr. and Vaughan IV, Mary, Thomas and James Grundy.

Vincent was born Aug. 3, 1928, in Lawrence, Mass., the eldest of eight children. He graduated from Boston College in 1949 with a Bachelor of Science degree in biology and was awarded a teaching fellowship at St. Louis University teaching biochemistry to nursing students. In 1950, he was admitted to the University of Laval Medical School in Quebec, Canada, and in 1955, earned a medical degree.

Vincent moved to Detroit and completed his first year as a resident in general surgery at Henry Ford Hospital. In June 1956, he entered the U.S. Army Medical Corps as a captain and general surgeon. In 1961, he completed his residency at Harper Hospital in Detroit and began a general surgery private practice. As a surgeon, he helped train surgical residents and taught at Wayne State University medical school. He continued to work as a surgeon at Harper Hospital until his retirement at 68.

During the course of his career, Vincent was a surgeon for the Detroit Police Department from 1962 to 1982. He also was the medical director for the Canadian National Railroad subsidiary Grand Trunk Western Railroad from 1976 to 1996 and he consulted often as a medical defense witness. He was president of the Detroit Academy of Surgery, a fellow of the American College of Surgeons, a member of the American Medical Association, Michigan State and Wayne County medical societies as well as a member of numerous other surgical societies.

A memorial Mass will be celebrated at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 26, 2016, at St. Lucy Catholic Church, 23401 E. Jefferson, St. Clair Shores, MI 48080.



Cynthia Brooks

Cynthia Brooks

Cynthia Knox Weir Stephens Brooks, known to her family and friends as Cynner, died peacefully Saturday, Nov. 5, 2016, at her home in Siesta Key, Fla., after battling breast cancer for many years. She was 81.

Born Feb. 19, 1935, in Washington, Pa., Cynthia was the daughter of Libby and Bus Weir. She was proud of her independent, resourceful and tough Scotch-Irish heritage and of being a Daughter of the American Revolution.

In a time when not many women obtained higher education, Cynthia attended Wilson College two years, then transferred to the University of Michigan. There she earned a bachelor's degree in U.S. history and also was a member of Alpha Phi sorority. She then earned a master's degree in education from Wayne State University while working in retail and raising two toddlers. For the next 32 years she was a special education teacher at Avalon Elementary School in St. Clair Shores.

In 1970, she married Charles Brooks and moved her family to Grosse Pointe, where she lived the next 27 years. She raised her sons there and was active in the community and the Unitarian Church.

Cynthia was a warm and energetic person who was a great organizer. In 1976 she formed the Grosse Pointe Park Civic Association to celebrate the American Bicentennial with a Fourth of July parade which became an annual tradition. Upon retiring to Siesta Key in 1997, she founded the Sarasota Society of Portrait Artists. She excelled at creating true-to-life portraits and led the group for many years.

Cynthia was a lively, loving, joyful person who maintained lifelong friendships with people from all aspects of her life going back to elementary school in Detroit. She loved playing bridge with her many friends, walking on the beach early in the morning, going to the movies, shopping and decorating and doting on her grandchildren.

She was predeceased by her first husband, Ken Stephens and second husband, Charles Brooks.



Maria Deppisch

Cynthia is survived by her sons, Scott Stephens, Richard Stephens and John Brooks; daughters-in-law, Dhuane Gebauer Stephens and Ofelia Sobalvarro Brooks, and grandchildren, Tucker and Connor Stephens and Victoria, Thomas and Oliver Brooks.

A private memorial service will be held in Siesta Key.

Donations may be made in Cynthia's honor to the Florida Cancer Specialists Foundation at foundation.flcancer.com/ CynthiaBrooks.

Maria Deppisch

Maria Deppisch, 93, died peacefully Tuesday, Nov. 15, 2016, at her daughter's house in Kapaa, Hawaii.

She was born to Johann and Johanna Schraml and was the oldest of six children. She emigrated from Germany in 1955 with her husband, Kurt Deppisch and daughter. Maria lived on Stanhope in Grosse Pointe Woods 43 years, where she was known as Oma and loved by her neighbors.

Maria was an avid knitter, as everyone who was lucky enough to receive one of her kitchen towels knows. She derived much pleasure sharing her creations with family, neighbors, friends and sometimes even strangers. Her caring and friendly spirit created many long-lasting friendships.

Maria also was a passionate gardener. Her backyard contained flowers and plants from all over the world, as she traveled extensively and always brought back a clipping to add to her collection. Along with gardening, Maria also enjoyed baking, especially at Christmas. She would start baking in November to get all the different cookies done and ready to pass out in time. Her gingerbread men were the favorite of many.

Maria is survived by her daughter, Marga Goosen (Marvin); grandchildren, Sam Goosen and Lori Hauler (Steve) and great-grandchildren, Sarah and Andrew Hauler and Maria Goosen.

A celebration of Maria's life will be held in the spring for friends and family.

See OBITUARIES, page 7B

OBITUARIES:

Continued from page 6B

Walter C. Therssen

Walter C. Therssen, 92, died Wednesday, Nov. 16, 2016. He was a veteran of World War II.

He was the dedicated and beloved husband of Theodosia Barker Therssen; loving father of Laura Sanford (the late Robert), Victoria Therssen, Claudia Koziarski, Stephanie Therssen Joy and Leslie Kelly and father-in-law of Gary. He also is survived by his grandchildren, Jennifer (Judy), Susan, Walter Adam (Jillian), Christina (Erik), Michelle, Lauren (Matthew), Andrew (Jessica), Christopher and Alexandra; great-grandchildren, Natalie, Chadwick, Zoe, Ryan, Emilia, Cameron and Gabrielle and many wonderful friends.

A private funeral Mass was celebrated.

Donations may be made to Father Solanus Casey Center, 1820 Mt. Elliot, Detroit, MI 48207.

Eilleen Cross Trewartha

Former Grosse Pointe resident Eilleen Cross Trewartha, 74, died Monday, Oct. 17, 2016, in Greenville, S.C., from complications of lung cancer. She had been living in Seneca, S.C.

She was born Oct. 20, 1941, in Grosse Pointe to Dr. Harold and Loretta Cross and graduated from Grosse Pointe High School in 1959. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from the University of Detroit and a Master of Science degree from Georgia State University. She also earned coaching certification from Hudson Institute.

When she lived in Atlanta, Ga., Eilleen worked as a career and life coach and enjoyed helping people find a passion that also could become a career. While living in Seneca, she actively volunteered in the community, including serving on committees and boards at St. Paul the Apostle Church and Habitat for Humanity.

Eilleen was an accomplished swimmer invited to the 1960 Nationals to try out for the Olympics. She loved her book club, neighborhood social groups and Bible study.

Eilleen is survived by her husband, Jim Trewartha; daughter, Kelly Casey (Kerry); son, Jeff Trewartha and grandchildren, Sully and Teddy Casey. She also is survived by her sisters, Kathy Schroeder (Gene) and Maureen Bennett and brother, Kevin Cross (Barbara).

Donations may be made to Oconee County Habitat for Humanity, P.O. Box 685, Seneca, SC 29679.



Walter C. Therssen



Eilleen Cross Trewartha



Barbara Fruehauf Bristol



Dorothy Ann McDonald

Barbara Fruehauf Bristol

Barbara Fruehauf Bristol, 82, passed away Saturday, Nov. 5, 2016.

Barbara was a devoted Christian, loving mother, grandmother and wife of 57 years. She will be dearly missed by her husband, family and friends.

Barbara was born March 28, 1934, to Mr. and Mrs. Harvey C. Fruehauf in Grosse Pointe Park. Barbara was predeceased by her parents, Harvey C. Fruehauf and Angela S. (nee Peck) Fruehauf and sister, Ann F. Bowman.

She is survived by her husband, David A. Bristol; son, David A. Bristol Jr.; daughter-in-law, Marcelite Baria Bristol; granddaughters, Isabelle and Louisa; brother, Harvey C. Fruehauf Jr.; sister-in-law, Susanne M. Fruehauf and 10 nieces and nephews and their families.

A funeral service was held Nov. 19 at the West Congregational Church in Peabody, Mass.

Donations may be made to the Windrush Farm at windrushfarm.org; West Congregational Church, 27 Johnson St., Peabody, MA 01960 or a charity of the donor's choice. Share a memory at ccbfuneral.com.

Dorothy Ann McDonald

Dorothy Ann McDonald, 87, wife of Tom, passed away Tuesday, Sept. 20, 2016.

She was her class valedictorian at St. Mary's of Redford. She earned a bachelor's degree in science at Marygrove College and a master's degree from Wayne State University. She worked as a senior medical technologist before creating a life for herself as a full-time homemaker.

Dorothy met Tom at a dance and continued her love of dancing as a member of the Villagers. She and Tom were married 59 years. She was the proud mother of five sons, all of them graduates of the University of Michigan.

Dorothy was an active member of Our Lady Star of the Sea and the Rosary Altar Society.

Dorothy is survived by her husband, Thomas; sons, Thomas (Cindy), Martin, James (Debbie), Michael (Sherrill) and



Dolores Shaheen

Patrick (Nancy). She also is survived by many grandchildren.

A funeral Mass was celebrated Sept. 24 at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church.

Donations may be made to the IHM sisters, 610 W. Elm Ave., Monroe MI 48162 or The Capuchins at thecapuchins.org.

Dolores Helen Stedman Shaheen

Former Grosse Pointe resident Dolores Helen Stedman Shaheen, 88, died Thursday, Nov. 10, 2016, in Wyckoff, N.J.

She was born Jan. 16, 1928, in Buffalo, N.Y., to Ray and Mary Rose Stedman and attended St. Mary's Academy in Monroe. She was employed with the Michigan Opera Theatre many years.

Dolores was interested in music and theater. She was a former director for the Judelairens, event organizer for Tuesday Musicale, performer and vocal director with the Grosse Pointe Theatre and a director for Elan Swingers. She also volunteered at Bon Secours Hospital.

Dolores is survived by her children, Anne Shaheen, Julie Williams (Thomas), Therese Shaheen (Lawrence DiRita), Molly Lindberg (Steven), John Shaheen (LeeAnne), Gerard Shaheen, Joseph Shaheen (Joan) and Paul Shaheen; 26 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. She also is survived by her sisters, Shirley Plante and Jane Handorf.

She was predeceased by her first husband, Joseph Shaheen and second husband, Theodore Zberanowski.

A funeral Mass was celebrated Nov. 19 at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Pasta aplenty

St. Vincent de Paul-St. Ambrose conference held its annual spaghetti dinner fundraiser Friday, Nov. 11, at the St. Ambrose Parish Ark. More than 200 people came out for the different kinds of pasta, bread sticks, salad and desserts.



Delaney Jackson, a ninth-grader at Grosse Pointe South High School, earned service hours for confirmation by volunteering at the fundraiser.

PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT



Mary Birnbryer hands Carina Jensen a plate of pasta in the serving line while sisters Evelyn and Sydney Jensen wait their turn.



Three-year-old Eleanor Rennpage and her 5-year-old brother, Henry Rennpage, enjoy their spaghetti dinner. The Rennpage family sponsored this year's St. Vincent de Paul spaghetti dinner fundraiser.

HOLLYFEST



6:30 - 11:00pm Thursday, December 1st, 2016
Grosse Pointe Yacht Club

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8B | CHURCHES

PASTOR'S CORNER By Kent Commer

Do I have to love our new president?

Note: This article was penned prior to the results of the Nov. 8 presidential election, so it is not candidate-specific.

Are we justified in detesting our newly-elected President if we didn't support or vote for them? What if their actions, pronouncements, morals, political stances are opposite to what we believe? What if we're certain they will take our country, econ-

omy and relations with other countries to ruin or destruction?

In that case, can I despise them even just a little bit? Or at least ignore them as much as possible? Or pray God will strike them down?

I'm afraid there's no biblical basis for indulging any of these questions. In the Old Testament, we're counseled "that thou shalt not hate thy brother in thy heart: thou shalt not

avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself" (Leviticus 19:17-18). Jesus follows through on this verse in the New Testament when he answered a challenging question from a lawyer as to which was the greatest of the commandments. Jesus refers to the First Commandment to "love the Lord thy God with all thy heart ... soul

and ... mind" and then adds that the Second Commandment "is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." He concludes by stating "on these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets" (see Matthew 22:35-40).

Furthermore, in the Apostle Paul's New Testament epistle to Timothy, we're exhorted that "supplications, prayers, intercessions and giving of thanks, be

made for all men; for kings and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour" (I Timothy: 1-3).

So, loving our new President as we love ourselves, stipulates we do love ourselves and we feel God's unconditional love for our welfare. By extension, we can trust in

God's love to bring about the divine guidance for all our government officials and deliver us from the fears and false opinions that seem so aggravating.

In summary, the answer to the title question is "yes," because this proactive stance will help bring the divine blessings and protection upon us.

Commer is a member of the local Christian Science congregation.

CHURCH EVENTS

Memorial
Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, and its Parish Life Council host the annual Sandwiches at Memorial luncheon following the 10:30 a.m. worship service Sunday, Nov. 27. Cost is \$5 per person, \$15 per family. Register by emailing Michael Kopasz at mkopasz@lear.com or calling the church at (313) 882-5330.

St. Paul on the Lake
St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, presents "An Advent Perspective," 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 6, and 9 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 7. Call (313) 885-8855.

The church also presents "Walk in the Light," a Christmas cantata by Lani Smith, 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10, featuring its choirs. A dessert reception follows and a free will offering is collected. Suggested donations are \$10 per person, \$20 per family. Proceeds benefit

the missionary efforts of the Haiti and Africa Relief Team, or HART.

Unitarian
Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church, 17150 Maumee, City of Grosse Pointe, presents Beyond the Orchestra Pit, a concert showcasing members of the Michigan Opera Theatre Orchestra, at 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4. The main work is Schubert's "Octet in F Major." Cost is \$25 at the door, \$20 in advance, \$10 for students. Call (248) 474-8930 or email chambermusic@scarabclub.org.

Woods Presbyterian
Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church, 19950 Mack, presents a Christmas Cantata, featuring Marc-Antoine Charpentier's "In nativitate Domini Nostri Jesu Christi canticum," 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 11. Admission is free; the public is welcome. Call (313) 886-4301.

First English
First English Evangelical Lutheran Church, 800 Vernier, Grosse Pointe Woods, hosts its 36th annual Carol-a-Long 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4, in the Luther Center. Participants are invited to join in singing Christmas carols, as well as sacred and secular songs of the season with the Good News Singers, directed by Robert Foster. Good News Ringers assist in ringing in the Christmas season. The free event includes self-guided tours of more than 45 decorated Christmas trees, a visit from Santa, punch and cookies.

The church presents its third annual Women's Advent Candlelight Service 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 5, featuring an evening reflection and celebration of women. The service is followed by a social hour in the lounge with light refreshments. Attendees also may take self-guided tours of the decorated Christmas trees throughout the facility. All community women are invited. Call (313) 884-5040.

Grosse Pointe Congregational Church hosts Tuesday Printmakers Art Exhibition

The Tuesday Printmakers, artists who work at Grosse Pointe Congregational Church in the lower level art rooms, exhibit their graphic art in the church lounge through Tuesday, Jan. 3.

The works include examples of Japanese woodblock, linocut, intaglio and monotype in oil

or watercolor. The exhibition is open to the public 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday. A reception for the artists, also open to the public, takes place 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 30. Light refreshments will be served.

Artists in the exhibition include Grosse Pointe res-

idents Joan Albert, Linda Allen, Deborah Maiale, Kathleen McNamee, Cindy Sommerville, Mary Stebbins Taitt, Nobuko Yamasaki and Lori Zurvalec.

For more information, contact Tamm Whitty, director of the arts ministry, at tammwhitty@gmail.com.

DAR donation

A Nov. 13 reception took place at 375 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms — the building set to become home to the administrative offices, archives and resource center of the Grosse Pointe Historical Society.

The Louisa St. Clair Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution presented a check for \$50,000 to create the required environment for preservation and protection of the collections of GPHS. This is a lead gift in the campaign to raise funds to makeover the building for its new use as a permanent home for GPHS.

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9:30 a.m. - Bible Study
10:45 a.m. - Sunday School
MONDAY
7 p.m. - Worship Service
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11:00 a.m. - Annual Festival of Lessons and Music for Advent
Thursdays in Advent, Dec. 1, 8, 15
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Beautiful Beginnings

ANNIVERSARY

Jack and Janet Ford

Grosse Pointe Woods residents Jack and Lesley Janet Ford celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in April at a gathering with their children, Jane Ellis (Dale) and Brian Ford (Elizabeth) and grandchildren, Amanda and Justin.

Jack and Janet married April 28, 1956, at Christ Church in New Malden, Surrey, England. Janet moved from her home in England to raise their family in Grosse Pointe where Jack was a teacher and counselor for the Grosse Pointe Public School System. When family asked what their secret is to a happy marriage, they replied "holding hands."



Above, Jack and Janet Ford celebrating 60 years of marriage.

Right, Janet and Jack Ford on their wedding day in 1956.



WEDDING

Green-Rader

Scott David Green and Lindsay Elizabeth Rader were married Aug. 20, 2016.

The bride is the daughter of Liz and Bob Rader of Grosse Pointe Woods. The groom is the son of Gail and Michael Green of Baltimore, Md.

The Rev. Dr. David Dieter officiated at the wedding followed by a reception, both at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club.

The bride wore a custom Vera Wang gown with a chapel-length veil and carried a bouquet of white hydrangea, cream and white roses with white cremones and ivy.

Mara Georgouses, of New York City, served as her friend's maid of honor. Bridesmaids were the brides friends, Cecily Jaros of San Francisco; Laura Patek of Boston; the bride's cousin, Kelly Smith of Eaton Rapids; and the groom's sister, Laura Green Kendal of Baltimore.

They wore Amsale New York dresses in a style of their choosing in blush silk crinkle chiffon. Each carried a bouquet of white hydrangea and white cushion mums hand tied with a champagne ribbon.

The groom's friend, Charles Whitman of Baltimore, served as best man. Groomsmen were the groom's friends, Andy Barr of Atlanta, Ga., and Joe Pike, of Chicago; Bob Rader, the bride's brother of Detroit and Adam Kendal, the groom's brother-in-law, of Baltimore. Ushers were the groom's friends, Wes McGowan of Chicago; Tom Whelley of Philadelphia and David Baum of Baltimore.

Ellie Wagner, the bride's cousin of Miami Beach, Fla., was the flowergirl.

The bride's mother wore a St. John Collection Kiklos sleeveless knit gown in alabaster/gold with a jewel neckline, fitted bodice and flared pleated skirt. The groom's mother wore a black Halston Heritage Jacquard sleeveless cocktail dress.

A string quartet played throughout the service. Readers were Bob Wagner, the bride's uncle, and Andy Goldner, the groom's uncle.

Following the ceremony, a cocktail hour was held under a tent on the east lawn of the yacht club, which was adorned in white voile, canopy twinkle lights and crystal chandeliers for the occasion. Guests moved to the grand ballroom of the club for dinner and then returned outside to the tent for dancing, cocktails and dessert.

The bride, a 2007 Grosse Pointe North High School graduate, earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics and political science from the University of Michigan and currently is pursuing an MBA from The Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University. She is an executive compensation consultant at Willis Towers Watson in Chicago.

The groom earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science from the University of Michigan and a juris doctor degree from DePaul University College of Law. He is an associate at Childress, Loucks & Plunkett in Chicago.

The couple honeymooned in Bali, Indonesia and reside in Chicago.



Mr. & Mrs. Scott Green

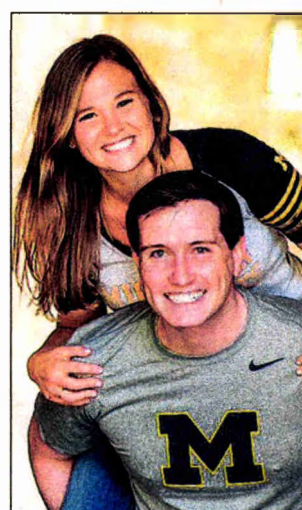
ENGAGEMENT

Weinberg-Dixon

Joseph and Debra Weinberg of Owings Mills, Md., announce the engagement of their daughter, Dani Weinberg, to A.J. Dixon, son of John and Eileen Dixon of Grosse Pointe Farms. Miss Weinberg earned Bachelor of Arts degrees in biopsychology, cognition and neuroscience and political science from the University of Michigan in 2012. She also earned a juris doctor degree from U of M in 2016. She is an attorney with Greenberg Traurig in Chicago.

Mr. Dixon earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from U of M in 2009 and a juris doctor degree in 2014 from U of M. He is an attorney with Winston & Strawn in Chicago.

A fall 2017 wedding is planned.



Dani Weinberg and A.J. Dixon

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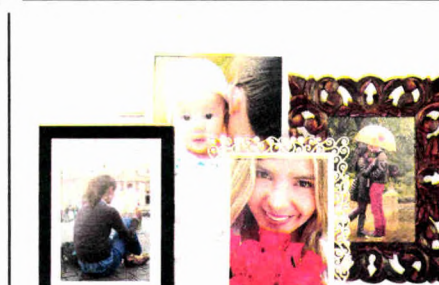
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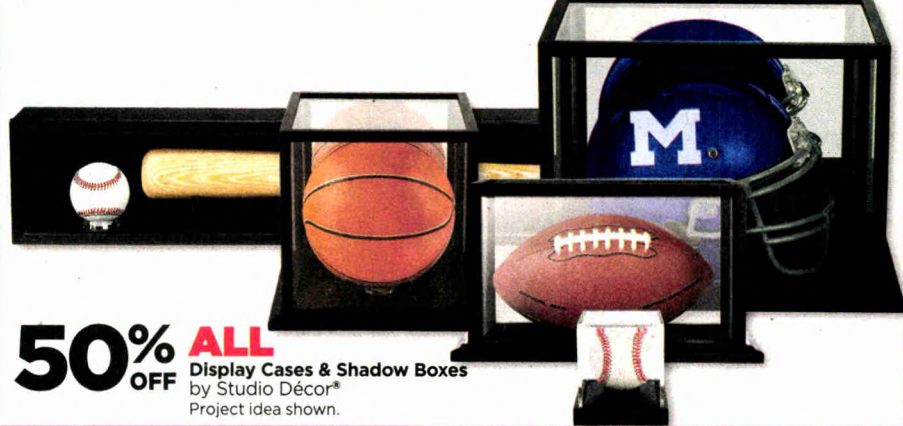


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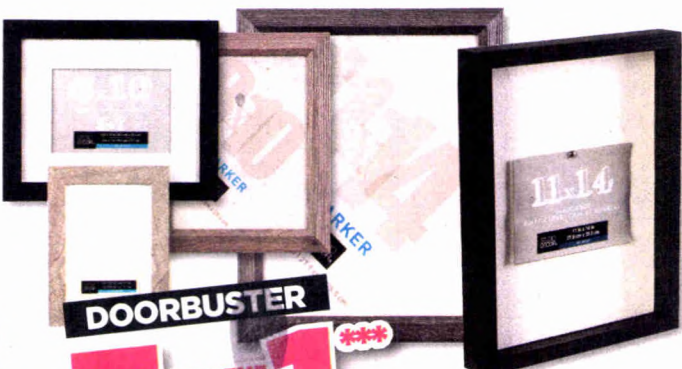
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SPORTS

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SWIMMING

Villani gets top 3

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

Grosse Pointe North junior Sam Villani showed why she was the MVP of the Macomb Area Conference Red Division League Meet this season by earning All-State in last weekend's Division 2 state championship meet at Eastern Michigan University.

Villani was third in the 100-yard backstroke with a time of 56.41 and sixth in the 100-yard freestyle with a time of 53.54 to earn 29 points for the team.

She was also a part of the 200-yard medley relay which just finished out of All-State consideration as they took 10th with a time of 1:50.98. Joining Villani in the medley relay were Olivia Peruzzi, Julia Gehlert and Hannah Mattes.

The medley relay team moved up one spot in the finals after finishing 11th in the preliminaries.

Villani teamed with Alyssa Carlino, Gehlert



PHOTO COURTESY OF GUY GEHLERT

North state finalists, from left, Olivia Peruzzi, Julia Gehlert, Hannah Mattes, Sam Villani and Alyssa Carlino.

and Peruzzi to finish 19th with a time of 3:45.92.

Villani had a chance to take runner-up in the backstroke. Amelia Kinnard of Dexter had a time of 56.28, which was just .13 ahead of Villani.

Isabelle Nguyen, the regional champ, finished 18th in the diving competition, earning 222.20 points.

As a team, North earned 43 points, which was the most in several years.

As a team, the

Norsemen placed 15th under first-year head coach Dan Hafner.

Birmingham Seaholm won the state title with 287.5 points, followed in the top 10 by Dexter with 250, Grand Rapids Northern, Royal Oak Northview, Jenison, Fenton, Portage Northern, St. Johns, Highland-Milford, Waverly-Lansing Catholic, Wyandotte Roosevelt and Huron New Boston.

scored points in the meet and this was the first time in a few years the Norsemen scored points in multiple events.

The Norsemen finished ahead of local competitors such as Rochester, Walled Lake Northern, Royal Oak Northview, Jenison, Fenton, Portage Northern, St. Johns, Highland-Milford, Waverly-Lansing Catholic, Wyandotte Roosevelt and Huron New Boston.

Blue Devils earn fifth

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

Grosse Pointe South girls' swimming and diving team placed fifth with 140 points in last weekend's Division 2 state championship meet at Eastern Michigan University.

Birmingham Seaholm won the title with 287.5 points, followed by Dexter with 250 and Forest Hills with 215.

South head coach Eric Gunderson watched his Blue Devils earn points in eight events and several of his participants earned All-State honors.

Clarice Fisher had the best finish of the day, taking second in the 100-yard butterfly with a time of 55.80 to net an All-State honor and she earned All-State in the 200-yard individual medley by placing eighth with a time of 2:10.26.

Abbey Schuetze and Renee Liu took home All-State honors in the 100-fly after finishing sixth and seventh with times of 58.48 and 58.91.

Liu also made All-State in the 100-yard backstroke by placing eighth with a time of 58.27.

The Blue Devils' 200-yard medley team of Liu, Fisher, Abbey Schuetze and Sarah McCabe and 400-yard freestyle relay team of Fisher, Schuetze, Liu and McCabe made All-State after finishing fifth with a time of 1:49.04 and seventh with a time of 3:37.19.

Others who earned points were Ava Boutrous in the 200-yard freestyle, taking 14th with a time of 1:58.50, Roslyn Vern in the 100-fly, placing 13th with a time of 59.70 and Boutrous again, placing 10th in the 500-yard freestyle with a time of 5:10.33.

The 200-yard freestyle relay foursome of Schuetze, Caroline Frederickson, Sarah Cauvel and McCabe took 12th with a time of 1:41.22 to earn 10 points.

McCabe and Cauvel competed in the 50-free-style, posting times of 25.26 (23rd) and 25.53 (28th), and Rachel Rogers was 30th in diving with 115.70 points.

In addition, Cauvel was 27th in the 100-yard backstroke with a time of 1:04.36 and Kate Duncan took 33rd in diving with 115.70 points.

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2C | SPORTS

Girls hockey

GROSSE POINTE SOUTH

OT win

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

Chris Booth received quite a welcome to his head coaching tenure as his Grosse Pointe South girls' hockey team beat defending Division 1 state champ Farmington Hills Mercy 5-4 in overtime last weekend.

"It was a great game and an exciting finish," Booth said. "Our forwards skated well in the offensive zone and Bridget Donaldson came up with big saves, especially in the third period when we trailed. It was a nice comeback for us."

The Blue Devils scored a minute into the game as Erin Brannagan tallied a power-play goal, assisted by Lauren Kramer and Shannon McKenna.

Carson Dennis scored three minutes later to give the home team a 2-0 lead. Kelsey Francis and Alyssa Czech drew



PHOTO BY BOB BRUCE

South's Lauren Kramer scored a goal and had two assists to help the Blue Devils beat Mercy in overtime.

assists.

Mercy stormed back as Mary Reeber scored two of the next three goals and all of sudden the Marlins held a 3-2 lead.

The Blue Devils tied it on a Dennis goal with 5:11 left in the second period as Czech and Megan Ryzewski had assists.

It was a 3-3 game heading into the final 15 minutes and the Marlins

went ahead 4-3 with a goal 30 seconds into the third period, but the Blue Devils once again tied it when Kramer scored an unassisted goal with just 2:33 left.

In the OT, Dennis scored midway through to net the hat trick and it was Kramer and Madison Ryzewski assisting.

Donaldson earned the win in net as Grosse Pointe South started 1-0.

Boys hockey

GROSSE POINTE SOUTH

Blue Devils destroy Pioneers in opener

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

The Grosse Pointe South boys' hockey team opened its season in grand fashion last weekend, blasting visiting Riverview Gabriel Richard 8-0.

The game was called via the eight-goal mercy rule after two periods.

Head coach Bobby McKillop watched his Blue Devils dominate the game in every way imaginable.

The shots were 18-6 and senior goaltender Devin Naidow posted the shutout.

Offensively, it was the Adam Pitters show. The senior forward had four goals and three assists for a seven-point night.

He scored a power-play goal just three minutes into the first period and scored again at the 5:22 mark of the opening period. He scored the third goal six seconds into the second period and three minutes later had goal No. 4.



PHOTO BY BOB BRUCE

South's Adam Pitters, left, started the season off with a bang, scoring four goals and adding three assists for seven points.

Other goal scorers were seniors Jack Flynn and Jake Fillmore, and junior Alex Strehlke.

Recording assists were senior Adam Cervone with four, followed by senior Jack Liagre with two, Flynn and Naidow with one apiece.

The Blue Devils' defense smothered the Pioneers' forwards and the offense used an effective speed game to get point-blank shots on net.

Grosse Pointe South is 1-0 overall and in the Michigan Metro Hockey League.

GROSSE POINTE NORTH

Close game

The Grosse Pointe North girls' hockey team dropped its season opener last week, losing 5-4 to visiting Plymouth-Canton-Salem. Clare Murphy and Isabell Welke scored two goals apiece, while Lindsey Ramsdell had three assists in the opener. Last weekend, North lost 7-1 to Livonia Ladywood, one of the preseason favorites to win the state title, to drop to 0-2 overall.



PHOTO BY BOB BRUCE

LIGGETT

Bowen's OT goal lifts Knights to victory

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

The University Liggett boys' hockey team opened its season with a 2-1 overtime win over league foe Riverview Gabriel Richard last week.

Sophomore Dan Bowen picked up a loose puck near center ice and skated in all alone on Pioneers' junior goaltender Nolan Kopytko. Bowen buried the puck in the back of the net with the game-winning goal midway through the overtime.

Neither team scored in the first period and the Pioneers broke through with a power-play goal late in the second period.

Junior Dylan Paulsell tied the game with a goal at the 15:51 mark of the third period and after that it was senior goaltender Andrew Doppke making some outstanding saves to keep it a 1-1 game.

The Knights picked up



PHOTO BY BOB BRUCE

Liggett goaltender Andrew Doppke keeps an eye on the play as junior defenseman Sean Detloff clears the puck in the Knights' OT win over Gabriel Richard.

the offensive pace after the scoreless opening period. They generated some good scoring chances, but

was also up to the challenge on opening night. Liggett is 1-0 overall and in the Michigan Metro Hockey League.

GROSSE POINTE NORTH

North falls

Grosse Pointe North's boys' hockey team had a tall task in its season opener last week, playing Brother Rice and Cranbrook-Kingswood.

The Norsemen lost 9-1 to the Warriors and 4-0 to the Cranes to drop to 0-2 in the Michigan Interscholastic Hockey League.

Against Brother Rice,



PHOTO BY BOB BRUCE

Julia McLellan started in net for North.

Ryan Rokicki scored on the power play, with captain Austin Albrecht assisting.

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Grosse Pointe News office is closed Thursday, November 24 in observance of Thanksgiving. The office will re-open Friday, November 25 at 8:00a.m.

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49	Ms. Gardner

Solution Time: 27 minutes

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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SOLUTION FOR LAST WEEKS PUZZLE 11/17/16


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SCHOOLS

SCHOOLS

Speaking out
Parents and students support
South principal **PAGE 2**

3D TEACHER OF THE WEEK | 4D WEEK AHEAD

Pierce students make a wish come true

By Mary Anne Brush
Staff Writer

Talandus Vickers' wish was to go to Walt Disney World. That wish was fulfilled by Make-a-Wish Michigan in August.

His dream, however, was to be an actor. Students and staff at Pierce Middle School helped make that dream come true through what's called a wish enhancement, according to Sherri Collins, vice president of marketing and brand advancement for Make-A-Wish Michigan.

"Our mission is to grant wishes to children with life-threatening medical conditions," Collins said. "In addition to the wish, sometimes these great opportunities (for a wish enhancement) come up. The community is wonderful in providing these opportunities for our wish kids."

Vickers has Sickle Cell SS, the most serious form of sickle cell. Sickle cell disease, a group of inherited red blood cell disorders, is a lifelong illness with its severity varying widely from person to person, according to the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute.

"Most kids his age would have had more transfusions, but he has only had four," said his



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Left, Talandus Vickers, center, who appeared in Pierce's production of "The Lion King Jr." through a Make-a-Wish Michigan wish enhancement, appears with fellow zebras, from left, Lucas Borum, Wyatt Denomy, Marco Cilano and Ethan Fox and giraffes Meghan Ecclestone and Zosia Greer. Vickers, center, poses with Pumbaa, played by Ian Swanson, and Timon, played by Kerrigan Dunham.

mother, Denise Fleming. "When he coughs, sneezes, I catch it before it reaches a fever. If he's in pain, I put him in a warm bath and massage him." His last hospitalization was September 2015.

To all outward appearances, Vickers is an energetic 8-year-old. A third-grader at Patton Elementary School in Roseville, he loves to act, sing and dance and is taking hip hop classes.

The acting bug first hit him when he performed in a talent show at his former elemen-

tary school, Parker Elementary. Other hobbies include playing video games, updating his YouTube channel and drawing and painting.

"He is very creative," said Fleming.

The opportunity to put his acting and dancing skills to work came when a volunteer for his wish, who also is a Make-A-Wish staff member, got in touch with Michelle Stackpoole, broadcast journalism and drama teacher at Pierce and director of Pierce's production of "The Lion

King Jr." Stackpoole gave Vickers a part as a zebra.

"The boys in my zebra group are really sweet and I thought it would be a good fit," Stackpoole said.

Pierce students learned Vickers was going to participate in their play during auditions. "They were so excited," Stackpoole said. They watched his response to the news on video.

"One girl started crying," Stackpoole said. "They couldn't wait for him to get here."

Vickers arrived for the technical dress rehearsal

Tuesday, Nov. 15. He walked down the aisle of Pierce's auditorium to the singing of "The Circle of Life."

"All the parents were crying," Stackpoole said. "Our principal was here. It was one of the coolest experiences of my 15-year teaching career. It was amazing."

Stackpoole said she introduced Vickers to everyone and got him his costume.

"The students were like, 'Back off, Mrs. Stackpoole.' They wanted to teach him his

moves and show him

what to do," she said.

After the rehearsal, Vickers said his favorite part was acting and having friends.

"Don't you mean meeting friends?" his mother said.

"No," Vickers said. "It's been five hours. I mean having friends."

One of those friends — an eighth-grader — came over to pat him on his shoulder.

"Good job, buddy," he said.

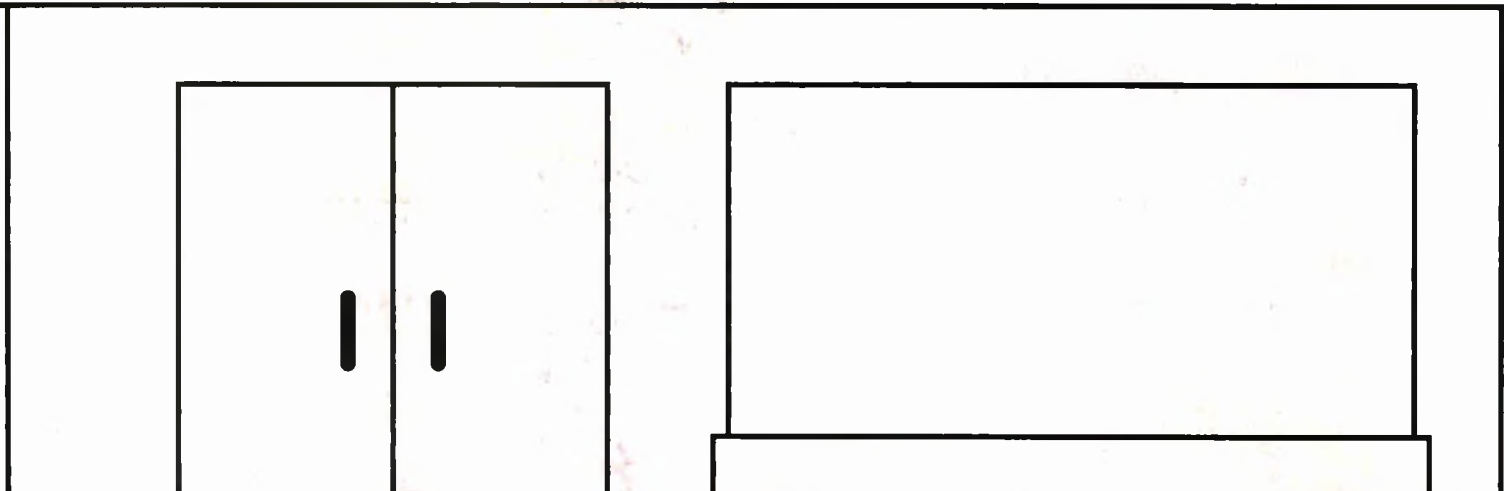
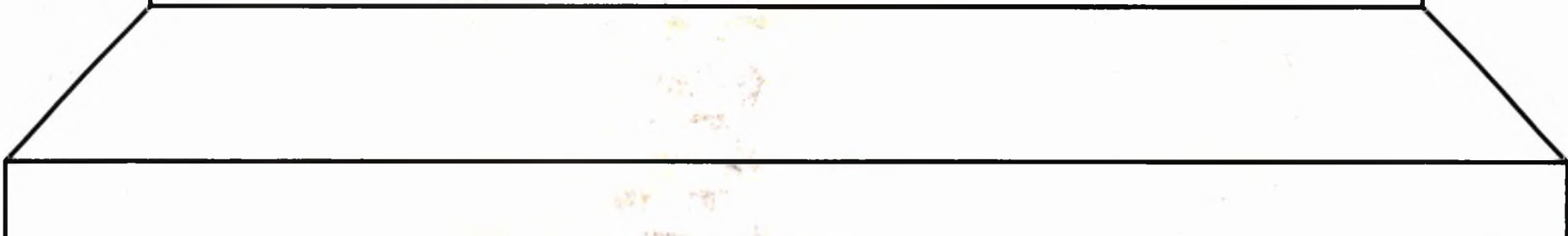
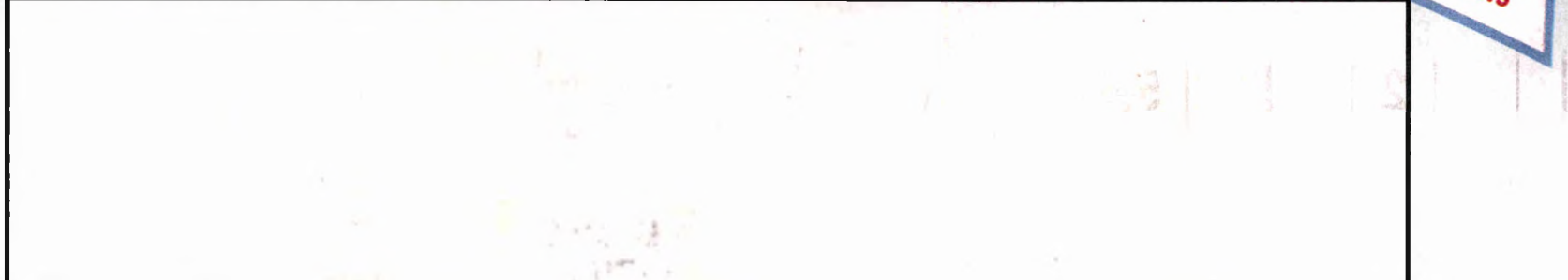
Vickers performed with the cast of "The Lion King Jr." opening night Friday, Nov. 18.

My Storefront Holiday Decorating Contest

The Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce sponsors **Deck the Store – Holiday Decorating Contest** and the stores will be beautifully decorated. We want **you** to have some creative fun. Use the storefront below and design, draw and color.

This contest is open to children up to age 12.

Entries must be received by **Monday, December 12, 2016**



Name: _____ Age: _____

Parent Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Deliver or mail your Store to:
Grosse Pointe News - My Storefront Contest
21316 Mack Avenue, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236
(Include parent/guardian name & telephone number)

Community speaks out to support principal

By Mary Anne Brush
Staff Writer

Word spreads quickly through today's many communication channels. This was evident by the crowd gathered at a meeting of the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education Monday, Nov. 14, summoned by a call to arms largely on social media.

The chain of reaction began with an announcement Grosse Pointe South High School Principal Moussa Hamka made over the public address system Wednesday, Nov. 9. His message addressed complaints he received regarding students' behavior after the election

the day before. Word trickled down from students to their parents.

Anne Vanker, a South parent, sent an email to an undisclosed list of recipients claiming Hamka's words were "offensive to a number of South students" and exposed "a bigotry and unprofessional bias that is unlawful and divisive." The email went on to say Hamka's remarks implied students who supported Trump — 55 percent of the student body, according to a mock election conducted by the school newspaper — "are not welcome members of the student community and that others should be afraid of them."

Vanker encouraged recipients to attend Monday's board meeting "to provide some support on this matter and to let your comments be heard."

Parents also called Trustee Ahmed Ismail with their concerns. Ismail, in response, sent an email to GPPSS Superintendent Gary Niehaus Friday, Nov. 11. "I received a number of phone messages Thursday regarding a school-wide PA system speech Moussa made relative to the outcome of the presidential election," Ismail wrote. "The parents were livid about the school system endorsing the use of our school resources to espouse fear

by virtue of the principal telling the students that they were safe at South, and that his office was always a safe haven for them if they wanted to talk about how our new president was going to affect them and their families. What can you tell me about this happening? Have you heard from any parents? If what I am hearing is what happened, Moussa was way out of bounds. What is being done to neutralize the fear he created with his comments?"

Niehaus responded with assurances he had set up a meeting with Hamka and the parents "to hear their side of the message."

Joint statement of unity

The Michigan Department of Education and Michigan Department of Civil Rights issued a joint letter to school employees and parents Tuesday, Nov. 15. The letter reads in part:

"Now is a time when all of us need to stand together. Every administrator, teacher, staff member, parent, guardian, bus driver and student must stand as one in condemning intolerable conduct regardless of message or motivation. We are concerned that students and parents may be hearing mixed messages. Each of us must clearly and consistently convey the message that bullying, harassment, violence, property destruction or any other form of intimidation have no place in our schools. It does not matter who is engaging in the intimidation, which student is being targeted, or what the reason is for the intimidation. There are no legitimate reasons and there are no acceptable excuses. The behavior is wrong and the behavior will not be tolerated."

The letter was signed by State Superintendent Brian Whiston and MDCR Director Agustin Arbulo and included links to recommended resources.

According to Vanker, "the gist of the meeting was to basically talk about (how Hamka's remarks were) divisive" and that many parents were upset because their kids were upset. "The speech itself was upsetting and inappropriate and potentially unlawful," she said.

Within 24 hours, a call to oppose Hamka's message turned into a rally of support for the principal. When Niehaus broke from the agenda of business items to announce Hamka's job was safe, the crowd erupted into cheers, applause and a standing ovation. Niehaus then read Hamka's message, which he said he had not seen until earlier that day.

Vanker said she and other parents who came to voice their concerns chose not to speak that night. "This was a circus. Nobody wants (Hamka's) job. Nobody showed up for that," she said.

Those who came to speak on Hamka's behalf remained until the end of the meeting to express their support. Many applauded Hamka for taking action, saying leaders at educational institutions across the nation made similar statements of support to students as scenarios of harassment against people of different racial, religious and ethnic groups played out across the country, including as close as Ann Arbor and Royal Oak.

"Principal Hamka had the foresight to make this statement before the situation became a threat. He handled it like a professional," said South parent James Scarsella. "There's nothing political about making acceptance a priority and refusing to accept intolerance."

South parent Tonya Wells said, "I leave here proud because I've seen our superintendent stand behind an administrator who did the right thing."

Students also spoke on behalf of their principal. White, black, Hispanic, Muslim and gay students said they believe Hamka was there for all students.

Several said their fears to come to school were

allayed by Hamka's comments, including India Dinges, who overheard students saying in class black students needed to go back to Africa now that Donald Trump was president.

"If Mr. Hamka were not my principal, I would not be at South," she said. "He makes me feel that I belong," she said.

Ponette Rubio, who identified herself as Mexican-American and a first-generation American citizen, said fellow students called her an illegal immigrant and said she needed to go back to Mexico. For her, Hamka's words were a message "we can have hope and we can work towards a brighter future."

South student Harry Susalla said, according to a study, 86 percent of LGBTQ students reported being harassed at school. "As an openly gay student at South, I can assure you that statistic is accurate," he said. "Mr. Hamka's statements last Wednesday were necessary for students to be able to learn at South."

Board members closed the evening with expressions of support as well, including Ismail.

"I want to let Moussa know that you're here, buddy. You're not going anywhere as far as I'm concerned," he said.

Trustee Margaret Weertz also addressed Hamka directly. "The first job of a principal is to create a safe environment, not just physically, but emotionally It is no secret that some people in this community did rush to judgment without hearing the content of your speech."

Treasurer Brian Summerfield said his daughter told him Mr. Hamka "gave a very moving speech about unity and inclusion. She said you could tell that he cares deeply for all of his students."

He added, "The speech gave her hope and security during a very difficult time. I suspect it did for many other students. I really appreciate his proactive approach and thank him sincerely for doing this."

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Susan Dempsey

School: Brownell Middle School
Years at Brownell: 20
Grade: 7th grade English
Nominated by: Rodger Hunwick

Principal's quote:

"Every educator is deserving of recognition as Teacher of the Week. Mrs. Susan Dempsey is nominated not only because of her classroom teaching abilities but because of her commitment to lead and take on responsibilities beyond the call of duty. In addition to bringing to the classroom each and every day a perfect blend of content rigor with compassion for individual student learning engagement and care, she is also the English department chair, the director of the school play and volunteers to be a co-chair of the Brownell Tin Can Auction fundraiser. Mrs. Dempsey's impact on learning can best be described by her former students. Esha Kumar stated that as a teacher Mrs. Dempsey 'always finds the best in everyone. She never believes there's anything negative about feedback and she always has a positive outlook on the world.'

Similarly, JoAnna Alexander indicated that Mrs. Dempsey 'always went out of her way to

make sure every student is doing well. She made each of us feel special and unique, each and every day."

What do you enjoy most about teaching?

My favorite part of teaching is sharing literature that I love to an entirely new group of students every year. I have literature that teaches history, morals, responsibilities and the love of the written word. Every year I have between 125 to 155 students who I hopefully can fully engage in some book. That moment when you capture their attention is priceless and rewarding.

Describe a teaching accomplishment you're proud of.

In 29 years of teaching, I have had student nominations to be included in "Who's Who in Teaching." I've been identified as a distinguished employee, selected to participate in the Galilean Consortium of teachers, invited to former students' commencements and chosen to participate in the University of Virginia's Summer Institute three times.

I think my favorite honor was being invited to join my student who won a speech competition to New York City



COURTESY PHOTO

where we spent the day on Sesame Street, with Lily Tomlin.

Name a book or person that influenced you.

My influences come from books but they were recommended by teachers I loved. Joyce Fouts from Galileo, Carol Tomlinson from the University of Virginia and I have had the good fortune of having administrators who have given me constant support — Dr. Dib, Jean Rusing and Tommy Boaz. I have also had the good fortune of being influenced by my teaching partner for over 25 years, Tammy Duffield. She and I share a similar work ethic and a love for our work and our students.

Favorite quote:

"When I stand before God at the end of my life, I would hope that I would not have a single bit of talent left and could say, 'I used everything you gave me.'"

— Erma Bombeck



PHOTO COURTESY OF LIGGETT

Thelma Fox Murray scholarship winners, from left, Katie Fruehauf, Nia Ahart, Emily Miserendino, Rebecca Lohman and Madeline Wu.

Liggett seniors named scholarship winners

Five University Liggett School 12th-graders have been honored with the Thelma Fox Murray Scholarship for the 2016-17 academic year.

This year's recipients are Nia Ahart, Katherine Fruehauf, Rebecca Lohman, Emily Miserendino and

Madeline Wu.

The Thelma Fox Murray Scholarship is awarded each year to students who display integrity, humility, a sense of humor, athletic achievement, academic excellence and leadership qualities. Murray, a 1917 Liggett School alum, left a lasting personal commit-

ment to education in her endowment gift to Liggett upon her death in 1987.

Since that time, the scholarship has been awarded each year to deserving students at the school. Students are selected by the school and scholarship trustee S. Gary Spicer Sr.

Liggett alumnus named Rhodes Scholar

Liggett alumnus Aaron Robertson, a senior at Princeton University, was named a Rhodes Scholar.

Robertson, who graduated from Liggett in 2013, was one of 32 Americans to receive the prestigious honor, which will allow him to begin his studies at Oxford University in fall 2017.

At Oxford, he plans to pursue a master of philosophy degree in modern languages.

Robertson came to Liggett in ninth grade after being awarded a Liggett Merit Scholarship, a highly selective award that seeks to attract students from the region who show academic strength and promise, a diversity of extracurricular interests and who will take part in — and contribute to — the life of the school. "Aaron was one of our first class of Liggett Merit Scholars," said Liggett Head of School Joseph Healey. "He was an outstanding student and a thoughtful member of our community. He has

been an exceptional student at Princeton and this Rhodes Scholarship is a testimony to the leadership and intellectual vigor he brings to any community where he is.

Oxford will offer him a unique opportunity to continue his journey of discovery. We are very proud of him and delighted to celebrate his accomplishments."

South choirs usher in the holidays

Grosse Pointe South High School choirs will be spreading their award-winning brand of cheer throughout the month of December.

Sounds of the Season

The highlight is the choirs' annual Sounds of the Season performance 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8, at the Christian A. Fenton Performing Arts Center in Grosse Pointe Woods. The performance will feature all four choirs — The Pointe Singers, The Tower Belles, South Singers and Sounds of South, as well as the extracurricular a cappella group, The

Suspensions.

Fans will be treated to all the classic holiday songs and the ever-popular Tapping Santas along with a few surprises. There also will be solo and ensemble performances.

Tickets are \$15 for all lower level seats. Balcony seats are \$12 or \$9 for students or seniors. They are available at gpsouth-choir.org and Posterity Gallery in The Village. Gold Cards are accepted.

Caroling

On Friday, Dec. 9, and Saturday, Dec. 10, you can give the gift of holiday music with South

carolers. Carolers consist of groups of eight to 10 students available to share, for a minimum \$25 donation, a half dozen holiday favorites to enrich your holiday party, work function, local nursing home or any other local event or destination. For more information, contact Ginny Jeup-Koch at (313) 283-3513.

Other performances include the Mothers' Club Holiday Tea Dec. 7 and an appearance with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra Dec. 16 to 18 for its annual "Home for the Holidays" concert at Orchestra Hall.

North and South students named finalists in math competition

Students from Grosse Pointe North and South high schools qualified as finalists in the 60th annual Michigan mathematics prize competition. Students were among a total of 1,210 out of 4,930 competing who qualified based on results of part one of the exam. Part one consisted of 41 multiple-choice questions given at 130 high schools throughout Michigan Oct. 11.

Qualifying from North were Colin Haroutunian and Maximilian Rakozy. From South were Emmett Altland, Jacob Applegate, Justin De Coster, Carson Dennis, Daniel Garan, Philip Gatbonton, Kurt Huebner, Alexander Kalmar, Alexander Rizer,

Brendan Rothmann, Teddy Sweeney and Roslyn Vern.

Finalists will compete in the second part of the exam Dec. 7. Competitors write out solutions to challenging problems along with mathematical proofs or explanations for the justifying their claims.

Students with the top 100 scores on the two parts will be honored at an awards banquet March 11, at Eastern Michigan University. The top 50 will be presented with scholarships ranging from bronze awards of \$250 to \$2,500 for the gold medalist.

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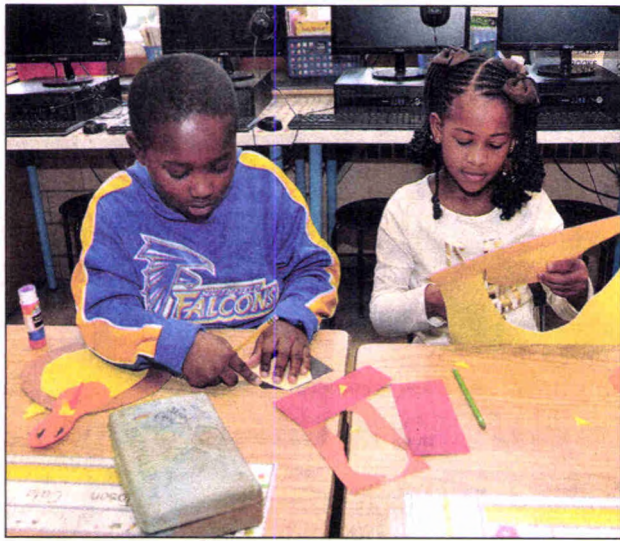
Giving thanks to seniors

Monteith first-graders made cards Friday, Nov. 18, to wish seniors at Sunrise Living in Grosse Pointe Woods a happy Thanksgiving.

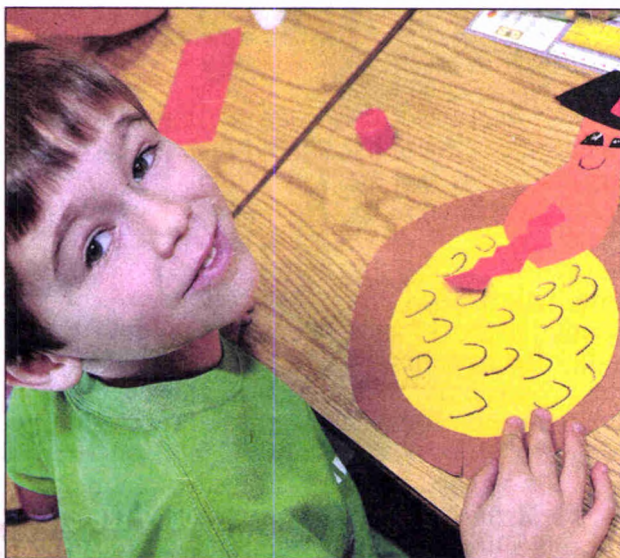
Right, hard at work are Jason Cato and Alicia Easterling.

Below, Joey Gugliemetti, Tristan Noel, Lexi Treska, Kiki Vasilos and Max King show off their turkey creations.

Below right, Andrew Glynn puts the finishing touches on his Thanksgiving turkey card.



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT



Week Ahead

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 30
 ♦ The Grosse Pointe Public School System hosts a town hall 6 to 9 p.m. in the library at Maire Elementary School, 740 Cadieux, City of Grosse Pointe. The agenda includes an overview of the strategic plan; a bond program analysis and overview of available funding mechanisms by Plante Moran; health and safety, teaching and learning and building needs by Superintendent Gary Niehaus; projects to maintain GPPSS assets by Ehresman & Associates; and discussions facilitated by the Michigan Leadership Institute. There also will be a tour.

THURSDAY, DEC. 1
 ♦ Pierce Middle School presents its winter vocal concert 7 p.m. in the Pierce auditorium, 15430 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Park. Contact Heather Albrecht at heather.albrecht@gpschools.org for more information.

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