

SCHOOLS

Regeneration

Generation of Promise refocuses on its mission PAGE 9A

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Grosse Pointe News

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Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

School enrollment decline double projected number

By Mary Anne Brush
Staff Writer

A loss of 218 students enrolled in the Grosse Pointe Public School System this fall was nearly double the number projected, according to a presentation at the

regular meeting of the Board of Education Nov. 26. This year's total enrollment — not audited yet by Wayne County RESA — is down from 7,518 in 2017-18 to 7,300 in 2018-19.

According to Lisa Abbey, deputy superin-

tendent for business and operations, the 2018-19 budget projected an enrollment decline of 110 students. The additional 108 students — representing a loss of \$10,104 per student from the state founda-

tional allowance, or approximately \$1 million — will be reflected in the first budget amendment.

To analyze data over the past 10 years, Deputy Superintendent for Educational Services Jon Dean used the fall student count submitted

to the state, excluding special education students because of the different funding mechanism in place. The enrollment tally includes 83 students enrolled in the Young 5's program. These are 5-year-olds who qualify for kinder-

garten and receive the per-pupil foundation allowance from the state, but are given the option of a development year to enhance readiness.

The enrollment *See DECLINE, page 2A*

Marijuana moratorium approved

By Melissa Walsh
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — Despite the passing of the 2018 Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marijuana Act by Michigan voters Tuesday, Nov. 6, Grosse Pointe Woods will not accept applications for commercial recreational marijuana establishments.

Monday, Nov. 19, city council unanimously approved the adoption of a six-month land-use moratorium prohibiting applications for recreational marijuana businesses. While the moratorium is in effect, the city will conduct a "review to determine the appropriate ordinances regarding recreational marijuana establishments," the moratorium states.

A second motion passed by council Nov. 19 commissioned City Attorney Chip Berschback to amend the city's code of ordinances to include zoning rules prohibiting recreational marijuana estab-

See APPROVED, page 5A



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Season's greetings!

Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Parade marshals, Adam Cole, Riley Slattery, Hudson Brown and Jake Pennar, with Mrs. Claus, Santa and Christmas Carol, greet the crowds with a hearty "Ho, ho, ho." Each parade marshal was given a LEGO set. For more photos from the parade, visit grossepointenews.com.

Daycare proposal denied for second time

By Anthony Viola
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — For a second time, a proposal to open a daycare facility in the Park was rejected by council acting as the Zoning Board of Appeals Monday, Nov. 19.

Despite revising her site plan and addressing other issues council raised in May, Park resident Amy Conti's use variance request on property at 14950 E. Jefferson — on the southwest corner of Barrington and Jefferson — was unanimously denied.

"It's great that we have seen such growth and development here in the

Park with new businesses, restaurants, convenience stores, retail uses. They're all great," Conti said. "But what I'm proposing here tonight is a service that is truly needed by families in the community."

Conti said there are few daycare options in the Grosse Pointes and most have waiting lists of approximately 30 children or are inconvenient for southside Grosse Pointe residents.

The location would be perfect for residents traveling to work in downtown Detroit on Jefferson; they could drop off their children on the way to work and pick them up coming back, Conti said.

However, council saw parking, traffic and the use variance itself as problematic to the plan. Conti attempted to address those issues first raised in May when she initially requested the variance.

She said she would ask to install a "No Right Turn" sign on Barrington to stem traffic down residential streets and require employees to park off-site.

"The reality is that nearly every business within the commercial corridors of Grosse Pointe Park do not provide adequate parking per zoning code," Conti said. "Nearly all businesses including new

businesses have been granted hardships for parking. Additionally, many of the businesses have no on-site parking and these are businesses that should supply 20 or more parking stalls to accommodate customers and staff."

There are 21 parking stalls near the property — 12 on-site and nine street parking; 19 are required for a daycare. Conti said seven of the on-site spots would be reserved for parents picking up or dropping off their children and five would be for staff. The rest of her staff — she estimated 12 to 15 total staff members

See DENIED, page 3A

Deeplands stage-1 plan OK'd by council

By Melissa Walsh
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — Deeplands Development Co. passed the first of a three-stage approval process to develop a 16-home subdivision at 55 S. Deeplands.

During its Tuesday, Nov. 20 meeting, village council adopted the planning commission's recommendation to accept conditionally the stage-1 "preliminary plot application tentative."

Village attorney Brian Renaud presented a summary of the planning commission's conditional approval of the plan, which includes two cul-de-sacs, each accommodating eight homes, and the 10 conditions fed from reports by the village engineer, planner, public safety department and traffic improvement association. They are:

- ◆ Tree-replacement program approved by the city's arborist, including an updated tree survey showing trees removed and trees remaining and tree preservation guidance consistent with section 40-332 of the village code of ordinances;
- ◆ Show in the plan adequate room for spruce trees along the proposed storm water perimeter;
- ◆ Replace the proposed 54 pear trees with a proposal for tree varieties;
- ◆ Specify amenities for the proposed private park area;
- ◆ Propose landscaping for the cul-de-sac entryways;
- ◆ Specify walls and

See PLAN, page 4A

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Pointer of INTEREST

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Terence Thomas

Home: City of Grosse Pointe
Lawyer, business leader and co-owner of Thomas Group Consulting



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Kramer's closing after 36 years

By Anthony Viola
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — Mike Kramer said there have been lots of hugs after he and his wife, Joann, announced their retirement a couple weeks ago.

The Kramers have run Kramer's Bed, Bath and Window Fashions in The Village 36 years. At the end of the year, they will close its doors. But, not before they discount all in-store items to sell.

Since the beginning, Kramer's has been known for offering high-end home fashion lines not found anywhere else.

"The linens and things we carry here are more in the specialty area,"

Mike Kramer said. "That's been the biggest question I've gotten since we announced that we were going to close, asking, 'Where are we going to buy our sheets? Where are we going to buy our towels?' Because what we provide here is not generally available at the larger stores. It's a more specialized market."

Kramer's carries Yves Delorme, Sferra, Matouk, Peacock Alley, as well as Casafina, Pine Cone Hill and Creative Bath, among others.

"That's our niche, I think," Kramer said. "Being able to provide that kind of product to the customer and then the personal service we can offer to the cus-

tomers."

And until it closes at the end of December, everything in stock is 20 percent off.

"As we get down to the things that are less desirable," Kramer said, "not the cream of the crop so to speak, we'll probably have to increase that percentage. But we have no schedule for that. It's really all dependent on how it's going. We were laughing about this earlier. If it keeps up the way we're going, we may not make it to the end of December."

All display items and fixtures also are for sale, Kramer said.

He also said they will still order items for customers, although they

may not be at the sale price.

In 1982, the Kramers opened their store at 16906 Kercheval and have been there ever since. Previously, Kramer worked at Hudson's 19 years buying a lot of the same items they currently sell, he said.

"It was something that I always wanted to do, to have a business of my own, and so we took the leap back in 1982," he said.

It wasn't an easy decision he said, but after 36 years he's happy he and his wife did it.

"It's been a great experience," he said. "I'm really glad we did this 36 years ago. It was a scary thing — we had four kids, the oldest was a sophomore in high school — to walk away from a regular, good-paying job."

Kramer said the best part of owning the business was getting to know the people. He said it wouldn't have been as successful without the community's support.

"I can't tell them how much we appreciate their support over the last 36 years," he said. "Because if it wasn't for them, we



PHOTO BY ANTHONY VIOLA

Kramer's Bed, Bath and Window Fashions owners Joann and Mike Kramer, above, are closing the store after 36 years in business.

wouldn't have lasted this long. The fact that everybody complains about the internet, selling online and all that and in spite of that we've been able to survive and thrive here in a physical location. But it is because a lot of what we sell people like to touch it and feel it and they want to know if there's a problem with it that somebody's going to take care of it for them."

The store is open 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and

Friday and Thursdays until 8 p.m. Weekend hours are 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Saturdays. It is closed Sundays. Expanded holiday hours are expected closer to the end of the month.

After 36 years in business, Kramer said he and Joann don't have any immediate plans except to spend some quality time together, maybe a little traveling.

But, he said, "We've got a lot to do between now and January."

Atwater robbed, safe stolen

GROSSE POINTE PARK — At least six people are suspected of breaking into Atwater in the Park late Tuesday, Nov. 20. They got away with the safe and cash from the register after entering forcibly through the back door, said Park police.

Approximately 11:20 p.m., four people entered the brewery on Kercheval at Lakepointe while two vehicles waited outside. Police said the subjects went directly for the cash register behind the bar and the back office where the safe was located.

The suspects were gone in eight minutes. Security camera footage was obtained by police and a bag of tools and other evidence suspected of being used in the crime was located on the property and sent to the crime lab for testing. The investigation is ongoing.

DECLINE:

Continued from page 1A

decline occurred at the elementary, middle and high school levels, from 2,897 to 2,880 students at the elementary school level, a drop of 17; 1,747 to 1,665 students at the middle school level, a drop of 82; and 2,874 to 2,755 students at the high school level, a drop of 119.

Among the nine elementary schools, there was a 15 percent drop from 3,323 students in 2008-09 to 2,880 in 2018-19. The largest rate of decline was at Monteith Elementary School, with a 41 percent decrease, followed by Defer Elementary School at 29 percent. Enrollment increased over that same time period at Mason and Kerby elementary schools by 13 and 5 per-

cent, respectively.

Middle school enrollment numbers decreased as well, according to Dean, with a decline from a total of 1,947 students in 2008-09 to 1,665 in 2018-19, or a 17 percent rate of decline, and a loss this year of 82 students. While there was a spike in enrollment in 2013-14, the decline has been relatively steady since, with Pierce Middle School experiencing a 23 percent rate of decline, followed by Brownell Middle School at 22 percent and Parcels Middle School at 8 percent.

"Where did those students go? Some of them are sitting now in high school and some of them weren't replaced by many kids from the fifth grade level moving into the sixth grade," said Dean.

High school enrollment experienced a spike in enrollment in 2016-17, with a decrease of 119 students from 2017-18 to 2018-19. A total decline of 9 percent since 2008-09 is reflected by a 12 percent decrease at Grosse Pointe North

High School and 7 percent at Grosse Pointe South High School.

The district's enrollment decline is consistent with the state's decline and largely due to the same reasons, according to Dean.

"That is a function of smaller families, families later in life and people living much longer so they take up homes and are not replaced with new families," he said. "That is a statewide issue."

To compare GPPSS numbers to private and parochial schools, Dean said he had to rely on statewide reports, as the schools don't disclose those figures.

"From the state report, the big takeaway here is their enrollment decline has been much more significant than ours," he said. "When you look at our total enrollment change, we're down about 1,000 kids, which is about 15 percent over the course of 10 years. All of them except for Liggett is somewhere between 20 and 30 percent down." University Liggett School enroll-

ment reflects a 7 percent increase from 2009-10 to 2016-17.

Private and parochial schools also operate under different rules and economic considerations and are drawing from a wider attendance area and not just Grosse Pointe, Dean added.

One of the questions Dean said administration posed to Plante Moran Cresa during a recent conference call is whether GPPSS is "gathering and catching the same percentage of kids and the answer is yes. The same percentage of kids are going to public schools in Grosse Pointe that have been going for the last 10, 12, 15 years, it's just the pie is smaller. Our retention rate is about 89 percent. Eighty-nine percent of the kids in Grosse Pointe Public Schools choose Grosse Pointe Public Schools."

According to Dean, who said more details will be forthcoming once Plante Moran Cresa has analyzed the data, the elementary school enrollment decline appears to be flattening. "Some of that is from

Young 5's, some of that is demographics, but it is tapering off, which is a good thing."

Next steps for the administration, in accordance with a resolution on parameters triggering discussions on school closures the board approved June 11, will be to present a proposed comprehensive plan to the Board of Education at the first regular board meeting within 30 days once certain enrollment parameters were triggered. A regular meeting of the board is tentatively scheduled Monday, Jan. 14, 2019.

"The board expects to have a good outline of what we need to do to reshape the district," said President Brian Summerfield. "That's going to ultimately be vetted through a community committee, but this will be the start of that process."

"We are following the resolution," he added. "There's going to be more discussion of the plan in January. What that plan looks like remains to be seen."

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Pointer's gift transforms WMU lab

A major gift from lifelong Grosse Pointer Robert Kaiser, owner and CEO of Gallagher-Kaiser Corporation, has transformed the sales lab at Western Michigan University's Haworth College of Business. The renovated and expanded facility was named the Robert S. Kaiser Sales, Negotiation and Leadership Lab.

At the lab, students participate in authentic selling scenarios in a realistic environment where they are recorded and can review their sales role-plays, preparing them for work in a variety of industries.

The Haworth College of Business hosted a grand opening ceremony and open house Nov. 2,



COURTESY PHOTO

Robert Kaiser

allowing campus and community members to tour the facility and learn more about it.

Gallagher-Kaiser Corporation is the world's premier automotive paint shop supplier. The company maintains multiple manufacturing facilities in Detroit, with

a corporate headquarters in Troy.

After graduating from WMU with a degree in industrial marketing in 1978, Kaiser went on to work in the family business. Under his leadership, Gallagher-Kaiser has become a world leader in engineering, procurement and construction. The company further expanded its capabilities when Kaiser purchased Universal Piping Industries in 2010. Today, Gallagher-Kaiser builds General Motors' most technologically advanced paint shops around the world and has won five General Motors Supplier of the Year awards.

Kaiser lives in Grosse Pointe Park.

Park awards for beauty and butterflies

By Anthony Viola
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — “Tonight we are coming together to celebrate exceptional homes, businesses and properties that all contribute to the beauty and charm of Grosse Pointe Park,” said Janet Peplin, chairwoman of the Park Beautification Commission.

This year, the commission presented more than 30 awards in its annual Beautification Commission Awards Thursday, Nov. 8. Along with 30 residential awards, there were three commercial awards and one civic award handed out.

Mayor Bob Denner said the hard work and care of residents makes the Park the community it is.

“First of all, this is always one of the favorite nights of the year for me, because it’s just fun,” Denner said. “It’s a part of what makes our community such a terrific community. I believe Grosse Pointe Park is a wonderful place to live, a wonderful place to raise a family, a wonderful place to have a business.”

Not awarded every year, the civic award rec-



The Grosse Pointe Park Beautification Commission awarded more than 30 beautification awards Thursday, Nov. 8.

ognizes residents who strive to enhance city property or significantly contribute to the beautification of the Park.

Jennifer Jailey Munson and her family were honored with the civic award this year for their part in helping keep monarch butterflies alive and well.

Munson said they started raising butterflies found in their garden in 2016. But there was one species missing.

“I just wanted to raise monarchs and there were no monarchs laying eggs on our milkweed,” Munson said. “Then last year, we had a monarch — one, single monarch — lay about 100 eggs and it was so magical and beautiful.”

Sadly, her husband passed away unexpectedly from a heart attack before the monarchs emerged from their chrysalises.

“It was this call to arms, I think, because he loved them as much as we did and this year, instead of raising just ... 43, this year we raised 514.”

Munson said when her children see monarchs now they say, ‘Hi daddy.’ “If any of you are doing the same (raising monarchs), I just want to say thank you because you are making this world a more beautiful place for

my kids, for me and for the rest of our children who understand the beauty of metamorphosis and the beauty of things that ephemeral,” Munson said. “Butterflies don’t last forever but they really mean a lot and they do a lot for our environment as pollinators.”

Visit grossepointe.com for a complete list of beautification award winners.



Mayor Bob Denner and civic award winner Jennifer Jailey Munson, who won the civic award for helping keep monarch butterflies alive and well in the Park.



Denner and Joe Tompkins, co-owner of Cellar 313 on Kercheval, which won a beautification award its first year open.

DENIED:

Continued from page 1A

— would park off-site in a residential neighborhood and walk a short distance to the facility.

Conti also had a traffic study conducted by a civil engineering firm. According to Conti, the results showed an increase of traffic of about 27 vehicles.

“Although the results show increased traffic, this does not warrant further analysis because the traffic falls within reasonable and allowable traffic counts,” Conti said. “It therefore also does not require analysis by MDOT because the number of trips is far less than what is required for a traffic impact assessment.”

Conti also proposed setting up car-side pickup and enforcing a 10-minute drop-off and pick-up window for parents as a way to ease congestion.

Councilwoman Lauri Read — who raised three children — said the 10-minute schedule might be impractical because raising children often is filled with unexpected problems.

“There is no way I

would have been able to meet a 10-minute window every morning that I had to get them to daycare,” she said. “So I have a concern about that because I’ve been there.”

Although a daycare is a “crying need for the community,” the traffic flow, “is going to be a virtually insurmountable problem,” said Mayor Bob Denner.

“This is a turn-around area for buses right exactly where we are talking,” Denner said. “So there’s always, during peak rush hour, a higher volume of buses than at other times during the day because they are servicing people that are trying to get to work as well. So you have a peak volume of buses, you have a peak volume of traffic, you have buses trying to make turns for turnarounds and then you’d add the traffic coming into your facility. I know with all best intentions of the time slots, the seven parking spots, the staff taking kids in, that there will be a line of cars on Jefferson waiting to get access to the parking lot. As soon as that happens, that reduces the flow to one lane of traffic to deal with commuter

traffic and buses. I think it will be insurmountable.”

For Mayor Pro-Tem Dan Clark, the “nub” of the issue was the use variance itself and location. The property is zoned office services and does not permit daycares.

“The issue before us is not one of need,” Clark said. “I think there’s a consensus on the part of my colleagues that there is an established need for daycare. ... One of the things that we’ve been focusing on with respect to the location is that it is in a uniquely bad location and that is because Jefferson is a major thoroughfare.”

He said Conti did not provide a hardship based on unique characteristics of the property.

“A use variance requires a hardship,” Clark said. “... A hardship has to relate to some unique feature of the property itself that makes the strict application of the zoning code — which is in my judgment clear here, it

doesn’t permit it. There’s nothing that I can see in your application where you state what your hardship might be that relates specifically to the ... unique characteristics of the property in question.”

Councilman Daniel Grano — who voted in favor of Conti’s plan in May — said he agreed with Clark. He also pointed out the variance would run with the property and if the business were to fail, the city would lose control over the zoning in that building.

Conti’s next step is unclear. Other available properties in the city are too small, she said.

“I’ve done the homework through market research and countless business plans to try to make other buildings work,” she said. “To be financially successful, a building of at least 5,000 square feet is needed to make a living with this type of business. You need an economy of scale. A business with fewer children becomes unsustain-

able.”

She also pointed out the Park zoning code only

allows daycares in churches in residentially zoned areas, making it virtually impossible to

open a facility without a use variance.

Seeing the need, both Denner and Grano offered to help Conti find a viable solution to opening a daycare in the Park.

The Week Ahead

MONDAY, DEC. 3

◆ Grosse Pointe Woods City Council meeting, 7 p.m. at city hall, 20025 Mack Plaza.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 5

◆ Grosse Pointe Park Planning Commission meeting, 6 p.m. in council chambers, 15115 E. Jefferson.

◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Community Tree Commission meeting, 7:30 p.m. at city hall, 20025 Mack Plaza.

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4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

Entrepreneur creates bridge for Detroit businesses

By Mary Anne Brush
Staff Writer

Two partnerships are important in Terence Thomas's life.

The first is with his wife of 21 years, LaShanda Thomas. The two met at a high school dance while Terence Thomas was a student at University of Detroit Jesuit High School and his bride-to-be was at Shrine Catholic High School.

She wouldn't date him at the time, he said; it was years later he won her over.

The couple has five children — daughter Madison, who graduated from Grosse Pointe South High School and is enrolled in Wayne State University's Mike Ilitch School of Business; son Terence, who attended U of D and is now in his second year at Swarthmore College in Pennsylvania; son Joshua, a senior at Phillips Academy Andover in Andover, Mass.; daughter Olivia, an eighth-grader at Pierce Middle School; and Chloe, age 3. The family has lived in the



PHOTO COURTESY OF FOX PORTRAIT

Terence Thomas, seated on right, is pictured in this family portrait with his mother, Bernice Thomas, and, back row from left, Olivia, Terence (TJ), LaShanda, Chloe, Joshua and Madison.

City of Grosse Pointe 12 years, having moved from Detroit to take advantage of the walkability to schools, stores and parks.

The other significant partnership in Thomas's life is his business partner, Buzz Thomas. The two have been friends since they were 14.

Thomas approached the other Thomas — there's no family relationship between the two — about starting a business together. Buzz Thomas was a term-limited state senator and member of the Michigan House of Representatives. Terence Thomas was a senior leader at

Ascension Michigan overseeing government relations, external affairs and legal affairs for St. John Health System and Ascension.

"At the time I was traveling and I wanted to do something different," Thomas said.

With his wife's support, he approached his

longtime friend about joining forces, combining the lawmaking expertise of one with the health-care and legal background of the other.

"Despite how close we are, our networks have very little overlap and that's the value," Thomas said. "He had his lawmaking path; I had my healthcare path. Very little overlap, but we've been able to leverage those relationships for our clients' benefit."

Thomas Group Consulting specializes in providing access, advancing business and engaging community. The firm advocates for its clients — small businesses, nonprofits and "mom and pop shops," among others — helping leverage its own network to connect them with decision makers, introduce them to influencers and build productive relationships.

Thomas compares his role with clients as that of a Sherpa, a Himalayan guide who helps visitors navigate the treacherous mountains. Similarly, Thomas Group Consulting has the knowledge of the Detroit landscape and under-

standing of the business and political climate to help clients successfully navigate the terrain.

As a native Detroit, Thomas enjoys paving the way for his clients to benefit from the city's resurgence.

"I think that the more we can do to ensure that the small business owners and all those stakeholders who were invested when it wasn't cool, we continue to create opportunities for them so that they can grow and also participate in the prosperity that is occurring," he said. "That's a good thing and I would say many people recognize that's still an opportunity in front of Detroit leadership."

"We like to say we're the bridge between old Detroit and this new Detroit," he continued. "That's the world we're in. We serve as the integrator between old and new. We're familiar with their issues, understand their concerns, but because we're so engaged, we know what's happening with a lot of the new initiatives and

See BRIDGE, page 5A

PLAN:

Continued from page 1A

landscaping at the end of each cul-de-sac for screening headlights;

- ◆ Specify landscaping for screening the perimeter area of the subdivision;

- ◆ Modify the plan to show the sidewalks along each of the two cul-de-sacs;

- ◆ Show the location of infrastructure for private utilities; and

- ◆ Show the relocation of the fire hydrant that would serve the east cul-de-sac.

A resident living behind one of the proposed cul-de-sacs raised concerns about headlight glare not being properly screened.

Concerned with the number of homes being built in the proposed plan, another resident spoke in opposition to the development.

Resident Peter Macuga, a participant in a group of residents who filed a deed-restriction lawsuit in opposition to the proposed development, said, "No one here has bothered to speak to section 40-332, the preservation of wooded and shrubbed areas ordinance. It requires absolutely that before a plan be considered that two reports be filed."

Macuga said a preservation report on the condition of trees and shrubs and a property report by the village manager on diseased trees were not

filed prior to the removal of 114 trees, violating the village's ordinance.

He added the deed-restriction lawsuit pending in the court of appeals should prolong moving forward in adopting development planning.

"If you approve something and a decision comes out in our favor," Macuga said, "the order is going to be to restore the property to its condition. I wonder who's going to be required to pay for that."

Macuga added another reason for not moving forward with approving development is "on this thumb drive," which he held and waived, requesting council play video on it during the meeting.

"I think some of you know what's on this," he said, alleging the village removed three minutes of recording from the June 19 council meeting, during which, he alleged, council members are overheard discussing monetary exchange for development approval.

Despite Macuga's request, the recording was not played during the Nov. 20 meeting. Renaud and council did not address Macuga's accusation of deleting the por-

tion of the meeting recording.

However, Renaud said Macuga is correct about section 40-332 of the ordinance, while informing council a proprietor may make "some amelioration of correction of a (tree) issue by way of subsequent replacement of trees."

Renaud added the village is not party to the deed-restriction lawsuit and not restricted to stay-of-enforcement action against following development-approval procedure.

Procedurally the developer is in step one of a three-step land-development approval process, according to the village's code of ordinances and the Michigan Land Division Act, Renaud explained.

Following council's stage-1 adoption of the planning commission's recommendation for conditional approval of the preliminary plot application tentative, Deeplands will incorporate specifications of the conditions for stage 2 — application for preliminary plot final approval. The planning commission will review the modified plan for compliance and make another recommendation

to village council to reject or adopt the final plan.

Stage 3, Renaud said, is a perfunctory step, whereby council formally signals the green light for development. Council has 90 days following the planning commission's Sept. 25 review of the tentative preliminary plot application to permit or deny the development.

Representing the developer, attorney William Gilbride said, "Deeplands accepts those conditions as part of this process. If the village council adopts that recommendation, then Deeplands will go back and redraw and incorporate those conditions into its application."

Remarking on the "substantial interest in tree removal and replacement" among residents near the property, Gilbride added, "It's a complicated situation because this property was heavily treed and forested and neglected for many years. Trees were removed by Edison because of electrical power concerns. Other trees were removed because of their diseased condition. And the ordinance requires that there be an inventory of all the trees pre-development and that was done and

submitted to the arborist and the village. There were photographs taken of every tree before it was taken down."

Following Gilbride's summary, arborists Brett Marshall and Brian Coulter presented their assessment.

In lieu of the initially proposed 54 ornamental pear trees, the arborists proposed planting 109 street trees in four species varieties — red maple, sweet gum, sugar maple and black gum.

"All native trees, all proved to be very good street trees," said Coulter. "There's no major disease or insect problems that are affecting them and they tolerate urban conditions. Repetition of the same four species — that continuity — is aesthetically pleasing, but we're also achieving diversity."

Deeplands builder Rich Russell added, "There's actually 217 trees on that plan. Mr. Marshall and Mr. Coulter gave me a list of what to do."

Gilbride reminded council that, per the village ordinance, each lot owner will be required to submit a landscaping plan for approval.

In early 2017, Russell was denied approval by the village to develop the nearly 8-acre property into 18 residential lots on a 852-foot cul-de-sac, requesting a deviation to the village's zoning ordinance prescribing cul-de-sac length as no longer than 600 feet.

The matter went before Wayne County Circuit Judge Craig Strong, who ruled in favor of the village.

The tentative preliminary plot plan adopted by council Nov. 20 is a substantial revision to the 2017 application.

"This is the biggest development we've faced in a long, long time," Mayor Ted Kedzierski said. "So obviously we've been very careful and our decision-making is governed by one principle: What's in the best interest of the city. We're all neighbors. ... We're not going to do anything to damage our community."

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City of **Grosse Pointe**, Michigan

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CITY OF GROSSE POINTE
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2018 - 7:00 pm
17147 MAUMEE, GROSSE POINTE, MI 48230

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the provisions of Public Act No. 110 of 2006 the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act, as amended, and the Grosse Pointe City Code, that a Public Hearing will be held on Monday, December 17, 2018 at 7:00 pm at the Grosse Pointe Council Chambers at 17147 Maumee Avenue, Grosse Pointe, MI. The Zoning Board of Appeals will consider the request from Michael Willoughby & Associates on behalf of the homeowner at 307 Roosevelt Place to construct a home exceeding lot coverage and setback requirements, with the following determination to be made:

1. The Zoning Board of Appeals will make a determination as to whether the applicant has demonstrated the requested variance meets the standards in Sec 90-101(4).

The proposed plans for this project are available for inspection by the public at the Building Department at City Hall during regular business hours Mon-Fri 8:30 am - 5 pm, Telephone 313-885-5800.

Public comment is welcome. If you are unable to attend the hearing, written comments will be accepted until 12:00 noon on December 14, 2018.

Julie E. Arthurs,
City Clerk

City of Grosse Pointe

Stolen car

A black 2006 Saturn Vue was stolen in the 18000 block of Mack 6 p.m. Friday, Nov. 23. After finishing work, the vehicle's owner started the car and went back inside the business. He then saw his vehicle driven out of the parking lot. The victim or other employees were unable to identify the suspect. The vehicle was unlocked.

— Anthony Viola

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

Grosse Pointe Farms

Home invasion

A family out of town a few days returned home 8 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 25, to find their house in the 400 block of Manor broken into. The family found a rear window broken and the master bedroom ransacked. Five rings and a box were taken, but other valuables including a laptop and TV were left undisturbed. The homeowner believed the thief could have been a disgruntled

former employee.

On second thought

Three Amazon packages were found opened and left on the side of a house in the 400 block of Belanger 11:20 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 25. A neighbor discovered the packages and reported it to police. The items were taken to the station for safe keeping and later returned to the owner. The contents were damaged, but nothing was missing.

Destruction of property

A Farms juvenile is suspected of throwing a shaving cream can through the front window of a house in the 200 block of Cloverly between 7 and 8 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 21. The suspect previously was confronted on the property in October while preparing to throw eggs at the house. He is known by Farms police and suspected in prior incidents at the residence. The homeowner's son's car

also was covered in shaving cream. The can was recovered and placed into evidence.

License plate stolen

A license plate was taken from a vehicle in the 200 block of Williams sometime in the last couple weeks. The owner reported the missing plate 6:20 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 21. He said the last time he noticed it in place was a week prior. A LEIN search was conducted, but the plate had not been involved in any offenses since it went missing.

— Anthony Viola

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

Grosse Pointe Park

Larceny

A Toshiba laptop was stolen from an unlocked vehicle in the 1200 block of Yorkshire between 5:15 p.m. Friday, Nov. 16, and 8 a.m. Monday, Nov. 19.

Drunken driving

A 53-year-old Park resident was arrested for operating while intoxicated 8:45 p.m. Monday, Nov. 19, on Lakepointe at Jefferson. Officers witnessed the man driving erratically and subsequently found him to be intoxicated.

No license

A 22-year-old Detroit resident was arrested for driving without a license and warrants 2 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 20, on Jefferson at Kensington. The individual was pulled over for performing an illegal turn and speeding.

Breaking and entering

Four unknown individuals are suspected of breaking into a business in the 1100 block of Lakepointe 11:20 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 20, and stealing an unknown amount of cash. The investigation is ongoing.

— Anthony Viola

Report information about these and other

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

Grosse Pointe Shores

Unregistered weapon

A traffic stop for driving without valid vehicle insurance on Lakeshore near Woodland Shore Drive 8:36 a.m. Friday, Nov. 23, led to the discovery of an unregistered handgun.

The 24-year-old male driver from Warren presented to the officer conducting the stop a concealed pistol license with his driver's license and vehicle registration. He told the officer he had a handgun in the glove compartment.

During the man's arrest for driving without insurance, a database search of the Denali .38-caliber pistol showed it as unregistered. The weapon was secured and stored at the public safety station.

No insurance

A 26-year-old Roseville

woman was arrested on Lakeshore near South Shorecrest Circle 7:51 a.m. Monday, Nov. 26, after a license plate check revealed she was driving without valid vehicle insurance.

— Melissa Walsh

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

Grosse Pointe Woods

Identity theft

A resident in the 1900 block of Norwood reported his identity was fraudulently used to apply for unemployment insurance benefits.

He learned of the fraud when he collected mail from a previous Woods address and discovered a letter from the state of Michigan regarding unemployment benefits for which he did not apply.

— Melissa Walsh

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

APPROVED:

Continued from page 1A

ishments long term.

The single "nay" vote was cast by Councilman Michael Koester, signaling his opposition to the motion as countering the electorate's passing of the marijuana act Nov. 6.

"The state says it's legal. I don't want to go against the will of the voters," Koester said.

"What this says is whether we want a dispensary in our city,"

Mayor Robert Novitke said. "This isn't trying to override the law. It doesn't impact plants they can have, use, the amount they can have in possession. This addresses only the establishment of a dispensary."

"I see that as a proxy for saying to residents, 'No, I'm not going to go along with this,'" Koester responded.

Specifications for administering the act at the local level remain unclear, according to Berschback, including

local law enforcement's measurement of THC levels for assessing impaired driving.

"We have a whole new landscape here. There will be a lot of changes," Berschback said.

"It's still illegal to drive while impaired under the influence of drugs, alcohol, et cetera," Novitke said. "So if you have somebody who's operating a vehicle erratically, you're still able to prosecute somebody for the way they're operating the vehicle. So I don't see that chang-

ing. What this changes primarily is the possession. It is still a violation of federal law. ... The feds have already sent out the warning: 'Don't feel that we can't do something.' So I think they're taking the wait-and-see attitude, too."

The 2008 Michigan

Medical Marijuana Act defaulted to local prohibition of medical marijuana establishments unless a municipality opts to allow them. The recently passed ballot initiative, according to Berschback, defaults to allowing recreational marijuana establish-

ments, unless a municipality amends its code of zoning ordinances to prohibit them.

A public hearing and city council's review of ordinance language banning recreational marijuana sales in the Woods are expected in January 2019.

BRIDGE:

Continued from page 4A

try to serve as their voice."

Thomas started his career in law. After earning a bachelor's degree in history from Albion College in 1990 and a law degree from the University of Wisconsin Law School in 1993, he completed a judicial clerkship with Michigan Supreme Court Justice Conrad Mallet Jr.

Prior to joining St. John Health in 2003, he was a principal at Miller, Canfield, Paddock & Stone PLC. His areas of practice included commercial litigation, intellectual property and emerging business development.

Thomas is a graduate of the Detroit Regional Chamber's Leadership Detroit Class of XXI and Leadership Macomb 11. In 2008, Crain's Detroit Business identified him as one of southeast Michigan's "40 under 40" to watch. In June 2009, The Michigan Chronicle also recognized him as one of the area's "Men of Excellence." He received the Volunteer of the Year award from the Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce for his leadership of the Chamber PAC and recently the entrepreneur organization Fusion awarded him the Horizon Award for his

commitment to mentoring emerging business owners.

Turning 50 in December and approaching the eighth anniversary of launching his own business in January, Thomas says he has "really been blessed" with both his business opportunities and his family.

All five children were

home for the Thanksgiving holiday and to celebrate the life of his mother, Bernice Thomas, who died in October at 88. Thomas admits he misses his children when they're away, but hopes "someday, after they've had some experience working, they will choose to come back home."



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6A | OPINION

Grosse Pointe News

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OUR VIEW

North boots it on head coach

If someone hadn't dug up bigoted tweets by our then-new 25-year-old head varsity baseball coach, we would have been saddled with him at Grosse Pointe North High School for perhaps decades. Not only were the tweets bad enough, but the man was under-qualified for the job.

Following the firing of venerable head varsity baseball and football coach Frank Sumbera at the end of the school year last summer, North administrators found themselves scrambling to fill two varsity positions held by Coach Sumbera for 49 years. North hockey coach Joe Drouin was picked as head varsity football coach with little time to prepare his players, as evidenced by the Norsemen's 1-8 record.

North administrators had more time to search for and interview coaches for the varsity head baseball coach position, but they blew it anyway.

We are told a search committee comprising unnamed administrators, coaches and parents narrowed the field down to five and then two. The administration refused to tell us who the other candidates were under consideration.

Sources tell us some of the big hitters with experience in the district were considered and rejected. Each one of them would have performed admirably as head baseball coach at North. So why were they rejected in favor of an inexperienced outsider?

The chosen candidate has held no head coach position at any Michigan public high school. He was most recently head assistant for a varsity team last year and an assistant coach in the 2015 and 2016 seasons. That makes three years post-college experience.

One would think we would expect more than that of our head coaches in Grosse Pointe.

The chosen coach was not even a teacher when not coaching. In 2014, just four years ago, he graduated from Northwood University with a bachelor's degree in Entertainment and Sports Promotional Management. According to his LinkedIn page, he is a "Marketing & Sales Specialist" at Franchise Benefit Solutions LLC.

We have to say, he must be very good at selling. He sold an entire panel of administrators, coaches and parents that he was the best person for the job as head baseball coach at Grosse Pointe North. Amazing.

Now that the search is again underway, we hope the panel will reconsider the years of talent we have right here in our own community. We can understand the desire for "new, young blood" in the school system, but let's start them out at the freshman or JV level — not head varsity coach right out of the gate.

Also, for transparency sake, we ask that applicants for the post be shared with the public and media. We also want to know who the administrators and parents are who are making the decision.

The administration declined to provide such information. We believe it should have been publicly available. More openness would have saved us a lot of bad press.



Grosse Pointe past

The Joseph Berry house on Edgemere, facing the lake. This copy was made by Mrs. Frank Welcenbach from a photo album of "Edgemere & Vicinity by Edwin Lodge 1902-03," belonging to Adelaide Lodge. It was gifted to the Grosse Pointe Historical Society by Mrs. Welcenbach in 1984.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE GROSSE POINTE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Meet the STAFF

A weekly column featuring the fine people working to bring you the Grosse Pointe News each week.

Renee Landuyt

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

◆ **Years at the Grosse Pointe News:**
16

◆ **Describe your position at the paper:**

I have many duties other than taking photos. I photograph various community events, fundraisers, school events, veterans and on and on. I write cut-line information and I get to write a bit, which I love.

◆ **Do you have any hobbies:**

I like to walk/hike, read, sign petitions, laugh, learn new things and photograph where my vision takes me.

◆ **Tell readers about yourself:**

I traveled around the states for 20 years and have worked in three national parks. I have been a vegetarian for 31 years. I care about the earth and have stopped many times on Lakeshore to pick up plastic bags to keep them from blowing into the lake



because they could injure or suffocate marine animals and wildlife. I walk my talk and stand up for what I believe and think kindness is the way to go.

◆ **Favorite thing about working at the paper:**

I have met so many wonderful people. I am grateful to have photographed many different events.

LETTERS

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

Woman's Club: Thank you!

To the Editor:

The Grosse Pointe Woman's Club had a very successful scholarship fundraiser luncheon and fashion show by DressBarn on Nov. 14, at The War Memorial.

Our club has raised enough for two scholarships, which will be awarded in May. Many thanks to all the businesses that donated gift cards, gift certificates and items for our drawing: Village Wine Shop, Maloof Jewelers, Koueiter Jewelers, Arette Day Spa, Blue Sparrow Art, Kramer's, Wild Birds Unlimited-GPW, Notre Dame Pharmacy, Posterity Gallery, Belding Dry Cleaners, TCBY-Kercheval, City Kitchen, Bommarito Bakery, Mimi's Bistro, Greenhouse Gardens, Jan and Jim's Hallmark, Mr. C's Car Wash-Harper, ACE Hardware-Gr. Mack, The War Memorial, Flowers by Gabrielle, Johnny B's Cookies, Elan Candy, Apple Blossom Baby, Neighborhood Club, Savvy Chic Boutique, SHE-GP, Small Favors and Village Palm. Many

thanks to our members and guests who were very generous with monetary donations and for their participation in making this day not only successful but fun, too.

Very sincerely and grateful,

SUE PLATH,
PRESIDENT
Grosse Pointe
Woman's Club

Cooper Slide Show a must-see

To the Editor:

Have you seen the Cooper Slide Show lately? Although I have seen 18 of them over the years, it had been 11 years since my last one — and it did not disappoint.

To see one, you must attend a Grosse Pointe North Athletic Awards Night. After the athletic director introduces the teams, talks about their season and honors the special, award-winning athletes, the Cooper Slide Show begins.

For over 20 minutes, with music setting the tone, multiple pictures are projected onto the big screen and that's truly when the fun begins. Hundreds of individual and team pictures are viewed.

The students begin cheering, laughing, pointing, shouting and even take pictures of themselves on display.

It was great to hear their reactions and enthusiasm. It's an uplifting and emotional experience and certainly a wonderful way to end any sports season.

Scott Cooper, the Grosse Pointe North girls cross-country coach (he is also a teacher at Parcels), presented his 125th slide show Nov. 14. For 24 years he has been adding this special touch to awards night. It's a legacy his father, Richard "Dick" Cooper, started in 1984. Scott helped his dad put together the spring slide show in 1994, just months before Mr. Cooper passed away, and Scott has been doing it ever since.

Please take a minute to send him an email or thank him for all the time, effort and love he has put into these slide shows. From slide projector to photo scanner to smart phones, the technology has changed, but one thing remains the same — the Cooper Slide Show and the athletes' response — and I for one am grateful for the memories.

LORIDANE
Grosse Pointe Woods

Anti-North bias

To the Editor:

I am a proud Norseman. I have always been on this side of the district and I have loved every moment, except for the fact there is prejudice throughout the Grosse Pointes.

There is an evident bias promoting Grosse Pointe South. As a North stu-

dent, I feel, along with many others throughout the school, that the Grosse Pointe News, along with other media sites, is a culprit of this bias, proclaiming South's victories and downplaying ours. All of the GP schools, public and private, are full of successes and it is not fair to have an unequal balance of recognition.

You are called the "community newspaper" with "complete news coverage," yet, all I see when I open up the pages, in the Sports section especially, is South.

It seems that the general layout of the Sports section has South as the top story, with Liggett and North following, usually with smaller, less in-depth pieces.

This setup is prominent in the Sept. 27 issue. The first thing you turn to is a large story about South beating North. This should only be a quick, painless article, sharing the facts, but "Blue Devils Put Fork in Norsemen" glares out at me.

Why take it to the extreme? This makes it seem as if South crushed the life out of us, when in reality it was only a score of 3-1. It disappoints me how this can just be published without thinking about how it will affect the community. It downplays North and our successes.

This should not be an issue in Grosse Pointe. I think that you, the Grosse Pointe News, need to lead this, as you are widely recognized.

Together, we can stand tall and finally be "One GP."

LYNDSAY KLUGE
Grosse Pointe Shores

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The opinions expressed in letters and guest columns are not necessarily views shared by the Grosse Pointe News.

I SAY By Renee Landuyt

Moving forward, one victory at a time



Years ago, women's voices and votes didn't count simply because we weren't men. In the year 2020, we will mark the passage of the 19th amendment by celebrating the 100th anniversary of a woman's right to vote.

This victory in 1920 was won by passionate, brave, determined women, and because of it, we have a responsibility to vote. To speak up. To use our voices. To be

the passionate, brave and determined women of today.

Every inch of ground we walk on and every step we take has been hard earned, starting with the suffragists. We will not go backward, which is the direction some politicians are trying to take us, but we aren't worried; we're up to the challenge.

We get stronger with every generation of women. We will move forward for change and equality. We will work hard in between everything else on our plates. In between the time we are taking care of our children, parents, friends, spouses, animals, environment and ourselves. In between the

times we are tired and energized, laughing or crying, welcoming someone new into our life, making another appointment, working full-time jobs or getting through another day.

It may take longer and we may get tired, but we will stay woke. We will stand together as mothers, daughters, sisters, grandmothers, alongside our friends and spouses. And everyone is welcome to stand with us.

We are survivors and we are victors. We may be let down but we will not stay down. We will rise every day just as the sun does. And we will lay our heads down every night as the stars come out to guide us to our dreams.

In America, we are able to do things women and girls in other countries are denied. This frustrates me, and when I voice my frustration people tell me it's a different culture; they don't have to be like us. To which I reply, "I'm not saying they need to be like us. I'm questioning why they aren't allowed to be free and have the same rights and opportunities like everyone else." To me that's not culture, that's oppression.

What will you do to ensure the generations that come after you have a better world? Every choice we make can affect that decision down to the things we purchase and the things we stand for, the things we teach

our children and the things we learn.

We are strong individually and collectively. We take leaps; we fall; we get back up. We believe in a better day. We stand tall and sometimes we are bent over. But we always move forward embracing our strength and diversity.

The women who came before us have marked the path. Among the parades, silent vigils and civil disobedience, suffragists lobbied, petitioned and marched. Today we lobby, petition and march to further equality not just for women, but for all people.

Most of us weren't around when these brave women fought for our right to vote, but we're here now. It is our civic duty and our right to have our voices heard.

This last election saw a record number of women elected. A Somali refugee in Minnesota was elected to Congress; two Native American women, one in Kansas and one in New Mexico, were elected to Congress, and Michigan elected the first Muslim woman to Congress. Tennessee elected its first female senator; South Dakota elected its first female governor, and Texas elected its first two Hispanic women to Congress.

How proud suffragists Elizabeth Cady Stanton,

Susan B. Anthony, Lucy Stone and Alice Paul would be to see how their hard work has paid off.

Alice Paul said, "I never doubted that equal rights was the right direction. Most reforms, most problems are complicated. But to me, there is nothing complicated about ordinary equality."

Susan B. Anthony stated, "The older I get, the greater power I seem to have to help the world. I am like a snowball — the further I am rolled the more I gain."

I agree with that. Life has taught me that the older I get, the more power I have because I gain more and more wisdom.

"Now all we need is to continue to speak the truth fearlessly, and we shall add to our number those who will turn the scale to the side of equal and full justice in all things," said Lucy Stone.

Their words still echo that truth today and mark our progress on how far we've come and how long it has taken us to get to where we are now. I am excited to see where we will go next, the trails we will blaze.

Elizabeth Cady Stanton said, "The best protection any woman can have ... is courage."

To me, one definition of courage is speaking your voice, standing up for what you believe and helping humanity move forward. Together.

YESTERDAY'S HEADLINES

1943

75 years ago this week

POINTER CHARGED WITH WIFE'S MURDER FOLLOWING DIVORCE: A 50-year-old Grosse Pointe Park man was charged with the murder of his former wife.

The man admitted choking his ex-wife in their Maryland Avenue home on Thanksgiving Day eve, but insists she was walking about the kitchen when he left.

The murder was apparently the outcome of a quarrel between the couple regarding the divorce.

1968

50 years ago this week

FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION COUNCIL COM-

MITTEE LAYS PLANS TO FIGHT PROBLEM: The Family Life Education Council's Committee on Drugs and Alcohol held a meeting in the continuing effort to combat the ever-increasing problem of drug and alcohol usage by Pointe teenagers. More than 80 people attended the session.

1993

25 years ago this week

DRIVER CONVICTED IN WOODS BUSINESS-MAN'S DEATH: A 31-year-old Detroit woman was found guilty of involuntary manslaughter in the July death of a Grosse Pointe Woods man.

The hit-and-run accident occurred July 11 and killed a 40-year-old man. The man and his 14-year-old son were

riding their bicycles alongside the curb on Vernier near the Lochmoor Club. Witnesses told police a red Dodge Shadow veered into the man, knocking him from his bike onto the pavement.

STUDENTS ADMIT TO LOCKER THEFTS: Two Grosse Pointe South High School students admitted to Grosse Pointe Park and Farms public safety officers that they are responsible for a number of locker break-ins at South High and Pierce Middle School.

They were seen the day of the break-ins in Pierce by teachers who provided the names of the former Pierce students to police. Police called the students, both Grosse Pointe Park residents, into the station and questioned them. Both admitted to breaking into the lockers.

Obituaries: Geraldine

E. Dickinson, D. Lyle Fife, Evelyn D. Gill, Ronald Johnston, Clara M. Kay, Dr. Benjamin M. Lewis, Dorothy J. Rydholm, Louise P. Scott

2008

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DIRTY DOG EXPANDING: The Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe is having its day.

A united Grosse Pointe Farms city council supported the live-music club's expansion into neighboring property on the Hill. Expansion will provide seating for an additional 16 patrons in a room set aside for special events.

Obituaries: Francis J. Ryan, Charles R. "Bob" Wilson, Denise Swanson Kennedy, James H. Graves M.D.

— Karen Fontanive

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PG-13

OPENS DECEMBER 21

THE GRINCH

Each year at Christmas they disrupt his tranquil solitude with their increasingly bigger, brighter and louder celebrations. When the Whos declare they are going to make Christmas three times bigger this year, the Grinch realizes there is only one way for him to gain some peace and quiet: he must steal Christmas!

PG

COMING SOON

GREEN BOOK

When Tony Lip, a bouncer from the Bronx, is hired to drive Dr. Don Shirley, a world-class Black pianist, on a concert tour, they must rely on "The Green Book" to guide them to the few establishments that were then safe for African-Americans. Confronted with racism, danger-as well as unexpected humanity and humor-they are forced to set aside differences to survive and thrive.

PG-13

For film and event showtimes, please visit thepatriottheater.org

Foundation awards educational grants

The Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education approved 15 grants written by teachers, administrators, parents and students across the Grosse Pointe Public School System. Christie Scoggin, GPFPE vice president and grants co-chairwoman, announced awards totaling \$54,748 at the regular meeting of the Board of Education Monday, Nov. 26.

“It is the GPFPE’s mission to bring our community together to fund extraordinary opportunities for our children,” said Scoggin.

At the elementary school level, the cycle of grants supports early literacy intervention, use of yoga as a restorative practice, and sensory space and adaptive physical education equipment for special needs students. Middle school students will benefit from a pilot Spanish program, choir uniforms, introduction of a disc golf program to improve problem-solving skills, new titles for ELA reading groups, visual reality field trips and percussion instruments. Grants at the high school level support robotics, an updated learning center to support positive intervention and Chromebooks for art.

Following is a complete list.

- ◆ Essential early elementary intervention for grades 1-3 special education — Defer, Kerby, Monteith, Maire, Mason and Trombly elementary schools (\$19,729). The



PHOTO BY MARY ANNE BRUSH

Many teachers in the district who received grants from the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education attended the Board of Education meeting. Pictured, front row from left, are Anna Boes, Tom Torrento, Melissa Currier, Amy Wilson, Leslie Saroli, Gina Francis and Jason Wolfsen. Back row, Susan Quinn, Joanna Porvin, Kathleen MacClanahan, Katy Vernier, Walter Charuba and Tom Szmrecsanyi.

GPFPE funded this significant grant through the Lois J. Warden Fund established recently in her memory and designated for important elementary programs within the school system. The funds will provide Fountas and Pinnell Leveled Literacy Intervention kits for the six remaining elementary schools that do not already own them, providing critical intervention needed for the district’s youngest struggling readers.

- ◆ Story Champs: Teaching Narrative

Language, a multi-tiered language intervention program for kindergarten to grade 5 speech therapy — Defer Elementary School (\$315).

- ◆ Yoga as a restorative practice — 20 mats to be used for third-graders once a week in the gymnasium. Current research shows yoga serves as an alternative behavior management strategy for students — Poupard Elementary School (\$158).

- ◆ Variety of equipment to create a sensory, therapeutic space for students with special needs and

general education students with anxiety or other issues. This safe space will provide a calming spot for sensory integration which, in turn, improves students’ ability to self-regulate their attention and emotions — Richard Elementary School (\$1,500).

- ◆ Spanish program pilot allowing for collaboration among grade 6 to 8 Spanish students at Brownell Middle School and ESLA students at the Academy of the Americas — Brownell (\$697).

- ◆ Eighth-grade choir uniforms, allowing the seventh-grade to

“inherit” the former eighth-grade uniforms — Parcels Middle School (\$1,500).

- ◆ Disc golf program — This pilot program will allow general and adaptive physical education students to benefit from a new activity incorporating throwing skills and problem solving, as students analyze distances, aim for targets and collaborate with their peers — Brownell (\$2,924).

- ◆ Implementing reading groups in seventh- and eighth-grade ELA — Pierce (\$2,500) and Brownell (\$2,500).

- ◆ 16 Visual Reality headsets to allow students to experience the world and its people beyond computers and textbooks through visual reality fieldtrips — Brownell (\$352).

- ◆ New or replacement percussion instruments to prepare middle school students for high school band and orchestra success — Parcels (\$5,000) and Pierce (\$5,000).

- ◆ Competitive registration fees and/or supplies for the Gearheads, Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South high schools’ combined robotics team — North/South (\$2,000).

- ◆ Updating the Alternative Learning Center — part of the Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports program — with six Chromebooks, six sets of headphones and a Chromebook charging locker. The ALC is monitored by teachers to support students who need positive intervention — North (\$1,312).

- ◆ Laptop cart, 32 Chromebooks equipped with Google Management and extended service packages to expand art students’ access to instruction, image editing software and a variety of applications used in student art — South (\$9,261).

To date, the GPFPE has given the district more than \$3 million in funding to enhance student education. To learn more, visit gpfpe.org or call (313) 432-3058.

— Mary Anne Brush

Pop-up dinner benefits South choir

By Mary Anne Brush
Staff Writer

Members of Grosse Pointe South High School’s choir not only sang, “Be Our Guest,” from Disney’s “Beauty and the Beast,” at the Choir Boosters fundraiser, they lived up to the invitation. In addition to performing between courses, choir members put their “service to the test,” in keeping with the song lyrics, by helping serve a four-course dinner prepared by three chefs.

The first “Pop-up Dinner with a Twist,” held at the Tompkins Center in Grosse Pointe Park Friday, Nov. 9, was a sold-out event, with 130 guests in attendance and 30 choir students helping to serve in addition to performing. Proceeds from this collaboration between the Boosters and Cornwall Bakery benefit the choir.



PHOTO BY MARY ANNE BRUSH

Choir members, from left, Bobby Conlan, Maya Petropoulos and Andrew Fleming, helped serve the guests.

Cornwall Bakery owners Megan and Freeman Gunnell offer regular pop-up dinners at Cornwall Bakery in Grosse Pointe Park, transforming the bakery

into a white linen tablecloth restaurant with chefs creating a five to six-course menu for guests, according to Megan Gunnell. This year, as booster club

president, they came up with the idea of creating a larger pop-up dinner in a larger venue as a fundraiser.

“We wanted to come up with something different this year, something that brings people together for a more meaningful experience than simply writing a check,” said Megan Gunnell. “And nothing creates more togetherness, more connection between people, than sharing a meal together. Especially when it’s presented in an atmosphere of celebration with talented vocalists performing between courses.”

The Gunnells’ son, Elliott, a junior at South and member of The Pointe Singers, used his experience working at Cornwall Bakery to help train and direct fellow choir students in appropriate restaurant service protocol.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Above, the first course was roasted pumpkin, root vegetable fricassee with truffle puree. Pictured here, Chef Gavin Russell drizzles a little herb pesto over each. Below, the second course was warm goat cheese and herb tart made with late harvest pepper sofrito, seasonal greens, black olive and celery.



See POP-UP, page 9A

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A Neighborhood Tradition Since 1970

A regeneration of promise

Youth leadership program refocuses on its mission

By Mary Anne Brush
Staff Writer

For 27 years, Generation of Promise has connected communities across southeast Michigan with its unique youth programming. Run by Focus Hope in Detroit, Generation of Promise brings together high school students from different backgrounds, races and ethnicities to build community and leadership skills. Students are encouraged to challenge stereotypes or misconceptions they hold and work to build relationships across divisions.

Once admitted through an application process, a cohort of approximately 60 students — typically juniors — from 17 high schools throughout metro Detroit engage in more than 120 hours of program curriculum including a weekend orientation retreat in the summer combining a series of ice-breakers, group problem-solving challenges and team-building and trust activities.

Students come together for monthly program days focusing on a variety of topics including urban/suburban divisions, race relations, cultural diversity, homelessness and poverty, teen crisis, understanding disabilities, community service, urban living and economic development.

This year, the youth leadership program is taking a step back to rebuild, refocus and regenerate. Known as “Re-Generation of Promise,” the initiative seeks funding to help continue a program that has helped shape more than 1,500 young people.

“We just took six months off of programming and have spent that time focusing on retooling in different ways,” said Caroline Baron, program manager. “We’ve basically been building a strategic plan for how the program is going to look going forward.”

Part of that effort includes reconnecting with alumni and giving them an opportunity to share their experiences. At a fundraiser at the home of Debbie and Keith Bellovich Nov. 15, several alumni spoke about the impact the program had on their lives.

Sarah Bellovich, a senior at Grosse Pointe South High School, talked about the experience of shadowing a peer for a day as part of a school exchange, an integral part of the program. What stood out for her the most was “how kind and open everyone was.”

“During these visits, we sat in each other’s



PHOTO BY MARY ANNE BRUSH

Front row, from left, Caroline Baron, GOP program manager; Nigel Nweke, Cass student; Andy Knot, ULS teacher; and Pamela Beltram, Cass student. Back row, Moussa Hamka, South principal; Sarah Bellovich, South student; Mary Weirmiller, ULS student; Shreya Rhana, South student; Richard Morrisette, South student; Will Higbie, ULS student and Brock Dunn, ULS head of upper school.

classrooms, talking to each other’s friends and each other’s teachers, stepping outside of what we knew to be our daily lives,” Bellovich said. “The connections that were made and the experiences that we shared was something that brought us so much closer and so much closer to understanding one another’s communities. Throughout the year, we were constantly glimpsing into each other’s lives and these glimpses were the fragments creating our own GOP family.”

“Every single person who goes through the program is a better educated person about their surroundings and the reason why barriers exist,” said Shreya Rhana, also a senior at South. “One of the quotes on the GOP web page is ‘Division is another form of discrimination.’ The more I think about this quote, the more I realize its validity. We can’t continue to live in a world of shadows any more, only aware of what is happening in front of us. Every person has the moral responsibility to care and be bothered by issues such as segregation within our school systems and the socioeconomic barriers that have been set for years that prevent others from having equal access to opportunities.”

Tim Devine grew to appreciate the value of the program as a parent — his son participated six years ago — as well as through his work as board chair. For him, the key is recognizing others as brothers and sisters in spite of differences. While people may look different, eat different food, worship differently or go to different schools, he said, he defined recognition as “that feeling when you transcend that otherness and you recognize we really are brothers and sisters and that’s so powerful.”

“And now, more than ever, we need to see each other as brothers and sisters,” he continued, “because we see the failure — the train wreck — of otherness and assuming someone isn’t like us so ‘I don’t know them’ and ‘I don’t care about them’ and that’s the ‘them.’”

Maria Mitzel, student activities coordinator and Generation of Promise liaison for 10 years, said she feels the program is particularly beneficial for students from Grosse Pointe.

“We call it the bubble,” she said. “They’re exposed to only certain things. They live in a very supportive, caring environment and they don’t often, except

through leadership opportunities like (Student Association) or class council, have the opportunities to work with other schools to explore what Detroit has to offer as far as different students, different religions, different cultures. And that’s what the Generation of Promise does for them.

“It’s a wonderful opportunity to see what similarities exist and what differences exist and to get exposed to them and get to understand them and appreciate them,” she added.

To find out more about the program or to make a donation, go to generationofpromise.org or email Baron at caroline.baron@focushope.edu.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ULS

Liggett Knight co-chairs, from left, Scott Reilly, Huang Reilly, Kristin Nicholson and David Nicholson.

Oh what a knight

University Liggett School’s fall auction, Liggett Knight, raised nearly half a million dollars to support academic initiatives, building improvements, athletic equipment and more.

The Nov. 16 event, held at the Detroit Athletic Club, included live, silent and fishbowl auctions as well as a special paddle call for building and technology improvements.

The paddle raising alone raised nearly \$184,000 for campus improvements.

Popular live auction items included a week at a Paris apartment, pink tourmaline and diamond earrings donated by Edmund T. AHEE jewelers and a week at the Firesky Lodge in Whitefish, Mont. Liggett

parents, faculty and staff donated items for the auction.

“We would like to express our thanks to our Liggett Knight co-chairs, Kristin Nicholson and Huang Reilly, and to all of our Liggett Knight volunteers who helped to make this event a success,” said Kelley Hamilton, associate head of school for external relations. “We also are thankful for our families who attended the event and bid on items, either at Liggett Knight or at home. We couldn’t have raised as much as we did without their participation and support.”

The event generated \$100,000 in sponsorships, which contributed to the nearly half million dollars raised.

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POP-UP:

Continued from page 8A

The evening’s menu featured an autumnal theme, with a “prelude” of roasted pumpkin, root vegetable fricassee with truffle puree followed by the second course — or “crescendo” — of a warm goat cheese and herb tart made with late harvest

pepper sofrito, seasonal greens, black olive and celery. The “opus” was red wine braised wagyu beef, potato and fall squash galette, rainbow carrot spirals, flat leaf parsley, caper and red onion salad, with a “finale” of bittersweet chocolate pot de crème “cappuccino” and warm cardamom-orange madelines.

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10A | SCHOOLS

Up on the rooftop

Trombly Elementary School's fundraising goal for its Terrier Trot — its annual fun run — was through the roof this year. So much so, Principal Walt Fitzpatrick and second-grade teacher and PTO teacher representative Steve Buckman slept overnight on Trombly's roof to celebrate.

When PTO event chairwoman Allyson Hathaway challenged Fitzpatrick to sleep on the roof if Trombly reached \$20,000, he agreed — and Buckman agreed to join him. Not only did the school achieve its goal, it exceeded it by \$5,000 — translating into an average donation of \$100 per student.

For the smallest school in the district with approximately 250 students, this is another example of "the little school who could and did," said Fitzpatrick.

— Mary Anne Brush



COURTESY PHOTOS

Principal Walt Fitzpatrick and second-grade teacher Steve Buckman set up for a night on the rooftop of Trombly Elementary School, with a tent providing little protection from the cold and snow. Below, Buckman, left, and Fitzpatrick bundle up with hot beverages for a long night ahead.



Board approves billeting policy

By Mary Anne Brush
Staff Writer

Sam Steinhebel has pleaded his case in front of the Board of Education multiple times — at policy committee meetings as well as regular meetings. He and his wife, Jennifer Steinhebel, are hosting a student from Traverse City who was offered a position on a Belle Tire AAA hockey team. While the student is in their home, they would like for her to enjoy the benefit of an education at Grosse Pointe South High School.

The family has been awaiting a decision on a proposed revision to the district's residency policy since they approached the administration with their request in July.

Hosting students to play high-level sports — known as "billeting" — is a common practice and has reportedly occurred in the Pointes in the past, but only under the radar. The Steinhebels hoped to formally resolve the matter with the district. In the meantime, their guest has been enrolled in online classes, spending her days at the Grosse Pointe Public Library Central branch around the corner from South.

A proposed revision to Policy 5111 — previously pertaining only to foreign-exchange students — was modified to include billeted students, allowing that "students at the high school level whose families reside more than 100 miles from the District's Administration Building, but who are billeted with a family able to establish residency in the District, and are participating in an athletic program approved by administration, may enroll in the District."

The number of students allowed to be billeted under these conditions was capped at 10, with tuition charged for out-of-state students. No tuition would be charged for in-state students as long as the home district agreed to release the foundation allowance.

Secretary Cindy Pangborn was not present at the meeting, but requested to be called in to vote on this agenda item alone, which passed 4-3.

Pangborn, along with President Brian Summerfield and Trustee Ahmed Ismail, voted against the revised policy. Vice President Margaret Weertz, who chairs the policy committee, voted for it, along with policy committee member Christopher Profeta, Treasurer Judy Gafa and Trustee Kathy Abke.

"I think it's a discriminatory policy," Pangborn said. "I think it's illegal and I think we have to look at it again."

Her motion to table the vote failed 5-2, with only Ismail and Pangborn supporting it.

Jennifer Steinhebel attended the meeting, but left after the vote to share the news with her family.

"It was a wonderful night at our house," she said, adding they went to TCBY to celebrate.

"I couldn't be more thrilled with the results," said Sam Steinhebel. "The process we had to follow is sound. I think there are always going to be differences of opinions, but that's why we have a board and everyone had an opportunity to weigh in with their thoughts."

"Clearly there's a majority of the board that feels there's a value in providing opportunities for kids."

Week Ahead

SATURDAY, DEC. 1

◆ Parcels Middle School is hosting its annual Holiday Bazaar 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. featuring nearly 200 tables of hand-crafted items for one-of-a-kind holiday gifts and decor. Admission is \$3; \$2 before 10 a.m. Children under 12 are free. Parcels is located at 20600 Mack Ave, Grosse Pointe Woods.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 5

◆ The Grosse Pointe North and South High School Choirs present the 2018 Holiday Concert and Tea 1 p.m. at the Christian A. Fenton Performing Arts Center, 707 Vernier, Grosse Pointe Woods. Doors open at 11 a.m. Admission is free and open to the public. Cookies and tea will be served at the event and holiday cookies sold for \$5 per box after the event.

THURSDAY, DEC. 6

◆ Grosse Pointe South High School choirs present Sounds of the Season 7 p.m. at the Christian A. Fenton Performing Arts Center, 707 Vernier, Grosse Pointe Woods. Tickets, available at gpsouthchoir.org and Duffey & Co., 15120 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Park, are \$15 for main floor seats. Balcony seats are \$12 or \$9 for students and senior citizens. Gold cards are accepted at Duffey & Co. and at the door. Visa, Mastercard and Discover cards are accepted; a 50 cent convenience fee applies.

FRI., DEC. 7-SAT., DEC. 8

◆ Grosse Pointe South High School choirs are available to sing carols upon request 5 to 10 p.m. at a holiday party, work function or local event. A minimum donation of \$25 is appreciated. Call the choir office at (313) 432-3638 or contact Dan and Kim Tripp at danhtripp@aol.com.

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Teacher of THE WEEK



Stacey Allemon



COURTESY PHOTO

School: Monteith Elementary School
Years at Monteith: 7 (9 total)
Grade/Subject: Grade 2
Nominated by: Shelleyann Keelean, principal

Principal's quote: "Monteith has an incredible staff that loves to collaborate and work together to create a culture and climate that promotes kindness and the importance of each individual's story. Stacey is an outstanding teacher who helps bring our staff together through her positive attitude and her love for learning. She always sees the best in people and goes out of her way to help our staff members and families with new ideas or new technology. She has the kind of happiness that can brighten anyone's day. Monteith is so lucky to have Stacey as a part of our team and community."
What do you enjoy most about teaching? I love those moments when that "lightbulb" finally clicks for the child who might be struggling or having difficulty with a particular topic or subject. I consider myself so incredibly lucky to be a small part of that moment

when kids realize they can do hard things. Because although I have always believed in them, sometimes it takes kids a little bit longer to believe in themselves. I love inspiring kids to believe. **Describe a teaching accomplishment you're proud of or a "teachable moment" you experienced.** You never really know, but always wonder how well your past students are doing or if you somehow made an impact on their lives. But sometimes we are lucky enough to get a small glimpse of that through an email, a thank you letter, or a chance encounter with a student where they share their successes. You remember why you got into teaching in the first place and how the smallest of things can make the biggest difference. I think that is what I am most proud of ... knowing I made a positive difference in someone's life. **Please share a book or person that has inspired you or your teaching.** I was inspired by the Ted Talk, "Every Kid Needs a Champion." In this fast-paced world we

are living in, it is such an important reminder that at times we need to slow down and focus on the important things in life. I often ask myself, what qualities do I want to see in my own children? I want to see my kids being respectful, persevering, taking risks, helping others, making connections, and most of all being kind. I want those same things for all of the kids that I am lucky enough to know, and it is at the forefront of my teaching every single day. **Favorite quote:** "Every child deserves a champion: an adult who will never give up on them, who understands the power of connections and insists they become the best they can possibly be."
 — Rita Pearson

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5B BEAUTIFUL BEGINNINGS | 6B OBITUARIES | 7B CHURCHES

Getting a (face)lift

Grosse Pointe Congregational Church adding elevator, portico

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

It's been 68 years since Grosse Pointe Congregational Church opened its doors.

And 63 since it's had some work done.

Now's the time for improvement, said the Rev. Richard Yeager-Stiver, senior minister at the Grosse Pointe Farms church at 240 Chalfonte.

Following a groundbreaking ceremony Sunday, Nov. 18, the church has begun construction that will add a new portico and entryway, a handicap-accessible restroom and an elevator.

"We have lots of different levels here," he said, noting the parking lot, sanctuary and offices all are on different levels, in addition to its basement and third floor. "A lot of outside groups are unable to use the top floor. With the elevator, they'll have easy access to all levels."

The new addition will expand into the church's current parking lot and include the portico, a new lobby, "and two options — stairs or elevator," Yeager-Stiver said.

Currently, the main entrance is on the east side of the building and a two-person elevator is on the north side.

To use the church's current elevator, "you have to open a door that's on a hydraulic



PHOTO COURTESY OF GROSSE POINTE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

From left are **Donn Bohde, president, SBW/Architects LLC**; the **Rev. Richard Yeager-Stiver, senior minister, Grosse Pointe Congregational Church**; the **Rev. Selma Massey, pastor, Whosoever Ministry**; and **Jason Fowler, project manager, FH Martin Constructors**.

close, so you fight against that," Yeager-Stiver said. "Then you're in a small space with a door on the right, which is also on a hydraulic close. Then you have to push open a gate, make a 90-degree turn to get into the elevator, then close the gate.

"With the new elevator, you come in, press the button and the doors open, you select the floor — no 90-degree turns," he continued. "And families can be dropped off together, enter together and find their seats together" instead of going to separate sides of the building.

Yeager-Stiver said he has a grasp for the diffi-

culties faced by people who use wheelchairs. While a junior in high school, a spill down stairs left him in a wheelchair for six weeks.

"It gave me an understanding and appreciation for what people have to endure," he said.

Yeager-Stiver said the church will operate "business as usual" during construction, which shouldn't have a great impact on the congregation. The expansion into the parking lot shouldn't have a great impact either as it will only eliminate eight spaces.

"One of our members, Lori Zurvelac, said it best," Yeager-Stiver said.

"She said in all the decisions we've made in our art ministry, food ministry and all the other ministries we have, we've decided to open our arms and our hearts to people, but the building has not. This project will give us the opportunity for the building to catch up with the rest of us.

"My hope is that members who have been dissuaded to come are persuaded to come back because the barriers are out of the way," he continued. "I also hope people utilizing the building ... will have less barriers in their way."

The church houses several community



Various renderings of what the new addition will look like.

groups, including Momcats, Fine Arts Society of Detroit, Grosse Pointe Camera Club and Whosoever Ministry, as well as yoga, piano and other classes.

"The other part, which is cool — this is a first for us — is this summer we'd like to hold vacation Bible school for seniors,"

See *LIFT*, page 3B

Christ the King hosts live nativity Dec. 9

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

A Christmas tradition continues at Christ the King Lutheran Church, Grosse Pointe Woods, as the church presents its annual living nativity 12:30 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 9.

A tent on the church grounds will house a host of live animals, including donkeys, camels, goats and lambs.

"The kids really like it," said Charles Cantin, a member of the church's board of elders. "It gets really crowded."

The event was brought to Christ the King in 1986 by the Rev. Randy Boelter, who had been invited to a similar program in southern Ohio. The event intrigued him, so he brought a few ideas back with him to Grosse Pointe, said Doug Bohannon, also a

board of elders member.

"Since 1986, we've only missed two years due to weather," Bohannon said. "It's our gift to the community — to share the Christmas gospel and to keep Christ in Christmas."

A manger scene is housed under the tent, where preschool children are dressed as angels, shepherds, Joseph and Mary. A narrative is read about the birth of Jesus and, of course, Christmas carols are sung.

"There's music in the background, so everybody is singing carols," Cantin said. "It's really quite a lot of fun."

Music is piped in through the volunteer efforts of Tom Weiss, who has contributed to the event nearly its entire 32-year run.

Children are welcome to pet the animals, which



PHOTO COURTESY OF DOUG BOHANNON

Camels are part of Christ the King's living nativity.

are brought to the area from a farm in Macomb County.

Organizers said the living nativity usually attracts a couple hundred to the church

grounds. The church's basement serves as a warming station where pizza and refreshments are available.

"It's pretty impressive," Cantin said. "It's a

happy time. It's a joyous feeling to sing carols and focus on peace on earth, good will toward men. It's a nice time of year."

The event also gives the church an opportu-

nity to share news of its preschool program, Bohannon said.

"Or if someone's looking for a home church. ... This gives us the chance to say hi and let them know what we're about," he said.

The event, which is free and open to the public, is a natural draw, Bohannon added. And in all of its years, there's only been one incident.

"A pig did escape," he said. "People were chasing it down Mack Avenue. For sure that was a first-time sight."

Christ the King Lutheran Church is located at 20338 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods. For more information, call (313) 884-5090.

"I've been unable to locate an eastside church who does a living nativity," Bohannon said. "We're the only game in town doing it."

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PHOTO COURTESY OF MARY KAYE FERRY

Deanna Leone, left, and Mary Kaye Ferry are making final plans for the Grosse Pointe Newcomers alumni reunion party.

Newcomers alumni sought

Grosse Pointe Newcomers alumni will ring in the holiday Sunday, Dec. 9, at Assumption Cultural Center, 21800 Marter, St. Clair Shores. All are welcome to join this reunion party, featuring dinner and entertain-

ment. For more information, call Deanna Leone at (586) 948-8785 or send reservations with \$45 per person to Shirl Williams, 567 Saddle Lane, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236.

Learn about Grosse Pointe Rotary's youth exchange program Dec. 5

The Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe presents a discussion about its youth exchange program for outbound (heading overseas) and inbound students (coming to the United States), ages 15 to 19.

Rotary International

promotes its year-long youth exchange program as "building peace one young person at a time." Through the program, students learn a new language, discover another culture, become global citizens and make friendships that last a lifetime.

Interested students and their parents are encouraged to visit The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 5, to learn more.

Refreshments begin 5:30 p.m., followed by the meeting at 6 p.m.

Woods woman is lottery winner

A Grosse Pointe Woods woman has sun and sand on her mind after winning a \$1 million Mega Millions prize from the Michigan Lottery.

Chrissy Daskalakis, 35, matched the five white balls — 20-31-39-46-49 — drawn Oct. 30. She bought her tickets at the Ahlora Mart, Mount Clemens.

"I was at the party store with my dad when

I thought, 'With the cold weather coming, why not try my luck to win some money for a vacation?'" Daskalakis said. "I grabbed a play slip, randomly selected six numbers and got my ticket.

"I gave my dad the ticket to check after the drawing," she continued. "When I got a call from him the morning after the drawing saying I

won \$1 million, I couldn't believe it. It still feels like a dream."

Daskalakis visited Michigan Lottery headquarters to claim her prize. She plans to take a vacation to Florida or Greece and save the remainder.

"I still can't believe I won," she said. "This prize will provide a financial cushion for me and my family."

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AREA ACTIVITIES

Food drive

Healthy Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods is sponsoring a food drive through Friday, Dec. 14, at each Grosse Pointe Public school building and at the administration building, 389 St. Clair, City of Grosse Pointe. Food items will be distributed to local families during winter break. The following items are suggested: cereal, granola bars, soup, peanut butter, jelly, crackers, spaghetti sauce, noodles, canned food and macaroni and cheese cups. For more information, visit facebook.com/healthygrossepointe.

sale at the Schroder Field House, 795 Lakeshore, 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1, and Sunday, Dec. 2. Tickets are \$20 for the tour only, \$40 for the tour and brunch. For tickets, call (313) 881-6565 or visit gpsif.org.

Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

◆ 8 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 2, St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ 1:30 to 7:15 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 4, Pierce Middle School, 15430 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ 8 a.m. to 6:45 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 5, St. Clair Shores city hall, 27600 Jefferson, St. Clair Shores.

◆ 1:30 to 7:15 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 11, Lakeshore Presbyterian Church, 27801 Jefferson, St. Clair Shores.

Register online at redcrossblood.org.

NAMI

The National Alliance on Mental Illness Eastside meets 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 3, at Henry Ford Cottage Hospital, 159 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms. Call Barb at (313) 886-8004.

Rotary

Grosse Pointe Rotary meets 6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 5, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Rotarian panelists discuss the Youth Exchange Program. Cost is \$10 and includes snacks; a cash bar is available. Visit grossepointerotary.org.

GPAA

The Grosse Pointe Artists Association hosts the following classes and exhibits at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms:

◆ "Bokashi (shading) workshop with Nobuko Yamasaki," 1 to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Friday, Dec. 5 to 7.

◆ "Preplanning for Success," a workshop with Robert Fionda, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 19 and 20.

◆ Art making for veterans, 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesdays.

◆ A Morning Out, socializing and art making, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Fridays, Nov. 30, Dec. 14 and 28, and Jan. 11 and 25.

◆ "Mostly Mackinac," an exhibit by Saralee Howard, displayed through Dec. 2.

Questers

Questers Grosse Pointe Pettipointe Chapter No. 243 meets the first Thursday of each month at various locations. Its next meeting is a Christmas party Thursday, Dec. 6, at The Ardmore Cafe. Members will share family traditions by bringing photos or keepsakes or telling a tale. Questers is an international organization founded in 1944. The major objectives are to stimulate the appreciation and collecting of antiques and encourage the preservation of historical landmarks. Email Dorothy Tepatti at quest4golf@wowway.com.

The Helm

The Helm at the Boll Life Center, 158 Ridge, Grosse Pointe Farms, offers the following programs:

◆ December birthday celebration, 11:30 to 11:45 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 6. Those with December birthdays get a free lunch, birthday cake and keepsake photo.

◆ The Grosse Pointe Academy bell choir performs noon to 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 11, under the direction of Roshell Chuhuran.

◆ The movie "Won't You be My Neighbor?" shows 1 to 3 p.m. Monday, Dec. 17. Cost is \$2.

◆ University Liggett School's elementary choir performs noon to 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 18, under the direction of Rachel Houk.

◆ A Christmas party, featuring entertainment by the Heart of the Hills Players, takes place 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 19. Cost is \$15 and includes lunch by the Polish Village Restaurant.

◆ Defer Elementary School's choir performs noon to 12:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 20, under the direction of Liz Moses.

Registration is required for all of these programs. Call (313) 882-9600.

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Chorus presents 66th annual Holiday Concert

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

The idea for the Grosse Pointe Community Chorus began one winter in the living room of founder Malcolm M. Johns and quickly grew to 125 members in a few short weeks.

While numbers have waxed and waned, the chorus has withstood the test of time. It performs its 66th annual Holiday Concert at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 9, at First English Evangelical Lutheran Church, 800 Vernier, Grosse Pointe Woods.

The 70-member chorus, conducted by Joseph Palazzolo, will be joined

for the first time by Brass Expansion, a brass quartet led by Fred Breitenbucher. For this performance, there will be two trumpets, one French horn and one trombone.

"We'll be doing carols from around the world and pieces from 'Messiah,'" said Sandra Mengel, chorus president. "It's a wide variety of numbers. And the brass quartet is engaging, not only for the chorus, but the audience too. And there's a sing-along in the middle."

Mengel, a member since 2011, said members hail from across southeast Michigan. Many of them are long-



PHOTO COURTESY OF J. RICHARD DUNLAP DDS

The Grosse Pointe Community Chorus during its December 2011 performance.

time members, including one woman who's been a part of the group 50 years.

"It's really wonderful people," Mengel said. "It's fun. Joseph is a wonderful conductor and our

pianist (Ron Pietranton) is great. ... And First English is a wonderful place to sing."

Tickets for the concert are \$15 for adults, \$5 for ages 12 and younger. Tickets are available at Moehring Woods Florists, 20923 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods; and Posterity Framing & Printing, 17005 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe.

All chorus members also sell tickets.

"It's a wonderful way to spend a Sunday afternoon and get ready for the holidays," Mengel said. "And it's early enough in the month so it doesn't detract from other holiday events."

For those who miss the concert, the chorus is

See CHORUS, page 8B



PHOTO COURTESY OF NEGC

From left, Grosse Pointe Rotarians Ted Everingham, Bob Lucas, Paul Rentenbach and Dick Allison.

Shopping event benefits Lake House

Christmas shopping soon will be in full swing and what better way to celebrate the season than to shop for a cause.

The Lake House hosts its annual Holiday Shop from 6 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 5, at Neiman Marcus at Somerset Collection, Troy. Attendees may shop anywhere in the store and Neiman Marcus will donate 10 percent of its sales to The Lake House.

The Holiday Shop formerly was "invitation-only private events in someone's home," said

Madeline Bialecki, executive director of The Lake House, "but Neiman Marcus asked if we could do it at the store and I was thrilled with the suggestion. It's a semi-private event this year and people will be able to shop the whole store."

For a suggested donation of \$100, which directly benefits The Lake House, attendees are treated to a festively decorated store, holiday music to get them into the spirit, as well as hors d'oeuvres, a selection of white wine, champagne and signature cocktails.

Confectioners will have samples of a variety of sweets available for tasting, Bialecki said.

Complimentary valet parking and gift wrapping also are included.

"It's a fun event and I think having it at the store will make it even more spectacular," Bialecki said. "Everyone is invited and Neiman Marcus has sent invitations to all their In Circle members."

Proceeds fund Lake House programs that support and empower those touched by cancer.

— Jody McVeigh

Because of the need

Annually, Northeast Guidance Center and the Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe raise funds to purchase new coats to meet the needs of children who receive behavioral health services at NEGC's Eli Z. Rubin Children's Center, as well as homeless children at the Day of Restoration Nov. 3. Distribution of coats began Oct. 15, just in time for the cold snap that hit Detroit.

This year, 942 new coats, hats and gloves were distributed during Project Warm Coats.

None of this work could have taken place without individuals committed to meeting the need of service to others.

NEGC is grateful for the Assistance League, NEGC volunteers, community volunteers and the Grosse Pointe Rotarians who helped.

Additionally, NEGC singled out the commitment of Claude Partridge — a volunteer who has traveled from Belleville the past three years to help with not only Warm Coats, but the delivery, set up and distribution of coats and other activities

at NEGC, such as Day of Restoration and as a patient advocate.

Partridge said he didn't mind the drive and does it to help meet the needs of the community's kids.

"To see the happiness from having a warm coat that belongs to just them and their grateful smiles is the payoff," he said.

"We could not imagine being able to distribute 942 new coats to the community without dedicated volunteers like Claude Partridge or the timeless efforts of the

See NEED, page 8B

LIFT:

Continued from page 1B

Yeager-Stiver said. "Not high school seniors, but senior seniors. They'll be able to visit all areas — the parlor, the kitchen, the upstairs. The upstairs is

beautiful. It's all windows, so there's sun coming in all day. It's a hidden gem. The elevator will open that up."

Yeager-Stiver said the church hopes the project will be completed by Easter, but they're preparing for mid-July.

"The biggest thing is so many groups want to utilize the church, but we can't do it," he said. "We have ample space, but no easy way of getting there. This 'Welcome All' building project will remove all those barriers."



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4B | FEATURES



PHOTOS COURTESY OF KINGA KOTLARZ

Grosse Pointe members of the chorus are Ashton Fell, Mallory Childs, Myla Garceau, Gabrielle Duso, Eleanor Neds-Fox, Reagan Ondra and Lucia Gabel. Inset, Oscar Kotlarz.

Michigan Opera Theatre Children's Chorus presents 'A Winter Fantasy'

Grosse Pointe children perform in Dec. 2 concert, fundraiser

The Michigan Opera Theatre Children's Chorus presents its annual "A Winter Fantasy" concert and fundraiser Sunday, Dec. 2, on the main stage of the Detroit Opera House. In celebration of the program's 12th year, the choir is dedicating its performance to the late David DiChiera, founder of the Detroit Opera House, who had the vision to create the Children's Choir.

Established in 2007 by Chorus Master Suzanne Mallare Acton, MOTCC has become a groundbreaking children's chorus and the first of its kind for the metro Detroit area. As a permanent ensemble of Michigan Opera Theatre, MOTCC provides choral and the-

atrical performance instruction in a professional environment. Choristers ages 8 to 16 perform with international opera stars in main stage productions and independently produce fully staged children's operas in the spring.

Chosen through open auditions, eight choristers from the Grosse Pointes have been selected into the program for the 2018-19 season and will appear in "A Winter Fantasy."

Every year alumni are invited to join the chorus for its celebration. One of this year's invited alumni, Miles Eichenhorn, stated, "My experience with the MOTCC taught me that even at a high level of professionalism, it is OK to mess up, struggle and

continue to learn and move forward. ... It taught me change is often OK and no work is ever complete; the fun of creating something is the challenge and learning to work through the roadblocks."

Doors open 2:30 p.m. The silent auction and raffle begin 3 p.m., followed by the performance.

Tickets are \$50 for box seats, \$30 for adults, \$15 for ages 17 and younger and free for ages 4 and younger. Tickets may be purchased in advance at michiganopera.org or by calling (313) 237-7464. Tickets also are available at the door.

Proceeds help support the operating expenses of the program and productions for the season.

Poets, artists inspire collaborative exhibition, book

After a warm reception last year, artists and poets again are working together on the collaborative project and book, "Call & Response 2: Poets and Artists in Dialogue."

The second annual "Call & Response" is on display through Sunday, Jan. 27, at Grosse Pointe Congregational Church. Poets were asked to create new works based on original art, while artists did the same, drawing their inspiration from poems.

Visitors to an art gallery inside the church will see the artworks and poems — printed as broadsides — hung next to each other. A book featuring full-color reproductions of the artworks alongside the poems — also entitled "Call & Response 2: Poets and Artists in Dialogue" — is available for purchase at the church, as well as during special events connected to the exhibition. The book and broadsides were produced by Night Cry Graphics of Royal Oak.

An opening reception to which the public is welcome takes place 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 29.

A poetry reading and discussion forum also is planned 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 10.

Artists participating this year are Linda Allen of the City of Grosse Pointe, Jeanne Bieri of Grosse Pointe Farms, Terry Burton of Detroit and Toledo, John Diephouse of Lansing, Carol LaChiusa of Grosse Pointe Farms, Ed Marsh of Royal Oak, Kathleen McNamee of Grosse Pointe Farms, John Osler of Grosse Pointe Shores, Danny Rebb of Dearborn, Celeste Roe of Farmington, Jackie Rybinski of Grosse Pointe Farms, Tamm Whitty of Grosse Pointe Park, Nobuko Yamasaki of Grosse Pointe Shores and Lori Zurvalec of the City of Grosse Pointe.

Poets taking part are Ava Ansari of Ypsilanti, Elaine Elizabeth Belz of Detroit, Writer Bush of Harrison Township, Ann Holdreith of Royal Oak, Nadia Ibrashi of Troy, M.L. Liebler of St. Clair



PHOTO COURTESY OF K. MICHELLE MORAN

Several of the artists and poets involved in this year's exhibit.

Shores, K. Michelle Moran of Harrison Township, Tracey Morris of Warren, Nancy Owen Nelson of Dearborn, Suma Karaman Rosen of Farmington Hills, Suzanne Scarfone of Grosse Pointe Farms, Ron Strickler of Grosse Pointe Shores, Mary Stebbins Taitt of Grosse Pointe Farms, Alinda Dickinson Wasner of Beverly Hills and Gloria Whelan of Grosse Pointe Woods.

"This exhibition celebrates the connection between visual artists and poets," Zurvalec said. "Both create images, tell stories, speak a language that is both universal yet highly personal. Most of the participants have told me how hard it is to create in response to another's imagery. My own reaction to Ava Ansari's poem, 'OPALA,' came after many sketches and painting starts as I tried to acknowledge the power of her poem about being a child in Iran during the war. It was a terrific yet worthwhile challenge. That sentiment was repeated to me by Jeanne Bieri and Edward Marsh, whose work will also be on display."

This project is modeled on the practice of ekphrastic poetry. Taken from "ekphrasis," the Greek word for description, an ekphrastic poem is, according to the Poetry Foundation, "a vivid description of a scene or, more commonly, a work of art. Through the imaginative act of narrating and reflecting on the 'action' of a painting or sculpture, the poet may

amplify and expand its meaning."

"I absolutely love the creative spark and energy that comes from a dialogue between poets and artists," said Stebbins Taitt, who helped organize the poetry portion of this project. "Ekphrastic poetry is a grand old tradition and making it a two-way creative conversation deepens the connection and dynamic flow of inspiration."

While housed inside a church, the artworks and poems in "Call and Response" aren't specifically religious.

"The spirit and vitality generated by this partnership is simply amazing and far greater than the sum of its parts," Stebbins Taitt said.

This project caps off the second anniversary of the Grosse Pointe Congregational Church Arts Ministry.

Whitty, an opera singer and fine artist, is the director of the Arts Ministry at Grosse Pointe Congregational Church. Zurvalec, an award-winning fine artist, is chairwoman of the GPCC Arts Ministry Committee. The GPCC Arts Ministry was established in autumn 2016 to provide an opportunity for people within and outside of the congregation to connect to God and each other through the creative process.

Grosse Pointe Congregational Church is located at 240 Chalfonte, Grosse Pointe Farms. Public hours for the exhibition are 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday or by appointment. Copies of the book "Call & Response 2: Poets and Artists in Dialogue" may be purchased with cash or a check at the opening reception or the poetry reading, or from the church office. For more information or to make an appointment to see the exhibit, call (313) 884-3075. For additional information, visit gpcong.org.

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ENGAGEMENTS

Schoenith-Allen

Thomas and Diane Schoenith of the City of Grosse Pointe announce the engagement of their daughter, Mary Kay Schoenith, to Christopher Allen, son of Robert Allen and the late Susan Allen of Metuchen, N.J.

A 2019 wedding is planned.

Ms. Schoenith graduated from Grosse Pointe South High School and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration from Wayne State University. She is a guest services manager at Vistana Signature Experiences, Sheraton Vistana Resort, in Orlando, Fla.

Mr. Allen graduated from Metuchen High School and attended Old Dominion University. He is the owner of Imagine Branding Group LLC, a marketing firm.

Reid-Evenson

Mr. and Mrs. James Carne of Bloomfield Hills and Mr. and Mrs. John Reid of Grosse Pointe Woods announce the engagement of their daughter, Meredith Reid, to Karl Evenson, son of Ms. Colleen Landman and Mr. Paul Evenson of Mahtomedi, Minn.

A July 2020 mountain lake wedding is planned in the Idaho Rockies.

Ms. Reid graduated from Wayne State University with a bachelor's degree in biology. She is a veterinary assistant at DePorre Veterinary Hospital in Bloomfield Hills.

Mr. Evenson graduated from Michigan Technological University with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering. He is a product development engineer at Ford Motor Co.

Crandall-Fanger

Sheila and Rob Crandall of Grosse Pointe Farms announce the engagement of their daughter, Sara Crandall, to Mike Fanger, son of Teri Johnson and Maurice Fanger of St. Charles, Mo.

A March 2019 wedding is planned.

Ms. Crandall earned a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from Saint Mary's College and a Master of Arts degree in sports administration from Northwestern University. She is a supervisor at Intersport, a sports and entertainment marketing agency.

Mr. Fanger earned a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from the University of Missouri and a Bachelor of Science degree in computer engineering from Missouri University of Science and Technology. He is a software engineer at Integral, a software consultancy focused on the automotive industry.

Wittwer-Locke

Mr. and Mrs. David Wittwer of Grosse Pointe Park announce the engagement of their daughter, Julie Ann Wittwer, to Giles Richard Locke IV, son of Dr. and Mrs. G. Richard Locke III of Rochester, Minn.

A May 2019 wedding is planned.

Ms. Wittwer earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in biochemistry from DePauw University and is a fourth year medical student at Wayne State University School of Medicine.

Mr. Locke earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in computer science from DePauw University. He is a software developer.



Christopher Allen and Mary Kay Schoenith



Meredith Reid and Karl Evenson



Mike Fanger and Sara Crandall



Julie Ann Wittwer and Giles Richard Locke IV

WEDDINGS

DeLaura-LaPrairie

Frankie DeLaura and Cassandra LaPrairie were married Saturday, Sept. 1, 2018, in Girdwood, Alaska. The outdoor reception was decorated with twinkling lights, candles and the natural beauty of the Alaskan wilderness.

The groom is the son of Don and Cheryl DeLaura of Grosse Pointe Farms. The bride is the daughter of Todd and Nancy LaPrairie of Livonia.

The bride's sister, Danielle LaPrairie, was

maid of honor.

The groom's brother, Anthony DeLaura, served as best man. Mike Grob, Adam Kinnear, Jimmy Marshall and Joey Ryan, four of the eight groomsmen originally from Grosse Pointe, attended the wedding in Alaska.

Both the bride and groom are graduates of Michigan State University.

The couple camped a few days in Denali National Park before returning to their Manhattan home. They will honeymoon in Japan in 2019.



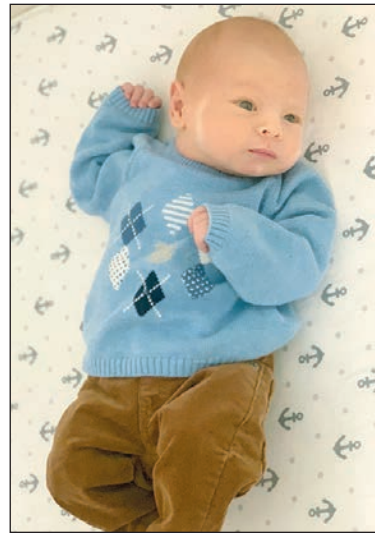
Frankie and Cassie DeLaura

NEW ARRIVALS

Thomas Charles Shafer II

Killeen and Elliot Shafer of Grosse Pointe Woods announce the birth of their son, Thomas Charles Shafer II, Oct. 10, 2018.

Maternal grandparents are Paul and Mary Treder Lang of Grosse Pointe Farms. Paternal grandparents are Tom and Mary Shafer of Grosse Pointe Farms. Great-grandparents are



Thomas Charles Shafer II Eugene and Barb Lang of Davison, Lulu Treder of Grosse Pointe Woods and Peg Shafer of Troy.

The importance of having a happy, healthy holiday

By Asha Shajahan M.D.
Guest Writer

The holidays are always a fun time but can also be extremely stressful. It's time to see family and friends you may not have seen in a while. If you had a life change — loss of a loved one, change in marital status, a new baby, unable to have children or struggling with an illness — it may be tough to deal with all the questions that come your way. You may be surprised at the lack of support you so need.

During this holiday, change your perspective to focus on your mental capacity. Here are five tips to help you celebrate the holidays with a little less stress.

1. Expend your energy wisely. We tend to try to find the perfect gift and see everyone we can and we end up feeling exhausted. Do what your body allows and don't be afraid to take a raincheck or say no.

2. Me time. We are so busy worrying about everyone else and how to make the holiday perfect we forget about our-

selves and what fuels us. Schedule some activities you enjoy. Go to a spa, meet with a friend, watch a movie, read a book. "Me time" helps you re-center and restores inner peace.

3. Enjoy your company. There may be people you spend time with who aren't your cup of tea. Consider re-evaluating or starting a new tradition that makes you happy. Why be with miserable company during the holiday? Surround yourself with positive people.

4. Holding on to anger. Anger is a difficult emotion to digest. Maybe you



have been treated unfairly or are always taken advantage of. Rather than sit in your anger, acknowledge it and use it as positive energy to re-evaluate your relationships and how to avoid feeling anger again.

5. If you find yourself alone, consider volun-

teering at a homeless shelter, gift wrapping for underserved kids or working at a soup kitchen. Helping others has a way of lifting you.

Finally, holidays are intended to allow individuals to celebrate a significance. Think about what is significant

to you this season and how you can be more present in the things that bring you joy. Give yourself some well-deserved time off, smile more, laugh often and learn to dance even when it rains.

Shajahan is the medical director of community health at Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe.

Healthy Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods is a Beaumont Health initiative that targets the pri-

ority health needs derived from a Community Health Needs Assessment. For more information contact Suzy Berschback at suzanne.berschback@beaumont.org. The mental health and substance abuse task forces are led by Mary Jo Harris, community organizer for CARE of Southeastern Michigan, mharris@careofsem.com. Connect with the group on Facebook at Healthy Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods.

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photo courtesy of Jennifer Boris Photography

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.

Mary Jo Katchmark

Mary Jo Katchmark, 72, passed away peacefully Thursday, Nov. 22, 2018, surrounded by her loving family after a lengthy battle with cancer. She will be deeply missed by her loving husband of 47 years, Tom; children, Molly Katchmark and Maggie Battjes (Dan) and her granddaughter, Rosie Battjes.

Mary Jo, commonly known as "MJ" or "Mrs. K," was born Jan. 9, 1946, in Detroit, to John and Gerry Rollins. She attended St. Anthony High School, where she met and fell in love with her sweetheart, Tom. Mary Jo excelled in school, leading her to the University of Michigan where she earned a bachelor's degree in engineering in 1968. She was one of few women to graduate that year with an engineering degree and enter a predominantly male-dominated industry. She embodied the independent, driven woman and served as an example to her daughters and granddaughter.

Mary Jo began her career in engineering at General Motors Corp. Following a family relocation to Cincinnati, Ohio, Mary Jo transitioned into computer software and system design. Eventually she started her own consulting company after moving back to Michigan in 1978 with her husband and young daughter, Molly. They settled in Grosse Pointe Park and years later welcomed another daughter, Maggie. Mary Jo relished being a mother and took active roles in her daughters' schooling and many extracurricular activities. She served as a committed support system to her friends, family and community, lending a hand wherever and whenever needed.

A longtime sports fan, Mary Jo cheered for the Tigers, Pistons, Red Wings, Wolverines and occasionally the Spartans. She enjoyed knitting, playing hostess, cooking and baking, listening to music and dancing, jamming on the piano and traveling, but most of all, she loved spending time with her family and friends.

Mary Jo was known for her loving nature, warm smile and big hugs. She cultivated friendships wherever she went, from U of M, as a longtime parishioner at St. Paul on the Lake, her workplaces, Gowanie Golf Club and most recently, her Mah Jongg groups.

Above all, Mary Jo loved being a wife, mother and especially a grandmother. Spending time with family was her priority, whether at her favorite "Up North" spot or around the dinner table at home. Her stories and recipes will provide lasting memories for generations to come.

Visitation will be 2 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 29, at A.H. Peters Funeral Home, 20705 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods. Rosary recitation will be

7:30 p.m.

A funeral Mass will be celebrated 10 a.m. Friday, Nov. 30, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Visitation begins 9:30 a.m. at the church.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in memory of Mary Jo Katchmark to GOG/New Horizons at gog.org/support.html for gynecological cancer research or Beaumont Foundation at foundation.beaumont.org for the nursing staff of 8S Oncology at Beaumont Royal Oak who took extraordinary care of Mary Jo.

Share a memory at ahpeters.com.

Ann Lucia McDonald

Ann Lucia McDonald, 84, passed away Friday, Nov. 23, 2018.

Born Sept. 2, 1934, in Detroit to John and Laura (nee Pederson) Carter. Ann married Thomas J. McDonald Feb. 24, 1956, at Bethany Presbyterian Church in Detroit. They enjoyed 34 years of marriage until Thomas' death in 1990.

Ann received her nursing education from Grace Hospital and worked more than 40 years as a nurse at St. John Hospital, Bon Secours Hospital and Brevard County Hospital in Melbourne, Fla. She was an avid bridge player and enjoyed knitting. She was a well educated and astute woman who rarely lost at Scrabble. She traveled the world visiting numerous countries including China, Japan, Mongolia, Australia and New Zealand. She traveled around Cape Horn and rode the Trans-Siberian train across Russia. Ann snorkeled in the Seychelles, went on safaris in Africa and marched all over Greece and Italy. She enjoyed the cultural benefits of all of the places she visited.

She cherished the times spent at the family cottage in Mio on the Au Sable River. Her happy, exuberant and witty personality will be missed by those who knew her. Of all of her interests, she most loved spending time with her children and grandchildren and watching them grow and attain individual accomplishments.

Ann was proud of her son, Douglas (Deborah) and daughters, Sharon McMillan (Steven), and Lynn Gmeiner (Ronald) and adored her grandchildren, Alexander, Peter, Katherine, Thomas and Jennifer. Ann will be missed by her cousin, Shirley Ashley and faithful dog, Chance.

A memorial gathering will be 1 to 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 8, at A.H. Peters Funeral Home, 20705 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods. A champagne toast will be 6 p.m.

Donations may be made to Public Broadcasting Service, 2100 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA 22202 or Michigan Humane Society, Attn: Honorariums and memorials, 30300 Telegraph, Suite 220, Bingham

Farms, MI 48025.

Share a memory at ahpeters.com.

Mildred F. Knapp

Grosse Pointe Park resident Mildred F. Knapp, 86, died Tuesday, Nov. 20, 2018.

She was the beloved daughter of Edward and Florence Knapp and dearest sister of Marguerite Oakes, all of whom predeceased her.

Mildred is survived by many loving family members and friends.

Visitation will be noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 2, at Chas. Verheyden Inc., 16300 Mack, Grosse Pointe Park. A funeral service will be 3 p.m.

Share a memory at verheyden.org.

Noël Raphaël VanAssche

Noël Raphaël VanAssche, 94, of East Lansing, passed away Thursday, Nov. 22, 2018.

He was born Nov. 11, 1924, in Izegem, Belgium, to Cyril and Octavie VanAssche. In his younger years, he served his country in the Belgian Army during World War II. Noël loved to tell many stories about his time in the Army.

He married Denise Marie Calmeyn May 9, 1951, and immigrated to Canada and then the United States. He and his wife became U.S. citizens in 1957.

Noël and Denise raised their family in Grosse Pointe Park, lived there 55 years and subsequently moved to East Lansing. Initially he worked at the J. L. Hudson Co. and enjoyed volunteering for the Hudson's Thanksgiving Day parades. He then began his 33-year career as a design sculptor for General Motors Corp.

Noël was predeceased by his loving wife of 67 years, Denise, who passed away in March. He leaves three daughters to cherish his memories, Rita VanAssche Bueter, Colette VanAssche Davlantes (John) and Nicole VanAssche. Also surviving are his grandchildren, Elise Hamilton (Ryan), Claire Bueter, Stephen Davlantes (Athena) and Ryan Davlantes.

Noël's family thanks Kaylene Dalman for her years of devoted caretaking and friendship, Michael Liberato for his support and Eucharistic ministry and J.D. DeWitt and Bruce Copp for their friendship and assistance.

A funeral Mass will be celebrated 10 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 29, at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church, 955 Alton Road, East Lansing. Visitation begins 9 a.m. at the church. Entombment will take place at St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery.

Donations may be made to the American Heart Association at heart.org; Michael J. Fox Foundation at michaeljfox.org or a charity of the donor's choice.

Share a memory at greastlansing.com.



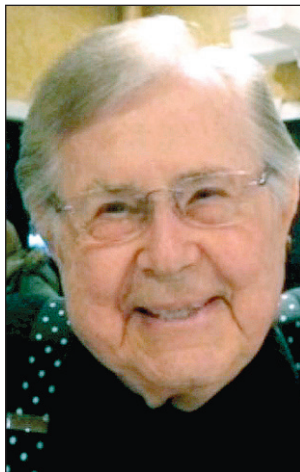
Mary Jo Katchmark



Ann Lucia McDonald



Mildred F. Knapp



Noël Raphaël VanAssche



Joan Kitchen



Virgil E. Matta

Joan Kitchen

Former Grosse Pointe Farms resident Joan Kitchen, 80, passed away Saturday, Nov. 24, 2018.

She was born July 30, 1938, in Detroit, to Pando and Stefka (nee Andreff) Anton. On July 30, 1961, Joan married Dallas Kitchen at the Fern Grotto in Hawaii. The couple enjoyed 57 years of marriage together.

Joan was a teacher in St. Clair Shores until her first son was born. She then became a devoted mother and homemaker. She was an excellent cook and always maintained a beautiful garden. In their spare time, Joan and Dallas traveled the world as members of the Nomads. Joan's strong faith brought her and her family to Historic Trinity Lutheran Church in Detroit almost every Sunday.

Joan will be remembered for her selfless and gentle nature. She was a happy, vivacious woman with a wonderful sense of style. She had an unparalleled inner strength devoting herself to her family.

She will be missed by her loving husband, Dallas. She was proud of her sons, Robert and Matthew (Jennifer) and daughter, Stephanie Listman (Bill) and adored her grandchildren, Caroline, Thomas, Patrick, Samantha, Madeline, Jacqueline, Katherine and Stephen. She also is survived by her sister, Gloria Anton.

In addition to her parents, Joan was predeceased by her son, Thomas; daughter, Gloria and brother, Thomas Anton.

Visitation will be 4 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 29, at A.H. Peters Funeral Home, 20705 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

A funeral service will be 10 a.m. Friday, Nov. 30, at Historic Trinity Lutheran Church, 1345 Gratiot, Detroit. Visitation begins 9:30 a.m. at the church.

In lieu of flowers, donations to support cystic fibrosis research may be made to the Gloria and Thomas Kitchen Memorial Foundation, P.O. Box 361136, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236.

Virgil E. Matta

Grosse Pointe Woods resident Virgil E. Matta, 97, died peacefully Tuesday, Nov. 20, 2018, surrounded by his family.

Born Aug. 27, 1921, in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, to Michael and Minerva, Virgil is survived by Mary (nee Aboud), his loving wife of 58 years. Virgil was the last surviving sibling of 13 brothers and sisters.

Virgil was the loving father of Barbara Tolbert (John) of Vernon Hills, Ill., Robert Matta (Rima) of Grosse Pointe Farms, Paul Matta of Hollywood, Calif., and Victoria Matta Zonni (Joe) of Hacienda Heights, Calif.; dearest grandfather of Jack, Kyle, and Courtney Tolbert, Sophia and Juliana Zonni and Jonathan and Andrew Hakim; dear uncle of Katheryn Elibri Frame and Alexandra Elibri Khoury, and is survived by many other nieces, nephews and dear friends.

Virgil developed a love for travel and adventure in his youth. He was intelligent and a self-made man. He started a business in Windsor with his sister, Penny, and then began a lifelong career in real estate. Virgil was a loving, giving and intuitive soul with a delightful sense of whimsy. His kindness toward others was apparent to those who knew him.

A funeral Mass was celebrated Nov. 26 at St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church, Grosse Pointe Park. There will be a private burial in Windsor, Ontario, Canada.

Donations may be made to The Salvation Army at salvationarmyusa.org or a charity of the donor's choice.

Share a memory at verheyden.org.



Mary Margaret Eckel

Mary Margaret Eckel

Grosse Pointe Park resident Mary Margaret Eckel, 84, died Wednesday, Nov. 21, 2018, at American House Grosse Pointe Cottage in Grosse Pointe Farms.

Born Oct. 23, 1934, in Detroit to Francis B. Reno and Mary Phyllis Reno, Mary Margaret graduated in 1952 from Dominican High School in Detroit and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing in 1956 from Mercy College of Detroit. She taught medical and surgical nursing at St. John Hospital from 1956 to 1959, after which she became a homemaker devoted to her husband and children.

Mary Margaret loved to garden and enjoyed all animals, especially dogs. She was an active lifelong member of St. Clare of Montefalco Parish.

Mary Margaret is survived by her daughters, Susan Eckel, Kathryn Eckel, Margaret Lujan (David) and Ann Callahan (Brian); grandchildren, Matthew, Mary Kate, Christopher, Aidan, Annie, Conor and Sean.

She was predeceased by her husband, Richard P. Eckel; daughter, Elizabeth Eckel; parents; and siblings, Anne Shook and John Reno.

A funeral service was held Nov. 24.

Donations may be made to St. Clare of Montefalco School, 16231 Charlevoix, Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230.

Holiday deadlines

The deadline for obituary copy will be adjusted due to the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

For the Dec. 27 issue:

Obituary copy must be submitted by 3 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 20.

For the Jan. 3, 2019, issue:

Obituary copy must be submitted by 3 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 27.

The Grosse Pointe News offices will close 5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 21, and reopen 8 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 26. The office also will be closed from noon Monday, Dec. 31, until 8 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 2, 2019.

PASTOR'S CORNER By the Rev. Randy Boelter

A commitment to faith, family

The Advent and Christmas narratives teach us that Joseph, the husband of the Virgin Mary and earthly father of Jesus, demonstrated some remarkable qualities in his life. Here was a man who fared well in his relationships with God and others. Others fared well in their relationships with him too. The scriptures reveal Joseph was a man who had a commitment to his faith, a commitment to his family and the internal, spiritual strength to sacrifice his own desires for God, his wife and God's son.

Joseph was committed to his faith in a God who promised to send Immanuel, "God with us." The Gospel of Luke tells us Joseph faithfully and regularly led his family to worship. He was a man who let his faith in God's word guide his major life decisions. When he found Mary was with child, he could have broken his betrothal. Instead of exercising his legal rights, he chose to bring

no public disgrace to Mary. After Jesus was born, he soon put aside his own plans, leaving his home and becoming a stranger in a foreign land so Mary's son would be safe from Herod's decree.

News of the "Me Too" movement shows that in spite of our cultural advancements, many women and men have not fared well in their relationships. Christmas often seems to intensify this. What would happen now if more men mirrored the commitment to faith and family shown by Joseph? What would happen in many relationships if men and women, both moved by God's sacrificial love, emulated Joseph and Mary's lives?

The grace and strength to fare well comes from Jesus our Immanuel. He forgives our sins and changes our hearts. Come and hear his life-changing word this season.

Boelter is the pastor of Christ the King Lutheran, Grosse Pointe Woods.

First English Christmas season schedule set

Members of First English Evangelical Lutheran Church, 800 Vernier, Grosse Pointe Woods, invite the community to worship at Christmastime.

Poinsettias abound in the chancel, two Christmas trees flank the altar and candlelight sparkles throughout the sanctuary. A coffee hour follows each regular worship service and 35-plus decorated trees are displayed throughout the facility.

Regular worship takes place 9:30 and 11 a.m.

Sunday, Dec. 2; that evening the Sunday School Christmas Pageant and Carol-Along take place 7 p.m. after a freewill donation light supper 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 9 is Music Sunday at 10 a.m. when the Good News Singers and special brass and percussion perform. Sunday, Dec. 16 features 9:30 and 11 a.m. services.

Christmas Eve, Monday, Dec. 24, three candlelight services are offered in the evening, each with its own per-

sonality; no coffee hours are offered. At 5 p.m., a special children's time is featured. Before the 7:30 p.m. service, special music is performed at 7:15 p.m. At 11 p.m., Holy Communion is offered with music beginning 10:45 p.m. Sunday mornings, Dec. 23 and 30, regular worship begins 10 a.m.

Epiphany worship takes place at regular times Sunday, Jan. 6, celebrating the visit of the magi to the Christ child.

Society of Mayflower Descendants inducts Shores resident, Dr. Beals

The Society of Mayflower Descendants recently welcomed Grosse Pointe Shores resident Joseph M. Beals M.D., to its membership.

Beals qualified for membership by successfully completing the necessary documentation of his ancestry, tracing his heritage to passenger John Howland, one of 41 adult male

passengers of the Mayflower who signed the Mayflower Compact Nov. 11, 1620. They had come to settle in a new land and find a new home and government for the benefit of themselves and their posterity.

For more information on the Society of Mayflower Descendants, visit themayflowersociety.com or michmayflower.org.

CHURCH EVENTS

St. Michael's

St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 20475 Sunningdale Park, Grosse Pointe Woods, offers "Held in God's Grace: An Advent Study Group" four Thursdays, beginning Nov. 29. Each session begins with a soup supper at 6:30 p.m. followed by the study at 7 p.m. To participate, contact Holly at (313) 884-4820 or office@stmichaelsgpw.org. Registration also is accepted the beginning of the first session.

The church presents an organ recital on the historic Skinner Opus 705, followed by the service of Evensong beginning 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 2.

The church presents its eighth annual "Sweet

Noels" holiday bake sale 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 8. Members of the church sell homemade candies, cookies, baked goods and other treats. The same time, shoppers are invited to visit The Little Thrift Shop and Christmas Boutique, which will be open throughout Sweet Noels. The Mack entrance to the church's parking lot is between the CVS parking lot and the Parcels playing fields, just south of Vernier. From the parking lot, visitors should use the entrance under the long, covered walkway.

Fort Street

Fort Street Presbyterian Church, 631 W. Fort, Detroit, hosts the Fort Street Chorale and

Chamber Orchestra — featuring several Grosse Pointe residents — for a concert 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1, and Sunday, Dec. 2, of Handel's "Messiah." Tickets are \$25. Call (313) 961-4533 or visit fortstreet.org/messiah.

St. James

The St. James Book Club meets 6:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 17, in the church's gathering space, 170 McMillan, Grosse Pointe Farms, to discuss the book "The Boy on the Wooden Box" by Leon Leyson. All are welcome.

St. James Lutheran Church, 170 McMillan, Grosse Pointe Farms, holds a service of Lessons and Carols at 10:15 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 30, in the sanctuary.

Choir performs holiday music

The Detroit Concert Choir, featuring several members of the Grosse Pointe community, hosts three holiday concerts.

◆ 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 8, at St. Hugo of the Hills, 2215 Opdyke, Bloomfield Hills.

◆ 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 9, at Old St. Mary's, 646 Monroe, Detroit.

◆ 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, at Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield, Clinton Township.

Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$18 for seniors and \$10 for students.

DCC is housed at



Members of the Detroit Concert Choir.

Grosse Pointe Woods School. For more information, visit detroitconcertchoir.org or call (313) 882-0118.

Women's Advent candlelight service planned for Dec. 5

The Women of the Church at First English Evangelical Lutheran Church present the seventh annual Women's Advent Candlelight Service at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 5. The service features reflection and the celebration of women, from teens to seniors. An Advent message is offered by the Rev. Lindsey Anderson of Salem Memorial Lutheran Church in a sanctuary-wide candlelit atmosphere for women only,

to promote faith and fellowship. The nursery will not be open.

The service is followed by social hour in the lounge featuring light refreshments and beverages. Attendees also may take self-guided tours of the decorated Christmas trees throughout the facility. All community women are invited.

First English is located at 800 Vernier, Grosse Pointe Woods.

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The Rev. Justin Dittrich

8B | FEATURES

CHORUS:

Continued from page 3B

performing small-group caroling as riders gather for the Holiday Lights Trolley, which departs from Patterson Park the evenings of Dec. 10 through 13.

“One of our members saw mention of it and called the park,” Mengel said. “We’ll go and carol there on a volunteer basis. We’re hoping to have 10 to 15 people at each departure. We’ll be on the ground, not in the trolley. That’ll be fun.”

and 7:45 p.m. each night. “The Holiday Lights tour is already wonderful,” Mengel said. “We’ll be a little added sparkle. There’s no cost for seeing us. ... We’re looking forward to doing it as much as anyone is looking forward to seeing us. We hope it adds to the yuletide ambiance.”

Apart from its annual winter concert, GPCC presents a springtime dinner cabaret, next planned for May 3, at Assumption Cultural Center, St. Clair Shores.

“We pick crowd-pleasing, well-known songs,” Mengel said. “When we

look out at the ballroom, we see people singing along.”

This will be its fourth cabaret, which also includes dinner by Marchiori Catering and raffles.

The GPCC always seeks new members. Auditions are not required. Its next season begins with rehearsals Tuesday, Jan. 8, at the Grosse Pointe North High School choir room.

A \$50 registration fee covers the cost of music. All are welcome.

For more information, visit grossepointecomcommunitychorus.org.



PHOTO COURTESY OF NEGC

From left, Grosse Pointe Rotarian Dean Valente, volunteer Claude Partridge and Rotarian Judy Masserang.

NEED:

Continued from page 3B

Grosse Pointe Rotarians who zealously give of their time and their commitment to raise funds annually for the Warm Coats project,” said NEGC President and CEO Sherry McRill.

NEGC is a community-based behavioral health agency serving the community more than 55 years on Detroit’s east side with four locations. It is committed to the health of children, adults and families by providing innovative community-based services through behavioral and primary healthcare.

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Swimming

GROSSE POINTES

Briggs helps Club Wolverine to top

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

Grosse Pointe Farms resident Todd Briggs has been involved with one of the most successful swimming clubs in the state, Club Wolverine.

Briggs has been the Club Wolverine board president the last three years and leads a team of more than 450 team members, 26 coaches with five full-time, and a budget of nearly \$1 million.

"The key to an effective board of directors is an atmosphere of collaboration, effective and strategic planning and making sure that the club's programs align with its stated mission and goals," Briggs said.

Club Wolverine is based out of Ann Arbor and is one of the largest in the state. It was started in 1956 by the University of Michigan Swim Coach Denny Hill and Ann Arbor parents.

In 1983, Jon Urbanek took over the program and sent more than two dozen athletes to the Olympics in his four decades at the helm. He said he credits the Club Wolverine program as key to developing a long list of national and international success. Athletes such as Mike Barrowman,



Todd Briggs

Tom Dolan, Tom Malchow, Eric Namesnik and Chris Thompson achieved Olympic success under Urbanek.

In 2004, Bob Bowman became head coach of the Michigan men's program and coached the Club Wolverine High-Performance athletes through the 2008 Olympics in Beijing, before leaving to return to the North Baltimore Aquatic Club.

He built on the success of coaches Hill and Urbanek. As the long-time coach of multiple Olympic Gold medalist and world record holder Michael Phelps, Bowman continued the Club Wolverine tradition of developing world-class swimmers, including 2008 Olympic medalists Peter Vanderkaay (1 Gold, 1 Silver), Eric Vendt (1 Gold), and Allison Schmitt (1 Bronze), in addition to



PHOTOS COURTESY OF TODD BRIGGS

The Club Wolverine team celebrates at last summer's national meet.

Phelps record setting eight Gold Medals.

In late 2005, Bowman tapped Wolverine Aquatics Head Coach Eric Namesnik to expand the Club Wolverine collegiate/national program into a full-spectrum age-group swim program. "Snik" is a two-time Olympic silver medalist (1992, 1996) and a former Michigan assistant coach under Urbanek.

They won the National Club Swim Association National Team Title last summer. They train out of several area pools, as well as Fuller outdoor pool in Ann Arbor during the summer months.

As for Briggs, he was an All-State swimmer at

Venice High School in Florida and has two sons who compete with the club, Ethan and Tucker. Both have used the opportunity to compete with some of the area's top male and female superstars to improve their skills.

Some of the former Grosse Pointe high school All-State swimmers who are with Club Wolverine are Jacob Montague, University of Michigan junior; Claire young, Eastern Michigan University junior; Alexis Hughes, U-M sophomore; Catie DeLoof, U-M senior; Jackie DeLoof, U-M junior; Ali DeLoof, U-M graduate who set a World and USA swim

record; and Gabby DeLoof, U-M graduate who is currently on the USA Jr. Pan Pac team.

Briggs was a former head coach of Grosse Pointe South girls swimming and diving team, guiding the Blue Devils to a 60-7 record from 2004-08, and he earned MAC Red Coach of the Year. Plus, he was on the committee that planned the current South natatorium.

He was a 10-time Michigan Masters Swimming state record holder, a National Masters Swim Champion, fifth-place finisher in the FINA (International Swimming Federation) Masters World Swim

Championship 5K open water competition and national age group champion for the 70.3 Ironman distance competition.

He also coached the Farms summer swim team in 2006, and is an American Swim Coaches Association Level 2 coach.

Briggs passed on his swimming passion to his sons. Ethan is a 12-time All-State and All-American swimmer at South. He was the MAC Red Swimmer of the Year during his junior and senior seasons, plus set more than 12 Lakefront Swim Association records who is a freshman on the U-M rowing team.

Hall of Fame

UNIVERSITY LIGGETT SCHOOL



PHOTO COURTESY OF REBECCA WALL

Hall of Fame

University Liggett School recently celebrated the athletic achievements of, above from left, C.R. Moultry, Katherine Riddle Miller, David Backhurst and Susie Mascarin Keane at the 2018 Alumni Athletic Hall of Fame Ceremony in the new Boll Campus Center. "It was a touching evening as each of the inductees talked about their memories and experiences at University Liggett School," said Director of Alumni Relations Katie Durno. In addition to more than 150 friends and family members, several previous Alumni Athletic Hall of Fame inductees attended the ceremony, including former faculty Muriel Brock, Bob Wood and Chuck Wright, and alumni Lauren Ealba Harris and Monica Paul Dennis. The Alumni Athletic Hall of Fame was created in 2011 to honor and celebrate alumni athletes and the rich athletic history at University Liggett School. To date more than 30 alumni athletes have been inducted into the Hall of Fame, including former NHL player Jimmy Carson, Olympic rower John Welchli DUC and Lake Forest College Athletic Hall of Fame inductee Marty Wittmer.

Boys hockey

GROSSE POINTE NORTH

Norsemen taking steps to improve

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

The Grosse Pointe North boys hockey team took the four-hour trek to Alpena last weekend to compete in the Northern Lights Showcase.

"We were hoping to come back after the Thanksgiving break .500, but that didn't go as planned," head coach Joe Drouin said.

The Norsemen were scheduled to play two games, but Gaylord backed out, leaving the tournament one team short. A replacement couldn't be found on short notice, so the Norsemen played just one contest.

They played better, but lost 2-0 to Alpena, dropping to 0-3 overall.

"We're still looking to play a complete 51 minutes," Drouin said. "We're implementing a new defensive system, and it's starting to pay dividends."

The Norsemen held Alpena to only four

shots in the first period, and things were staying the course in the second until the host squad scored on a power play and short-handed late in the second period to take the lead.

Neither team scored in the third period, and the Norsemen left for home with the defeat.

"Overall, Connor Albrecht has been captaining the team in the right direction," Drouin said. "The returning players are providing the power, Michael Burns and Evan Berger are playing bigger than their physical stature. The sophomores are becoming hardened."

"Sophomores Dylan Holman and Nick Asimakis and junior Brock Spicher are stepping up to bolster the blue line, with Joe Lucido being the only returning defenseman on the team."

Next for North is a home game at 5 p.m. Friday, Nov. 30, against U-D Jesuit.

2C | SPORTS

College signing

GROSSE POINTE SOUTH



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHRIS BOOTH

Going east

Grosse Pointe South senior Clarice Fisher, right, recently signed a National Letter of Intent to swim for the women's team at the State University of New York at Buffalo for head coach Andy Bashor. Joining her at the signing was South girls swimming and diving head coach John Fodell. Fisher recently completed her high school career as an All-State swimmer, and now prepares for a collegiate career competing in the Mid-American Conference.

GROSSE POINTE NORTH



PHOTO BY ERICKSON GLAYZARD

MSU bound

Grosse Pointe North senior Julia Ayrault, seated center, recently signed a National Letter of Intent to play women's basketball at Michigan State University under head coach Suzy Merchant. Joining Ayrault at her signing were, front row from left, parents Kim and Andy Ayrault, and siblings, back row from left, Annabel, Joseph and Adam Ayrault. The Spartans, a member of the Big Ten conference, were 18-15 overall and 7-9 in the conference last season. As of Tuesday, Nov. 27, the Spartans were 4-1, beating Bowling Green 99-69, East Tennessee State 75-53, Wright State 81-68 and Kennesaw State 75-51. Their loss was 78-74 to North Carolina State, ranked No. 13 in the nation. Ayrault will join a squad losing only one player to graduation, Jenna Allen. Ayrault is a contender for the Miss Basketball award given to the state's top female basketball player after the season. Ayrault and the Norsemen begin their season at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 5, traveling to Warren Regina, and then they play Birmingham Marian at 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 8, at Calihan Hall.

City of Grosse Pointe, Michigan
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
GROSSE POINTE PLANNING COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the provisions of Public Act No. 110 of 2006 the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act, as amended, and the Grosse Pointe City Code, that a Public Hearing will be held on Monday, December 17, 2018 at 7:00 pm at the Grosse Pointe Council Chambers at 17147 Maumee Avenue, Grosse Pointe, MI. The Grosse Pointe Planning Commission will consider a zoning ordinance amendment which will prohibit marijuana establishments under the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marijuana Act.

Public comment is welcome. If you are unable to attend the hearing, written comments will be accepted until 12:00 noon on December 14, 2018. If further information is needed, please contact the Grosse Pointe Clerk, 17147 Maumee, Grosse Pointe, MI 48230, Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Telephone: 313-885-5800.

Julie E. Arthurs,
City Clerk

GPN: 11/29/18

CITY OF HARPER WOODS
NOTICE OF CITY COUNCIL VACANCY

The City Council of the City of Harper Woods hereby gives notice that a vacancy has occurred effective November 19, 2018. The City Council is seeking interested and qualified persons for appointment to the position of Harper Woods City Council for the current term of office through November 5, 2019. Application is due by 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, December 5, 2018. To be considered for the position, the applicants must:

- ▶ Be a qualified elector under State law;
- ▶ Have primary residence within the City;
- ▶ Have resided in the City for at least 2 years prior to December 10, 2018;
- ▶ Possess the qualification for such office;
- ▶ Not be in default to the City of Harper Woods.

Please submit a letter of interest to Leslie M. Frank, City Clerk of the City of Harper Woods, 19617 Harper Avenue, Harper Woods, MI 48225. Letters must include applicant's name, address, telephone number and a brief explanation of why you wish to be considered. All applicants must attend the December 10, 2018 Special City Council meeting where five minutes will be given to introduce themselves to City Council and the community.

Posted: November 20, 2018
Published: November 29, 2018

Baseball

BALL STATE UNIVERSITY

Hill picks Ball State

Ball State baseball head coach Rich Maloney announced that eight student-athletes have announced their commitment to the Cardinals for the 2019-20 academic year, including Grosse Pointe Woods native Tyler Hill.

This year's additions feature four pitchers, two infielders, one outfielder and one catcher.

"We feel like we met all of the needs we had, but with guys who can become legitimate prospects," Maloney said. "That's what we are after in this program, trying to find guys who have aspirations to play at the next level. The other thing is we found a lot of guys

who are solid academically. I think the balance between academics and athletics and the possibility of developing into professional baseball players is strong in this class."

Hill will join the team after playing one year at Lansing Community College.

The right-handed pitcher earned first team all-state honors after going 8-2 with a 0.86 ERA and 108 strikeouts in 52 innings for Grosse Pointe North High School last spring. Hill was selected to play in the 2018 Michigan High School Baseball Coaches Association All-Star Game.

"Tyler's a competitor," Maloney said. "He's a strong kid who should have an immediate impact on our staff. He has an excellent breaking ball and a live arm. Tyler has a very good breaking ball and strong upside."

Ball State concluded the 2018 season with a 32-26 overall record and a 17-10 mark in the Mid-American Conference. The Cardinals have won at least 30 games in six consecutive seasons.

Hill begins his Lansing Community College schedule with four games Friday and Saturday, March 1-2, against Ivy Tech Community College Northeast.

Football

ALBION COLLEGE

Trio earn honors

Grosse Pointe South graduate Brian Blanzly hauled in a pass at mid-field and shed a would-be tackle to finish a 93-yard touchdown pass play in the fourth quarter during Albion's 35-19 football victory over Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association rival Olivet Saturday, Nov. 10.

The play matched the longest reception in Albion history and it was tied for the eighth longest reception by a receiver in NCAA Division III this season. Blanzly, a senior tight end for the Britons, finished the game with three receptions for 118 yards.

He also scored on a 13-yard pass from sophomore quarterback Kyle Thomas on Albion's first possession.

Blanzly led the receiving corps for the season with 36 receptions for 662 yards and eight touchdowns.

He earned All-Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association First Team honor. Other South graduates, Sam Blanzly and Andrew Fabry, also earned All-MIAA First-Team honors this season.

Sam Blanzly completed 21 of 35 passes for 233 yards with three touchdowns, and at punter averaged nearly 39 yards per kick against league rivals, while pinning eight of those punts inside the opponents' 20-yard line. His longest punt was 75 yards in an October game against Adrian College.

Fabry, who made the All-MIAA Second Team in 2017, is fourth among NCAA Division III kickers this season after making 10 of 11 field goals and 54 of 56 extra points for 84 points this season.

Baseball, wrestling

GROSSE POINTES

Register for camps

It's time to sign up for the annual Grosse Pointe South Baseball Holiday Hitting Camp, which runs 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 22, at the high school's main gymnasium.

South is located at 11 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms.

The cost is \$50 and is for children in second through sixth grade.

The camp is sponsored by the Grosse Pointe South baseball program, as well as

Burke's Sport Haven, and the objective is to provide detailed instruction on the fundamentals of the game of baseball by teaching proper mechanics in a safe and positive atmosphere.

The emphasis is on instructional, not recreational.

The camp will be staffed by Grosse Pointe South players and coaches. Campers will be age-grouped and will rotate through five to six

hitting stations, with emphasis on fundamentals. Drills also will be demonstrated that parents can do with their player at home.

All players must be pre-registered. There are no refunds once the camp has started, and no registrations are accepted at the door.

Send a check payable to Grosse Pointe South Dugout Club to 835 Hidden Lane, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236.

For further questions, contact director Dan Griesbaum at (313) 347-3672 or email at Dan.griesbaum@gpschools.org.

Wrestling

The Grosse Pointe Wrestling Club begins its 16th season Monday, Dec. 3.

Practices are in the Grosse Pointe South main gymnasium Mondays and Wednesdays from 5:30 to 6:45 p.m. through mid-February.

The team is coached by Tyler Thompson, Dave Salazar and Tony Cimmarrusti, as well as other volunteers.

For more information, contact Cimmarrusti at mykingis@aol.com or (313) 640-7922.

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

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 Grosse Pointe News

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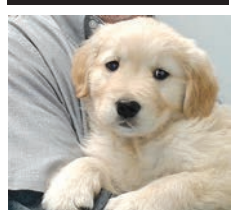
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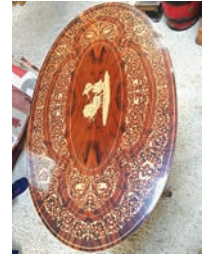
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GUTTER CLEANING- gutter repairs, downspouts. Fully insured call Steve, 313-244-9651.

945 HANDYMAN

A affordable price. Mike handyman. Electrical, plumbing, carpentry, hardwood flooring, ceramic, marble, painting. Roofs, bathrooms, basements, kitchens, decks. Code violations. Small or big jobs. (313)237-7607 (586)215-4388 (810)908-4888 Native Grosse Pointer.

AAA Handyman. Expert carpenter, painter and electrician. Grosse Pointe Native. References available. Call Mike (313)742-7757 Christmas Decorations Inside or Out!

Older home specialist. City inspection repairs. Sewer cleaning, carpentry, plumbing, electrical, plaster, painting, kitchens, baths, masonry. (313)354-2955

945 HANDYMAN

HANDYMAN specializing in Plumbing, Heating, Air Conditioning, Electrical and miscellaneous odd jobs. Lifetime career experience, reference available. Call Douglas Kehrer at 586-292-5971.

947 HEATING & COOLING REPAIR

REDBARON ENTERPRISES
WE'RE your "to do" list handyman! Using a wide-range of various handyman tasks, specialized tools and skills, Red Baron Enterprise, LLC handymen professionals are just a phone call away and ready to accomplish those daily to-do's that you never seem to have time for. BIG or small we can handle it all. RedBaron Enterprises.com (313)408-1166

946 HOME SERVICES

GROSSE POINTE MOVING & STORAGE
Local & Long Distance 822-4400
Large and Small Jobs Pianos (our specialty) Appliances Saturday, Sunday Service Senior Discounts
Owned & Operated By John Steininger
11850 E. Jefferson MPSC-L 19675 Licensed - Insured
FREE ESTIMATES

947 HEATING & COOLING REPAIR

THE ALPINE CORPORATION
PLUMBING HEATING Electrical Boiler Furnaces Hot Water Heaters Violations Corrections Residential Commercial 40 years experience 734-353-9348

948 INSULATION

A quiet home is a relaxing home! Blown in Cellulose Insulation is GREEN, cost and energy efficient. Red Baron Enterprises, LLC will insulate your home. RedBaron Enterprises.com (313)408-1166

954 PAINTING / DECORATING

SHORES PAINTING
Painting, general repairs, lead paint certified, affordable prices, licensed/ insured. 25 years experience Call Kevin for your FREE estimate (586)291-9317 or email shorespaint@gmail.com

STUHLDRER
-painting- Holiday Winter Specials Plaster repair, wood staining custom painting. Basements and spray outs Neat • Fast • Reliable (Faux finish available) Local, References 313-728-0962

Nick Karoutsos
Painting
586-778-9619
INTERIOR & EXTERIOR RESTORATION CUSTOM PAINTING
All Work Guaranteed - FREE ESTIMATES - LICENSED - INSURED

957 PLUMBING & INSTALLATION

REDBARON ENTERPRISES
SHOWER and Faucet repairs, Drain clean outs, Garbage disposals, Hot water heaters and Broken pipes. RedBaron Enterprises.com (313)408-1166

954 PAINTING / DECORATING

REDBARON ENTERPRISES
INTERIOR/ EXTERIOR PAINTING. Including drywall, plaster, paint repair. RedBaron Enterprises.com (313)408-1166

JOHN'S PAINTING

Interior/Exterior Repairing: Damaged plaster, drywall, cracks, windows puttying, caulking. Fire/Water damage insurance work. All work guaranteed G. P. References License/Insured Free estimates Senior Discount (313)882-5038

960 ROOFING SERVICES

REDBARON ENTERPRISES
ROOF- Gutters- Siding- Trim New roof installation. Locate/ repair leaks or damages. RedBaron Enterprises.com (313)408-1166

REASONABLE ROOFING REMODELING

SLATE • TILE CEDAR • METAL • COPPER/ METAL WORK • HISTORICAL RENOVATIONS Factory Trained & Certified Licensed & Insured Warranted Work FREE ESTIMATES 888-8NOLEAK

981 WINDOW WASHING

FAMOUS Maintenance. Licensed & insured since 1943. Gutter cleaning/ power washing. (313)884-4300

King Crossword

Solution for last week's puzzle 11/22/18

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

ACROSS

- 1 Woodsy home
- 6 Buddy
- 9 Lawyers' org.
- 12 Russian pancakes
- 13 " - la-la!"
- 14 CSA soldier
- 15 Big name in porcelain
- 16 Expression of regret
- 18 Find
- 20 Flightless flock
- 21 E.T.'s transport
- 23 Previous night
- 24 Wherewithal
- 25 Tatters
- 27 Robin Hood's missile
- 29 Tiers
- 31 Big river
- 35 Helicopter part
- 37 Bygone times
- 38 Go around the world?
- 41 Wager
- 43 Table scrap
- 44 Gaucho's

DOWN

- 1 "NCIS" ailer
- 2 Jungfrau, for one
- 3 High school science course
- 4 - -European
- 5 Family girl
- 6 Straw hat
- 7 Lasso
- 8 Discoverer's cry
- 9 Scent
- 10 Started

11 Big canyon

- 17 Maneuvering room
- 19 Sailor's "Halt!"
- 21 Cyber-address
- 22 Air safety org.
- 24 Mid-May honoree
- 26 Soap opera, e.g.
- 28 Harder to find
- 30 Deteriorate
- 32 Fauna study
- 33 Bobby of hockey
- 34 Trawler need
- 36 Followed orders
- 38 Not just chubby
- 39 Ice cubes, slangily
- 40 Swell
- 42 Snug
- 45 Census data
- 46 Winged
- 48 Fly-by-night?
- 50 Clear the tables
- 51 Collection

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12					13				14		
15					16			17			
		18			19			20			
21	22			23				24			
25			26		27		28				
29				30			31		32	33	34
			35				36		37		
38	39	40			41		42		43		
44				45			46				
47				48			49		50	51	
52				53			54				
55				56			57				

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

Solution for last weeks puzzle 11/22/18

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

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

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!