

SCHOOLS
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South students
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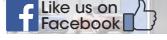
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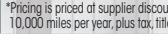
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Crime lower in 2018

By Anthony Viola
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS, PARK AND CITY — Crime decreased last year in Grosse Pointe Farms, Park and City, according to the cities' annual reports. Grosse Pointe Shores and Woods have not yet released their 2018 annual reports.

Park

The Park saw crime decrease 4 percent in 2018, which includes both index and non-index crimes.

Index crimes are classified as the eight most serious crimes by the FBI. They include criminal homicide, forcible sexual offenses, robbery, aggravated assault, arson, burglary, larceny and motor vehicle theft.

There was a total decrease of two crimes for the eight most serious index crimes, falling to 180 from 182. The index crime rate was the lowest the Park has seen the last five years. In 2014, 293 index crimes were reported.

There were 149 larcenies, 17 burglaries, two forcible sexual offenses and nine motor vehicle thefts in 2018. No robberies — armed or unarmed — homicides, arsons or aggravated assaults were reported last year.

Director of Public Safety Stephen Poloni said the motor vehicle theft number is the lowest it's been in recent



PHOTO COURTESY OF JACK RYAN, SKYVIEW PRODUCTIONS

Up in the air

Selling the administration building at 389 St. Clair and relocating office staff to another location is a priority in the reconfiguration of the Grosse Pointe Public School System and the Board of Education continues to entertain offers. All options under consideration by the blue ribbon committee factor in the annual operational cost savings of approximately \$71,340. See page 15A for a blue ribbon committee update.

Emerald ash borer no longer an epidemic

By Anthony Viola
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK

"The emerald ash borer epidemic, for all intents and purposes, is over," said Grosse Pointe Park Forester Brian Colter. "Mostly because we hardly have any ash left."

Colter said the ash population has dropped so significantly the last 17 years that the emerald ash borer beetle population has

plummeted as well.

"So if people have been injecting their ash tree every year, unless it's like a real prized specimen, I wouldn't bother," said Colter.

The first known North American case of emerald ash borer was found in 2002 in Canton near Ford Road and Haggerty and Colter discovered it shortly after in Grosse Pointe.

The beetles spread rapidly and far, with cases reported as

far west as Colorado and as east as Nova Scotia, Canada, according to the United States Department of Agriculture.

Since its discovery, Colter said 1,301 city-owned ash trees were lost in Grosse Pointe Park alone. That number does not take into account privately-owned trees.

At its height in 2007, the epidemic killed 314 ash trees in the Park — 292 green ash and 22 white ash, according to Colter.

Last year, only 11 white ash trees were killed.

Colter said green ash are more susceptible to the bug. His theory is the bark of the green ash is more furred, which allows the beetles to burrow easier and lay their eggs.

"The white ash would still get contaminated," Colter said, "but, they seemed more resilient to it. They would survive."

See EPIDEMIC, page 3A

9-hole mini golf course coming to Lake Front Park

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — In its March 2019 newsletter, the Grosse Pointe Woods Foundation announced the installation of a 9-hole miniature golf course at Lake Front Park will begin in June.

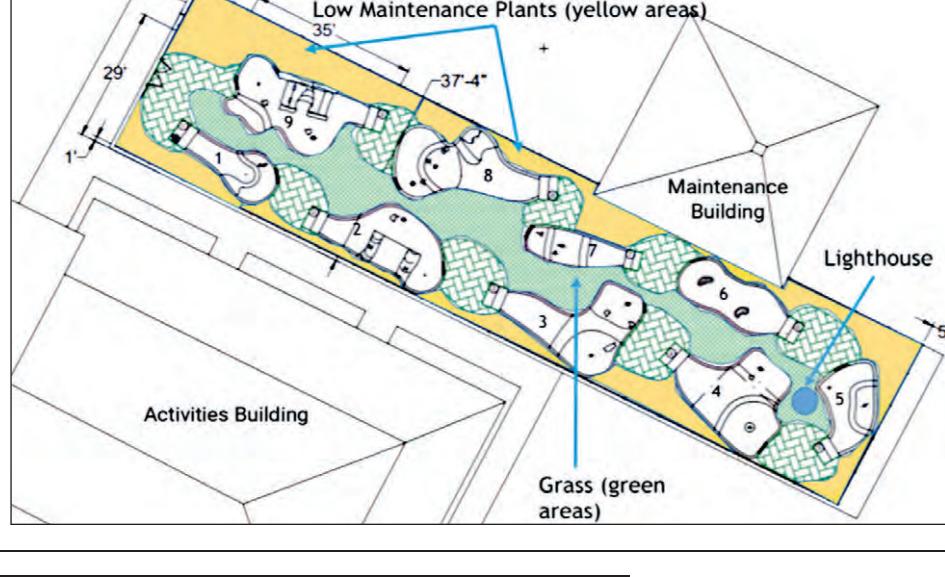
The foundation commissioned Amusement Construction of Chattanooga, Tenn., to lay the 7,000-square-foot rectangular course.

City council first approved the concept in 2015, but failed to approve an 18-hole

design submitted by the foundation in early 2018. In May 2018, collaboration between city administrators and foundation planners resulted in a modified, 9-hole course plan consistent with the city's projected park use and maintenance needs.

According to the plan approved by council in a 6-1 vote Aug. 20, 2018, the course will be open during the summer months and cost \$4 per game.

See GOLF, page 4A



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Pointer of INTEREST

See story, page 4A



Dan Horn

Home: Grosse Pointe Park
Restoring a 1976 Volkswagen bus in his garage



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Thomas Hardware marks 100th anniversary

By Melissa Walsh
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK

— A grand business built by meeting a niche market need celebrates its centennial this year. Long before social media marketing campaigns, Thomas Hardware Co. became the area's premier marine outfitter the old-fashioned way — word of mouth.

The store that sits today at the corner of Charlevoix and Wayburn was launched by Mr. Thomas and Mr. Gerish in 1919 at Lafayette and Townsend. The store's proximity to Detroit's riverfront and Belle Isle's Detroit Yacht Club and Detroit Boat Club would evolve the store from a household hardware retailer to a marine outfitter.

Even from the beginning, Thomas and Gerish, who were tinsmiths, fit ships with dorado vents, in addition to supplying residents in the area with household goods, explained the store's owner, Todd Jones.

Jones, whose father, Warren, purchased a joint share in the store in



PHOTO COURTESY OF TODD JONES

From 1919 to 1968, Thomas Hardware was located at Lafayette and Townsend in Detroit.

1952, has been employed there since he was 14 years old.

Warren Jones' friend, Don Fires, purchased the store's other joint share from Mr. Gerish's widow.

Fires said Mrs. Gerish remained employed at the store several years and was "a great help" to the two owning partners.

"She knew the structure of the store, the bookkeeping and everything," Fires recalled.

Warren Jones and Fires met years earlier

while working at Detroit Edison. Common interests in skiing and sailing led them into friendship lasting more than 40 years.

Fires said when Warren Jones left Detroit Edison to co-own and work full-time at the store, he began helping out.

"They invited me because Warren was overloaded with work and my work at Edison was diminishing," Fires said, "so I spent

Saturdays there just helping out and staying out of the way. And I talked with Mrs. Gerish about buying her share. It happened and we went merrily on our way."

Todd Jones described the partnership in the 2005 obituary he wrote about his father:

"With the orders scribbled on his hand and the cash register in his pocket, Warren Jones would oversee the mayhem as customers would tear open the shipments, grab their orders and write their own invoices. Don Fires would help them with their rigging needs. The little store on Lafayette and Townsend soon became cramped and the basement was used to store the line with stopper knots in the floor to keep it from slipping through."

"I was a rigger and an iron maker and I knew



PHOTO BY MELISSA WALSH

Owner of Thomas Hardware Co., Todd Jones.

how to splice," Fires said.

"I could splice wire and I could splice rope. And sailors needed that particular combination of splicing rope and wire together. It's called a tail splice. I was able to do that and that was unique."

In 1968, the partners moved the store to Mack and Kerby in Grosse Pointe Farms.

"We were established particularly in sailboat hardware before we moved to Mack and the type of household hardware we had was diminishing," Fires said. "Another thing that happened is more people were anxious to own and operate sailboats, rather than powerboats. The manufacturers of sailboats in those days were real light on the hardware because it was expensive."

"So there we were with all this hardware to sell and people wanted to buy it to fit their new boats. It sprung from a

tiny little industry to enormous."

Fires said he and Warren Jones also serviced the skiing industry with tow-rope installations and maintenance.

"It was absolutely niche and it caught fire. ... It was all of a sudden just enormous," Fires said.

Recalling the fun he and Warren Jones had during more than 35 years in business together, he said, "I think we broke the record for partnership."

Todd Jones moved the store from Mack to its current location in 2016.

"I have a small memory of the original store," Jones said, who was 2 in 1968, "because the rope and chain used to come up from the basement through the floor. I remember you'd pull the rope, cut it, tie a knot in it and let it drop down to the floor again."

Jones shares today's location with Ed Kriese, proprietor of the online sunglasses retailer oceanracing.com. He boasted Thomas Hardware offers the "world exclusive" display of the sunglasses.

"This is the only retail location in the world where you can try on Ocean Racing sunglasses," Jones said.

But customers stop into the store for Jones' expertise in marine goods fulfillment.

"I think I've been at it since I was 6," he said. "My dad would buy war surplus stuff, like whip-

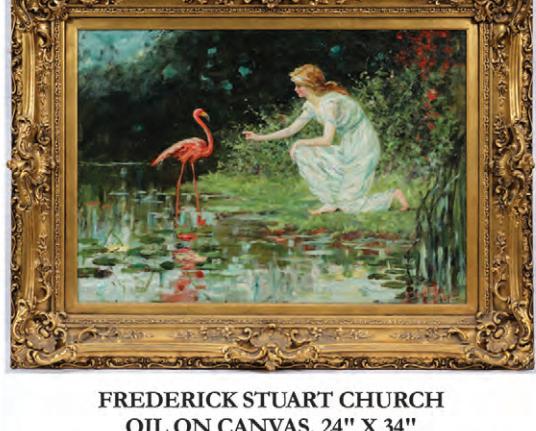
See THOMAS, page 9A

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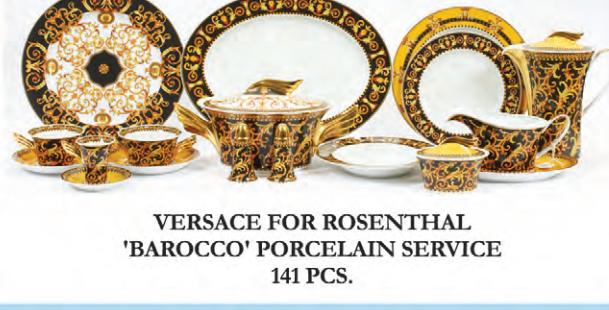
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Officers honored

By Anthony Viola
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — Every year, the public safety department honors officers who go above and beyond the line of duty.

Monday, March 11, Director of Public Safety Dan Jensen recognized 10 such officers for their actions the past year.

Lifesaving Award

Public Safety Officers Mark Laquere and Kris Desmadryl — On Sept. 17, 2018, Laquere and Desmadryl responded to a call from an 89-year-old man who was bleeding uncontrollably from a medical port in his arm.

When the officers arrived, they observed a tremendous amount of blood throughout the house. They quickly applied a tourniquet to the man's upper arm, stopped the blood flow and saved his life.

Commendation

Public Safety and Canine Officer Tim Harris and K-9 Duke Ellington — On Jan. 2, 2018, Farms officers aided Harper Woods police in a home invasion in progress, where the homeowner's dog had been shot.

The two male suspects fled into Detroit in a car. After bailing from the

vehicle, the driver was apprehended by Harper Woods officers, while the passenger fled on foot.

While officers secured the perimeter, Harris and Duke tracked through several yards. Duke led officers to a trash can in a rear yard which contained a large bag of marijuana. The track continued to the front yard, where the second subject was found hiding under the porch.

Citation

Detective Bryan Ford — On June 2, 2018, two vehicles were stolen from an unlocked garage in the 200 block of Cloverly. The vehicles eventually were recovered by the ACTION team in Detroit and towed to Grosse Pointe Farms.

Ford collected trash found in the vehicles and using a super glue fuming process, produced two fingerprints.

On June 26, the Michigan State Police lab stated the prints were a match for two individuals from Detroit. The suspects were taken into custody on an 11-count felony complaint from Wayne County 3rd Circuit Court.

Ford's investigation resulted in several habitual offenders being arrested for a crime spree, which included numerous stolen cars, home invasions and larcenies from auto.

Citation

Dispatcher Ted Roney — On Aug. 14, 2018, dispatch received information of a possible "man overboard" on Lake St. Clair. At the time, Roney was working in the com-



Above, Public Safety Officer Matthew Hurner, left, receives a Director's Merit Award from Director of Public Safety Dan Jensen, for his work in obtaining equipment for the department through a federal program. Left, Public Safety Officer Paul Reygaert shakes Councilman Peter Waldmeir's hand after receiving a department citation.

PHOTOS BY ANTHONY VIOLA

munications center by himself. Roney was inundated with calls from bystanders and radio communications from responding units. He remained poised and professional, quickly relaying information between several responding departments, allowing for effective searching of the area and deployment of assets on-scene.

Citation

Detective Roger

Wierszewski — After joining the detective bureau in July 2018, Wierszewski confirmed that the department had 13 outstanding felony warrants and set out to find the offenders. The warrants included individuals wanted for larceny, fraud, dangerous drugs and carrying a concealed weapon. Wierszewski was able to locate nine of the individuals. Currently seven have been apprehended, with two located out of state.

Director's Merit Award

Public Safety Officer Matthew Hurner — In 2018, Hurner obtained more than \$60,000 worth of equipment for the department through a program that allows the transfer of excess Department of Defense property that might otherwise be destroyed. Last

See OFFICERS, page 10A



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

All ears

Grosse Pointe Theatre recently welcomed Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce members and guests to its rehearsal studio, 315 Fisher, for Business After Hours, a networking event. Chamber members were given a sneak peek at the theater's upcoming show, "Shrek The Musical," and a tour of the facilities. Chamber and theater members also took time to pose for a photo wearing Shrek ears. Read more about the performance on page 1B.

EPIDEMIC:

Continued from page 1A

the year, then the following spring grow another layer of wood to contain the damage done by the beetle and were able to survive until the green ash population plummeted so low that there were basically only white ash left. So the beetles were forced to feed and breed on its secondary host plant, the white ash."

The emerald ash borer is a shiny green beetle native to Asia. It is believed to have been transported here through shipping crate wood.

Adult beetles cause little damage, but the larvae eat through the tree's cambium, which carries water from roots to leaf, essentially strangling the tree.

According to Colter, adult beetles can fly a half mile and because it wiped out so many ash trees along the way, it would be difficult for

them to return.

"They're around, but in such a low population that it's not an epidemic," he said. "It's just another pest we're going to have to deal with just like the hundreds of others."

Colter also said another reason emerald ash borer was so prolific was because after the elm trees were decimated in the Grosse Pointes in the 1970s and '80s, ash was used to replace them almost exclusively, creating a monoculture.

He said a rule of thumb in urban forestry is not to have more than 20 percent of a single genus or 10 percent of a species in one area. After suffering catastrophic tree loss the last few decades, Colter said the Grosse Pointes have gotten good at following that rule, which bodes well if any future epidemic descends on the area.

"The bottom line is we're never going to have a monoculture of ash trees like we did," he

said. "... We have more diversity now."

More information on

the emerald ash borer can be found at emeraldashborer.info.

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Bone uncovered in Farms resident's backyard

GROSSE POINTE FARMS

— Public safety officers responded to the report of a large bone discovered in the backyard of a house in the 400 block of Roland Court Monday.

Public Safety Director Dan Jensen said the bone

was turned over to the Wayne County Medical Examiner.

"We're waiting for an opinion as to whether it's human or not," Jensen said. "It's probably an animal, maybe a deer. It was pretty large."

— Melissa Walsh

The Week Ahead

TUESDAY, MARCH 26

◆ Grosse Pointe Shores Planning Commission meeting, 8 a.m. at city hall, 795 Lakeshore.

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4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

From bikes to Beetles to bus, Pointer restores classics

By Anthony Viola
Staff Writer

In an unassuming garage on Lakepointe in Grosse Pointe Park, Dan Horn's 1976 Volkswagen Bay Window Bus slowly comes together.

During the day, Horn works in public relations and marketing at Franco in downtown Detroit. At night and on weekends for the last year and a half, Horn has worked tearing down the vintage bus to restore it.

When he purchased it in summer 2017, Horn, 28, said he knew it was going to be a project, but as with any restoration, there were surprises along the way.

"It ran and drove," he said. "The brakes were less than ideal, but that's easy stuff. It looked on the surface to be in good shape. It was pretty smooth. It didn't have a great paint job, but everything was there. ... But then I started taking out the interior and getting under the paint a little bit — just because I wanted to do it right and start from the ground up — and it was really bad under the paint."

Horn said the bottom foot of metal all around the bus was rusting through "or just had been completely rusted out and replaced with Bondo and filler, even chicken wire and newspaper in some places. Somebody down the line did a really good job of just faking everything."

Horn also found a sunroof, which was sealed shut with Bondo, that he plans on restoring to its original form.

So while it looked OK



PHOTO BY ANTHONY VIOLA

Dan Horn stands in front of the 1976 Volkswagen Bay Window Bus he's restoring in his Grosse Pointe Park garage.

when he first purchased it, the bus needed some work. Since beginning the project, Horn has replaced almost all the metal on the bottom half of the bus, from the floorboards to body panels.

He's now turned the corner and has started the rebuild. There is a little more body work to do yet — smoothing out welded sections, dents and rough spots — and a fresh two-tone blue and white paint job, but it's getting close.

Along the way, Horn has used his experience with restoring old Volkswagens. He previously owned a 1974 Beetle and also helped restore two other early-'70s Beetles with a couple friends in high school.

Before they could drive, Horn and his friends, Nick Rudd and Eric Pomber, cut up old bicycles they found in the

trash and put them back together in different configurations, making "choppers and weird old bikes into new ones."

"Luckily, Nick's dad had basically every tool you could think of," Horn said. "So after doing bikes for a few years when we were younger, Nick was able to drive and got a Beetle and that was the first real car project that I worked on with him."

Rudd then was given a yellow 1972 Beetle by a neighbor to restore and Horn bought his 1974.

"I think they're all still around," Horn said. "Nick sold both of his. The yellow one that was his neighbor's still floats around Grosse Pointe somewhere. I think it used to be up on Charlevoix by Mason (Elementary School). I know people over there used to own that. I don't know if they still have it

or not, but mine, I think, is the only one that's gone."

In 2017, after about 13 years of owning it, Horn's Beetle met an untimely death.

"I was driving back from down by the water one day, just coming up Lakepointe and it started sputtering out and dying," Horn said. "That wasn't super unusual, so I thought I could make it home. I was only a block away, but it turns out either a gas line broke or the plug at the carburetor popped out of the carburetor. One way or another, gas just basically started spraying all throughout the engine compartment and it either got too hot or caught a spark and the whole back of the car just burst into flames."

"Luckily, I was only going like two miles an hour at the time," he continued. "It was easy to get out and run away before the whole inside of it melted."

Horn was able to salvage a few pieces from the car — the melted shifter knob for one — that he plans to use in the bus.

"After that I kinda told myself I wasn't going to get back into Volkswagens," he said. "I was going to try to find a new project, like a muscle car or something like that."



PHOTO COURTESY OF DAN HORN

The 1976 Volkswagen Bay Window Bus, when Dan Horn purchased it in 2017.

But then he saw the bus online. He said he always wanted to restore a bus to take camping, "and it was cheap, so I figured, OK, I'd go back."

For Horn, the cultural history and the style of Volkswagens always appealed to him. It also was easy for him to continue to work on a style of car and engine he's had years of experience with.

"I guess the biggest thing for me, practically, is that (Volkswagens) all basically share the same engine platform, different sizes a little bit over the years, but basically they're all air cooled so they're pretty simplified engines," Horn said.

"They don't have a radiator. They don't have the whole water cooling system that a lot of, basically all other cars, have. I have background in them. So working on that kind of thing is really just easier for me than trying to get into a whole new system of vehicles."

The decades of popularity also made it relatively easy to find parts. Horn said up until the early aughts, the old-style Beetles and buses were still made in South America and specialty junkyards around the country still cut up and send out parts for restorers.

"There's a huge marketplace actually," he said. "... Most of the stamps to create the metal panels, the sheet metal body panels, are still around somewhere and there's a few companies throughout the world that make those and there's just an endless supply of all the other stuff, interior parts, engine parts, all that kind of stuff."

Horn said although he was comfortable working on the mechanical components, he had to

teach himself a lot of the body work techniques, including learning how to fit and weld body panels.

Horn said he's never regretted starting the project — although he has had to walk away from the bus a few times when things weren't working out.

"It's a huge undertaking to do, a ground-up restoration," he said, "but, you learn a lot and it's worth it."

For the interior, Horn is restoring the front cab to the original style, but the rest will be custom. He plans on putting in a wood floor and ceiling and a custom-built L-shaped bench, which will fold out into a bed.

He said he doesn't have a first trip planned yet, but he hopes to take it to a music festival when it's complete, after a few test runs to campgrounds in Michigan.

Before jumping into any large project like restoring a vintage vehicle, Horn said, "overestimate how much time, energy and money you're going to need to get it to the completion. Really thoroughly inspect it before you buy it. Bring somebody — if you're not a car person — bring somebody who is a car person along with you to make sure that the things

that are supposed to be there are there. ... Just be very, very careful when you're checking through things. Make a list before you buy it and make sure that it's reasonable to do it. Then, if you're not willing to dedicate a lot of time to it, don't do it."

Despite the countless hours of work and frustration sunk into it, Horn said the motivation to get a classic car back on the road keeps him going.

"These cars are really cool and they're getting more rare now," Horn said. "Not that there's not a lot of them, but they're getting more rare and eventually they will be gone. So it's cool to get them back on the road."

GOLF:

Continued from page 1A

By 2018, the foundation had raised more than \$100,000 for the project. According to its newsletter, the foundation continues to solicit funding for completion of the course, with those contributing sponsorships of \$200 and above receiving "permanent recogni-

tion at the course site."

Woods Beautification Commission member Rachelle Koester will lead a team of volunteers in decorating the course with perennials.

Woods resident Colin Jambekar will build score-card stands as an Eagle Scout project.

For more information visit gpwfoundation.org.

—Melissa Walsh

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City of Grosse Pointe**Drunken driving**

A 51-year-old Clarkston man was arrested for operating while intoxicated at midnight Sunday, March 17, on Mack at Washington. An officer observed the man driving eastbound on Mack with only headlights and no taillights illuminated and initiated a traffic stop.

While interviewing the man, the officer noted he had slurred speech and was slow to respond to questions.

The man said he was coming from a restaurant in The Village and had three to four drinks.

He failed a field sobriety test and had a .14 percent blood alcohol content.

— Anthony Viola

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

Grosse Pointe Farms**Unluck of the Irish**

A 34-year-old Eastpointe man was arrested for operating while intoxicated at 1:45 a.m. Monday, March 18, on Moross at Mary.

Officers observed the man traveling eastbound on Lakeshore at a high rate of speed and turning left at a red light onto Moross.

He then continued at a high rate of speed on Moross until officers

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

pulled him over at Mary.

While interviewing the man, officers detected an odor of intoxicants and noted the man slurred his speech and had glassy eyes.

The man said he was coming from a St. Patrick's Day party where he had a glass of tequila.

He failed the field sobriety test and was found to have .17 percent blood alcohol content.

Chips, doughnuts stolen

An unknown man stole a bag of chips and two doughnuts at 6 a.m. Thursday, March 14, from the Shell gas station at Mack and Moross. Witnesses reported last seeing the man, described as a black male, 6 feet, 3 inches, thin and wearing a multicolored coat and hood, running north across Mack on Moross.

Officers were unable to locate the subject.

Suspended license

A 24-year-old Detroit man was arrested for driving on a suspended license and obstructing police at 1:15 a.m. Wednesday, March 13, on Moross at Chandler Park.

An officer pulled the man over after observing him run a red light at Mack and Moross.

The man was unable to

produce a driver's license and verbally identified himself. However, after a database search, the officer became suspicious when the driver didn't match the photo on his screen.

After investigating the man further, it was determined he gave a false name and was arrested.

When searching the man's vehicle, officers found a wallet with an ID belonging to the man. It was then discovered he had 33 current suspensions and a felony arrest warrant for fleeing and eluding.

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

Grosse Pointe Park**Warrant arrest**

A 29-year-old Warren man was arrested for several traffic warrants at 9:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 13, on Mack at Notre Dame. Officers pulled the man over for speeding.

Dinner party planner

A package containing \$39.50 worth of silverware was stolen from a porch in the 1100 block of Berkshire between noon and 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 6.

Atypical tow

A silver 2007 Pontiac Grand Prix worth \$5,000 was stolen from the 1400 block of Lakepointe between 8 p.m. Friday, March 15, and 12:30 a.m. Saturday, March 16. A neighbor witnessed a silver minivan push the Grand Prix from the driveway. The investigation is ongoing.

Sweatshirt stolen

A 17-year-old City of Grosse Pointe man was arrested for stealing a sweatshirt at 3:50 p.m. Friday, March 15, in the 15000 block of Mack.

The victim met the City man to sell a \$150 sweatshirt. Instead of purchasing the sweatshirt, however, the City man stole it.

The man was later arrested and the sweatshirt returned.

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

Grosse Pointe Shores**Driving while uninsured**

◆ At 4:34 p.m. Wednesday, March 13, a 54-year-old Highland

man was arrested on Morningside and Hidden Lane for driving without valid insurance.

◆ At 3:47 a.m. Saturday, March 16, a 31-year-old Eastpointe woman was arrested on Vernier near Lakeshore for driving without valid insurance.

A patrolling officer investigated the car, which was stopped on eastbound Vernier, and discovered the driver asleep behind the wheel with the car in drive.

He awakened the driver and told her to put the car in park. The driver told the officer she was tired following a long work shift.

Admitting to drinking alcohol hours earlier, the driver submitted to field sobriety tests and a preliminary blood test, which she passed.

◆ At 10:41 a.m. Sunday, March 17, a 24-year-old Farms man was arrested on Lakeshore and Moross for driving without valid insurance. He also was ticketed for an expired license plate.

◆ At 10:42 p.m. Saturday, March 17, a 28-year-old Stanwood man was arrested on Jefferson and Marter for driving without valid insurance.

◆ At 8:16 a.m. Monday, March 18, a 43-year-old St. Clair Shores man was arrested on Lakeshore and Vernier

for driving without valid insurance.

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

Grosse Pointe Woods**Purse stolen from vehicle**

A resident in the 600 block of Roslyn reported to police 4:17 p.m. Tuesday, March 12, her purse was stolen from her unlocked vehicle in her driveway.

She reported leaving the purse in the vehicle overnight after returning from shopping in the evening.

Too many lemon drops

A 44-year-old Warren woman was arrested for driving while intoxicated at 11:14 p.m. Friday, March 15, after being pulled over for running a red light on Mack and Torrey Road.

A preliminary blood test administered following her arrest resulted in .18 percent blood alcohol content.

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

Oh, deer me!

Alert residents of the Grosse Pointes spotted deer making their way through the community last week. Monday, March 11, a deer was seen by Grosse Pointe Farms resident Pamela Kelly, who snapped a few shots.

"I live on Tonnancour in Grosse Pointe Farms," Kelly wrote. "I was leaving my house (Monday) around 6 p.m. in my car when I saw this animal run in front of my vehicle. I originally thought it was a dog and did a double take and realized this was a deer. Got out of my car and this doe stopped and looked at me while I took these photos. I hope everyone in Grosse Pointe can enjoy these pictures as much as I did! What a surprise!"

The previous weekend, March 9 and 10, Grosse Pointe Park resident Larry Peplin photographed a deer—possibly the same one—as it worked its way through the Park.

"We had a deer show up in our backyard this past weekend and I happen to have good photos," he wrote. "We live in the 1000 block of Harvard Road. It slipped over our back fence



PHOTO COURTESY OF LARRY PEPLIN

Grosse Pointe Park resident Larry Peplin photographed this deer in his yard.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PAMELA KELLY

Grosse Pointe Farms resident Pamela Kelly snapped this photo in her yard.

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Grosse Pointe News

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16980 KERCHEVAL AVE., GROSSE POINTE, MI 48230
PHONE: (313) 882-6900 FAX: (313) 882-1585
E-MAIL: EDITOR@GROSSEPOINTENEWS.COM

ROBERT B. EDGAR: Founder and Publisher (1940 - 1979)
JOHN MINNIS: Publisher
TERRY MINNIS: Vice President
JODY MCVEIGH: Editor

OUR VIEW

'Right-sizing' schools needs our attention

The nearly three-score-member blue ribbon committee discussing "right-sizing" the Grosse Pointe Public School System in response to declining enrollment is close to making recommendations. Before it does, it would behoove municipal, business, real estate and civic leaders to pay attention and be heard.

There is only one nonschool elected official serving on the blue ribbon committee. We wish there were more. The decisions and actions ultimately made by the Board of Education will impact not just our schools but our property values and quality of life for decades to come.

The schools are between a rock and a hard place. The rock is Proposal A, passed in 1993, that took away a school community's ability to raise taxes to support its schools. Under the law, schools can only levy a certain amount on primary residences and a higher amount on second homes and rental and commercial properties. The state receives the money and then re-allocates it to public school systems on a per-pupil basis. Districts with higher home values, like Grosse Pointe, pay more in school taxes than they receive from the state.

If school operating costs exceed funds from the state, then cuts must be made and/or savings depleted. Districts cannot go back to voters for more taxes, except for maintenance expenses via a sinking fund and capital improvements via bonds. Not a penny of the recently approved \$111 million in school bonds can be spent on operations, including teacher and other school employee salaries.

The hard place for the Grosse Pointe Public School System is declining enrollment. Student headcount has been falling by some 100 students a year and is expected to continue to do so for the foreseeable future. In fact, it could be worse, and it was this school year when enrollment fell by 218 students, apparently taking everyone by surprise.

The math is simple. The GPPSS receives from the state about \$10,000 per student. The loss of 100 students equates to \$1 million in lost revenue. Dropping 218 students, 118 more than anticipated, hit the school district's budget by an additional \$1.18 million — more than twice the anticipated loss.

In fact, the unexpected student decline triggered discussions on how to "right-size" the school district. Options ranged from closing or repurposing a middle school to creating a "gravity" school to closing two to four elementary schools and changing grades at schools. No option called for closing a high school.

Holding our finger to the wind, we divine that the gravity school concept is off the table, as is closing one of the middle schools. Two or more elementary schools may be closed, and the makeup of elementary and middle schools may be changed to K-4 and 5-8, respectively.

Even without the closing of a middle or high school, these proposed changes will be disruptive and controversial.

No one, we assume, wants to lose a neighborhood school. It would be nice if we could keep all our schools, have smaller class sizes and offer more extras. But, as Mom and Dad always said, money doesn't grow on trees!

Every elementary school has its pluses. Maire and Mason, for example, are Blue Ribbon schools. Defer was built before Grosse Pointe South High School and was designed by the same architect. Looking at Defer, you see what South may have been. Monteith is among the least utilized, but it is a big school and could accommodate two smaller elementaries. Trombly is the only elementary school south of Jefferson. The list goes on and on.

Even more frustrating is that closing an elementary does not save as much money as one would

See BLUE RIBBON, page 8A



SOURCE: GLRI.US

OUR VIEW

Salvage Great Lakes Initiative

Among the blows in the administration's proposed budget is the near total elimination of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, a program that dates back to President George W. Bush and was sustained through the Obama administration.

Presumably the entire Great Lakes congressional delegation supports the initiative and will work to keep it. Already, and for many other reasons, the budget has been called dead on arrival. If Congress works up its own budget from scratch, the initiative should stand a good chance of survival.

For all of the then-candidate's campaign visits to Michigan, it's not clear if he ever saw a Great Lake. His proposed budget suggests that, even if he has, he has little concept of what it takes to keep the lakes healthy. Restoration projects and cleanups, part of the Environmental Protection Agency's geographic program, are gone. All that remains is support for water monitoring. Other projects are "best handled by local and state entities," according to budget documents.

But the funding is crucial precisely because many of the projects far outstrip the capacity of local governments and even states. The bulk of the \$300 million annual grant for the Great Lakes goes to eliminating toxins throughout the system and promoting other clean-up efforts such as deterring runoff and restoring fish habitat. The initiative's current action plan, which runs through this year, emphasizes cleaning up Areas of Concern — the most contaminated sites in the Great Lakes region. Even the smaller projects, which possibly could be handled at the state level, benefit from being coordinated basin-wide.

Restoration projects (as mapped on the website glri.us) surround the Pointes: Detroit River cleanups, Belle Isle habitat fixes, multiple projects that improve the waters of the Clinton River and Anchor Bay, spawning reefs in the St. Clair and Detroit rivers. Also of note: a so-called Living Shoreline, or softer seawall, along the St. Clair River. Perhaps, assuming the Grosse Pointe Farms-Shores seawall gets emergency repairs, and assuming the initiative

continues, a permanent seawall could get engineered "softer" and qualify for funding, too.

The Great Lakes face threats almost too numerous to mention. The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative has been a good start at addressing the lingering problems of an industrial economy that, early on, simply dumped its manufacturing byproducts in the water. The difficulty of controlling everyday storm runoff continues. Wetlands have disappeared in the face of development.

And new dangers have arisen. Asian carp are figuratively knocking on Lake Michigan's door in Chicago's complicated river system. PFAS contamination, found at toxic levels mostly inland to date, has become a newly recognized threat.

The newer problems don't minimize the need to repair damage from the last century. The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative remains a program worth fighting for.

A note on Asian carp

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers last fall released its final proposal for stopping the non-native carp south of Chicago. The cost estimate: a staggering \$778 million. Expensive as it may be, the fix would protect a commercial, recreational and tribal fishery that is valued at \$7 billion a year by one estimate.

As far away as Chicago is for a swimming fish, a permanent carp barrier is still important here. One study of the carp suggested that, although they might not thrive in the cold depths of the Great Lakes proper, they would do well in its tributaries and in shallower areas of the system. That includes Lake St. Clair — exactly one of the places where a destroyed fishery would have profound impacts.

And that's what these carp do: destroy the fishery. Their feeding habits knock out the bottom of the food chain that supports all the other species of fish. Their jumping endangers recreational boaters. They must be stopped.

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@grossepoinenews.com.

Slow down on school resizing

To the Editor:

Slow down! Good decisions are not made driving at 80 miles an hour!

The citizens of Grosse Pointe are faced with very difficult decisions. If you attend a BOE (Board of Education) or BRC (Blue Ribbon Committee) meeting, you will be given the

impression that the fault is on your shoulders if you are unaware of the hard decisions facing our community.

Let us quickly put the car in reverse to remember what the community was told prior to the election on Nov. 6, 2018. Grosse Pointe schools spent money promoting a bond marketed as "safe, warm and dry" that asked voters to approve \$111 million of

bond money to fix ALL of our buildings. Fast forward to after Nov. 6, the narrative changed, and we were stunned to hear that our numbers had fallen to the point where "triggers" meant building closures.

Now a committee that has met formally four times, the first being Jan. 31, is due to make a recommendation of buildings to be closed and how our educational system will be configured. This committee (was) to meet for the final time on March 28. Conveniently, right before everyone leaves for spring break.

The committee has already made a recommendation of grade levels being changed by moving fifth grade to the middle school. There is a huge amount of concern about this age grouping.

As residents we ...

request(ed) that the final meeting of the BRC be postponed until after spring break, when people are in town and there is more time to gather data.

Right now, our BOE is making decisions based on the recommendations of a non-elected, selected group. SLOW DOWN. If we are going to navigate some serious turns in the road, we should not be doing it at full speed. ...

Insist that the administration provide the BRC with the data it needs to make these recommendations and give the community time to discuss options.

LISA PAPAS

Grosse Pointe

DAVE SCHUMACHER

Grosse Pointe Woods

WENDY SAIGH

Grosse Pointe Woods

See LETTERS, page 7A

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

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EDITORIAL
(313) 882-6900

Jody McVeigh:
Editor

Bob St. John:
Sports Editor

Mary Anne Brush:
Staff Writer

Karen Fontanive:
Staff Writer

Anthony Viola:
Staff Writer

Melissa Walsh:
Staff Writer

Renee Landuyt:
Staff Photographer

Barb Arrigo:
Editorial Writer

CIRCULATION
(313) 343-5578

Matthew Beaver:
Circulation Manager

Karl Juergens

—

PRODUCTION
(313) 343-5573

Ken Schop:
Production Manager

John Pigott:
IT Manager

—

CLASSIFIED
(313) 882-6900 ext 567

Barbara Yazbeck Vethacke:
Classified Manager

Theresa Logie

—

ADVERTISING
(313) 882-3500

Shelley Owens:
Advertising Manager

Paul V. Biondi:
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Steve Saigh:
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I SAY By Bob St. John

Some parents just don't get it



A decline in high school athletic officials has been climbing the past couple of years.

It's an alarming rate and most of that is due to abuse by fans in the stands.

During my 26 years as a sports writer covering

high school athletic events, I've seen my share of abusive fans.

Just recently at a girls regional basketball game, I sat with the opposing fans and listened to not just one, but a dozen moms and dads berating the three game officials on the court.

They started from the opening play, screaming with anger, "That was traveling" or "How can you miss that foul" or "She was over her back." I even saw one woman yell at an official, "You suck."

It was an embarrass-

ment for the school to have such poor behavior at a high school athletic event. At one point in the second half, the head coach turned around and made a gesture to the fans to quiet down. However, berating of the officials continued.

Funny how fans complain when their team is losing, but never when they are winning. Poor sports, perhaps. It's just embarrassing behavior from adults who are supposed to set good examples.

Sometimes I wish fans weren't allowed into the

venues. The only sport at which I've never witnessed poor fan behavior is gymnastics.

Game officials are human and they will make mistakes from time to time.

Maybe these irate fans should trade places and officiate the game.

According to a survey by the National Association of Sports Officials, more than 75 percent of all high school officials say "adult behavior" is the primary reason they quit and 80 percent of all young officials quit after two years

because they say they don't need the abuse.

There is a ripple effect.

There are more officials older than 60 than under 30 in many areas. As the older officials retire, there aren't enough younger ones to replace them.

If there are no officials, there are no games.

Earlier this winter, I saw a game official warn fans that he would empty the gymnasium and play the remaining three quarters if the unruly fans wouldn't quiet down. They did and I'm

glad the official did that.

I've seen fans thrown out of athletic events. That must be embarrassing for a player who watches their parent getting tossed from a high school game.

As fans of student-athletes, their job is to cheer, win or lose. Verbally assaulting officials is not necessary. Maybe we should walk into their work and berate them.

Fans, enjoy the games and be respectful. You are sending a message.

Thanks and see you on the fields this spring.

YESTERDAY'S HEADLINES

1944

75 years ago this week

MACOMB COUNTY CITIES CHARGED WITH POLLUTING LAKE ST. CLAIR: Despite the expenditure of several million dollars by the federal government and Wayne County on an interceptor sewer system to avoid pollution of Lake St. Clair waters bordering Grosse Pointe, Macomb County municipalities are now discharging their sewage directly into the lake.

G H E S Q U I E R E SWORN IN: President Alois A. Ghesquiere and Commissioners Arthur Post and Edward Vanderbush were sworn in at the Woods council

1969

50 years ago this week

LEAF BURNING BAN DEMANDED: The Farms council, besieged by pleas of concerned parents and other citizens, decided to give top priority in the 1969-70 fiscal budget to provide funds to purchase leaf-gathering equipment to be used the year-round and especially during the fall months.

The council received petitions bearing 640 names of residents asking council to enact an ordinance banning the burning of leaves.

YOUTH AWAITES COURT ACTION IN

meeting.

DRUG CASE: A 17-year-old Grosse Pointe Woods youth is free on bond and is awaiting a hearing in circuit court on a charge of possession and sale of narcotics.

The youth was arrested at his garage-apartment on Lochmoor after he "sold" 10 kilos, 23 pounds, of marijuana to a policeman for \$1,700.

Obituaries: Carrie Brush, Walter M. Dailey, William Hulswit, Angelina Leto, Frank Quail, Albin Stoetzer, Archie VanWassenhove, Octave Verfaillie

1994

25 years ago this week

VANDALS PLAGUE POINTES: Vandalism is

being widely reported throughout the Pointes, particularly in the City, Shores and Park. Damage includes stolen street signs, slashed tires and possible "gang-related" graffiti.

At least 18 decorative street signs have been ripped off poles in the City and Shores during the past month.

Malicious destruction of property valued over \$100 is a felony and carries a maximum four-year prison sentence and \$2,000 fine.

GIFTED PROGRAM GETS PRAISE, FLAK:

While giving high marks to the programs already in place, the consultant hired to evaluate gifted education for the Grosse Pointe public schools expressed concern over

student selection criteria and the division that some programs have created within the community.

Obituaries: Douglas E. Busbey, Sadie M. Capp, Pearl A. Kriese, Violet V. Newport, Allan D. Pearsall II, Thomas A. Roy, Leonard Alexander Slowin, F. Gerald Smith, Charlotte C. Strachan

2009

10 years ago this week

FACILITY STUDY SUGGESTS NEW POLICE STATION:

The first thing to come from suggested improvements to the City's municipal complex on Neff is likely a \$56,000

fuel tank from which vehicles can be filled at wholesale rather than retail prices.

The most distant likelihood to arise could be a brand new \$4.5 million public safety headquarters.

The concepts were detailed in a facilities study and space needs assessment commissioned by city council.

SWEET FINALS REPEAT: The Grosse Pointe South High School Lady Blue Devils won a second straight Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey

League state championship beating Ann Arbor 3-1 in double overtime.

Obituaries: William Lott Emery, Ralph Vigliotti Jr., Earl Fuller

— Karen Fontanive

LETTERS:

Continued from page 6A

Voters misled

To the Editor:

The Grosse Pointe Public School System administration has thrust a bad process upon our community and the Board of Education has set an unreasonable timetable for major decisions that could indelibly alter our neighborhoods.

The blue ribbon committee cannot make a sound recommendation when its members have not been given cost analysis data, real estate market values or data on impact of various grade configurations.

Has the BRC been encouraged to explore areas in addition to school closings that could deliver significant cost savings, such as

administrative staff reductions to parallel the enrollment decline?

Voters were misled when GPPSS and the board did not divulge the district's loss of 218 students from the enrollment tally prior to the November bond vote.

Perhaps even worse, these entities did not acknowledge this information was critical for an informed vote by the electorate.

While scrambling to address the financial crisis due to enrollment decline, the district is rushing to spend \$66 million of bond money — advertising for bids which include all 16 GPPSS facilities and entertaining the build of a fiber ring it will operate.

The irony is unbelievable.

KELLY BOLL
Grosse Pointe Park

Build the seawall now!

To the Editor:

Your editorial recommending action was timely and very important to the community.

Your comment concerning the need for a vehicle barrier along the northbound lane curb brings up a safety issue that has long been disregarded. Such barriers are commonplace on Michigan roads where traffic is within a few feet of a water hazard.

I would like to add that another hazard to safety has long existed; namely, the northbound lanes have no lighting.

The existing light poles adjacent to the sidewalk along the southbound lanes only provide lighting for southbound traffic. Highway lighting

See LETTERS, page 8A

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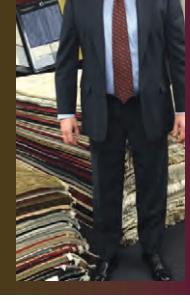
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8A | OPINION

OUR VIEW

Absentee ballots

To the Reader:

You asked, the Michigan Secretary of State has answers.

No-reason absentee voting has taken effect in Michigan and the increased availability of absentee ballots has led to several questions.

For starters, what happens if a voter botches the signature requirements on ballot envelopes?

Currently, the Michigan Bureau of Elections encourages clerks to contact voters when this happens. Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson would like to have that made a requirement by enacting it into law.

For voters who have had their ballots rejected when they voted in person, the next logical question is: What happens when the scanning machine spits an absentee ballot back without counting it and the voter isn't there to correct it?

Here, it gets more complicated, according to Shawn Starkey, communications director for the Secretary of State. The answers vary because the reasons for rejection vary.

If, for example, a voter has written on the ballot to clarify a mistake or awkward marking, the ballot goes to election inspectors for interpretation, where possible. Either way, all the rest of the ballot is counted.

If a voter has voted for too many people in one race (for example, marking three school board candidates when only two are to be elected), that race is not counted but the rest of the ballot is. In a partisan primary election, when voters must stick with one party through the entire ballot, a crossover vote voids the ballot. But if other races or issues, such as a millage vote, appear separately on the same ballot, those will be counted.

The non-machine reading of ballots is handled by two election inspectors, one from each party, according to Starkey. That should ease worries about human error or ill intent.

With details like these in play, and the expected increase in absentee voting, it's understandable that Secretary of State Benson wants another change: allowing clerks to start processing absentee ballots



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Fix the damn streets!

As we said in an editorial last week, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's road plan, including a 45 cents per gallon gas tax increase, is not before the state Legislature. Unfortunately, the governor's plan does not include funding for local neighborhood streets. We urge our legislators to incorporate provisions for local governments' street projects. Increasingly, local municipalities are taxing themselves to pay for roadwork. If we are going to pay 71.3 cents in gas taxes, at least we should be able to get funds for local streets ... just sayin'.

before Election Day. She also hopes to extend and standardize the hours for early voting, another change under the election reforms that Michigan voters approved last November.

Local clerks have a quiet year in 2019, with only municipal elections scheduled in most places. They

and the Legislature have plenty of time to debate refinements to absentee voting before November 2020.

The presidential election will be the real test of whether no-reason absentee ballots fulfill the hopes of voters.

BLUE RIBBON:

Continued from page 6A

think — \$628,000. That does not make up for even the decline of 100 students as projected.

The clock is ticking. The blue ribbon committee originally planned to meet for the last time on March 28 and present two to four recommendations to the Board of Education at its April 8 meeting. However, Rebecca Fannon, community relations specialist for the school district, reported on Tuesday:

"Due to feedback from the Blue Ribbon Committee and community, the March 28th BRC meeting will be postponed until after Spring Break. The new date and location: Thursday, April 11, from 6-9 p.m., in the Parcells Auditorium."

Some are urging the school board and administration to slow down. We understand their concern. These are major changes to be made.

We do not envy the blue ribbon committee, the school administration or school board for the decisions they will have to make. We urge all stakeholders and community leaders to take part in the discussion. It's that important.

Anstett honored by MSU alma mater

Patricia Anstett, a Gross Pointe Woods author and retired Detroit Free Press medical writer, has been



Patricia Anstett

named an outstanding

alumni in Michigan State University's College of Communication Arts & Sciences.

Anstett, author of "Breast Cancer Surgery: What's Right for You," will receive the award April 13 in East Lansing.

She was selected for her career of mentorship to women and coverage of medical developments during her 30-year Free Press career, including mammography quality standards that made Michigan a model. She is an inductee in the Michigan Journalism

Hall of Fame.

More information on the award and other celebration-news-19.

LETTERS:

Continued from page 7A

designers would agree with me on this.

I hope Gross Pointe Farms city officials will lobby for this improvement as well as the seawall and barrier.

Since additional lighting will probably take years to happen, I believe an interim solution would be to place reflectors along the curb line to highlight the hazard of jumping the curb during night driving.

B.R. Bob Sejfulla,
Retired Engineer

Grosse Pointe Farms
resident for 58 years

Don't ban bags, recycle them

To the Editor:

While I applaud the concern of the gentleman who favors banning plastic grocery bags ("Shopping Bags: Bring Your Own — or Pay!" March 14), the facts, unfortunately, do not support such an initiative.

Plastic bags make up a tiny fraction of the U.S. municipal solid waste stream (between 0.3 and 0.5 percent depending on the source).

According to "Keep America Beautiful," there are many other items that drive up litter more than bags, such as food wrappers and cups. Plastic bags are not even named as one of the top 10 sources of litter nationwide.

Plastic grocery bags are made from a byproduct of domestic natural gas refining, whereas most reusable bags are made in China from petroleum and shipped across the ocean on

cargo ships.

Studies have shown that these reusable bags aren't used nearly enough to offset their resource-intensive production and distribution. In fact, a reusable bag has to be used 131 times to become a more sustainable choice than a plastic bag used only once.

Without plastic grocery bags, people will purchase replacement bags (often made of thicker, heavier plastic) to line their small trash cans, pick up after pets or pack their lunches.

When Austin, Texas, banned plastic retail bags, retailers began using thicker plastic bags, resulting in more plastic waste in landfills. Chicago repealed its bag ban because even the mayor admitted it was a failure. California, which just recently enacted a ban, is already starting to see an increase in the volume of total plastic used.

So, what is a better solution? Recycling.

Plastic bags are 100 percent recyclable. Unfortunately, however, most waste collection companies (including Green For Life), do not recycle plastic film (which includes plastic retail bags).

Plastic retail bags can be returned to many facilities that distribute them (such as Kroger), but plastic film drop-off locations are few and far between (see plasticfilmrecycling.org for more information).

I hope you will now agree that turning our efforts to recycling plastic film is a superior alternative to banning plastic retail bags.

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Grosse Pointe Park

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PHOTO COURTESY OF TODD JONES

Warren Jones working in Thomas Hardware, the store he co-owned with Don Fires.

THOMAS:

Continued from page 2A

ping twine, and have me cut it to length and wrap it and package it in the garage."

Jones worked with his dad in the store from age 14 until his dad's death in 2005.

"That was nice. We spent a lot of time together," Jones said.

His father told him stories about the business he would later inherit, such as how Thomas Hardware supplied the Dodge brothers with items for their power yacht, "Delphine."

"My dad said they would come in and buy 55-gallon drums of varnish and all kinds of stuff," Jones said.

Like his father, Jones is a Bayview Yacht Club sailor. He said his father and uncle, Burt Jones, were competitive racers of the Lightning one-design class sailboat.

"They were racing all the time," Jones said. "That was obviously his

interest and I'm sure he saw an opportunity. People would try and buy stuff for their boats and they couldn't get it. So he just started importing stuff from England. That's where all the small boat hardware was made."

In 1972, Jones said, his father and uncle procured a Tartan 42, "The Great Whisper."

"(My dad) and my uncle bought the parts from Tartan and put it together themselves," Jones said. "They bought the hull, the deck. They found a used mast and kind of cobbled it together. It was a good boat."

The brothers sailed "The Great Whisper" in more than 1,000 races, winning flags in Detroit Regional Yachting Association, Mills and Mackinac races.

Not only did Jones inherit the business, but he also acquired valuable sailing knowledge from his father and his own experience as a competitive sailor. In addition to

fulfilling marine hardware and sundries needs, Jones offers consulting services to those improving their sailboat or fitting up a newly purchased sailboat.

"The good thing about being a small business is that you're nimble," Jones said. "We go to people's boats and do installation, offer recommendations, splice ropes on site. We make shrouds on site."

Jones said he usually begins with assisting a customer with standing and running rigging.

Thomas Hardware is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday during the winter months. During sailing season, store hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday.

In celebration of the store's centennial, Jones is hosting open houses Saturdays, March 30 and April 13.

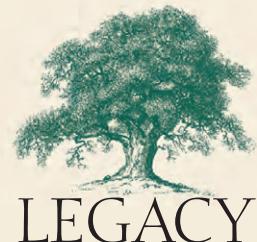
"The first one's more for the boat owners and second one is for the crew," he said.



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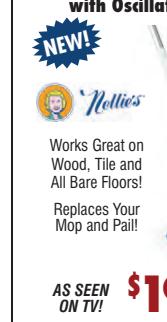
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REPORTS:

Continued from page 1A

memory.

"The fact that we were in single digits in stolen vehicles for the first time as far as anybody can remember is a really good stat," Poloni said. "There was one point where the numbers were in the 70s and now we're down to nine, so that was an outstanding job."

Poloni credits the hard work of patrol officers as well as the Arresting Car Thieves In Our Neighborhood team, or ACTION, a multi-jurisdictional auto-theft task force, in keeping the number down.

Poloni also said the majority of the crime stats are from crimes of opportunity and urged residents to keep a watchful eye on their surroundings and their possessions locked.

"A lot of the crime stats that we get are on simple larcenies where they're not breaking into homes, but if you leave your door open, they all take advantage of it," Poloni said. "Or if they see a valuable out in the open view, they might break a window to get it. We're asking people just to help us out, that will help us do our job, and just to be alert of their surroundings and call us if there's anything suspicious."

In 2018, Park officers made 479 fire runs, 313 of which were ambulance calls. The other responses included four building fires and two outside fires. The rest were fire alarms, smoke investigations, gas leaks and carbon monoxide detection. The Park responded four times to mutual-aid calls.

City

Index crimes in the City decreased by 21 percent in 2018. A total of 82 index crimes were reported, a decrease from 105 in 2017. It was the lowest index crime rate the last five years, with 2015 having the

Grosse Pointe Park

Part I Index Crimes

Index Offenses	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Criminal Homicide	0	0	0	0	0
Forcible Sexual Offenses	1	4	2	7	2
Robbery - Armed	10	3	0	2	0
Robbery - Unarmed	0	0	3	2	0
Aggravated Assault	2	5	9	6	0
Burglary/Home Invasion	27	29	20	11	17
Larceny	208	201	163	139	149
Motor Vehicle Theft	45	22	31	14	9
Arson	0	1	0	1	0
Total	293	265	228	182	177

City of Grosse Pointe

Part I Index Crimes

Index Offenses	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Murder/Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0
Forcible Sexual Offenses	0	0	0	1	4
Robbery	0	2	1	2	0
Aggravated Assault	4	4	3	8	2
Arson	0	0	0	2	0
Burglary/Home Invasion	13	13	8	10	7
Larceny	78	85	71	77	61
Motor Vehicle Theft	8	3	5	5	8
Total	103	106	88	105	82

most at 106 reported index crimes.

There were 61 larcenies, eight auto thefts, seven burglaries, four forcible sexual offenses and two aggravated assaults. There were no homicides or arsons in the City last year.

Poloni, who also is the director of public safety in the City, said there was a nearly 100 percent increase in fraud reports.

"A significant increase is in the area of fraud-related reports," said Poloni. "As we talked about last year, we don't see that decreasing anytime soon. As a matter of fact, we would expect

that would go up and that is primarily due to identity theft crimes which continue to be a scourge on the nation."

There were 93 fraud reports last year, up from 48 in 2017 and 27 in 2014.

The City went on 367 fire-related runs in 2018, 238 of which were ambulance calls. There were six dwelling fires and three commercial building fires.

Farms

In the Farms, major index crimes decreased 10 percent in 2018 over 2017.

Overall, 96 index crimes were reported in the Farms — 73 larcenies, 13 burglaries, five auto thefts, four aggravated assaults and one robbery. There were no criminal homicides,

Grosse Pointe Farms

Part I Index Crimes

Index Offenses	2017	2018
Criminal Homicide	0	0
Rape	0	0
Robbery	2	1
Aggravated Assault	2	4
Arson	14	13
Burglary	85	73
Larceny	3	5
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	0
Arson	1	0
Total	107	96

rapes or arsons reported last year.

"My two biggest worries each year — our biggest crimes — (are) breaking and enterings..."

and autos stolen," said Director of Public Safety Dan Jensen.

There was one less burglary, decreasing from 14 to 13, and the

five total motor vehicle thefts in 2018 were two more than 2017.

"I think we're right where we want to be," Jensen said.

There were a total of 155 fire runs in 2018, an increase of 17 from 2017. Of the 155 runs, 61 were false alarms, 61 were miscellaneous and 15 were carbon monoxide alarms.

The Farms responded to 17 fires in 2018, 15 of which were mutual-aid runs, and received mutual aid six times. There were two fires in the Farms last year with an estimated loss of \$86,040.

Jensen said he was happy with the results of the annual report, especially, he said, because four officers were out with injuries for several months. Despite the increased workload for the rest of the force, Farms officers were able to keep crime down.

"(Our officers) had some great arrests, got a lot of dope and guns off the street," he said.

Jensen credited officers' high visibility while patrolling the city.

"I think ... the No. 1 deterrent to crime is visibility," he said.

He also said they wouldn't be able to do their job without the help of the community.

"In general, the community has been really good about calling stuff in," he said. "Every year we say the same thing: Don't hesitate in calling us. We say, 'See something suspicious, call us.' I don't even say that anymore. You see something just out of the ordinary, call us, because you know your neighbors better than we do."

"The support from the community is overwhelming," he continued.

And not just are community members supportive in alerting the department of suspicious activity, but also emotionally, said Jensen. Around the holidays, Jensen said the officers are inundated with food, cards and well-wishes.

"This is a great community to work for. The Pointes in general are," said Jensen.

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Defer gives 'super'hero sendoff Family visited Disney World courtesy of Make-A-Wish

By Mary Anne Brush
Staff Writer

Zach and Hannah Nyenhuis were disappointed to miss Superhero Day at their school, but it was for a good reason.

On that same day, March 5, the Defer Elementary School second-grader and kindergartener were headed with their 3-year-old brother, Matthew, and parents to Walt Disney World Resort in Florida for a week. The trip was granted by Make-A-Wish Foundation for Matthew, who was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia in December 2017.

A ride to the airport in a limousine was a surprise to the kids, according to mom Kerrie Nyenhuis, but another surprise was in store for the entire family.

"We got in the limo and we figured we were going on the expressway, but we ended up going down Kercheval," Nyenhuis said. "Then I kind of had a clue and we saw the kids and everyone standing outside."

'Defer Elementary School was so excited to be a part of it. It was such a happy experience for everyone.'

KIM GEIST
Make-A-Wish volunteer

It turned out Superhero Day was planned as a tribute to Matthew, who loves superheroes, in particular The Hulk. The entire Defer community gathered, staff and students alike, dressed in superhero attire, lining the sidewalk in front of the school to give the Nyenhuis family a proper send-off for their well-deserved vacation.

"It was very emotional," Kerrie Nyenhuis said. "I was crying."

Zach, according to his mother, "was kind of embarrassed, but he also felt good."

Hannah said she saw many friends cheering for them and Matthew, according to Nyenhuis.

"Matthew's 3 so he can't

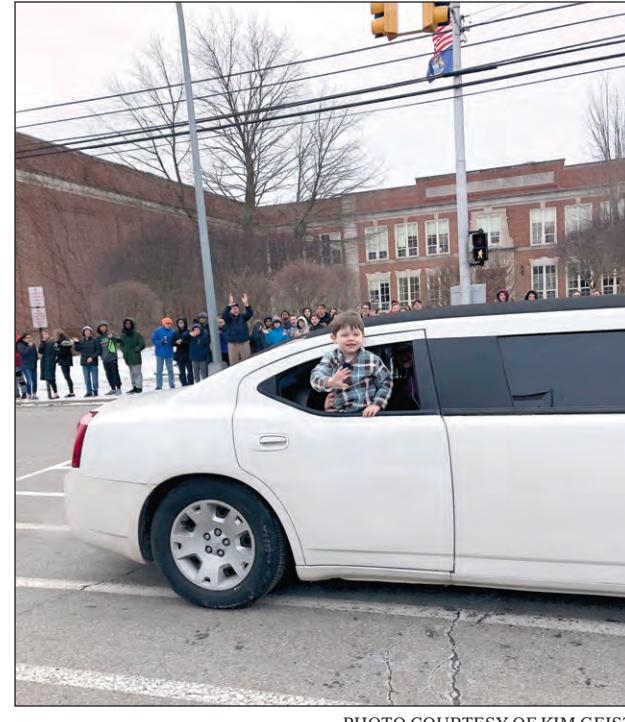


PHOTO COURTESY OF KIM GEIST

Matthew Nyenhuis waves to his fans on his way to the airport for the family's trip to Disney World.

really describe it, but he thought it was cool everyone was waving at him and cheering for him," Nyenhuis said. "It was a great surprise."

Matthew's parents found a lump on his leg Nov. 30, 2017. It took 25 days for doctors to arrive

Kids the World Village provided accommodations and access to all the theme parks. Since Matthew's particular interest was superheroes, meeting some of his favorites was a focus of the trip.

"He loves The Hulk," said Nyenhuis. "If you ask what does the Hulk say, he'll say, 'Hulk smash cancer.' If you say, 'Where is the Hulk?' he says, 'In me.'"

Other highlights in addition to meeting superheroes included having his star placed on a wall along with other Make-A-Wish children.

"There are over 200,000 stars," Nyenhuis said. "We can go back any time and find Matthew's star because I know where it's located."

While the family enjoyed their time together, it was a "bittersweet trip," Nyenhuis said. "You never want to have to be the recipient of Make-A-Wish because the reasons you're getting this trip are terrible,

'The support we had from the (Defer) community is indescribable. They helped us get through last year so it was a great way to start the trip.'

KERRIE NYENHUIS
Defer parent

but the bright side of it and the sweet side of it is that there are all these things out there for families. We had a horrible year and a very emotional year and it was very hard on all of our kids — all three kids, not only Matthew, (but Zach and Hannah) who didn't have their sibling at home and their parents home."

Nyenhuis said she and her husband, Josh, split nights at the hospital with Matthew, both of whom cutting down on their work schedules as much as possible. Kerrie Nyenhuis as an athletic trainer for the Rehabilitation Institute for Michigan at the Detroit Medical Center, where she works out of a satellite



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Defer Elementary School superheroes cheering Matthew Nyenhuis on are, front row from left, Anya Smrt, Leo Keagle, Ella Bowersox, Payton Filiccia, Gabe Spratt and Principal Lisa Rheaume. Back row, Sophie Byrn, Ashley Andris, Kate Andris, Declan O'Donovan, Addy Jenks, Coco Aquino and Jonah Hess.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF KERRIE NYENHUIS

Right, Matthew, Kerrie, Hannah, Zach and Josh Nyenhuis during their recent trip to Disney World. Above, the Nyenhuis family with some of Matthew's favorite superheroes.

clinic in Harper Woods, and Josh Nyenhuis as a self-employed painter.

"We had lots of families helping us and taking our kids to events," Nyenhuis said. "We are lucky to have aunts and uncles and grandparents nearby to help."

In addition, members of their church, First Christian Reformed Church of Detroit, set up a meal train.

The family was contacted in June by two Make-A-Wish volunteers, Allison Baker and Kim Geist, both of whom happened to be neighbors — Baker on the same block as the Nyenhuis family in Grosse Pointe Park and Geist a few streets away.

"They were amazing," Nyenhuis said. "They were just so sweet, not just to Matthew but all of our kids," bringing special treats on the first day of school, Halloween, Christmas and other special occasions.

On Matthew's birthday, they "brought a huge Hulk cutout," Nyenhuis said.

Defer Principal Lisa Rheaume also was supportive of the entire family.

"Over the breaks —

because our kids couldn't go anywhere on breaks — Dr. Rheaume had stuff for all our kids to open up.... She was so sweet," Nyenhuis said. "She would let the kids know if we couldn't pick them up (from school). She was just amazing."

"I don't know how we would have done it without the community," she added.

Baker and Geist were involved in planning for the family trip to Disney World, from meeting with the family to decide on Matthew's wish to arranging for the limousine ride to the airport.

At the beginning of the year, they sent a calen-

dar with a countdown of the days to the trip, Baker said.

In between they touched base with the family, dropping off treats "to let them know Make-A-Wish is thinking about you, thinking about your wish, trying to keep them involved and excited," she said.

When the day finally came, "Defer Elementary School was so excited to be a part of it. It was such a happy experience for everyone," Geist said, adding Pierce Middle School students came outside to join in the sendoff.

"It was a surprise for the family and they just loved it. Matthew thought he was a star."



PHOTO COURTESY OF KERRIE NYENHUIS

Matthew Nyenhuis is a huge Hulk fan. "Hulk smash cancer," is his motto.

One school one book

Trombly community celebrates reading

By Mary Anne Brush
Staff Writer

The school that reads together learns and grows together. This is the premise behind the One School One Book program at Trombly Elementary School, held during March is Reading Month, according to Principal Walt Fitzpatrick.

Started in 2011 with "The Cricket in Times Square," the program gets "everybody involved in reading," Fitzpatrick said. "Reading is so important in life. Hopefully, parents also

carve out time to be with their kids without any other distractions other than just having the book and making that connection."

Thanks to the generosity of the PTO, the book is sent home with each child along with a reading schedule. Children read at home with a parent, sibling or grandparent — or listen online to familiar voices reading chapters, including Fitzpatrick, Trombly teachers, school secretary Dineen Krotche and Grosse Pointe Public School System Superintendent Gary Niehaus.

"It's never easy finding a 'One School One Book' that works well for all elementary readers K to 5," said Trombly librarian Rachel Walpole. Moreover, "realistic fiction is particularly challenging because the issues that resonate with older kids don't always speak to younger ones, and vice versa."

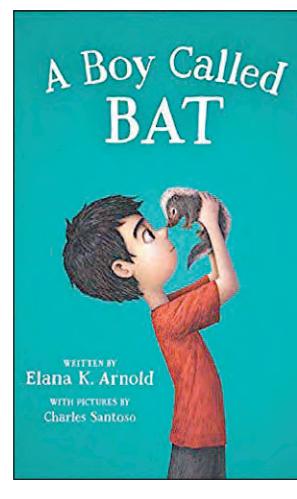
An additional challenge this year, according to Fitzpatrick, grew out of discussions among the school's diversity group members on "how they can support the teachers in their quest to have topics of diversity within

their classroom."

In exploring a variety of these topics — from divorced families to racial and religious differences — "A Boy Called Bat," by Elana K. Arnold, about a boy on the autism spectrum, "came up as a great opportunity as a whole school to start on that journey," Fitzpatrick said.

"Our students are very good at supporting students on the spectrum and understanding their behaviors, but this book just brings it more into light," he added.

Also, "it has an animal and kids love animals.



Trombly's One School One Book choice this year is a story of first friendship starring a young boy on the autism spectrum.

There's also that sibling connection where the oldest sister and he kind of go back and forth, just like in real life, and the

mother and father are divorced so he goes to two homes," Fitzpatrick said. "There are a lot of real-life scenarios for our students in here and it came highly recommended from our librarian."

According to Walpole, "A Boy Called Bat" is a wonderful book — engaging and quietly funny — that also happens to offer readers insights into how a boy with autism engages with his world. ... The characters are multi-faceted and relatable and there's a baby skunk — something for everybody. The fact that autism and divorced parents are a part of Bat's story without being the point of the story is refreshing and respectful of the diversity in our world."

State rep emphasizes importance of reading

By Mary Anne Brush
Staff Writer

As part of March is Reading Month, state Rep. Joe Tate, House District 2, visited students at Trombly Elementary School March 15, to share a book about building bridges. This is Tate's first term representing Detroit's lower east side, the City of Grosse Pointe, Grosse Pointe Farms and Grosse Pointe Park.

"Mackinac Bridge," by Gloria Whelan, a children's author originally from Grosse Pointe, "is a great book about a story of a family seeing the bridge being built," Tate said.

Tate, who serves on the house appropriations committee, views his role as a legislator as building bridges, a value reinforced by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, he said.

"I think that's something I myself definitely value as well as other members of the legislature," he said.

He and other lawmakers from around Michigan had the opportunity to build those bridges during a legislative weekend in the Upper Peninsula. The visit included tours of a veterans' facility and mines, Tate said — and witnessing the UP 200, a dog-sledding race, which began in downtown Marquette.



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Khari Kumasi and Hadley Eszes were chosen to ask Rep. Joe Tate questions when the third-, fourth- and fifth-graders came into the auditorium to listen to him speak. Tate talked about the role of the state legislature and his background playing in the NFL and serving in the U.S. Marine Corps, including two deployments to Afghanistan during Operation Enduring Freedom.

The children in Sarah Block's first- and second-grade classroom were interested in hearing about Tate's trip across the Mackinac Bridge and visit to the UP — something many could relate to, according to Block.

"We do a lot of talking about the state of Michigan here and they were very interested," Block said. "A lot of them go up north and do travel across the Mackinac Bridge. I think it was interesting for them to read that and learn more from somebody who has traveled it."

"I told them we have a guest coming in to read a book and they love any

social studies book so it was a good choice," she added.

Tate said he was spending time during March is Reading Month visiting schools in his district to discuss the importance of reading.

"My mom was a public school teacher in Detroit, second grade at Clark Elementary," he said. "She instilled in us the importance of reading. It's always something that's been ingrained in my family, knowing that that's the foundation. Being able to read — that's the start of it, moving on to whatever you're passionate about, that involves reading."



State Rep. Joe Tate reads to kindergarteners at Trombly Elementary School during March is Reading Month.

Teacher of THE WEEK

Rachel Walpole



School: Trombly Elementary School

Years at Trombly: 15

Grade/Subject: K-5 Library

Nominated by: Walt Fitzpatrick, principal

Principal's quote:

"Rachel makes the library come alive for our Trombly students. She teaches the essentials about the library, finding creative ways to make it easier for students to make connections such as using the term 'neighborhood.' However, it is the activities in class that set Rachel apart. During the fable unit, she had the multiage students write fables with the morals being one of the 7 habits of Leader in Me, adopted by Trombly this school year."

What do you enjoy most about teaching?

I love that teaching offers so many opportunities to make connec-

tions, first and foremost connections with students. Kids are such interesting people to know — what interests them, how they think, what they wonder. Library class is much more than story time or Dewey Decimal, so teaching library also gives me the pleasure of connecting students with new ideas and new questions, as well as with literature that can affirm and expand their world, and with each other as they work collaboratively on library tasks.

Describe a teaching accomplishment you're proud of or a "teachable moment" you experienced.

I'm proud of some of the curriculum units I've developed over the years, the ones that take students beyond worksheets and isolated library skills and encourage them to apply those skills in the service of their own curiosity. I've also had a lot of fun incorporating American Sign Language vocabulary into my kindergarten library



COURTESY PHOTO

lessons. ASL gives my youngest students an active way to engage with a story, and they are rightly proud of how many signs they know by the end of the year.

Please share a book or person that has inspired you or your teaching.

I am constantly inspired by my teaching colleagues. There are so many different ways to do this challenging job well — with intelligence and creativity and heart and humor and hope.

Favorite quote:

"Books are a uniquely portable magic."

— Stephen King

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Blue ribbon committee responds to community

By Mary Anne Brush
Staff Writer

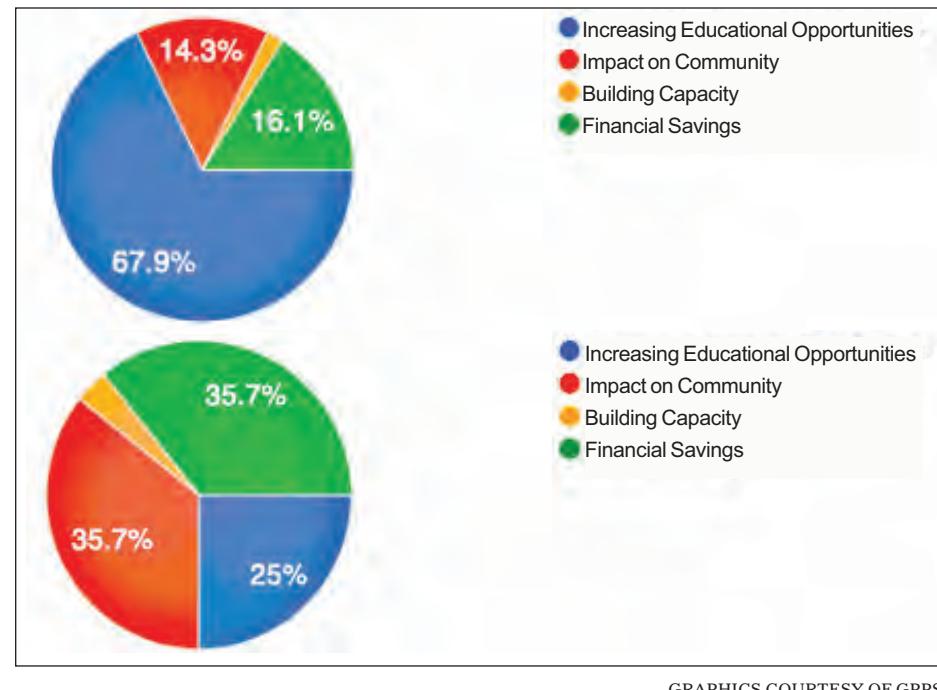
Grosse Pointe Public School System Superintendent Gary Niehaus opened the blue ribbon committee meeting at Brownell Middle School March 14, with the message he and his administrative team had received multiple calls, emails and visits and was listening to the community.

Twenty-five parents spoke at the Board of Education meeting earlier that week with concerns about the work of the blue ribbon facilities committee, tasked with making recommendations impacting the future direction of the school district.

Others emailed or called administrators or posted comments on board members' Facebook pages.

Many shared feelings on a new Facebook page, Grosse Pointe Parents for Neighborhood Schools, created by concerned parents as a forum for "fact-finding, fact-checking and problem-solving."

The page grew to 2,265 members in under two weeks before administrators shut it down out of concern it had become difficult to manage (see article below).



GRAPHICS COURTESY OF GPPSS

In a live survey March 14, blue ribbon committee members were asked to rank first and top priorities "to determine the lens used for reconfiguration." Options were increasing educational opportunities, impact on community, building capacity and financial savings. As seen in the top pie chart, the first choice — 67.9 percent out of 56 responses — was increasing educational opportunities. For the second "most important lens" — see bottom pie chart — impact on community and financial savings were a tie at 35.7 percent, with increasing educational opportunities a close third.

Contrary to what had been stated earlier — that committee members would begin identifying schools possibly slated for closure in an ongoing process to reconfigure the school district — Niehaus said, "Only having a week between meetings was way, way too fast for us.... Tonight,

we on purpose are not going to name schools."

The purpose of the meeting — the fourth out of five — was to seek answers, screen possibilities "and find some solutions we can bring back to the Board of Education," Niehaus said.

While the final blue ribbon committee meeting

originally was scheduled March 28 — at which point specific buildings would be named to allow committee members to prepare their recommendations — that meeting has been postponed until Thursday, April 11, following spring break.

The meeting will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. in

the Parcells Middle School auditorium, 20600 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods. Observers are welcome.

According to a district email, postponing the meeting will:

- ◆ increase transparency
- ◆ provide additional time for input to the Board of Education
- ◆ increase attendance
- ◆ provide an opportunity for the administration to gather input from fifth- and sixth-grade teachers on the impact of grade reconfigurations

◆ provide administration more time to fine-tune numbers and scheduling details for the scenarios

◆ allow time to finalize Town Hall dates and locations so they can be announced at the final meeting.

Community members are encouraged to review the updated "Frequently Asked Questions" at gpcschools.org and contact the superintendent's office at (313) 432-3010 with questions.

Niehaus also announced the district was seeking a second opinion from Middle Cities Education Services, "the other enrollment projection company that most of our peers pick if they don't pick Plante Moran Cresa. ... Those

second opinions will give us some idea as to whether what (PMC) is giving us is legit and if there are some differences, we can look at those differences."

These actions were in response to a process many community members believed was rushed and decisions being made lacked valid data. Others were learning about potential school building closures for the first time — even though reducing the district's footprint due to declining enrollment had been part of discussions since the blue ribbon committee convened in September 2017.

In June 2018, the board passed a resolution setting enrollment parameters. When this year's total enrollment dropped by 218 students — nearly double the number projected, according to a presentation at the regular meeting of the board Nov. 26 — the resolution was triggered, prompting administrators to present a comprehensive proposal to the Board of Education Jan. 14.

On Jan. 31, the blue ribbon committee reconvened — with several members stepping down and new members filling their spots — to begin work on evaluating seven

See BLUE, page 19A

Residents for neighborhood schools

By Mary Anne Brush
Staff Writer

Liz Rohan, a Grosse Pointe Farms resident with a first-grade son at Kerby Elementary School, started Grosse Pointe Parents for Neighborhood Schools, a Facebook page for "parents and concerned Grosse Pointe School System citizens who value the neighborhood school model," according to the group description, because she and several of her friends "were trying to find out what was going on with this whole process (of) ... changing the landscape of the Grosse Pointe Public School System."

Rohan looked at the blue ribbon committee slides, including capacity rates that she believed lacked cultural context.

"I felt there wasn't any real way to talk to the people making decisions," she said. "A lot of us were talking about that and we were getting nervous. We felt it was kind of a closed system and there was a lot at stake for us with our kids. We felt we didn't have a lot of information so we started posting information."

Rohan started the group on Wednesday, March 5. As a closed page, members had to be invited to join. By the time Rohan and her fellow administrators, Pamela Grand and Annemarie Rogers, decided to make the page inactive — posts are archived, but the page no longer accepts comments — it had grown to 2,265 members.

According to Rogers, the page had grown so large, it was difficult to moderate comments.

"Unfortunately people didn't thoroughly vet the information they were provided," Rogers said. "Consequently it resulted in the repetition of misinformation and downright lies that people could not substantiate. Trying to keep ahead of the rumor

potential closures was an ad hoc committee in Grosse Pointe Park focused on protecting neighborhood schools, according to former Park mayor and mayor pro tem Gregory Theokas.

Committee members have met once, Theokas said, but are awaiting more information on specific schools before taking action. Members include Theokas, Mayor Robert Denner, Michele Hodges, Michele Lindsay, Marty McMillan, Lauri Read, Jack Ryan and Heather Wiegand. Lindsay and Read are members of the blue ribbon committee.

While "mindful of the financial condition of the Grosse Pointe school system," the committee formed out of concern for the three schools within the Grosse Pointe Park border, Theokas said.

"What's the function of the school system?

Obviously, it's to maintain the highest quality of education. It's also to serve neighborhood stabilization," he continued, adding, "I'm not happy that this is happening. (The schools) are a tremendous magnet for potential families to move in here."

Of paramount importance, he said, is the safety of children, particularly those who might have to cross a major road in the event their neighborhood school closes.

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South seniors showcase work in ArtFest

By Mary Anne Brush
Staff Writer

Grosse Pointe South High School seniors Dan Draper, Sam McLeod and Kristina Rogers differ in their use of media and message for their artwork, but they have four things in common.

All three took art electives throughout four years of high school; each won multiple Scholastic Art awards; each is pursuing art in college; and all of them have artwork on display at South's ArtFest 2019, a four-day student exhibition held in South's multipurpose room through Saturday, March 23.

Medieval master

Draper's portfolio earned a Silver Key and he won two individual Gold Key awards. He recently was accepted into the Tri-County Show at Wayne State University.

"His story is interesting," said Tom Szemrecsanyi, Draper's metals and sculpture teacher for four years. "He is an artist and engineer."

"Every year I've taken at least one sculpture and one metals class," said Draper, including an independent study this year.

Inspired by his British heritage — "My dad's from England," Draper said — his portfolio, titled "Mastery of Medieval," focuses on knights in armor and dragons and "medieval-type stuff."

His years immersed in art at South have allowed him to create pieces he's been told are at a univer-



ArtFest 2019 is free and open to the public. Hours are Thursday, March 21, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 5 to 8 p.m.; Friday, March 22, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 5 to 7 p.m.; and Saturday, March 23, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

sity senior's level, according to his artist statement.

"Given increased responsibility each year in the metals lab, I have been working as a Metals Foreman, assisting other students with their projects for the past two years," Draper wrote. "My experience at South has given me the opportunity to work alongside a local Detroit artist as an apprentice this past summer."

It was this experience that led to his decision to double major in sculpture and engineering. While he is undecided, he has been accepted to the University of Michigan STAMPS School of Art & Design, Michigan State University, Wayne State University and the College for Creative Studies.

Draper said his early inspiration was attending medieval Renaissance festivals in middle school and "an interest in all-things dragons." This was further enhanced by a family trip to England where he learned first-hand about medieval armor and created a "new and improved gauntlet design."

Other inspirations were medieval video games and TV shows — and he's a big "Monty Python and the Holy Grail" fan. The first time he won an award for his art was a National Scholastic silver medal when he was in eighth grade.

"This inspired me because I knew I could create something superior," he wrote. "Art has helped me build a stronger connection to my friends through numerous community projects I have completed."



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Distortion

McLeod's photography portfolio, "Distortion," captures extreme emotion through the physical altering of faces and bodies.

Some of her distortions capture specific emotions. For example, her photo "sublime" is focused on warmth while "taut" is "much more painful, showing someone breaking out of the things that hold them back," she wrote in her artist's statement. She also uses light and color to convey happier or harsher emotions.

The twelfth and final photo in her concentration is an undistorted black-and-white portrait "to show how real people look" even while they may be experiencing the emotions depicted in the other photographs.

In addition to Scholastic Art Gold Key and Silver Key awards, McLeod was an American Vision winner. Her portfolio was one of five works of art from the region selected

by local judges and eligible for an American Voices Medal.

McLeod took concepts and materials, a pre-requisite art class, with Szemrecsanyi freshman year, Photo I and II with Emily Wolf sophomore and junior years and advanced placement drawing and painting with Margaret Rose as a senior. She hopes to study photography and has been accepted at U of M STAMPS, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Columbia College Chicago, Pratt Institute in New York and the College for Creative Studies.

McLeod believes she has grown as an artist during her time in high school.

"I used to be very strict about dividing mediums — this is a photo, this is a drawing, this is a painting," she said. "Now I'm much more open to mixed media things and I like the idea of painting on photos or incorporating different mediums into art."



Dan Draper won a Silver Key for his portfolio, "Master of Medieval." He is pictured here with "Cronus' Shield," crafted from steel and brass.

"I have a much different view on what art can be, which is cool," she added. "I definitely learned that a lot through Mrs. Wolfe, but then also this year with Mrs. Rose. She was very open to us doing whatever we want with a project. She would give us a basic guideline, but be open to our interpretation, which was very nice, but allows me to do what I think fits the project best."

Best in show

Rogers submitted two portfolios — or concentrations, as they are referred to by the AP College Board — to the Scholastic Art competition, earning a Gold Key for each, including a Best of Show for "The aspiration of regulation," one of five portfolios in the region to earn this designation, as well as four individual awards.

Rogers said a lot of her art is about control. She prefers computer graphics as a medium because it allows her that control she is unable to attain in life, but gains through her art.

"My first concentration explores the struggle between control and chaos as it pertains to the individual," she wrote in her artist's statement. "Children desire control. They need control in order to process the world that very often makes no sense to them. As children grow older, most times, this desire only grows. I am no exception to this rule. I thrive on control."

Her second concentration depicts the pitfalls of insecurity and "was inspired by both my anxiety about body image through personal experiences, as well as my frustration with the negativity society places on confidence. For centuries, people have created stories depicting downfalls of the narcissistic, thus creating a society of highly insecure men and women who are afraid to love any part of themselves, scared they will be framed for narcissism."

Rogers said she connects with "The aspiration of regulation" more than any other body of work she has done.

Rogers loaded up her schedule with art classes all four years, taking metals I and II and drawing and painting I freshman year, sculpture I, computer graphics and drawing and painting sophomore year and junior year, and AP drawing and painting and AP computer graphics this year.

"South's art department has allowed me to create and thrive in a positive environment and I am forever grateful for my teachers and their dedication to their students," she wrote in her artist's statement.

Rogers aspires to be a graphic designer for a large company or museum curator and was accepted at U of M STAMPS, Virginia Commonwealth University School of the Arts, School of the Art Institute of Chicago and the Center for Creative Studies and is waiting to hear from three additional art schools.

She also completed a legacy project, joining students over the years whose work appears as a

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See ARTFEST, page 17A

Brownell eighth-grader heads to state geobee

By Mary Anne Brush
Staff Writer

Three-time Brownell Middle School geography bee winner Andrew Isaacs is headed to his third consecutive state competition at the end of March.

Held in Kalamazoo Friday, March 29, the National Geographic GeoBee state competition begins with an oral competition, with each student receiving questions in the practice round and eight preliminary rounds. The students with the top 10 scores from the preliminary rounds advance to the final competition consisting of final and championship rounds.

The state champion heads to the national championships May 19 to 22, at the National Geographic Society headquarters in Washington, D.C. The national champion receives a \$25,000 college scholarship, \$1,000 in cash, a lifetime membership in the National Geographic Society, and a trip to the Galápagos Islands. Second- and third-place winners receive a \$10,000 and \$5,000 college scholarship, respectively, and \$1,000 cash prize.

While Isaacs said he was surprised to win all three



PHOTO BY MARY ANNE BRUSH

Eighth-grader Andrew Isaacs began studying geography at age 5 using an app called Stack the States. The three-time winner of Brownell Middle School's geography bee said he loves looking at maps.

years, he got a leg up on his Brownell opponents—including this year's runner-up, Stella Jansens, also an eighth-grader—early in life, thanks to a gift from his parents.

"I started learning geography because my parents got me this app when I was 5 years old," Isaacs said. "It was called Stack the States. Then I got another app—Stack the Countries. I had to learn all the information about those countries or states.

"I love looking at maps," he continued. "I love learning about the world and stuff. It's just awesome. It's so interesting to learn about your own planet. It's just so cool."

Recently Isaacs learned more about another part of the world when he and his parents spent a few weeks in South Africa. In addition to visiting Cape Town and Johannesburg, they saw the jungles and went on a few safaris, Isaacs said, adding he saw the "big five" game animals—

lion, leopard, rhinoceros, elephant and Cape buffalo.

"It was definitely cool to see places other than the United States," he said.

Another favorite was a family trip to Michigan's Upper Peninsula, in particular Les Cheneaux Islands, a group of 36 small islands along 12 miles of Lake Huron shoreline on the eastern tip of the UP.

If he could go anywhere in the world, he'd visit Sweden.

"One, I have family there. Two, it just seems like ... it would be a big UP because there are a ton of oceans, some fjords, a lot of cool forests," he said.

Teacher Pete Dettlinger, who taught Isaacs in honors sixth-grade and honors eighth-grade social studies class, said he isn't surprised Isaacs "three-peated," but can't take any credit for his success.

"He knows more than I do by far," Dettlinger said. "It's amazing what he knows."

"He is so passionate about social studies," he added. "It's not just geography. ... If I ask a question here and no one else knows—hand up—and he feels badly after a while because he doesn't want to know too much. He just has such a broad knowledge. ... He knows his world history. He knows American history. One time I asked the class, what's the minimum age to be president? His hand went up. 'Thirty-five,' he said.

Buddy, what do you do, sleep with a history book?"

At the same time, Isaacs is humble, Dettlinger said. "He's not arrogant. He's just Andrew."

Isaacs said it's hard to prepare for the national

bee, but he's studying books he purchased from the National Geographic library and watching YouTube videos "about some random geography facts you might need to know."

Studying is "more difficult than looking at a ton of questions because you have no idea what they're going to quiz you on or ask you," he added. "It's not like a math test."

He hopes to improve on his previous state performances. The first year he got six out of eight right in the first round and didn't advance. The next year he got seven out of eight right, moving to a tie-breaker, where he lost with one wrong answer.

His goal this year is to win.

Dettlinger believes Isaacs will rise to the occasion.

"I think he thrives on knowledge," he said.

Also vying for the state championship from Grosse Pointe are eighth-grader Logan Detweiler from Pierce Middle School; eighth-grader Nathan Jochum from Parcells Middle School; eighth-grader Alexander Kuplicki from The Grosse Pointe Academy; and seventh-grader Mark Saigh from University Liggett School.



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

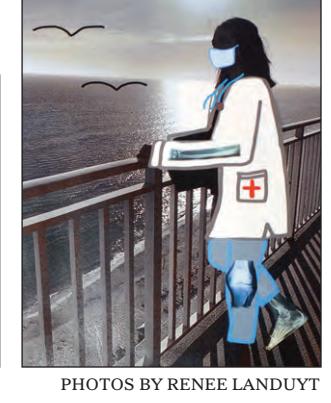
"Self-portrait" by Samantha McLeod, American Vision Award nominee.



ArtFest 2019



"Brown Bag Beauty" by Chloe Skiles, photography.



"Doctor Doctor" by Alexis Sanders, digital art.



From Kristina Rogers' Best of Show Gold Key portfolio, left, "Okay Start," and right, "The Separation of Body and Mind," digital art.

Kristina Rogers by her legacy project, a permanent installation in the hallway of South's Industrial Arts building.



Sara (Rowan) Ecclestone holds "Otto the Graffiti Artist," which won a Gold Key award for sculpture.



"A rainbow you can sit on" by Caroline Zrimec, photography.

ARTFEST:

Continued from page 16A

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

permanent installation on South's walls for future generations of students to enjoy.

The mural, painted in acrylic, grew out of a smaller computer graphics piece she created called "Take a Moment."

The original piece was about control, Rogers said, with the legacy project "less about control and more about aesthetic and calm and being able to place things where you need them to be in your life."

ArtFest 2019 is free and open to the public. Hours are Thursday, March 21, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 5 to 8 p.m.; and Friday, March 22, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 5 to 7 p.m., with an awards ceremony beginning at 7 p.m. On Saturday, March 23, the show is open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Many pieces are available for purchase. Cash, checks, Visa and Mastercard are accepted.

Kristina Rogers by her legacy project, a permanent installation in the hallway of South's Industrial Arts building.

Sara (Rowan) Ecclestone holds "Otto the Graffiti Artist," which won a Gold Key award for sculpture.

"A rainbow you can sit on" by Caroline Zrimec, photography.



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PRIDE OF THE POINTES

The following area students were named to the Dean's List for the fall 2018 semester at Miami University: **Charlie Fordon** and **Maranda Saigh** of the City of Grosse Pointe; **Angelo Pendolino** of Grosse Pointe Farms; **Abigail Due** and **Halle Mogk** of Grosse Pointe Park; and **Michael Lesha** of Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆◆◆

Max Yoshida was named to the Dean's List for the fall 2018 semester at Dickinson College. Yoshida, a senior, graduated from Grosse Pointe North High School and is the son of Drs. Atsushi and Barbara Yoshida of the City of Grosse Pointe.

◆◆◆

Casey Jackowski was named to Miami University's fall 2018 President's List, which recognizes undergraduate students ranked in the top 3 percent of their division for the first semester 2018-19. Jackowski is from the City of Grosse Pointe and is majoring in computer science, interactive media studies.

◆◆◆

Jennifer Moy of the City of Grosse Pointe and **Lauren Fleckenstein** of Grosse Pointe Farms were named to the fall 2018 Dean's List at Fairfield University.

◆◆◆

Lily Patterson of Grosse Pointe Shores was named to the Dean's List at Bates College for the fall 2018 semester. Patterson, the daughter of Kate and Will Patterson, is a 2016 graduate of Grosse Pointe South High School.

◆◆◆

John D. Hoover graduated in December 2018 from the Eli Broad College of Business at Michigan State University with a Bachelor of Arts degree. He majored in hospitality business. Hoover is the son of Ruth E. and David L. Hoover of Grosse Pointe Woods and a 2014 graduate of Grosse Pointe North High School.

◆◆◆

Emma Clutterbuck of the City of Grosse Pointe was named to the fall 2018 Dean's List at Tufts University.

◆◆◆

Lizzie Trost was named to Dickinson College's fall 2018 Dean's

List. Trost, a graduate of Grosse Pointe South High School, is the daughter of Richard and Mary Trost of Grosse Pointe Park.

◆◆◆

List for the fall 2018 semester at Grand Valley State University: **Nadia Anusbigian**, **Emily Barbour**, **Meagan Beach**, **Daniel Bukacel**, **Riley Crook**, **Claire Dalian**, **Alyssa Dall**, **Lora Dobbs**, **David Gerlach**, **Delaney Hart**, **Emily Huguenin**, **Gabriel Korkmaz**, **Mary Katherine Kozak**, **Sydney Kummer**, **Jack Liagre**, **Heidi Marchi**, **Noah Marion**, **Jenna Miller**, **Nathaniel Mitchell**, **Ian Murphy**, **Samuel Nehra**, **Natalie Schunk**, **Christina Sickles**, **Anthony Simon**, **Sophia Smith**, **Jacqueline Veneri**, **Joseph Veneri** and **Danielle Zukowski** from the City of Grosse Pointe and **Jenna Belote**, **Catherine Brieden**, **Charles Calcaterra**, **Clark Frick**, **Alexandra Golus**, **Caitlin Miller**, **Erin Morris**, **Gabriel Rogers** and **Matthew Torlone** from Grosse Pointe Park.

◆◆◆

Chloe Kline of Grosse Pointe Park and **Wilson Moin** of Grosse Pointe Woods were named to the President's List and **Meghan Mitchell** of Grosse Pointe Farms was named to the Dean's List for the fall 2018 terms at the University of Alabama.

◆◆◆

Cameron Zak of the City of Grosse Pointe was named to the Dean's List for the fall term at Centre College. Zak, the daughter of Caroline and Anthony Zak, is a graduate of Grosse Pointe South High School.

◆◆◆

Sam Brusilow of the City of Grosse Pointe was named to the Dean's List for the fall 2018 semester at Washington University in St. Louis. Brusilow is the son of Cindy and Bill Brusilow and a 2017 graduate of University Liggett School.

◆◆◆

Will Poplawski of the City of Grosse Pointe has been named to the Dean's List for the second semester of the 2018-19 academic year at the College of the Holy Cross. He is the son of Laura and Jay Poplawski and a 2016 graduate of Grosse Pointe South High School.

◆◆◆

The following students were named to the Dean's



PHOTOS COURTESY OF JEFF JOGAN

The Tower Belles strike a pose in "It's a Woman's World" as sophomore Katie Maraldo starts a solo. Front row, from left, Franni Fermani, Emma Tripp, Lauren Cooper, Emmie Reith, Abigail Hampton and Lauren Leach.

South show choirs defend titles

Grosse Pointe South High School's choirs claimed the top prizes in two regional competitions, both held in Fort Wayne, Ind.

In February it was the Huntington North Midwest Showcase, where the Pointe Singers were crowned grand champions in the championship

division and the ground are seniors Mia Turco and John O'Dell. Other songs Tower Belles in their set were "Henry Ford," "Easy Street," "Fall on Me" took home the and "I Surrender."

grand champions title in the women's division. Both groups also earned best vocals and best choreography. The competition featured 13 mixed groups and seven women's groups. In addition, senior Grace Walsh was

named grand champion of the solo competition.

The first weekend in March brought more victories at the 45th annual Bishop Luers Midwest Show Choir invitational, where the Pointe Singers won grand champion for the third straight year and earned the best vocal sound and best show awards. The Tower Belles made it four consecutive grand champion victories at this competition, which featured 10 mixed groups and five women's groups.

In the solo competition, junior Grace Ryan was named grand champion while junior Josie Monahan took first runner-up.

"The young men and women who represented South this past weekend basically won every group and individual honor in their categories they possibly could and I'm very proud of their successes, their hard work and how they represent our school," Pratt added.

"Having won grand champion at two regional competitions, both groups have earned the right to compete in a National FAME competition, scheduled Saturday, May 4, in Waukegan, Ill.



COURTESY PHOTO

In the solo competition, junior Grace Ryan, right, was named grand champion and junior Josie Monahan took first runner-up.

Junior League of Detroit announces scholarships for high school seniors

Building upon the Junior League of Detroit's service to the community and mission to develop the potential of women, the JLD is awarding 10 scholarships to female graduating high school seniors, each valued at \$1,000.

Identical or female students attending high schools in Wayne County.

Students must demonstrate an interest in and commitment to volunteerism regarding food insecurity, in addition to their academic achievements. Factors considered include a grade point average of 3.25 or better; extracurricular activities; community service and work experience; essay question answer; awards and honors; and recommendations from teachers, coaches or volunteer

coordinators.

"The purpose of this program is to support young women in and around Detroit who are driven to continue their education and contribute to their community," said Shelia Minetola, chairwoman of JLD's scholarship and grant committee. "The JLD scholarships support our organization's and members' dedication to improving children's lives in the community."

Application requirements and the application form are available at jldetroit.org. The application deadline is March 31.

The Junior League of Detroit is an organization of women committed to promoting volunteerism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable. For more information, go to jldetroit.org or follow JLD on Facebook and Instagram.

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COURTESY PHOTO

The cast of "The Wizard of Oz: Young Performers Edition," front row from left, Mia Pyenta, Scarecrow; Margot Murphy, Dorothy; Quinn Cassidy, Glinda; Katherine Young, Toto; Natalie White, Wicked Witch. Back row, Aidan London, Tin Man; Carlos Abundis, Cowardly Lion; Giovanna Gigante, tree; Savanna Cardaris, Aunt Em; and Quinn Gorski, tree.

We're off to see the Wizard

St. Paul Catholic School's all-school musical, "The Wizard of Oz: Young Performers Edition," is truly an all-school production, with 120 Young 5 through eighth-grade students participating in the cast and crew.

Every grade has pitched in with student projects used as part of the set, such as lollipops, poppies, clouds and ban-

ners. Junior high students volunteered to usher, sell concessions and help with hair and make-up.

Even members of the faculty and staff got in the act, assisting with music, choreography, costuming and set design. The production features an outreach performance for students from George Crockett Academy, Full Circle and

students with special needs from Grosse Pointe's high schools.

Shows are 7 p.m. Friday, March 22, and Saturday, March 23, in the school's auditorium. General admission tickets can be purchased online at showtix4u.com.

St. Paul is located at 170 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms. For more information, call (313) 885-3430.

BLUE:

Continued from page 15A

reconfiguration options, with an eighth option added later.

Each option, available at gpcschools.org, outlines grade configurations, pros and cons of each, potential building closures and estimated annual cost savings. No high schools were considered in the grade reconfigurations or building closures and all options included the sale of the administration building at 389 St. Clair.

The committee, comprised of 58 volunteer parents, teachers, support staff, building administrators, central office administrators and other community members, has met four times to review school funding, enrollment trends and projections. At the heart of its work is analyzing the proposed options, eliminating several that did not meet the committee's charge of substantial annual financial savings and expanding opportunities for all students.

Responses to a live survey indicated a change among committee members regarding gravity schools. While at the previous meeting, 85.1 percent of 47 respondents indicated an interest in creating a gravity school, by March 14 — one week later — only 12.7 percent of 55 respondents voted in favor of the gravity school.

The proposed gravity school — a grade 3-8 school of collaboration and inquiry drawing students from across the district and selected by lottery among parents interested in this interdisciplinary educational approach, but limited to 81 students per grade — met with opposition from parents who spoke at the board meeting, emailed district administrators and shared sentiments on social media.

The concept of a gravity school would have helped maintain the current K-5 and 6-8 grade configuration, according to factors

outlined in the presentation. The board set 85 percent capacity as a target for each building for maximum efficiency. To achieve these numbers, a middle school would be closed and repurposed as a large elementary school housing 500 to 700 students, a service center accommodating an early childhood center and administrative services, or a gravity school. In addition, two to four elementary schools would need to close or be repurposed.

Other survey responses provided insight into committee members' priorities. For example, members were asked to rank their top two options among four choices:

- ◆ Increasing educational opportunities — i.e., creating new opportunities for students, maintaining current class sizes and expanding and maintaining rigorous opportunities
- ◆ Impact on community, both on students and residents
- ◆ Financial savings — i.e., operational savings, cost avoidance, one-time savings and the possibility for future revenue
- ◆ Building capacity, with a target set at 85 percent

Respondents indicated the most important priority as follows: increasing educational opportunities (67.9 percent); financial savings (16.1 percent); impact on community (14.3 percent); and building capacity (1.7 percent).

The second most

important was a tie, with 35.7 percent supporting increasing educational opportunities and impact on community; 25 percent selecting financial savings and only 3.6 percent concerned about building capacity.

Respondents also were asked if the expansion of an early childhood center was a component the blue ribbon committee should include in its final recommendations, with 94.5 percent voting yes.

Regarding grade reconfigurations, 76.4 percent supported continued use of a K-5 and 6-8 configuration and 92.7 percent supported changing to a K-4 and 5-8 configuration.

Shared at the meeting was the fact the Board of Education was not interested in a K-6 and 7-12 configuration or maintaining all nine elementary and three middle school buildings. In other words, the board consensus is one or more buildings — in addition to 389 St. Clair — will close.

The blue ribbon committee expects to provide two to four recommendations to present to the board at its April 8 meeting. Community members will have the opportunity to voice their opinions during a series of town halls in April and May, with board members voting on a final reconfiguration plan in June.

No changes will occur before the 2020-21 school year, according to the district's frequently asked questions.

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PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Showcase

The Grosse Pointe Academy K-8 art show opened Tuesday, March 12, as part of a showcase highlighting the school's core curriculum and new elective program. Above left, Theo Weckerle-Howard shows how he drew his Autumn Tree. Kindergartners traced their hand to make the tree and used fingertips dipped in paint to create leaves. Above right, Gina Decker's word for the "One Word" project was "Smile." Students wrote one word they would like to be and one word they would like to hear more in 2019.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

#OneGP

Students from Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South High School raised more than \$12,000 as part of OneGP Charity Week. They presented a check to Laura LeBlanc, director of development and communication for Volunteers of America, in North's student union March 13. Pictured, from left, are North Principal Kate Murray, LeBlanc, South student Lucy Burgoyne, North student Sydney Aguis, South student Evelyn Kuhnlein, North student Alex Emig, North student Clare Loch, South student Joseph Burgoyne, Deputy Superintendent Jon Dean, North Assistant Principal Katy Vernier, North teacher Jonathan Byrne and Grosse Pointe Public School System Superintendent Gary Niehaus.

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Proposals for parking structure requested

By Anthony Viola
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — Parking consultation firm Rich & Associates concluded its inspection and audit of The Village's parking structure and system, presenting the results Monday, March 18, to council.

As a result, council approved city administration to request proposals for maintenance of the parking structure as well as lighting and equipment upgrades.

"There were five tasks that we undertook," said David Rich, Rich & Associates director of project development. "The first three tasks involved the conditions assessment of the existing parking garage. Task four was an assessment of the parking access and revenue control systems in that deck and the fifth task was an analysis and recommendation regarding the existing lighting system.

"It's experiencing what we would expect to see in normal wear and tear on a 10-year-old precast garage in Michigan weather," he continued.

Rich said issues with the structure itself included the old joint sealants, hairline cracking, concrete delamination and spalling and rusting on exposed steel connections.

However, "nothing that we saw compromises the integrity of the structure," he added.

To repair the issues, Rich estimated it would cost between \$55,000 and \$65,000.

He also said because repairing the joint sealants would disrupt operation of the structure, the city should schedule the repairs when they would least affect its use.

The parking access and revenue control systems, or PARCS, also is in dire need of replacement.

City Manager Peter Dame said the city receives complaints regularly that the gates won't open or the payment system is malfunctioning.

Rich said, "the equipment's outdated and ... is starting to show its age. There's a lot of rust occurring in the machines themselves."

Rich said there are a few options to upgrade

the system.

"In the past 10 years, there's been an explosion in the technology of parking access and revenue controls and these advancements have

and that's to eliminate the gates and the machines at the entry and exit lanes altogether and go with the pay-on-foot stations in the lots and customer parking

it affects people's duration of stay," said Rich. "So if I go to (The Village) and I anticipate I'm going to be there for an hour, however, I want to run across the street to Trader Joe's after I stopped at the bar, I may be less apt to do that because I know the clock is ticking on how much I paid."

He did note there are phone apps that allow users to extend parking time from wherever they are, such as the ParkMobile system currently used in Lot 6.

The pay-on-foot machines cost between \$40,000 and \$50,000 each, said Rich, and each lot would require at least two.

"The other costs that we can't estimate at this time (are) the infrastructure costs — running the power, data, any slab preparation, surface preparation."

In terms of lighting, the parking structure currently uses high-pressure sodium lights, said Rich.

"The fixtures themselves are in good condition, but the control features are malfunctioning," he said.

He also said the lights

are extremely inefficient, using approximately three times the amount of energy a comparable LED would use.

Rich laid out three options for upgrades — amber LED, white LED or RGB LED.

The amber LED he said is more cost effective, but would not provide the same level of lighting compared to the current high-pressure sodium lights. The white LED is the most efficient, but would attract mayflies. The RGB LED is efficient and has the ability to change the color of its light.

"So during mayfly season you could turn it ... to a different color that would be less attractive to the insects," he said.

However, he said they are very expensive.

After hearing the options, council approved the request for proposal on the three projects: structural upgrades on the structure, upgrading the PARCS system and lighting. No decision was made in regard to changing the current gated surface lots to pay-on-foot, but council directed administration to further investigate the idea.

'The equipment's outdated and ... is starting to show its age. There's a lot of rust occurring in the machines themselves.'

DAVID RICH
Rich & Associates

really greatly improved customer experience through increased automation, more efficient and faster processing times, multiple payment platforms," he said.

Rich suggested upgrading the system in the parking deck, as well as exploring options to upgrade the entire parking system, including the surface lots, with a consistent system.

"The first option is to upgrade the parking deck only," said Rich. "The second option would be to upgrade the parking structure and the gated lots. Then there's a third option relative to the gated lots

lot."

Even with the third option, Rich suggested keeping the gated system in the parking deck.

The pay-on-foot system would resemble what the city currently uses in Lot 6 on Kercheval Place. Visitors would park, go to a pay station and enter their license plate number and estimated time.

The advantage of this system is its ease of use, said Rich. People would no longer have to worry about malfunctioning gates trapping them in lots. However, it would require more enforcement from the city.

"The other thing is that

Website makeover planned

By Anthony Viola
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — The City's website is poised for a makeover.

Monday, March 18, city council approved an agreement with Revize Website Design to redesign its website.

Councilwoman Sheila Tomkowiak, who sits on the communications committee with City Manager Peter Dame, said the city received six bids for the project and all but one cost about the same.

"We graded them on hosting, security, tech support, storage, training, the ability to deal with agenda and documents that needed to be

posted, bill pay codes, job posting, ADA compliance, email blast, text alerts, park reservations, video abilities, being able to handle the village website as a part of that with its own URL ... how often they redesign, what's the design quality of the nuts and bolts," said Tomkowiak.

They landed on Revize, a national company headquartered in Troy that has completed more than 200 websites in Michigan alone, including the city of Birmingham and its Downtown Development Authority.

The agreement also includes a site with a separate URL for the City DDA.

It will cost \$24,700, a

third of which will be covered by the DDA. There also is an annual hosting fee of \$4,900. Also, if the city stays with Revize five years, a complete redesign is included in the agreement.

"I did a demo of the CMS system, content management system, on the backend and it was sweet," Tomkowiak said. "I worked in a lot of different ones. It was one of the best ones I've ever seen and it is so geared to what it is that we do. I feel really confident that it's going to make the website much easier to update on a regular basis, easy to make corrections, easy to post things, news flashes. It's just going to be the best ever."

Vernier project starts in April

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — During its meeting Monday, city council authorized a Vernier Road project with the Michigan Department of Transportation.

The construction on Vernier Road spanning from Fairway Lane to Morningside Drive will take place during the spring and summer.

Public Services Director Frank Schulte said Vernier's northbound lanes will close first, followed by the southbound lanes.

The opening for bids will be April 5, Schulte said, with construction projected to start the end of April. He expects the project to be completed the end of August, in time

for the start of the 2019-20 school year.

Federal assistance will cover 80 percent of the estimated \$1.3 million project. The remaining \$260,000 in estimated construction costs will be footed by the city, in addition to another \$260,000 in design engineering costs.

— Melissa Walsh

Pegues elected to Women's Golf Association Board of Directors

Grosse Pointe Park resident Francine Pegues, an avid golfer for more than 45 years, recently was elected to the Michigan Women's Golf Association Board of Directors.

"I took up the game while in graduate school studying hospital and health care administration," Pegues said. "I realized doctors have a strong input on hospitals, so to be a successful administrator I needed to play the game. During my 25-year career as sales director with Blue Cross Blue Shield Michigan, I was able to entertain our customers on golf courses in Michigan, Florida, Arizona, California and Georgia, where I entertained customers at The Masters. I'm most proud of doing a \$25 million deal on the golf course with the Michigan Public Schools Retirement System in 1999."

Most recently, Pegues was awarded a three-year contract by the Department

of Natural Resources to be the concessionaire for the driving range on Belle Isle. During that time, MWGA sponsored the LPGA Girls Golf Program, which was attended by more than 100 boys and girls from Detroit and the Grosse Pointes. Several of the girls who received lessons are playing for their high school golf teams, including students at Grosse Pointe North, Grosse Pointe South and Shrine high schools.

Membership to Michigan Women's Golf Association is available to amateur female golfers of all ages and skill levels — from students in high school and college to experienced, super senior golfers. The MWGA is a 501(c)(3) organization established in 1986 with presently more than 200 members. For additional information or to make a tax-deductible donation, visit mwgolf.org.

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County soil survey presented to the Pointes

By Anthony Viola
Staff Writer

The ground under our feet often is overlooked, but for soil scientists it is one of the most important aspects of nature.

"None of us would be here probably without soil," said Dan Ufnar, USDA soil scientist. "It's really our foundation for our lives. It's not only sustaining our plant and animal life, it's providing water quantity, water quality functions. So it's not only treating water, it has the ability to store water and supplement and supply that water to the plants we use."

Thursday, March 14, Ufnar, with the Wayne County Conservation District, or WCCD, presented the findings of a five-year Wayne County soil survey at Grosse Pointe Farms Pier Park.

The last soil survey completed in Wayne County occurred in the 1970s and only a small fraction of the county was surveyed.

Detroit was one of the last urban areas in the country to be surveyed, which is mandated by federal law.

To that end, for the last five years, the USDA and WCCD, with help from Wayne State University and local municipalities, worked to complete the entire county.

"When we were doing the soil survey heavily in the '40s, '50s, '60s and '70s, it was really geared towards agriculture production, forestry," said Ufnar. "... As we pushed into the '70s, it would be areas like urban growth areas, so areas that hadn't been developed yet, but we could provide information about septic system design, about stormwater, about picnic grounds, about roads. So we did that even in the '70s, but we stayed away from the already really built-up industrial areas.

And ... we just didn't have an ability to accurately map those areas out. Now today, our urban areas need that soil information because we're dealing with stormwater. We're dealing with water treatment issues. We're deal-

ing with urban agriculture. So there's a need for baseline soil information."

Obtaining the soil data often was difficult because much of Wayne County is developed. Soil scientists first collected Light Detection and Ranging, or LIDAR, information to create maps of the area.

"(LIDAR) shoots beams of light to the ground surface and then the instrument collects the return," Ufnar said. "And so with that information that they collect ... you can actually generate a very highly detailed elevation map of the ground's surface."

Ufnar said many elevation changes collected are imperceptible to someone driving or walking down the street, but the information reveals an enormous amount of detail necessary to map the soils.

After creating the base maps, scientists then went out into the field and collected soil borings.

They began the survey in 2012 and, according to WCCD Executive Director Connie Boris Ph.D., they worked in Grosse Pointe in May and June 2013.

"The Grosse Pointes are one of the hardest areas to do soil borings in," Boris said. "In Detroit, you could go all over the place and get your soil borings because there's so many vacant properties from I-94.

Walking up to someone's front door and asking if they would mind if a hole was dug in their front yard was a little more difficult.

Luckily, Monsignor Patrick Halfpenny at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church agreed to have four borings, 2 inches wide and 6 feet deep, dug on the property. Then parishioners also agreed to allow the study to be conducted on their properties.

Ufnar said they had to "beg, borrow and steal" to get sufficient data, using information from city engineers, Wayne State University, the



Environmental Protection Agency and borings.

By the end of the Wayne County survey, more than 2,000 borings were dug and three new soils named, said Ufnar.

Riverfront, which is found in Grosse Pointe, was one of those new soils.

According to Ufnar, it is found in industrial areas and in the Lakeshore parks in Grosse Pointe, including Pier Park and the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club. Farms City Manager Shane Reeside said the expansion of Pier Park used excavated material from I-94.

"That entire profile is made up of human transported material and it also has a certain percentage of human artifacts in it," said Ufnar. "So nuts and bolts, pieces of combustion slag, we've got pieces of porcelain."

Knowing what's in the ground not only is important to municipalities or developers, but also for the everyday homeowner, said Ufnar.

"If my lot's a bunch of sand and I want my lawn to grow," Ufnar said, "there might be some limitations that I'm going to have to overcome."

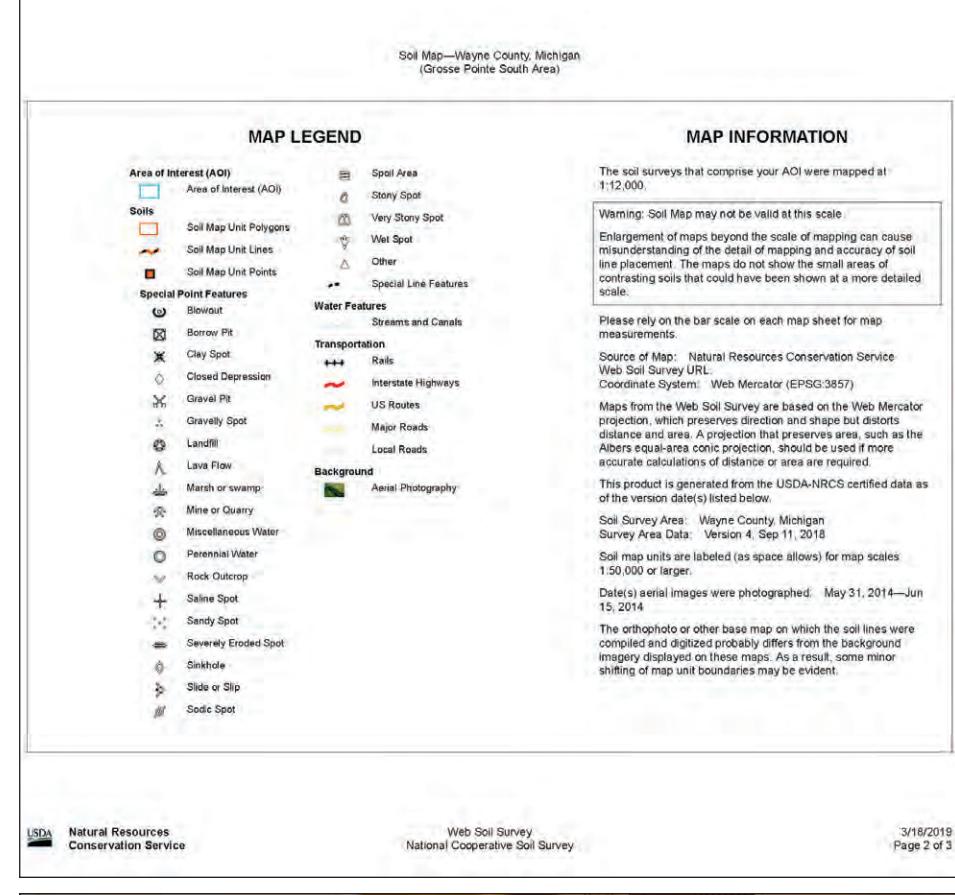
To find out what's in the backyard, the nationwide soil survey, including Wayne County, is made available to the public at websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov. There are tutorials and information available as well to help navigate the site.

WCCD also is planning a number of soil survey programs in Wayne County to educate the community on its findings.

For more information on WCCD, visit waynecdmi.org.



Ufnar points out different soil samples and what can be found in them apart from soil.



Soil scientist Dan Ufnar discusses soil during a recent workshop.



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Park lends helping hand to monarchs

By Anthony Viola

Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK

— What started out as a request from Maire Elementary School students two years ago has resulted in the Park being nationally recognized for contributing to the preservation of the monarch butterfly.

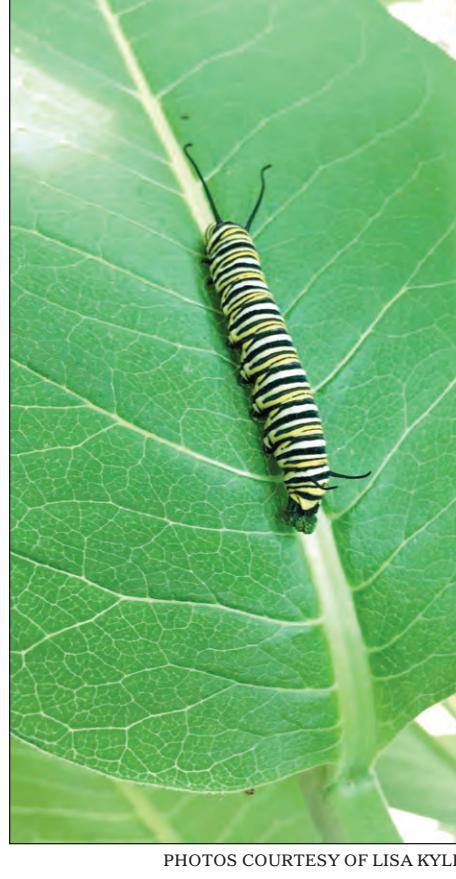
In 2016, Sarah Neely's second-grade class asked Mayor Bob Denner to take the National Wildlife Federation Mayors' Monarch Pledge, a commitment to help preserve monarch habitats as well as educate the community.

Denner agreed immediately and contacted City Forester Brian Colter and Beautification Commission Vice Chairwoman Lisa Kyle to coordinate the city's efforts. Kyle said the

Beautification Commission was the biggest supporter of the efforts, but it still wouldn't have been accomplished without the help of volunteers and city employees.

To accomplish the goal, cities commit to complete three, eight or 24 tasks. The Park agreed to do eight, but finished 15 the last two years.

Some of the tasks completed include initiating a community education effort, working with local gardening organizations to promote monarch habitats, planting milkweed and establishing a National Wildlife Federation recognized natural wildlife habitat.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF LISA KYLE

A monarch caterpillar.**A monarch butterfly chrysalis.**

PHOTOS COURTESY OF LISA KYLE

Last August, Park city council removed milkweed from its noxious weed ordinance, paving the way for the plant to be used generously in the community.

Milkweed is the primary source of sustenance for monarch caterpillars. Kyle said monarchs only lay eggs on the plant and without it there would be no monarchs.

"(Milkweed is) a keystone species," Kyle said. "... A keystone species is a species that, when present in an environment, supports species above and below. So when you remove that keystone

species, you're harming a lot of other native species. The amount of species that I saw when I first used milkweed was really surprising to me."

She said besides monarchs, she saw an increase in other butterflies and pollinators.

Since removing the plant from the noxious weed list, the city has planted milkweed on city-owned property and rights-of-way. Kyle and the Beautification Commission also have been distributing the plant for home gardens.

Kyle noted milkweed is invasive and spreads quickly, but there are

ways to manage the essential monarch meal.

"We do alert (residents) to the fact that (milkweed) can be invasive, but then we highlight ways that they can manage that," Kyle said. "We encourage them if it's spreading in the gardens, to dig it up and bring it to me or bring it to a perennial exchange or I've even offered to come to your garden and dig it up, bring it home so that you can give it out to other people in the community."

Along with promoting milkweed planting, Patterson Park was designated a natural wildlife habitat.

"Three Mile Park was just perfect ... to become a certified National Wildlife Habitat, which is sponsored by the National Wildlife Federation," Colter said.

Colter said the park has a butterfly garden, as

Grosse Pointe Park recently completed the National Wildlife Federation Mayors' Monarch Pledge, a commitment to promoting monarch habitat and educating the community.

well as bat boxes and wood duck houses. To be considered a natural wildlife habitat, the park must meet certain criteria, including food, water and shelter for different species.

To continue its educational efforts, Kyle said during the Beautification Commission's annual spring perennial plant exchange, there will be information on sustainable techniques to combat pests.

"Part of my educational materials for the perennial exchange is going to be utilizing beneficial insects like lady beetles, lady bugs, to control aphids rather than spraying them with chemicals," Kyle said.

"It really works too," Colter added. "We've

seen it firsthand. It's really amazing. We had an outbreak of aphids on this one patch of milkweed. I mean so many of them that they were covering the plant. Then we introduced — you can get them at Allemon's — live ladybird beetles, lady bugs, and they're voracious predators."

The perennial plant exchange is 9:30 to 11 a.m. Saturday, May 18, at Windmill Pointe Park. Milkweed and other perennials will be available for exchange as well as educational material. It is open to the public with free parking and admission.

"We're committed," Kyle said. "Just because the pledge is over, we're still committed to continuing the efforts."

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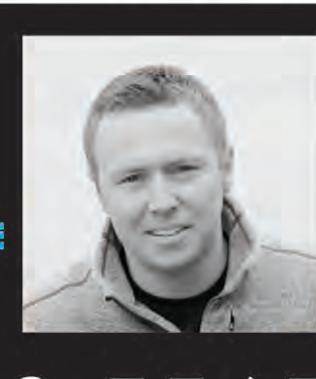
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PROUDLY SERVING THE POINTES AND SURROUNDING AREAS

'A true asset of the community'

By Anthony Viola
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — From karate to a night at the movies, the Lavins Activity Center at Windmill Pointe Park has something for everyone.

Mary Beth Hathaway, manager of the Lavins Activity Center, said it is a true asset for the community.

Lavins is home to the Carol C. Schaap Theater and Okulski Family Theater, which both show first-run films, the Meade Fitness Center and myriad classes and activities for all ages.

Hathaway said the biggest and most popular class is Lisa Santi's Turn of the Tide Martial Arts.

Started nearly 30 years ago — long before the Lavins Center was built — the classes have been a staple at Windmill Pointe Park.

"I hope when (the students) leave here they have gotten a little self-defense knowledge and coordination, balance, some different skills — even manners — that will help them throughout their life," Santi said. "... Respect and discipline

are really important. That's what we think is important, especially for the young kids."

Santi and her fellow instructors, which include her son and daughter, teach Tang Soo Do, a Korean-style martial arts, along with specialty weapons enrichment classes and a "Pink Power" class, which is strictly for girls.

"They're still getting the same training as everybody else," Santi said, "but sometimes the girls feel more comfortable training with just girls. Some of the little ones like it better and then some of them that are with the boys throughout, they hit teenage years, preteens, and they feel a lot more comfortable training with just the girls."

Santi offers five classes for different age groups from 4 years old and up, Monday through Thursday. She said another reason her classes are unique is that many of the "older" students, those who are 13 or 14 years old, become mentors for the younger kids.

"We have a unique club

because it started as an afterschool program," she said. "So it's been a youth club for 29 years, which is really kind of cool because we've had students get their black belts at 12 and 13 and stick around and then they are kind of the mentors to the (5- and 6-year-olds.)"

She said this allows not only the younger students to look up to the older kids, but it also allows the mentors to gain confidence in their own skills.

"There's a lot of benefits when the kids come to help," she said. "If they're mentors for the little guys, they look up to them, but they also, by

teaching, start to realize how much they actually know. Sometimes they've been training for three or four years and they don't really realize how much they actually know. Then when they start teaching it, they're like, 'I know that. I know that. I can teach that.'

The club also is involved with charity, said Santi, specifically Kids Kicking Cancer.

(Kids Kicking Cancer) helps kids by teaching them martial arts in the hospital to deal with what they're going through," said Santi. "Some of them that are really sick aren't learning to kick and punch, but they're learning to breathe. Their

mantra is peace, power, purpose and they're learning so when they get shots, and all that stuff with the hospitals, to learn to breathe through it."

Santi said the idea to get involved with the charity came from a student almost 15 years ago.

Every year around the holidays, she said, her classes support the charity with their holiday party.

"The kids pick names off of a Christmas tree of somebody that's in the program, buys them a special gift or writes a special note of encouragement," she said.

They've also participated in food drives and

kick-a-thons to raise money.

Santi also mentioned a scholarship program for students who want to participate in the karate program who may not be able to afford it.

To see the program in action, Turn of the Tide is hosting a demonstration at 3 p.m. Saturday, March 23, in the Lavins Activity Center gymnasium. It also will conduct black belt testing for two individuals Saturday, April 27, at the same location. Both are open to the public.

For more information on the Lavins Activity Center and its programs, visit grossepoincark.org.

Kids on the street: Homeless by default

By Karen Love
Guest Writer

Youth ages 13 to 17 of the Northeast Guidance Center Cornerstone program — which assists youth transitioning to adulthood — recently attended the "It's Lit" city-wide kickoff resource event at the Phoenix Center in Detroit.

"We visited the Phoenix Center with the youth because we thought it was important to increase their awareness of the services and support available to youth that may be experiencing homelessness," said DeLisa Glaspie, Child, Youth & Family Services clinical program director. "It was amazing to me that one young man in the group didn't know there were homeless youth."

The Phoenix event, which was held to attract homeless youth to the program, offers services such as family-style meals, educational workshops, transportation assistance, mentoring and access to computers in addition to recreational activities. Homeless youth have access to hygiene kits and showers and are allowed to wash their clothes; haircuts also are provided.

An alarming 25 percent of Detroit's homeless population are unaccompanied youth ages 11 to 18, some of whom are teen parents, and the number is rising, according to the 2017 HAND State of the Homeless Annual Report. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services states that these youth end up depressed from major trauma such as physical and sexual abuse and the majority will experience symptoms of post traumatic stress disorder.

Many of these youth start by aging out of foster

care with no plan.

"The benefit of programs such as NEGC's Cornerstone exists to expose youth to mental health wrap-around programs, engage them in discussion and, in addition, address their basic needs to help keep them off the streets," Glaspie said. "Survival in all areas is imperative to homeless youth. We have had two youth who aged out of Cornerstone who had acknowledged being victims of human trafficking. Both of these young ladies were 'homeless' due to running away from home for various reasons. Many are homeless by default."

In today's society, a homeless mom with children younger than 13 has a better chance of finding room in a shelter than one with older children. Older children can end up in the foster care system, couch surfing, doubled up in motels or in other unsuitable living situations, which leaves them susceptible to the mercy of the street.

What can we do as a community to help combat youth homelessness? In a Seattle Times 2017 publication, there were three steps published that could be adopted.

- ◆ Ensure youth who are leaving social services have a safe place to go.
- ◆ Invest in crisis interventions and diversions to help prevent homelessness in the first place.
- ◆ Improve education and implement outcomes.

Programs such as NEGC's Cornerstone program are investing in children's lives and listening. As a community, we can't let any young person slip through the cracks; when our youth succeed, we as a community succeed.

For more information regarding NEGC's Cornerstone program, contact Glaspie at (313) 308-1400.



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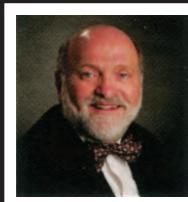
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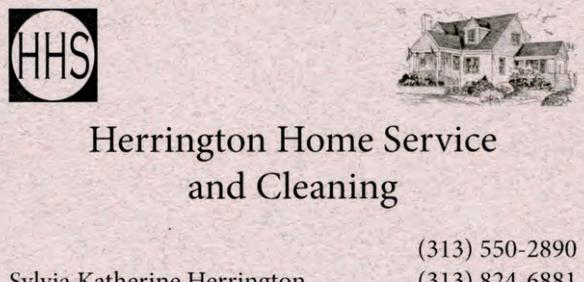
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Ogre indulgence

Grosse Pointe Theatre's 'Shrek' opens March 24

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Grosse Pointe Theatre brings the swamp to the stage as it performs the family-friendly fairytale "Shrek The Musical," opening with a matinee Sunday, March 24, at Pierce Middle School.

Around half the cast are new to Grosse Pointe Theatre, which hosts a character meet-and-greet with patrons following the matinee performance Saturday, March 30.

"I've been doing things with GPT for five years, looking to get to the other side of the table," said Nick Marinello, who is directing the musical. "When the opportunity came up, I said absolutely. I'm the theater director at Chippewa Valley High School, where I teach. The first musical I directed there was 'Shrek' and I fell in love with the show. It's a great show — funny, irreverent, heartfelt, poignant. Everyone who's ever seen it loves it."

It's where Panos Varlamos — cast as Shrek for GPT — became enchanted with the musical.

"I fell in love with it when I saw it," Varlamos said. "'Shrek' became a bucket-list show for me."

Marinello enlisted a few former students to help with the production.



PHOTO BY CHRIS PRANTZA

From left, Jay Callahan, Panos Varlamos and Alison Grojean.

Jay Callahan, portraying Donkey, was Shrek as a junior at Chippewa Valley under Marinello's direction.

GPT newcomer Ashley Serra is reprising her role as Pinocchio, a part she had three years ago as a student at Chippewa Valley.

"There's a good north-

side connection to what we're doing," Marinello said. "Grosse Pointe

Theatre is something I hope they'll be coming back to forever."

Marinello said he

hopes the performance hits a high note with audiences, too.

"What sets it apart is it's a family modern musical, but it's a classic," he said. "A lot of times I wonder, are we going to sell tickets? Will it be fun? Will it be interesting? This gets checks on all those boxes."

"I hope the audience takes away the message of Shrek," he continued.

"Sometimes fairytales need to be rewritten for more people. Shrek is an unlikely hero. Fiona is

an unlikely heroine. It's breaking the paradigm of the damsel in distress and the handsome prince. Shrek is us. Every one of us has felt unsure: Do they love someone? Are they good enough for someone? Sometimes we want to be left alone. It's going to speak to a lot of people."

Marinello likened the production to Looney Tunes.

"As a kid, I watched it and loved it, but when I watched it as an adult, I get all those jokes," Marinello said.

"Plus it has very singable music," he continued. "People will be singing the songs on their way home."

The cast and crew have been working for nine weeks and are ready to take to the stage.

For Varlamos, "Shrek" is his second GPT mainstage production; he was part of the ensemble for 2015's "Little Women." A theater performer since sixth grade, "Shrek" is his first show back after four years off.

"We've got an insanely talented cast," he said. "The age range is there and the talent — the talent, character to character, is remarkable."

Alison Grojean, who plays Princess Fiona, is a newcomer to the GPT stage, though she's performed with other com-

See SHREK, page 12B



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

From top, Ashley Serra, as Pinocchio; Panos Varlamos, aka Shrek, rehearses a solo; the cast performs a musical number during rehearsal.

Opera Night at St. Clare features eurythmy

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Tuesday Musicale of Detroit presents its annual Opera Night concert at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 30, at St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church, 1401 Whittier, Grosse Pointe Park.

The performance features top musicians from Michigan Opera Theatre performing with members of Tuesday Musicale.

Slated to perform are sopranos Bonnie Brooks, Angela Ciaravino Theis and Kimwana Doner; mezzo Dorothy Duensing; tenors Sergio Maclean and Andrew Leskiew; bass James Rose Jr.; flutists Brenda Kee, Patrick Kotlarz, Oscar

Kotlarz and Josh Marzan. In a twist to this year's program, the performance also features eurythmist Claudia Fontana.

"Claudia Fontana is one of the finest classical dance eurythmists," said Dina Winter, president of Tuesday Musicale, whose vision is to promote and enhance interest in music and musical arts, as well as the enjoyment of live music.

"Eurythmy is a form of dance that takes its roots from ancient Greece, but is modernized for today," she continued. "It's sort of that which allows you to be able to perform words of praise for holy things — God and angels. It just fits for the higher elements that dance today does not necessarily want to represent.

Eurythmy is very uplifting. I don't think you could do that with normal dance today, nor would you want to."

Flutist Larson and pianist Kee will accompany Fontana in presenting Massenet's "Meditation" from "Thais."

"Meditation" from "Thais" is a solo in the music of the orchestra, usually done by violins, but I thought it would be interesting to have a flutist do it. Laura Larson is an excellent flutist," Winter said. "I want to bring in the concept of movement, not just music. This is an unusual

opportunity to see 'Thais,' a piece of music, in movement. ... We're

doing something very different to the opera program that has come to be a community presentation."

Winter said she's excited for people to not only see the eurythmy, but also hear the voices and instruments in the spotlight that evening, including Ciaravino Theis — "a favorite at the opera" — and Rose — "When he sings, he brings the house down."

An aria from either Handel or Mozart will start the evening, which

also features Brooks and Ciaravino Theis performing a duet from "Figaro," Rose and Leskiew performing "The Pearl Fisher's Duet" and music from "Porgy and Bess."

"It's a great use of people's time to see these different operatic pieces performed together," Winter said. "It will knock people off their seats."

Opera Night marks the fifth Tuesday Musicale concert hosted by St. Clare of Montefalco. The partnership kicked off when Tuesday Musicale performed as part of St. Clare's 90th anniversary celebration in 2017.

anyone to experience the classical music of opera in a comfortable setting. We have invited students from our school to participate in the morning sessions to give them 'live' experience of the classical music. People that I have worked with are great, knowledgeable and passionate about classical music. The performers are local artists who are well known.

They perform because they love what they do and want to share this beautiful form of art with others."

St. Clare is no stranger to opening its doors to community groups. This particular partnership works well because of a shared commitment to make music available to

See OPERA, page 12B



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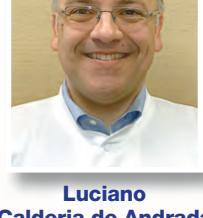
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AREA ACTIVITIES

Libraries

The Grosse Pointe Public Library hosts the following programs at its branches:

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

- ◆ After Hours Fun, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Friday, March 22, for ages 11 to 13.
- ◆ Art Lab, 2 to 4 p.m. Monday, April 1, for ages 11 to 13.

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

- ◆ "How to Build a Wildlife Sanctuary Garden," 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, March 21.

Family — 19191 Vernier, Harper Woods. Attendees can choose to attend three of seven sessions. Cost is \$10. Register online at fullcirclefdn.org or call Patty DiVirgil at (313) 469-6660.

Full Circle

The Full Circle Foundation, in collaboration with Wayne County Community College District and The Arc of Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods, offers a symposium for parents of individuals with special needs

8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 23, at the Mary Ellen Stempfle University Center —

Center for Learning Technology, 19191 Vernier, Harper Woods.

Attendees can choose to attend three of seven sessions. Cost is \$10. Register online at fullcirclefdn.org or call Patty DiVirgil at (313) 469-6660.

GPAA

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

- ◆ "Detroit: Celebrating the City from all Angles," exhibited 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily, through Sunday, April 14. An awards ceremony and presentation with juror Bruce Giffin takes place 2 p.m. Saturday, March 23.

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

- ◆ "Descending from the Clouds: Parachute and Glider Troops in WWII," with historian Steve Mrozek, 7 p.m. Thursday, March 21.

Mystery Book Discussion, "A Morbid Taste for Bones" by Ellis Peters, 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 26.

Painting Cigar Boxes with Laura Reed, 5 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesdays, April 3 to 17.

Embroidery Stitches on Crazy Quilt Sampler with Deanna VanAssche, 10 a.m. to noon Wednesdays, April 3 to 24.

Art Making for Veterans, 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesdays.

Ecumenical Breakfast

The Grosse Pointe Men's Ecumenical Breakfast meets at 8 a.m. Friday, March 22, at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. The Hon. Frank S. Szymanski,

a judge with the Wayne County 3rd Circuit Court-Juvenile Division, speaks. Cost for breakfast is \$7. Registration is not required and first-time guests eat free.

BNI

Business Network International meets at 7 a.m. Friday, March 22, at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 20338 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods. Call Ryan Marier at (313) 638-7526.

Business Network International meets at 7 a.m. Wednesday, March 20 and 27, at St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 20475 Sunningdale Park, Grosse Pointe Woods. Call Beth at (313) 690-5723.

Toastmasters

Northeastern Toastmasters meets at 7 p.m. Monday, March 25, at the Mary Ellen Stempfle University Center, 19305 Vernier, Harper Woods. Call Wendy Bradley at (313) 884-1184 or Ron or Marcia Pikielek at (313) 884-4201.

Senior Men

The Grosse Pointe Senior Men's Club meets at 11 a.m. Tuesday, March 26, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. John Ryder,

executive director of the Michigan Military History Museum, speaks.

Better Health

Grosse Pointe Better Health Market, 19221 Mack, Detroit, hosts "The

Go Again," at 12:30 p.m.

"Ask the Physical Therapist," 9:15 to 10 a.m. Tuesday, April 2, with Jessica Malfa.

The Artist Lounge — "Sunrise," 1 to 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 3. No painting experience is necessary. Cost is \$25.

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

"Truth About Gut Health" at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 26, with certified health coach Christina Stelling. Seating is limited. RSVP by calling (313) 885-5000.

Family Center

The Family Center presents "College Launch to Empty Nest Transitions," with psychotherapist Mary Petersen, at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 26, at the Grosse Pointe Public Library Woods Branch, 20680 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

The Family Center presents "Promoting Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health" at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 27, at Christ Church Grosse Pointe, 61 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms. Social worker Evon Foster of the Northeast Guidance Center presents.

Register for either program at familycenterweb.org or by calling (313) 447-1374.

Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

◆ 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 26, Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church, 19950 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

◆ 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 27, St. Clair Shores City Hall, 27600 Jefferson, St. Clair Shores.

◆ 1 to 7 p.m. Thursday, March 28, St. Thomas Lutheran Church, 23801 Kelly, Eastpointe.

◆ 7:15 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, April 5, Ascension St. John Hospital, 22101 Moross, Detroit.

The Helm

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

◆ "AARP Smart Driver Tek: High-Tech Car Safety Workshop," 1 to 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 27, with instructor Roger Doster.

◆ "Keeping You Fit at Home," 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Thursday, March 28, with physical therapist Keith Finley.

◆ "\$5 Friday Lunch and a Movie Special," Friday, March 29. Lunch is served at 11:30 a.m., followed by the movie, "Mamma Mia! Here We Go Again," at 12:30 p.m.

◆ "Ask the Physical Therapist," 9:15 to 10 a.m. Tuesday, April 2, with Jessica Malfa.

◆ The Artist Lounge — "Sunrise," 1 to 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 3. No painting experience is necessary. Cost is \$25.

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

Parkinson's support

Parkinson's workshops and support group meetings previously held at The Helm have moved to Christ Church Grosse Pointe, 61 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms. Speech therapist Wendy Goryca Rooney shares information about a therapy program designed to help people with Parkinson's regain and maintain effective communication and swallowing function during a program 2:30 to 4 p.m. Thursday, March 28. For information, call Deb Champion at (313) 520-9082.

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Helm series helps seniors enjoy 'gift of longevity'

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

The scenarios are nothing new.

A loved one dies and grief-stricken family members find out there was no will.

The time has come to put Mom in a nursing home, but no one realized there'd be a waiting list.

All too often, people wait for the crisis point before asking for help, when they could have been planning all along, said Peggy Hayes, executive director of The Helm at the Boll Life Center.

Tuesday, April 2, The Helm kicks off the 10-week series Aging Mastery Program, or AMP, to help prepare older adults for later life. The National Council on Aging program is new to the area, but has already reached more than 13,000 people across the country.

"Research and follow-up studies say that people are actually making

concrete changes in many areas based on what they learned in the class," Hayes said. "Other centers who've offered it have said it's a game-changer for them. People have reshaped who they are."

Hayes noted the program carries an 80 percent completion rate, "which means they've attended seven of the 10 sessions," she said. "It's a challenge; 10 weeks is a long time. Ninety-seven percent said it was fun and engaging; 98 percent said they would recommend it to a friend."

AMP consists of 10 weekly 90-minute sessions covering the topics of exercise, sleep, healthy eating, financial fitness, advance planning, healthy relationships, medication management, community engagement and falls prevention. It's facilitated by a geriatric social worker.

Additionally, an expert



on each topic will talk about things to consider and work on. Each interactive session includes a presentation, questions and answers, peer-to-peer interaction, action planning and more.

"Our goal with each session is that a person goes home with — or they can do it at home — goals for themselves on what they want to do in that particular area. ... We're not going to tell you what to do. This is a thought-starter, an idea-generator. We're going to get you started thinking about things."

Hayes said oftentimes when someone retires,

they don't know what to do with themselves. AMP will help them focus on what to do, where to go, what to plan for.

"It's a unique way of looking at your future and who you want to be when you grow up," she said, noting the program is available to anyone 55 and older, but she'd like to see younger seniors attend — those approaching retirement or recently retired who are wondering about next steps.

"We want to help people enjoy the gift of longevity," she said. "People are living longer now. Seventy-six million baby boomers are approaching retirement. ... They're not their grandfather's seniors. They want to be active, they want to keep learning, they want to meet new people. They don't want to sit and stare out the window. This is aimed at getting the best out of the next part of your life."

The program provides

participants an overview of the challenges encountered while navigating life and offers support to master new skills.

"It often takes a family crisis to make things happen," Hayes said. "A parent passes away and there's no will. People don't want to talk about dying or the limitations they may have to face. They might say, 'I'm going to live in my house forever.' Well, maybe not. At a younger age, we don't think about it ... (but) you don't want to wait until a crisis to figure out you have to do something."

Hayes said she's excited to offer AMP at The Helm. It's something different for the organization, which traditionally offers one-time classes and programs.

"This is all those things encompassed into one big class," she said. "Each session they'll go home with goals in that area they'd like to achieve."

"I hope this clarifies for

people in the community what we do," she continued. "This is just the start of new offerings we hope to make. ... We want to be at the helm of providing resources and services in the community that people really want and want to take advantage of."

Hayes said she hopes to offer AMP twice a year, depending on the success of this first run.

The program costs \$125 per person for 10 weeks. The Helm is offering a discount — a two-for-one "share the workbook" option — for couples who sign up together. Registration includes a workbook, tote bag, exercise DVD and other materials.

"I hope people will take advantage of this. It's a really valuable program. Across all lines, people have found value," Hayes said. "It's simple to register. Just call the main number, (313) 882-9600. It starts April 2, so don't wait to call."

Artists celebrate Detroit from all angles

The Grosse Pointe Artists Association invites the community to its Detroit show, a visual "lovefest" between artists and the city they call home.

"Detroit might not be perfect and is slightly rough around the edges, but it has never lost its identity: its people," said photographer Evans Tasiopoulos.

"People of Detroit believe in their city and are proud of where they are from."

Tasiopoulos is one of 30 artists and photogra-



PHOTOS COURTESY OF KAREN POPE

Evans Tasiopoulos' "Lights."

phers who have pieces in the show.

Proving that a love of Detroit spans generations, 90-year-old Mary Aro and her grand-

daughter, Eleanor Aro, both have pieces in the show.

"My car is often my studio," explained the elder Aro. "I paint a

landscape that I am not entering into physically, but my mind is traveling and exploring."

For her piece in the Detroit show, she did a watercolor of an abandoned factory on Detroit's east side.

Her 16-year old granddaughter's piece is "Art Deco on Gratiot," an acrylic on Gesso

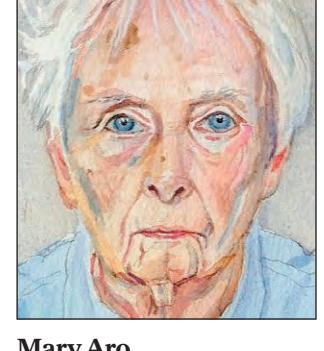
board. The younger Aro describes her piece this way: "I was drawn to the beauty and isolation of the building, much like I am drawn to the unrec-

ognized beauty of the city."

The juror for the show is photographer Bruce Giffin, a Kresge Fellow noted for his ability to capture Detroit from all angles. He will give a presentation and award prizes at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 23, in the art studio at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

All are welcome to attend.

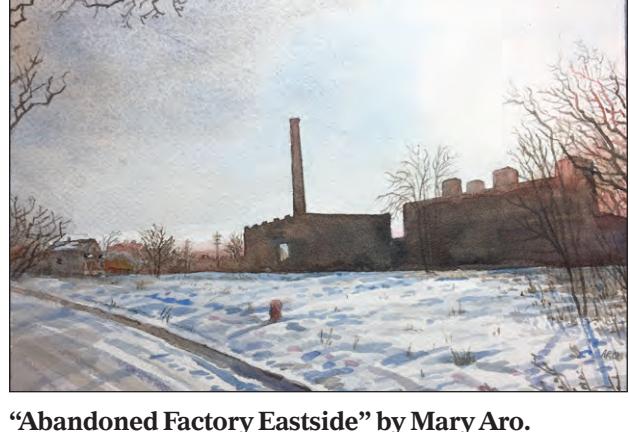
The show continues through April 14, and is open daily 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the Presidents' Room at The War Memorial.



Mary Aro



Eleanor Aro



"Abandoned Factory Eastside" by Mary Aro.



"Art Deco on Gratiot" by Eleanor Aro.

Moross Greenway Spring Clean-Up is April 13

The Moross Greenway Project is looking for volunteers for its seventh annual Spring Clean-Up from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 13, rain or shine.

Interested volunteers

are asked to gather at the Grace Community Church parking lot on Moross between Chester and I-94. Volunteers are asked to bring their own gardening gloves and dress for the weather.

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wet. Water, trash bags

and traffic vests will be

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See CLEAN, page 4B

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Full Circle Foundation celebrates decade of service

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

"When you have a special needs child — they all are our kids; with other parents, you try to help each other — you see a need."

That need is what drove Mary Fodell to launch the Full Circle Foundation, a charitable organization that helps individuals with special needs by providing training and opportunities for increased independence. Its mission is to support activities that foster a sense of self-worth and independence in those with disabilities by giving them a chance to productively participate in the community.

Through a laundry list of opportunities — including operating a laundry — youth gain training and practice in hands-on experiences such as selling retail at Full Circle's Upscale Resale Shop; sharpening their gardening skills in its Edible Garden; advancing their culinary skills; and learning about commerce through an internet sales program. Many youth start their own micro-enterprises, using skills like cooking, gardening, sewing and computer operations.

The possibilities are endless when it comes to helping these young people reach independence, Fodell said. The Full Circle Foundation, in partnership with the Grosse Pointe Public School System, has been with them every step of the way.

Full Circle this year celebrates a decade of pro-



viding such possibilities to young people with special needs. Ten years ago, Fodell was recently retired, though still substitute teaching and involved with the district. "Living in the moment," she said, she took action when the recession hit and special needs people close to her lost their jobs.

"When a special needs person doesn't have a job, they get lost," she said. "So I said, 'Let's do a resale shop.' I'm not afraid of retail. I'm not afraid to try. ... So I teamed up with Sue (Banner, administrative coordinator). I said, 'These kids need something. Let's create something here.' It worked."

Fodell called the origin of Full Circle "dumb luck," describing how a fancy dress sale turned into an enterprise at Grosse Pointe North High School.

"We needed money," said Fodell, who came up with the idea for "1,000 Fancy Dresses," selling prom dresses and nice shoes at North. "There were all these magic moments that started happening. All these dresses started coming in. The special needs kids were trying them on, sorting them. They were so excited."

The sale — \$15 for a

dress, \$5 for a blazer — was so successful, the group was invited to stay in the lobby at North and offer it every Saturday, Fodell said.

"In that, we got 30 couture wedding dresses," she added.

With the fanciest donations, Full Circle hosted its first gala at The War Memorial, featuring a wedding-inspired fashion show. Special needs individuals modeled bridesmaids, mother-of-the-bride, flower girl and bridal gowns, and wedding cakes were auctioned off.

"We tried to create the magic," Fodell said. "It was \$25 per ticket and it sold out in two days."

Knowing they were onto something, Full Circle began to take shape, moving to its first storefront on Beaconsfield. Through the years, it has grown, providing more and more programs and services for special needs individuals.

Currently, it operates out of 17006 Mack, Grosse Pointe Park. It relies on a dedicated staff, "who have it in their hearts to make it happen every day," Banner said.

In the last 10 years, it has all come full circle — pun intended.

The wedding dress fashion show "was the first gala we had," Banner said. "Mark Weber (then-president of The War Memorial) gave us the place for free. Mark and Judy Weber agreed to be our event chairs for this year's gala."

This year's gala, "Evening Under the Stars: 10 Years of Galas,"

is slated for Nov. 7 at The Roostertail.

In the interim, the foundation is offering its usual host of programming, as well as a variety of events to celebrate its anniversary. From special discounts at its Upscale Resale Shop to its Edible Garden planting day in May and anniversary picnic in August, Full Circle is celebrating in a big way.

Part of what's made the organization successful in its first decade is its approach to teaching. The community is the classroom for Full Circle learners.

"We've set a precedent of having really unique programs, not like other districts," Fodell said. "It's not in schools; it's in the community."

Added Banner, "We host programs in 'classrooms' in different ways nobody's ever done."

Its Edible Garden, for example, allows participants to plant, tend, harvest and sell a variety of vegetables, herbs and flowers on a three-acre plot in Detroit. Crops are sold to area supporters and future plans include developing a line of edible gifts.

"The garden's turned into something so magical," Fodell said. "It fell into our laps. It's the perfect place for kids to learn to grow."

"There are different ways to get everybody on board, involved," she continued. "We're here, part of the community. If people realize they're not just helping us — it's these kids too — they'll get a lot back."

Full Circle just finished

its first year of Team 26, a program for those who've left the school system or graduated, but still need additional support learning job and life skills.

Full Circle has a handful of openings in its Team 26 program this year. Anyone interested should call Banner at (313) 469-6660.

Another big piece of what Full Circle provides is advocacy. Fodell said every week, families come to Full Circle desperate for help. Yet, many people still haven't heard of it.

"You can be right around the corner and still not know," Banner said. "It's great we can be here, whether having an individual come here or helping parents find resources that will work for the family."

One challenge Full Circle faces is space. While it has the potential to expand its offerings to individuals with special needs, it has run out of room. Banner said it's a good problem to have, knowing programs are doing well.

"Everything could be bigger, better," she said. "Programs could grow. We just have no space to put anybody."

Full Circle continues to run smoothly thanks to the efforts of volunteers, Fodell said.

"There's a huge depth of loyal, dedicated, caring volunteers," Fodell said, adding that each of them brings a different element to the foundation.

"Any given year, you don't know what your volunteers will bring — sewing, cooking, art,

yoga. I'm looking for a choir. That's my dream. It'll come."

At Full Circle, support and education aren't the only forces at work; the intangibles are just as important.

"It's not only jobs; they become friends here," Fodell said. "It is home."

Every year, Fodell sees success stories — real growth among the individuals who call Full Circle home. She watches as they gain confidence knowing people believe in them.

"They get some attention," she said. "It's a relief for their parents. That's always been my thing, my one wish for a child — to be happy and independent. What have you got to lose?"

Added Banner, "They come in as who they are. Even on a bad day, they're OK here."

Fodell said she plans to keep things running, but, "It isn't just me," she said. "It's everybody — kids, community, teachers. It's everybody along the way."

"Being here, working here, each day I'm amazed at how good it feels to be here," said Dori Martinuzzi, Full Circle program support coordinator, who has 31 years of experience in education. "I'm wonderfully surprised to see the things they can do, the growth."

Martinuzzi noted she enjoys watching participants just come in and hang out.

"Where would they go to hang out and not be judged and not be made fun of?" she said. "It's heartwarming."

Search is on for Family Center executive director

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

The Board of Directors of The Family Center of Grosse Pointe & Harper Woods recently announced it's ready to start searching for a new leader for the nonprofit.

In a letter sent to "Friends and Community Leaders," Family Center board president Beth

Walsh-Sahutske and founder Diane Strickler noted the board recently

pants and other stakeholders."

Through hard work and much reflection, the letter continues, "a new strategic plan is emerging and nearly completed. The plan will enable The Family Center to remain an effective resource for families and the community as it approaches its 20th anniversary and beyond."

Its next step in the process is seeking out a new executive director for the organization.

"We are looking for a strong candidate to fill an organizational leadership position, working in partnership with the Board of Directors," Strickler said on behalf of the board. "Ideally, the candidate would have nonprofit leadership in

their background, but we certainly will consider someone who has left the for-profit sector and wants to do

good, valuable work that is of benefit to the community, not just to stockholders."

"The ideal candidate should be able to communicate well and have the ability to build deep, trusting relationships with board members, volunteers and community leaders," she continued. "We hope that candidates will recognize the value of the mission of the organization — supporting and building strong families — and would have a demonstrated ability to garner financial support as well as to create programs that respond to community

The Family Center
Resources for Families, Individuals and Professionals

five professional references, to info@familycenterweb.org.

Applications will be accepted through April 12, and treated confidentially.

For nearly two decades, The Family Center has provided resources and preventive education to empower families to successfully navigate life — and its social, emotional and physical challenges. "We offer programs on a wide range of topics aimed at building strong families and helping parents raise children and teens who will become competent, caring and responsible community members," Strickler said. "At a time when school budgets are shrinking and families need more support than ever, The Family Center is a valuable community asset."

needs."

The executive director will lead and manage all

operations of The Family Center, developing and implementing strategic initiatives to support the mission, vision, values and financial health of the organization through programs, fundraising, resource management, marketing and communications and community engagement.

Interested applicants should review the job description online at familycenterweb.org, then submit a cover letter stating interest and salary requirements, along with a resume and

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Continued from page 3B

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PEO: 150 years of advancing women's education

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

The national Philanthropic Educational Organization, or PEO, has been supporting and promoting the education of women for 150 years. Since its small beginnings — founded by seven young women on the campus of Iowa Wesleyan University — PEO has contributed \$321 million in financial donations to 105,000 recipients.

Locally, three chapters have sprouted in Grosse Pointe — Chapter AO in 1938, Chapter CV in 1960 and Chapter DB in 1962. Chapter AO President Sandra Mengel has been part of the group since 2012.

"PEO was founded by seven young women who thought they were forming a sort of sorority," Mengel said. "It went from there to this massive philanthropic thing. There are 225,000 members today and 132 chapters in Michigan — three in Grosse Pointe. Two of them (CV and DB) grew out of Chapter AO, which is what I'm in. We're celebrating our 80th year."

Chapter AO formed in 1938 by a group of people from Detroit and the metro area, Mengel said.

"The chapter we have, virtually everybody is from one of the Grosse Pointes."

The group focuses its efforts on six charitable causes:

- ◆ Cotter College in Nevada, Mo., a fully-accredited four-year liberal arts and sciences college for women. It is the only nonsectarian institution of higher learning in the country solely owned and supported by women.

- ◆ PEO Education Loan



PHOTO COURTESY OF SANDRA MENGEGL

Members of Chapter AO with their "Partner in Peace" from Latvia, a graduate student at a local university. The group was partnered with her by PEO International as part of its allocation of funds to the PEO International Peace Scholarship fund.

Fund, a revolving loan fund established in 1907 to lend money to women for higher education purposes.

- ◆ PEO International Peace Scholarship Fund, established in 1949 to provide scholarships to international female students to pursue graduate study in the U.S. or Canada.

- ◆ PEO Program for Continuing Education, established in 1973 to provide need-based grants to women whose education was interrupted and who want to return to school.

- ◆ PEO Scholar Awards, established in 1991 to provide merit-based awards for U.S. and Canadian women pursuing doctoral-level degrees.

- ◆ PEO Star Scholarship, established in 2009 to provide scholarships for exceptional high school senior women to attend accredited post-secondary institutions in the U.S. or Canada in the next academic year.

"We have all these loan and grant opportunities that apply to women at different stages of their lives, which have evolved over time," Mengel said. Mengel was influenced to join the organization by her mother's membership

women's education ... We offer money to all the ways women could need money for education.

"This year we fundraised enough to contribute to the International Peace Scholarship, which matches us with individuals," she continued. "A woman from Latvia studying at Wayne State came to our meeting and told us about her life. It's wonderful to understand what we had done, how it affected her life."

Additionally, an award named after late member Florence Miller is given each spring to one female student each at Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South high schools.

"We focus on a national level, so it's nice to have this small thing we do locally," Mengel said. "It also provides us with the names of young women to consider for scholarships."

Michigan PEO also supports the Michigan PEO Fund, established in 1975 to provide one-time assistance to needy women or men throughout the state.

Mengel was influenced to join the organization by her mother's membership

to PEO chapters in Kalamazoo and Florida. She laughed recalling the former tightlipped nature of the group.

"For a long time, PEO was basically a secret group," Mengel said.

"When my mom was a member, the magazine, PEO Record, was almost always around. I'd ask her about it and she'd say, 'I really can't talk about it.' There's a sensitivity to the fact it was once so secret, but that doesn't form the current way it operates right now."

Mengel said most of Chapter AO's 24 members joined for the camaraderie and 75 percent are legacy members.

"Most of our members joined because their mothers and sisters were members," she said. "They appreciate the sisterhood formed in each chapter they've ever been in and that means as much to them as the ability to fundraise for women's education."

The group is interdenominational, allows

transfers between chapters and provides activities for men.

"We offer educational presentations at our meetings to members and guests, then have food and, when guests leave, we have a business meeting," Mengel said. "Having programs allows us to have guests come, who then may decide they'd like to join us."

The group meets 12 times a year, twice monthly September to May, in houses, churches, libraries or similar locations.

"Each one of us hosts or co-hosts," Mengel said. "We have committees that work on programs for membership, fundraising ... We also send delegates to conventions."

PEO doesn't host a lot of events during the year outside of its bimonthly meetings.

"Our big project is a holiday bazaar in November," Mengel said. "It has become an important means of amassing substantial funds that are contributed to international and state projects.

Last year, we were able to fundraise enough with 24 active members to donate \$1,800 to various projects. It's gratifying we've been able to do this."

Mengel said the group is open to new members, especially younger members.

"Our founders created a lot of interesting rituals and protections for the group," she said. "We ask guests to come to two of our gatherings and indicate if they're interested in joining. There's a process to go through to be

Since its inception

- ◆ PEO has given more than \$321 million to more than 105,000 recipients.

- ◆ PEO Educational Loan Fund loans are \$195.4 million since 1907.

- ◆ PEO International Peace Scholarships are \$37.9 million since 1949.

- ◆ PEO Program for Continuing Education grants are \$55.3 million since 1973.

- ◆ PEO Scholar Awards are \$24.5 million since 1991.

- ◆ PEO Star Scholarships are \$8.5 million since 2009.

- ◆ PEO has owned and supported Cottey College since 1927.

invited to join. And the Michigan PEO office will contact local groups if there's interest."

Those interested in applying for a PEO loan, scholarship or award may contact a local chapter of PEO international. Chapters are happy to sponsor applicants — and are always happy to help, Mengel said.

"There's no point in fundraising if you're not going to help people find their way to the money," she added. "The fact we have three (chapters) in Grosse Pointe makes it really nice."

To contact Chapter AO, call Mengel at (313) 331-7728 or email ssmengel@gmail.com. To contact Chapter CV, call the Michigan membership chairwoman at (517) 627-7900. To contact Chapter DB, call (313) 510-5247 or email daserves@yahoo.com.

"We're a very welcoming group."

Chamber session focuses on customer service

The Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce presents its next Lunch and Learn program noon to 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 10, at the Neighborhood Club, 17150 Waterloo, City of Grosse Pointe.

Patrick Hartory presents "What Customers Love: Stand Out & Get Noticed in a Noisy World."

Attendees will learn how to stand out and reach audiences by combining new-era marketing tactics with old-school service. Harnessing the power of story, service and personal relationships, attendees will leave with a proven strategy to cut through the noise and drive customers to their doors.

For more than 20 years, Hartory has helped business leaders and organizations tell their stories. The founder and former head of a national marketing firm, Hartory has worked with Monster Energy, PBS, Capitol Records, Pro Bull Riding, Live Nation Entertainment, AT&T and a full roster of top artists and brands.

Today, he is a nationally

recognized speaker and marketing influencer, as well as the author of numerous articles and three books, including "What Customers Love: 10 Ways to Turn Your Customers into Fans &

Followers." For more information, visit patrickhartory.com.

Cost for the event is \$25 for chamber members, \$30 for non-members, and includes lunch.

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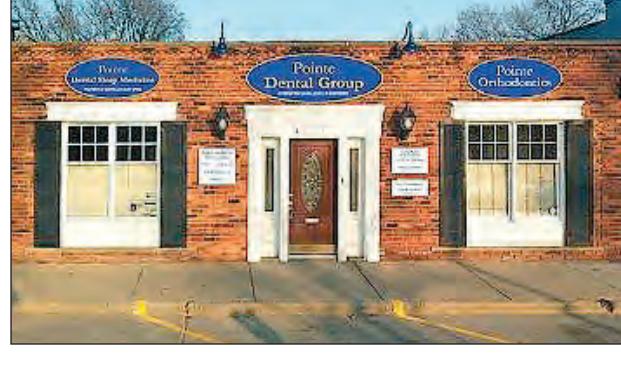
Pointe Dental Group's clear aligners a comfortable alternative to metal braces

By Debra Kaszubski
Special Writer

Your smile often is the first thing people notice and smiling has a positive impact on those around you. If you shy away from smiling or try to hide your teeth because they're crooked, you may want to consider treatment.

Clear aligners are alternatives to traditional metal braces and may serve as a viable option to patients of all ages. No one will notice the device; all they'll see is your smile.

"A clear aligner looks just like a clear retainer; however, it is programmed to move the



teeth approximately a quarter of a millimeter.

After a series of these aligners, we can achieve the same as traditional tooth movement in a more comfortable manner as compared to traditional braces," said Dr. Richard Friedman, an orthodontist with Pointe Dental Group in Grosse Pointe Farms and Shelby

Township. Clear aligners, also known as Invisalign, cost the same as traditional metal braces at Pointe Dental Group. Prices range from \$5,000 to \$5,500 and payment plans are available. Qualified patients may benefit from an express case of 10 aligners, which

costs \$3,500.

Clear aligners work as well as metal braces, said Friedman, who is a certified member of the American Board of Orthodontics.

"Due to some giant leaps in their technology over the last three years, I now find myself treating patients with Invisalign," said Friedman, noting

that clear aligner treatment is more comfortable and faster. "We also don't have the traditional orthodontic emergencies like broken brackets or poking wires, which has led to much greater compliance and satisfaction by our patients."

On average, patients use clear aligners around 15 months; however, some may complete treatment sooner. They're a good choice for both teens and adults, especially those who enjoy sports.

Invisalign also is less likely to irritate soft tissue surrounding the teeth and doesn't interfere with

**Pointe
Dental Group**

eating or speaking. The only disadvantage to this treatment option is

lack of patient compliance, meaning patients aren't wearing the aligners properly or as often as they should.

"In order to stand by their product, Invisalign now offers a trial period for adolescents and pays for the transfer of a case to traditional braces if your child is non-compliant with their clear aligner wear," Friedman said.

If you're unhappy with your smile, consider clear aligner treatment at Pointe Dental Group, 18342 Mack, Grosse Pointe Farms. Call (313) 881-2480 or visit pointedentalgroup.com.

Susanne Babcock, breast cancer patient who had reconstruction using the DIEP flap method.

PHOTO COURTESY OF BEAUMONT HEALTH



Living her best life Reconstructive surgery empowers breast cancer 'thriver'

With her trim figure, radiant smile and buoyant personality, Susanne Babcock, 54, of Grosse Pointe Woods, is the pic-

cancer in 2012. Then, following a double mastectomy, was plagued with one significant medical setback after another.

Complications included two infections, both of which nearly claimed her newly reconstructed breasts, and acute pain caused by a detached implant. She also developed tongue cancer, related to radiation and chemotherapy treatment, and needed painful surgery to have the cancer removed.

Babcock's fortune started to change with a referral to Beaumont Health reconstructive and microvascular surgeon Kongkit Chaiyasate M.D., in 2017.

"I was fully prepared to go flat-chested," recalled Babcock, a special education paraprofessional. "But Dr. Chaiyasate and his wonderful, welcoming team encouraged me to consider DIEP flap reconstruction."

Deep inferior epigastric perforator artery, or DIEP flap, uses a woman's own tissue, typically from the abdomen, to reconstruct the breasts.

Chaiyasate and his partner, Lauren Oliver M.D., are among a handful of surgeons in Michigan performing the advanced procedure, which requires connecting tiny arteries throughout the skin and tissue. Chaiyasate plans to add a third surgeon to his practice with similar capabilities in April.

"It's extremely important for some women to feel 'whole' again after breast cancer," Chaiyasate said. "I think DIEP flap is the best way to get the most natural looking and feeling result so they can put that stage of life behind them and move on."

In addition to training in plastic surgery, surgeons must get an additional year of microvascular surgery training before they can perform DIEP flap.

"Because so few surgeons are able to do this reconstruction, a lot of patients don't realize it's available," Chaiyasate

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Getting a heart scan can be a smart thing to do

By Tom LaLonde M.D.
Chief of Cardiology, Ascension St. John Hospital

Heart disease doesn't always come with symptoms. That's why early detection of heart disease is so important. A heart scan at Ascension St. John Hospital can be an effective screening test to find heart disease.

During the heart scan screening, we perform a cardiac computed tomography ("CT") scan of your heart and the surrounding area to look for calcium buildup within the walls of your coronary arteries. The presence of any calcium buildup is used to calculate a "calcium score" that, when combined with your other health information, helps our heart doctors to determine your risk of coronary artery disease ("CAD").

The results of a heart scan

should never be interpreted in isolation, but should be used by a cardiologist in conjunction with information about your overall heart health and any of your personal risk factors to determine the next best steps for your health. Personal risk factors include but are not limited to high blood pressure; high blood cholesterol levels; a family history of premature heart disease; diabetes; tobacco use; being overweight, obese or physically inactive.

Those who may benefit from the heart scan include:

- ◆ Men over the age of 40 and women over age 50.
- ◆ Those with a family history of heart attack at an early age.
- ◆ If you have been told by a doctor that you have high blood pressure or high cholesterol, or diabetes.

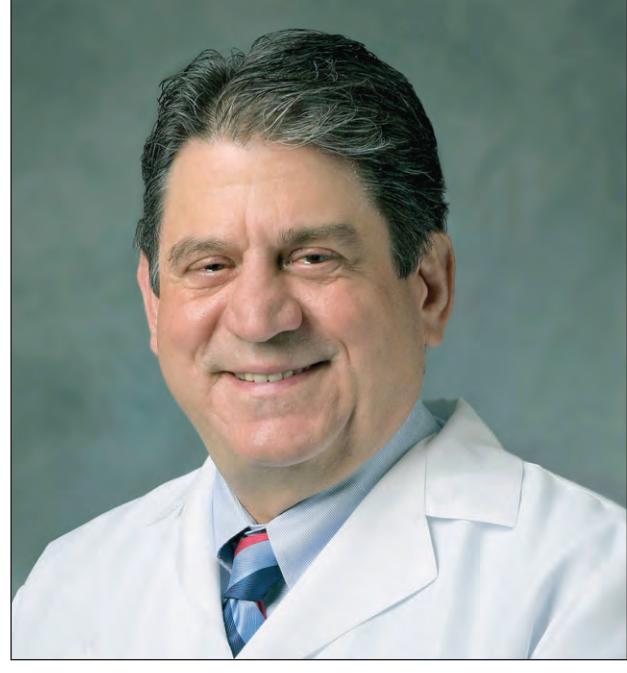
◆ Those who are current or past smokers.

Those who should not have the heart scan:

- ◆ If you are pregnant you should not have this test. During the CT scan, patients are exposed to a small amount of radiation.
- ◆ Those who have previously had a heart attack, coronary bypass surgery or a coronary stent should not have this test because it won't provide any additional information.

◆ Men under age 40 and women under age 50 should not have this test because detectable calcium is not likely.

If you have questions about having a heart scan, you should discuss this with your cardiologist. To schedule a heart scan at Ascension St. John Hospital, call (866) 501-3627, press 3.



Dr. Thomas LaLonde

LIFE:

Continued from page 6B

said. "I wish all breast cancer patients considering reconstruction were aware of this option."

Recovery from DIEP flap is six weeks, compared to one or two weeks for traditional reconstructive breast surgery, and requires a second surgery six months later. But, patients like Babcock say benefits such as significantly reduced complications, lifelong reconstruction and soft, natural-feeling breasts are worth the extra recovery time.

"Even after meeting with Dr. Chaiyavate, I still wasn't convinced," Babcock admitted. "The waiting list was nine to 12 months. But then, his



PHOTO COURTESY OF BEAUMONT HEALTH

Susanne Babcock, breast cancer patient who had reconstruction using the DIEP flap method, works out at Pure Barre in Grosse Pointe Farms with trainer/owner Sarah Glassberg.

office called and said they had an unexpected opening in three weeks, which never happens. It felt like divine intervention."

Having intentionally lost 18 pounds leading up

to the surgery, Babcock opted to take advantage of another potential DIEP flap benefit — abdomen reduction, which is like a tummy tuck.

The procedure begins with an incision along

the bikini line to harvest fat, skin and blood vessels, which are then relocated to the chest to form a new breast or breasts. For patients with little to no excess belly fat, tissue can be removed from the back, buttocks or inner thighs.

"If you gain weight after the surgery, the abdominal fat will come right back," said Babcock, who added seven more pounds to her total weight loss following reconstruction. "I decided this was a pretty cool opportunity that I couldn't pass up."

Increasing physical activity is part of her newfound wellness plan. Babcock does Pilates and works out at a Pure Barre gym near her home five days a week before work. She's even getting back into tennis and learning

to play pickleball.

"I am absolutely thrilled," Babcock said. "I love hugging people and after getting my implants, hugging was weird. They were cold and hard and way too big. I had to go up an extra dress size to fit my breasts. My new breasts are nice. I have a little cleavage and just feel good, both mentally and physically."

On March 3, she marked the second anniversary of her DIEP flap surgery by reaching significant new milestones in the gym, including a 90-second plank and a 90-minute Pure Barre intensive class — particularly challenging considering the location of her surgeries.

"It might sound cliché, but I feel like I've been given a second chance and want to do everything I can to live my best life possible," she said.

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Insurance does not cover the cost of a heart scan. Please note: If you are pregnant you should not have this test, or if you have previously had a heart attack, coronary bypass surgery or a coronary stent. Men under age 40 and women under age 50 should not have this test because detectable calcium is not likely.

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Eastside Endoscopy Center has locations in St. Clair Shores and Macomb Township. Visit eastsideendoscopy.com.

COURTESY PHOTO



Schedule your colonoscopy at Eastside Endoscopy Center

By Debra Kaszubski
Special Writer

Colorectal cancer is the third most common and second most deadly form of cancer in the United States, according to the Centers for Disease Control. Every year, approximately 140,000 Americans are diagnosed with colorectal cancer and more than 50,000 people die from it. Experts believe that with increased awareness and screenings, at least 30,000 of those lives could be saved.

The key to treating colorectal cancer is early detection and a colonoscopy is the best screening test to do just that. During the procedure, a doctor uses a long, thin, flexible, lighted tube called a colonoscope to check for polyps or cancers inside the rectum and colon. The doctor is able to find and remove most polyps and prevent some cancers.

March is Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month and the compassionate, experienced and high-quality staff and physicians at Eastside Endoscopy Center urge patients ages 50 and older — or those who may have

symptoms of the disease — to schedule a colonoscopy.

Although there may be no symptoms associated with colorectal cancer, some things to look out for include blood in the stool, unexplained abdominal pain, a change in bowel habits or unexplained weight loss or anemia.

Experts recommend patients ages 50 to 75 have a routine screening colonoscopy every 10 years. Doctors may suggest that those with symptoms or other risk factors such as personal or family history of colon polyps or cancer, history of Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis have the exam more often. Most insurance plans cover routine screenings, but check with your individual insurance carrier.

Although some physicians who are not specialists in gastroenterology may recommend other tests, such as Cologuard — an at-home diagnostic procedure in which patients send samples via mail for testing — no other procedure is as reliable as a colonoscopy.

"(Cologuard) can result in false-positives or false-negatives, so the patient ends up

coming in for the colonoscopy anyway," said Samantha Miller, assistant administrator at Eastside Endoscopy Center. "Since (Cologuard) is considered a diagnostic screening test by the insurance companies, if their test comes back positive, patients can end up paying out-of-pocket for their colonoscopy."

The center, which opened in 1996, has been recognized for its exceptional patient care with The Summit Award for patient satisfaction. In addition, Eastside Endoscopy is Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care certified, CMS Medicare certified and certified with the state of Michigan.

Since Eastside Endoscopy is an outpatient facility, patients can easily and quickly have their screenings without the inconvenience of visiting the hospital.

Eastside Endoscopy Center has two convenient locations. One is at 28963 Little Mack, Suite 103, St. Clair Shores; call (586) 447-5110. The other is at 17700 23 Mile Road, Suite 250, Macomb Township; call (586) 416-7501. Visit eastsideendoscopy.com.

Former MSU receiver opens fitness facility

By Debra Kaszubski
Special Writer

Barré Mackie, a former Michigan State University football player and fitness specialist, has opened a fitness facility at 17243 Mack Avenue in Detroit. New clients are welcome at A1 Performance and Fitness, a 5,500-square-foot gym that focuses on training not only the body, but also the mind.

A membership to A1

Performance and Fitness features personal training, fitness classes, massage therapy, a sauna and more. There even are youth classes that develop and implement a strong foundation for a child's agility, speed and overall fitness.

But what makes A1 Performance and Fitness different from other facilities is the attention given to the client's overall health and well-being. Mackie, who has an undergraduate degree in kinesiology and a master's degree in sports performance psychology,

works with clients on the development of their mental health as well as their physical fitness.

The mind-body connection is essential, Mackie said.

"Too often when we talk about optimal health, we only talk about the physical. There is another component and that's the mental component," he said. "At A1, that is something we stress."

For example, to help a client psychologically, Mackie will provide encouragement to build

self-esteem. He listens to clients and learns about their life. Once he has built that trust, he works on coaching the person. He's more like a life coach than a personal trainer.

Succeeding mentally was important for Mackie, who played football at MSU from 2004 to 2006. He was a smaller player who had to overcome the doubt in his own mind, he said.

"Once you succeed mentally, the physical part is easy," he



COURTESY PHOTO

Barré Mackie

Mackie is a Detroit native who has served as a mentor, coach and teacher. He has developed a number of fitness-related patents and is excited to unveil his newest accomplishment — A1 Performance and Fitness.

At the fitness facility, which opened March 17, new members receive a complimentary personal training session. There's secure parking surrounding the building. Visit today or call (313) 926-6050.

Screening Saves Lives!



March is Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month!

Colorectal Cancer is the **THIRD** most common and second most deadly form of cancer in the United States. There are around 140,000 new cases diagnosed each year, of which roughly 50,000 people die. Experts believe that with increased awareness and screenings at least 30,000 of those lives could be saved.

When to have a colonoscopy: Age 50 or older

If you are experiencing the following symptoms you should also schedule a colonoscopy:

- Blood in stool
- Unexplained abdominal pain
- Unexplained weight loss
- History of Crohn's Disease, Ulcerative Colitis, or Inflammatory Bowel Disease

However, there are not always symptoms associated with Colorectal Cancer, which makes screening colonoscopies so important. Consult with your Primary Care Physician and schedule your screening today!

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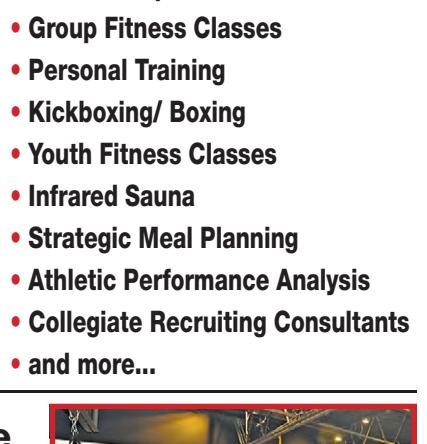
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Achieve radiant, younger-looking skin for spring, summer

By Debra Kaszubski
Special Writer

Warmer weather is right around the corner and with that some people likely will show more skin. Make sure your skin is protected with sunscreen and that it looks the best it can by visiting the experts at the Skin & Laser Center, the premier cosmetic practice in metro Detroit.

The newest and most exciting service is the Secret RF, a radiofrequency microneedling system designed to stimulate collagen production in the skin. This device improves fine lines, wrinkles, acne scars and stretch marks on all skin types with essentially no down time.

"People are getting smoother, tighter skin," Dr. Richard Ferrara said of the Secret RF.

For spring, many patients freshen up with classics such as fillers and Botox. Hydrofacials,

which provide tone, texture and smoothness, are popular as well, Ferrara said.

Experts like Ferrara and Dr. Katie Caretti blend treatments in order to obtain the best outcome for patients. For example, they will combine neuromodulators such as Botox along with hyaluronic acid fillers to create lift or fill or reduce lines.

"What you end up with is a nice little synergy," Ferrara said.

With swimsuit season near as well, many patients are interested in reducing body fat. Coolsculpting uses cold energy to target fat underneath the skin. The fat cells are frozen and then die. The body naturally processes and eliminates the dead fat cells and the results are a trimmer body. This is a non-surgical procedure, so patients usually return to normal activities right away.

Fat anywhere on the body can be treated with Coolsculpting, but it may take multiple sessions to achieve final results. At the Skin & Laser Center, patients receive an individualized Coolsculpting treatment plan so they know what to expect.

With warmer months ahead, sunscreen is important for the health and beauty of the skin, Ferrara said. Sun-protective clothing, a broad-spectrum sunscreen with an SPF 30 or higher and a daily moisturizer with sunscreen are recommended to provide protection. The sun's harmful rays not only cause sunburn and skin cancer, but sun exposure is linked to premature skin aging and more.

The Skin & Laser Center is located within the Ferrara Dermatology Clinic, 20045 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods. Call (313) 884-9100 or visit ferraraderm.com.

Benefits of acupuncture at Beaumont include pain relief and healing

Acupuncture is defined as the stimulation of nerves, muscles and connective tissues in a way that triggers the body's natural opioids or pain killers. By eliminating "blockages," acupuncture can relieve pain, boost energy and help restore the body's natural order of operations.

Studies have shown that acupuncture has an anti-inflammatory effect on the digestive track and increases blood flow to major organs and throughout the body. Acupuncture can also be effective in managing the symptoms of chemotherapy and radiation, such as neuropathy and nausea. Acupuncture supports the healing of muscles and bones and helps manage diabetes, arthritis and headache.

Because the state of Michigan does not currently require licensing for acupuncturists, consumers should adopt a "buyer beware" attitude.

According to Beaumont's director of Integrative Medicine, Gail Elliott Patricolo, the most highly trained practitioners, including those at Beaumont, Grosse Pointe, are credentialed by the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine, have earned a degree in Traditional Chinese



COURTESY PHOTO

Medicine/Acupuncture and are registered with the state of Michigan.

"Each one of our acupuncturists has a Master's degree in the field and some also have their Ph.D.'s," Elliott Patricolo said. "Our team is also supervised by a medical doctor."

WHAT TO EXPECT

Acupuncture points are located throughout the body. Sometimes the appropriate points are far removed from the area of pain. The acupuncturist informs patients about the general site of the planned treatment. If appropriate, a gown, towel or sheet will be provided. The patient then lies down on a padded table.

NEEDLE INSERTION

Acupuncture needles are very thin, so insertion creates very little if any discomfort. A mild aching sensation may occur.

Between five and 20 needles are typically used per treatment. The treatment is usually very relaxing and many patients fall asleep.

NEEDLE REMOVAL

In most cases, the needles remain in place for 10 to 20 minutes while the patient lies still.

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OBITUARIES

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

John Thomas Cavataio

Grosse Pointe Park resident John Thomas Cavataio, 66, passed away Friday, March 8, 2019.

Born June 2, 1952, to Thomas and Agnes Cavataio, John graduated from Notre Dame High School. He was self-employed in the construction business.

John was a history buff with special interests in classic cars and World War II airplanes. He was a member of the Classic Car Club of America and Yankee Air Museum.

John is survived by his wife, Mary S. Rowan; sons, Thomas Cavataio (Erin), Anthony Cavataio (Kate), Jacob Rowan D.O. (Wendy) and Christopher Rowan Ph.D. and grandchildren, William Rowan, Jillian Rowan, John Cavataio, James Cavataio, Vincenzo Cavataio and Natalie Cavataio.

He also is survived by his sisters, Grace Mueck (Eric), Marie Brest and Genevieve Cavataio Cousins (Greg) and brothers, Peter Cavataio (Mary) and Victor Cavataio.

In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by his brothers, Thomas Cavataio and Richard Cavataio.

A funeral service was

held March 16, followed by interment in Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Detroit.

Julie Mahon

Julie Mahon, 57, passed away peacefully Saturday, Feb. 9, 2019, in Plano, Texas.

Born Dec. 24, 1961, in Indianapolis, Ind., Julie spent her formative years in Houston, Texas, and most of her adult life in Grosse Pointe.

She was predeceased by her parents, Gerald and Mary Ellen Mahon. Those who remain to keep her memories alive are her three brothers, Thaddeus Mahon, Matthew Mahon and Gerald Mahon (Suzanne); cousins from Grosse Pointe, Tom Mercier (Eleanor), Julie Mercier (David Mikesell), Mary Robinson, Denise Mercier and Sheila O'Neill (Pat) who, along with their parents, the late Tom and Ann Mercier, became her second family.

Julie, a fun loving and kind person, will be greatly missed.

Services will be at noon Friday, March 22, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Visitation begins at 11:30 a.m. at the church.

In lieu of flowers, dona-

Margaret Ponkey

Longtime Grosse Pointe Park resident Margaret Ponkey, 98, passed away peacefully Wednesday, Jan. 23, 2019.

She was predeceased by her husband of 43 years, Raymond Ponkey, in 1989.

Margaret had a passion for flowers and created beautiful gardens each spring and summer. She enjoyed entertaining, which brought good friends, good food and good music together. Her love for the piano and swing dancing was another extension of who she was.

Margaret is survived by her daughters, Marsha Ponkey of Grosse Pointe Park and Laurie (previously Mehl) Santoro (Rich) of Phoenix, and son, Ron Ponkey (Debbie) of Redford. She also is survived by her granddaughters, Nicole and Lisa Ponkey and Arianna and Alexa Mehl.

The family extends its thanks to the staff at Advantage Living Center of Roseville and Beaumont Hospice. In lieu of flowers, dona-



John Thomas Cavataio



Julie Mahon



Margaret Ponkey

Elizabeth T. Hosea

Grosse Pointe Woods and former Jupiter, Fla., resident Elizabeth "Bette" Hosea passed away peacefully Sunday, March 17, 2019, after living a full and wonderful life.

Born Aug. 17, 1929, in Detroit, to Leo and Eva Rademacher, Mrs. Hosea was a graduate of St. Anthony High School in Detroit and Detroit Commercial College.

She was an active and gregarious person who enjoyed people. She was a past member of the Country Club of Detroit, Otsego Ski Club, Jonathan's Landing Golf Club in Jupiter and Lochmoor Club in Grosse Pointe Woods.

A member of St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church in Grosse Pointe Farms, Mrs. Hosea also was active in many charities, including Christ Child Society, Beaumont Assistance League, Carmelite Society, Fontbonne Auxiliary of St. John Hospital and the



Elizabeth T. Hosea



Carmen Barbosa

St. Paul Altar Society

Mrs. Hosea was predeceased by her husband, Thomas; son, Dr. Timothy Hosea; sister, Alice Stock and brother-in-law, Robert Totte.

She is survived by her children, Libet Hosea, David (Valerie), Mark and Paul (Christine); grandchildren, Hadley Michalowski (Peter), Whitney, Kirby, David (Gabby), Pamela Shepherd (Jody), Tommy (Kim), Forrest, Brent and Katherine; great-grandchildren, Walker, Grant Shepherd, Bryce Shepherd, Adelyn and Jacob and step-great-grandchildren, Owen Michalowski, Sydney Michalowski, Tori Bartusiak and Nina Bartusiak.

She also is survived by her sister, Joan Totte; brother-in-law, James Stock and many nieces and nephews.

A funeral Mass will be celebrated at noon Monday, March 25, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Visitation begins at 11:30 a.m. at the church. Interment will be in the church's columbarium at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Christ Child Society of Detroit, 502 N. Crooks Road, Suite A, Clawson, MI 48017; Fontbonne Auxiliary of St. John Hospital, 28000 Dequindre, Warren, MI 48092; or the Capuchin Soup Kitchen, 1820 Mt. Elliott, Detroit, MI 48207.

Carmen Barbosa

Carmen Barbosa, nee Espindola, passed away Friday, March 8, 2019. She was 80.

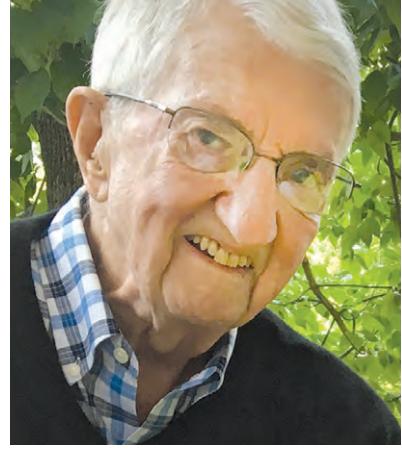
A daughter of Randolph and Clara (nee Rojos), Carmen was born July 6, 1938, in Mexico City, Mexico. She was the beloved wife of Robert Barbosa D.O., to whom she was joined in love for 60 years. She also was the loving mother of Jayme Hendershot (Mark), the late Sidney Robert Barbosa, Jacqueline Carroll (James), Gina Belknap (Frank) and the late Aaron John Barbosa; cherished grandmother of Robert, Sidney, Alex, Sarah, Alexandra, James, John and Aaron; proud great-grandmother of Kaden, Talon and Keegan and dear sister of Ida, Ruth, Robert and Roman.

Carmen's greatest joy was spending time with her family. Her adventurous spirit took her all over the world with her husband and children. No matter where she was, Carmen endeared herself to others, taking time to listen, talk and offer a kind word. She made those around her feel valued and special.

A memorial service will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 23, at Crosspointe Christian Church, 21336 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

Donations may be made to Samaritan's Purse at sampur.se/2O3buBt. See OBITUARIES, page 11B

JONATHAN TAYLOR WALTON



Jonathan Taylor Walton, a Grosse Pointe resident for virtually all of his life, died peacefully on Saturday, March 16, 2019. His wife Sis and his four children were by his side when he passed.

Jon was born March 28, 1930, in Evanston, Illinois, to Howard and Louise Walton. The family moved to Michigan when he was a young boy, first to the Whittier on Jefferson Avenue in Detroit, and shortly afterwards to Grosse Pointe. He was a proud graduate of the Grosse Pointe Public Schools, and was a member of the Grosse Pointe High School Class of 1948.

Jon followed his older brother, Howard, to Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire. He received a bachelor's degree in economics from Dartmouth in 1952. He then enrolled in Dartmouth's Amos Tuck School of Business Administration and graduated with a Master's in Business Administration in 1953.

Jon met the love of his life, Salome Edgeworth, known as "Sis" to her family and friends, while he was at Dartmouth and she was attending Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts. They were married in Sis's hometown of Dover, Delaware, on November 27, 1954. At that time, Jon was serving in the United States Navy. He enlisted in the Navy's Officer Candidate Program, and after basic training in Newport, Rhode Island, he completed the Navy's Supply School in Bayonne, New Jersey. During three years of active duty in the Pacific, Jon served as the supply officer of the U.S.S. Andrew Jackson and the U.S.S. Gardner's Bay. He left active duty in the Navy in 1956 and continued serving his country in the Naval Reserve until 1968.

In 1956, Jon began what would become a nearly 40-year career working for the National Bank of Detroit. The first part of his NBD tenure was spent in the bank's commercial lending operations. He rose to become the head of NBD's United States Division in 1972. He then pivoted to the Bank's Trust operations, and became the head of the Trust Division in 1978. At the time of his

retirement from the Bank in 1995, Jon was executive vice president and a member of the Managing Committee.

Throughout his life Jon worked passionately and tirelessly for causes ranging from education, to health care, to the promotion and revitalization of Detroit. He served as a Trustee of the W. K. Kellogg Foundation (1980-2004), the Michigan Historical Center Foundation and the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy. He also chaired the United Negro College Fund, and served on the boards of the Franklin Wright Settlement, the YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit and the Greater Detroit Hospital Council.

At the time of his passing he was a member of the Investment Committee of the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan. He and Sis were dedicated supporters of the Detroit Institute of Arts, the Detroit Zoological Society, the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and many other cultural groups and institutions.

Jon had a lifelong love of learning. The study of history was his special interest. The shelves of every home he and Sis ever owned overflowed with history books and, later in his life, with his vast collection of antique model soldiers from every era and place on Earth.

He was an avid golfer at the Country Club of Detroit. Jon's other club affiliations included the Grosse Pointe Club, the Yondotega Club, the Mill Reef Club and the Dartmouth Club of Detroit. Sports of all kinds and the outdoors were a big part of his life.

He loved fishing, and made many memorable treks to fish the lakes of northern Ontario with family and friends. He was a lifelong fan of the Detroit Tigers, Lions, Red Wings and Pistons, as well as the teams of his alma mater Dartmouth College. A careful study of the sports pages was an invariable part of his morning routine. He had an even greater interest in the athletic endeavors of his children and especially his grandchildren. No away game was too far to travel, and no weather too cold, wet, or windy to keep him out of the stands when one of them had a game or a meet.

Jon was a world traveler. With Sis, he visited virtually every continent and all parts of the United States. Their children and grandchildren often came along, and routinely had all they could handle trying to keep up with the "Big Guy." In October 2018 he and Sis made a memorable voyage across the Atlantic on the S.S. Queen Mary II and spent four days in London meeting with old friends. He maintained a far-flung network of friends by being a faithful correspondent.

Jon is survived by his wife of 64 years, Salome Edgeworth Walton, son Jonathan T. Walton Jr. (Susan), daughter Katherine Walton Day (Warren), daughter Lucy Walton Mooney (James), son Andrew Walton (Kathryn), 11 grandchildren, and a great grandson. He was predeceased by his parents, his brothers, Howard Walton and David Walton, and his sister, Dorothy Walton Mooney.

There will be a family visitation at the Verheyden Funeral Home, 16300 Mack Avenue in Grosse Pointe Park on Friday, March 22, 2019 from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. A funeral service will be held on Saturday, March 23, 2019 at 10:30 a.m. at Christ Church Grosse Pointe, 61 Grosse Pointe Boulevard, Grosse Pointe Farms.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be directed to Detroit Riverfront Conservancy (detroitriverfront.org), Community Foundation of Southeast Michigan (cfsem.org) or Ascension St. John Foundation (stjohnprofoundations.org).

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OBITUARIES:

Continued from page 10B

Carol Lynn Saunders O'Neill

City of Grosse Pointe resident Carol Lynn Saunders O'Neill, 69, passed away Friday, March 15, 2019, at her beautiful home on the lake surrounded by her family.

Carol will be remembered as a dutiful nurse, green-thumbed gardener, vivacious fashionista, but most of all, devoted wife and mother, continuously exuding unconditional love for her family.

She is survived by her husband of 46 years, William, and their children, Brian (Kristin), Kate (Michael), Julie (Rob) and Molly (Rob) and a growing group of grandchildren, including Gabriel, Lucas, Evelyn and Ellis.

Carol grew up in Pleasant Ridge with her sister, Annie, and their parents, Shirley and Charles. She graduated from nursing school in 1970, joining St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor.

While working at St. Joe's, she met William, whom she married in 1973. Their love story took them from Canton to Ann Arbor to Grosse Pointe and countless other destinations around the world. On a warm March day in Florida, they took their last dance together, smiling under the sunshine.

Carol will be remembered for her welcoming and loving heart and celebrated in the lives of her loved ones.

Visitation will be 4 to 7 p.m. Thursday, March 21, and 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, March 22, at Chas. Verheyden Funeral Home, 16300 Mack, Grosse Pointe Park.

A funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, March 23, at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Donations may be made to Wounded Warriors Project, P.O. Box 758517, Topeka, KS 66675-8517; American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, 424 E. 92nd Street, New York, NY 10128, or Capuchin Soup Kitchen, 1820 Mt. Elliot, Detroit, MI 48207.



Carol Saunders O'Neill



Ann Cahalan Mercier



Charles S. Zentgraf

Ann Cahalan Mercier

City of Grosse Pointe resident Ann Cahalan Mercier, 89, died peacefully Monday, March 11, 2019. She was born Feb. 18, 1930, to Leo and Ursula Cahalan and raised in Wyandotte.

Ann was the loving wife of the late Thomas Harrison Mercier for 63 years. She is survived by her children, Tom (Eleanor), Julie (David Mikesell), Mary Robinson, Denise and Sheila O'Neill (Patrick).

She was predeceased by her niece, Julie Mahon.

Ann leaves behind her grandchildren, Nick, Ursula and Lexie Robinson and Patrick, Hugh and Finn O'Neill; siblings, Ursula Connors (John) and John C.

Cahalan, as well as many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Ann attended high school and boarded at the Academy of Sacred Heart of Grosse Pointe. She earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Detroit.

Ann was active in Bon Secours Assistance League, Meals on Wheels and many other charities. She enjoyed playing bridge, traveling, skiing and fly fishing. Most of all, she enjoyed spending time with her family.

A memorial Mass will be at noon Saturday, March 23, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Family and friends will gather at the church beginning at 11:30 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the charity of the donor's choice.

Charles S. Zentgraf

Former Grosse Pointe Farms resident Charles S. Zentgraf, 74, passed away Friday, March 15, 2019, in Jasper, Ga. He was a resident of Big Canoe, Ga.

Born June 8, 1944, in Evanston, Ill., to Hester and Charles Zentgraf, Chuck graduated from Grosse Pointe High School in 1962 and Adrian College. He worked at American Home Products, which later became Wyeth.

Chuck enjoyed traveling and visited 70 countries.

Chuck is survived by his wife, Mimi Zentgraf; daughter, Christy; stepsons, Jason, Justen and Jonathon and seven grandchildren.

He also is survived by his brother, John Zentgraf. A private funeral service was held.

CHURCH EVENTS

St. Paul on the Lake

St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, welcomes to the church Sarah Kaczmarek, associate national director of Alpha Catholic, from 7:15 to 8:15 p.m. Sunday, March 24. The program is part of the 2018-19 Encounter Series "Finding Freedom in Christ." Call (313) 885-8855.

St. Ambrose

The ARK at St. Ambrose, 15020 Hampton, Grosse Pointe Park, offers a Lenten buffet dinner 4 to 8 p.m. each Friday, through April 19. Cost is \$17.95 for adults, \$10 for ages 6 to 10 and free for children 5 and younger. Carryouts are available. Call (313) 423-6284.

Redeemer United Methodist

Redeemer United Methodist Church, 20571 Vernier, Harper Woods, hosts a pancake and sausage breakfast 8 to 11 a.m. Saturday, April 6, as a fundraiser for the Harper Woods K-9 Program. Admission is by voluntary donation. The event includes a gift card raffle.

The church celebrates

75 years of faith and service Sunday, April 28, beginning with coffee hour at 10 a.m., followed by a celebration service at 11 a.m. and a catered meal at 12:30 p.m. For more details, call the church office at (313) 884-2035.

St. Paul Evangelical

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, 375 Lothrop, Grosse Pointe Farms, offers a variety of Bible and book studies. Newcomers are welcome.

◆ The Rev. Justin Dittrich leads Bible study at 9:30 a.m. each Tuesday in the Harms Fireside Room.

◆ Prayer Vigils for Peace take place 7 p.m. the fourth Monday of each month, starting with a short video followed by discussion.

◆ The Naomi Circle Women's Group meets in the Bethany Room for Bible study and fellowship at 12:30 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month.

◆ The Men's Breakfast and Bible Study Group meets the first Thursday of each month in the Bethany Room.

Call (313) 881-6670 for more information.

Sermon addresses becoming centered in Christ

Worship leader Marla Maiuri leads the sermon, "From the Inside Out," at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, March 31, at Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church, 17150 Maumee, City of Grosse Pointe.

Maiuri will guide the congregation down the path of what it means to be centered with the creator — where to find it and how to reach that place of knowing.

Maiuri discusses how this place of peace positively impacts one's judgments, choices and creation and affects how one loves.

Maiuri recalls having a wonder for everything beyond physical experience since looking up to the heavens from a tricycle. A writer and speaker who shares from spiritual inspiration, Maiuri writes about matters of the heart and has several books soon to reach publication.

For more information, call (313) 881-0420 or email gpubc@gpuc.us.



Marla Maiuri

St. Paul's Lenten, Holy Week services

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, 375 Lothrop, Grosse Pointe Farms, offers the following worship schedule for Lent and Easter Holy Week:

Wednesdays, through April 10

◆ Morning services at 11 a.m., followed by a simple meal.

◆ Agape services at 6:30 p.m.

Maundy Thursday, April 18

◆ Contemporary worship and praise cantata at 7 p.m.

Good Friday, April 19

◆ Tenebrae Service at 7:30 p.m.

◆ Stations in the Street at 3 p.m., beginning at the corner of Kercheval and Fisher. Led by the Grosse Pointe Ministerial Association, this is an ecumenical attempt to walk the footsteps of Christ down the main streets of the Grosse Pointe communities and pray for the many needs and ministries of all God's people. All ages and faiths are welcome.

Easter Sunday, April 21

◆ Easter service at 9:30 a.m., followed by a goodwill offering Easter brunch. Register for the brunch by calling (313) 881-6670. All are welcome.

For more information, visit stpaulgp.org.

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Wednesday Agape Services
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9:30 a.m. - Bible Study

10:45 a.m. - Sunday School

MONDAY

7 p.m. - Worship Service

2nd & 4th Monday of the Month

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10 a.m. - Bible Study

Randy S. Boelter, Pastor

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we love, pray, rejoice and serve.
All are welcome!

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Wednesday Agape Services
at 6:30 p.m.

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The Rev. Justin Dittrich

Christ the King Lutheran Church and Preschool

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www.christthekinggp.org

SUNDAY

8:15 & 10:45 a.m. - Worship Service

9:30 a.m. - Bible Study

10:45 a.m. - Sunday School

MONDAY

7 p.m. - Worship Service

2nd & 4th Monday of the Month

WEDNESDAY

10 a.m. - Bible Study

Randy S. Boelter, Pastor

Making New Disciples - Building Stronger Ones

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SHREK:

Continued from page 1B

panies in the past.

"I directed the junior version of the show at the school I taught at, so I was familiar with it and liked it," she said. "And Grosse Pointe Theatre has a great reputation. The Fiona role I've always been interested in, so I decided to go for it."

Ensemble member Erica Bieke is not only new to Grosse Pointe Theatre, but "Shrek" marks her first time onstage for any performance.

"I've always wanted to do something with theater my whole life," she said, citing her theater-loving family — including an aunt who has GPT season tickets. She said it was friend and GPT veteran Don Bischoff, in charge of set design for "Shrek," who helped her take the leap.

"Normally I wouldn't have the courage to audition, but Don gave me the courage to sign up," she said. "The audi-

tion was by far the most nerve-racking thing I've done in my life."

Varlamos cheered Bieke for joining the team, adding a fresh face to a pool of oft-recognized performers.

"A lot of Grosse Pointe Theatre productions use the same actors," he said. "Within this community theater is a community of people who've known each other for years. It's exciting seeing new faces."

The plot, Varlamos said, is taken straight from the movie, but the score is largely original.

Added Grojean, "The musical goes beyond the movie, too. You see why Shrek is always grumpy. You see why Fiona is desperate to be rescued. There are great emotions that go along with those songs."

"Because Grosse Pointe Theatre has such a great reputation of high-caliber shows, I hope we live up to that," she continued. "I hope when people leave, they think, 'This was as good as professional theater.'"

Part of what might

make that happen is the use of visual effects to create the ogre and other fairytale creatures.

"This show, with the prosthetics, is different from every other Grosse Pointe Theatre show we've ever done," Marinello said. "It's a show a lot of community theaters do and I'm sure they do the best they can with what they have, but we really lucked out with Julia Chateau — a professional makeup effects artist. ... The Shrek prosthetics are the lynchpin. ... We're not the first to do the show, but I'd say we're the best."

Behind the seams

Chateau moved back to Michigan at just the right time.

"I've been doing makeup since 2007, right after high school," she said. "First, it was mostly theater makeup, then haunted houses ... then film work. This is my first show with this company. My mom has been the piano player here for years, so I've seen their shows before. I moved back from L.A. in March and saw they were going to do 'Shrek' and I said, 'I have to be a part of it.'

"The whole show is a lot bigger than other shows."

Chateau conceded that prosthetics have been used before in productions like "Wicked" and "Beauty and the Beast," but with "Shrek," where every single character is a fairytale creature, a lot of prosthetics are needed, including pig and wolf noses.

"Makeup wise, Shrek has that iconic head;



Makeup artist Julia Chateau has built prosthetics for several "Shrek" characters, including this hood for the title character. This is her first time working with Grosse Pointe Theatre.

The details

WHAT: Grosse Pointe Theatre presents "Shrek The Musical."

WHEN: 2 p.m. matinees Sunday, March 24, and Saturday and Sunday, March 30 and 31; 8 p.m. performances Thursday through Saturday, March 28 to 30 and April 4 to 6.

WHERE: Pierce Middle School Auditorium, 15430 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Park; parking is free and complimentary valet is available.

TICKETS: \$25 each. Call (313) 881-4004 or visit gpt.org for more information.

a NASCAR pit crew," Chateau said. "This is what I love to do. I moved back to Detroit because I love promoting local Detroit and Grosse Pointe community theater. It's good collaboration, a good atmosphere."

Grojean said "Shrek" should be a draw for all ages.

"Kids are going to like it because it's funny," she said. "And people our age grew up with Shrek."

Added Serra, "I'd like to exceed people's expectations. There's a part in the show every age is going to be able to connect to."

Bieke said she hopes the performance strikes a chord with audiences.

"I hope the first time they hear (Panos) sing 'Who I Be' they cry like I did. I hope they get goosebumps over their whole body."

"I hope the audience has as much fun watching the show ... as we've had putting it on for them," Varlamos said.



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Kathie Johnson designed and constructed "Lucy" the dragon in March 2018. She travels with it wherever it is rented and teaches theater people how to assemble, operate and break it down. Pictured are Johnson, left, and Pamela Plewa, who will voice the dragon.

OPERA:

Continued from page 1B

the community.

"We are part of the community and as such

we want to participate in shared experiences with our neighbors, get to know them and hope they want to know us," Kowalczyk said. "I liken it to a block party, where

you invite neighbors to an event to form friendships and bonds. These gatherings provide that opportunity.

"Also, with music there are no boundaries," he continued. "These arias, songs, melodies speak with a universal language about our joy, love, hope, faith, but also despair, betrayal, confusion, anger and so on. Music finds its expression across centuries, cultures, continents and religions. Besides, our church has great acoustics and we love to showcase that."

Tuesday Musicale and St. Clare welcome all members of the community to Opera Night.

"Come one, come all," Kowalczyk said. "Young and old, everyone is invited. We hope that you enjoy the evening and want all to feel welcome at St. Clare of Montefalco."

The concert is free; a goodwill offering will be collected to benefit the church's music program.

For more information, visit tuesdaymusicale.org.



Nick Hanahan, who plays the Big Bad Wolf, discusses a scene with director Nick Marinello.

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Grosse Pointe Woods dentist offers advanced, GPS-like technology for dental implant procedure

By Debra Kaszubski
Special Writer

The American Academy of Implant Dentistry estimates that 3 million Americans have dental implants to replace missing teeth. Another 500,000 implants are placed each year.

A dental implant is a titanium rod that acts like the root of a missing tooth. It is surgically implanted into the jaw, where the surrounding bone fuses with it for support.

The implant is then topped with an artificial crown, which looks like the part of tooth that shows above the gum line. Dental implants are permanent and function like a natural tooth.

At Faircourt Dental Smile Studio, Mary Sue Stonisch DDS, offers dental implant procedures from the comfort of her Grosse Pointe Woods office. Stonisch is a diplomate in the International Congress of Oral Implantology and recently has added new technology to her office that greatly improves the dental implant process.

The X-Guide Dynamic 3D Navigation system elevates Stonisch's control and precision before and during implant sur-

gery, including planning and placement. The system was developed in close collaboration with leading oral and maxillofacial surgeons and is considered top-of-the-line technology in implant dentistry.

The X-Guide Dynamic 3D system provides turn-by-turn guidance during live surgery. This gives Stonisch the ability to perform precise movements of the hand piece for more exact placement — like GPS for the drill. For the patient, this precision results in quicker recovery and less risk for complications.

Stonisch continues to be a leader in dentistry. She has been certified for nearly two decades by her peers at the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry and is one of only 36 women in the world to achieve accreditation.

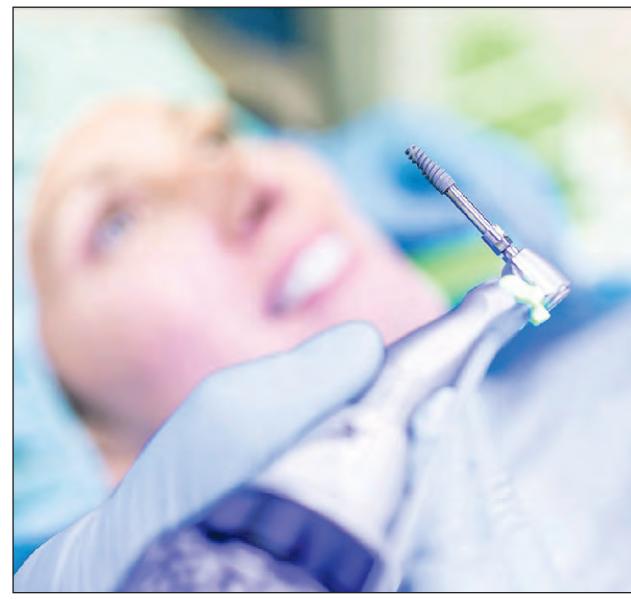
In addition, Stonisch teaches at the Engel Institute for Implant Dentistry and also is a mentor at the Kois Center — a world-renown ongoing dental education facility in Seattle.

A long proponent in bringing technological advances to her patients, Stonisch is the innovator of "Smile Now," instant dental technology that

allows patients the ability to see their new smile before the procedure. She also offers "Heart Smart" dental cleanings which use laser technology to improve not just oral health, but heart and

body health by reducing bacteria.

Faircourt Dental Smile Studio is located at 20040 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods. Call (313) 882-2000 or visit faircourt dental.com.



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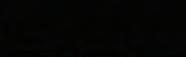
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PHOTO COURTESY OF CAT PARROTT RUFFNER

A kitten wears a Grosse Pointe-generated knit cap on this Avanti Press greeting card.

Purr-fect fit

It takes a community to knit a cat hat.

City of Grosse Pointe resident Cat Parrott Ruffner, whose husband, Rick Ruffner, owns the Detroit-based greeting card company, Avanti Press, recently received a unique request from the card company's New York office.

"They knew that I like to knit and asked if I could knit a hat for a greeting card," Ruffner said. "While I like to knit, this was much more complicated than anything that I had ever done."

So Ruffner reached out to the staff of the Wool and the Floss in the City of Grosse Pointe and explained her situation.

"Naturally, the girls there knew just what to do and who to contact," she said. "They looked at the pattern, ordered the yarn and contacted (City resident) Anne Nyboer to do the knitting. Within a couple of weeks, the hat was finished and headed to New York. Now, Anne's beautiful work is being shared and enjoyed by cat lovers across the country."

"I love that everyone here in our little Grosse Pointe came together and created this fun greeting card for many to enjoy."

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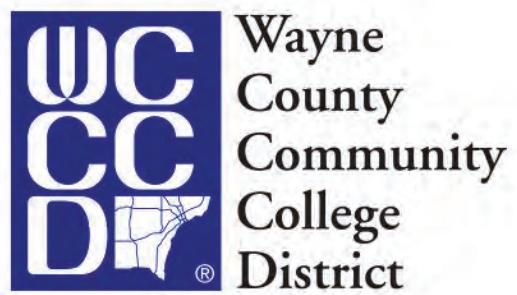
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Girls basketball

GROSSE POINTE NORTH

North stuns Marian in regionals

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

After upsetting favored Birmingham Marian in a Division 1 regional semifinal last week, the Grosse Pointe North girls basketball season ended with a loss to host Southfield A&T in the regional final.

The Norsemen lost to Marian by double digits during the first week of the season back in early December, but won the rematch 60-48.

They led after three quarters, but ran out of gas and were out-scored 26-8 in the fourth quarter of that game.

"When we stepped on the floor, we were aggressive and were in better condition than the first time we played them," head coach Gary Bennett said. "We played with a ton of confidence. The contributions we had were from everyone."

Senior Julia Ayrault, a Michigan State University signee, dominated the game. She played like the Big Ten player she will be next year by scoring 30 points, grabbing 11 rebounds and blocking three shots. Ayrault's 30 points



Senior Evelyn Zacharias, left, hit a clutch three-pointer to help the Norsemen beat the Mustangs.

were huge, but it was a double-digit deficit. Three-pointer from senior Evelyn Zacharias, and layups from seniors Regan Sliwinski, Rachel Liagre, Cariele Humphries and Maddie Mills that kept the Mustangs at arm's length during the fourth quarter.

The Norsemen jumped out to a 13-8 lead in the first quarter and extended it to 28-16 at the half. Their pressure defense forced the Mustangs into turnovers and bad shots. It didn't hurt that the Mustangs missed several layups to help dig themselves the

The Norsemen were able to win despite turning the ball over 20 times and missing too many free throws.

Zacharias scored nine points, followed by Mills with seven, Kohler with five, Braker with three and Humphries, Sliwinski and Liagre with two.

That gave North 20 wins on the season, but its biggest test came in the regional final against host Southfield A&T.

A second straight trip to the quarterfinals wasn't in the script as the Norsemen lost 67-36.

They fell behind 26-9 at the half, but cut it to 28-14 early in the third quarter. They sustained the little momentum they had as the deficit remained at 15, 44-29, at the end of the third quarter.

The Norsemen ran out of gas early in the fourth quarter and the deficit reached 20 points. That would be it, season over.

"We had trouble scoring all night," Bennett said. "We simply did not shoot the ball well."

Ayrault led the Norsemen with 22 points. Grosse Pointe North finished the season 20-4



PHOTOS BY RENATO JAMETT
Senior Julia Ayrault, right, recorded a double-double of 30 points and 11 rebounds in the win over Marian.

overall.

"I am very proud of this team," Bennett said. "They worked extremely hard all year, cared deeply about one another, and were fun to watch. They were great ambassadors for our school and community. They are 'quality people' in the purest sense of that phrase. I am really going

to miss being around them on a daily basis."

Bennett loses Ayrault, Zacharias, Liagre, Humphries, Sliwinski, Mills and Rachel Sexton to graduation.

Look for returning players Braker, Kohler, Jordan Solomon and Hannah Davis to see extended minutes next season.

Girls basketball

GROSSE POINTE SOUTH



PHOTO COURTESY OF BOB ZARANEK

Great season

The Grosse Pointe South freshmen girls basketball team, under coaches Bob Zaraneck and Dave Charvat, participated in the Macomb Area Conference Red Division this season, finishing second and then went on to win the MAC Tournament at the end of the year. The Blue Devils finished the season 17-3 overall. Pictured above are, front row from left, Megan DeGrand and Katie Drew; middle row from left, Mayah Sugick, Evie Klepp, Shannon Dame, Katelyn Carion and Grace Lowell; back row from left, Victoria Frederickson and Arienna Minnifield.

Track & field

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN



PHOTO BY PETER DRAUGALIS

Big Ten champ

University of Michigan's Hannah Meier, left, won the mile in the Big Ten Championship Meet with a time of 4:32.4. The event was held Feb. 23 and Meier edged out Ohio State's Julia Risk, who ran the race in a time of 4:32.7. This completed a two-year sweep of the mile for the Meier girls as twin sister Haley Meier won this event in 2018. The week prior, at Notre Dame's Alex Wilson Invitational, Hannah Meier teamed up with Alice Hill, Chloe Foster and Aurora Rynda to set an all-time Big 10 record in the Distance Medley Relay with a time of 10:54.7. The Meier sisters are Grosse Pointe South graduates.

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2C | SPORTS

College signings

GROSSE POINTE NORTH



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Heading to New York

Grosse Pointe North senior Ally Saigh, seated center, signed her National Letter of Intent to play women's field hockey at Molloy College for head coach Trish Bonagura. Joining Saigh at her signing were family members, seated from left, father, Steve, and mother, Wendy; and standing from left, Grosse Pointe North field hockey head coach Emma Huellmantel, sister, Samantha Saigh and brother, Nick Saigh. Molloy finished 12-7 in 2018 and is a member of the East Coast Conference. Saigh will start practice in early August and the season starts in early September. Molloy College is located in Rockville Centre, N.Y. Saigh earned Second Team All-State honors this fall in field hockey at goalkeeper and is one of the Norsemen's top returning players for head coach Lauren Nixon and the girls lacrosse team this spring.

GROSSE POINTE NORTH



PHOTO COURTESY OF TERESA BENNETT

Calvin-bound

Grosse Pointe North senior Laney Aldridge recently signed a national letter of intent to play women's lacrosse at Calvin College for head coach Blake Boehm. Joining her at the signing were her parents, Renae and Timothy Aldridge. Calvin competes in the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association. Aldridge is one of the top returning players for the Grosse Pointe North girls lacrosse team under head coach Lauren Nixon. Her final high school season starts at the end of March.

**CITY OF HARPER WOODS
WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN
SYNOPSIS: REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 20, 2019**

The regular City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Kenneth A. Poynter at 7:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL: All Councilpersons were present.

MOTIONS PASSED

- 1) To receive, approve and file the minutes of the regular City Council meeting held February 4, 2019.
- 2) To approve the reimbursement of travel expenses for Councilperson Kindle's attendance at the NLC conference with an amount not to exceed \$400.00.
- 3) To adjourn to executive session for the purpose of discussing a Collective Bargaining matter.
- 4) That the agenda of the regular City Council meeting having been acted upon, the meeting is hereby adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

RESOLUTION PASSED

- 1) To approve the following items on the Consent Agenda: (1) approve the Accounts Payable/Payroll Vendor listing for Check Numbers 115930 through 116040 in the amount of \$631,305.09 as submitted by the City Manager and Finance Director, and further, authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the listing. (2) approve payment in the amount of \$10,500.00 to Guardian Sewers for their assistance with several watermain breaks and repair/replacement of stop boxes at various residential locations and assistance with water service termination for demolition on Fleetwood. (3) approve payment to Nu Appearance Maintenance, Inc. in the amount of \$9,237.00 for sidewalk salting and snow removal in various residential and commercial areas of the City. (4) approve payment to Michigan Supreme Court Finance in the amount of \$5,049.50 for software support on the district court's computer system. (5) approve payment to Statewide Transport, Inc. in the amount of \$5,275.02 for prisoner lodging and maintenance for the month of January, 2019. (6) approve payment to Doxim in the amount of \$5,689.35 for our Districts 1, 2 and 3 water bills and the mailing costs for districts 1, 2 and 3 water bills. (7) approve payment to SafeBuilt, Inc. in the amount of \$36,752.00 for the contractual building department services performed during the month of January 2019. (8) approve payment to WCA Assessing in the amount of \$6,107.53 for the contractual assessing services performed during the months of January and for professional services in conjunction with tax tribunal cases. (9) approve payment to Visicom Services, Inc. in the amount of \$7,326.83 for the routine IT support, email hosting and backups for our computer system as well as the purchase and installation of five new computers, monitors and supplies for District Court 32A. (10) approve payment to BBEK Construction LLC in the amount of \$13,354.94 for the renovations and repair work at 21184 Country Club (\$8,952.34) and 20437 Damman (\$4,402.60) as part of the CDBG rehab loan project.
- 2) To accept the lowest responsible bid submitted by Six Brothers Construction in the amount of \$13,134.62 for rehab work to be provided at 18920 Old Homestead, as part of the CDBG Rehabilitation Program.
- 3) To accept the lowest responsible bid submitted by Six Brothers Construction in the amount of \$16,501.37 for rehab work to be provided at 18827 Woodside, as part of the CDBG Rehabilitation Program.

Kenneth A. Poynter, Mayor

Published: GPN, March 21, 2019

Leslie M. Frank, City Clerk

Hockey

YOUTH



PHOTO COURTESY OF BULLDOGS

District champs

On Saturday, March 2, at Mount Clemens Ice Arena, the squirt Grosse Pointe Bulldog "Honey Badgers" hockey team defeated the Rochester Hills Diamondbacks 6-4 to win the Squirt Adray Hockey District Championship. Pictured above are, first row kneeling from left, Morgan Bunn, Rowan Gulewicz, Billy Mansfield, Matthew Ciaravino and Angus Walton; second row standing from left, manager Mary Mansfield, Connor Smith, Ben Sun, Khari Kumasi, Johnny Secco, Avery Welsh, Theodosios Moisides, William Karolak and William Stahl; and third row standing from left, coach Vito Ciaravino and head coach John Secco. Not pictured are players Tyler Collins and Theodore Sage, and coaches Bryan Welsh and Chris Smith.

Figure skating

CIVIC ARENA

Grosse Pointers in annual ice show

More than a dozen Sexton and Cody Wolf-Zingas.

Grosse Pointers are involved with the St. Clair Shores Figure Skating Club's 48th annual Reflections on Ice Show 2019 Friday, March 22, through Sunday, March 24, at Civic Arena, 20000 Stephens Drive, St. Clair Shores.

The children in the learn to skate program are Nicole Beeman, Sophie Byrn, Liv Gryzenia, Chloe Harb, Emily Koepseoll, Emily Marshall, Piper Marshall, Julia Roeder, Maria Saqqa, Ashley

The theme is Cirque Ice, featuring circus acts from around the world on ice.

Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. Seniors 62 and older, as well as children age 3-16 are \$8 in advance and \$10 at the door. Tickets can be purchased at the Civic Arena front desk.

Show times are 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 22; 1 and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 23; and 2 p.m. Sunday, March 24.

For further information, contact Civic Arena at (586) 774-7530.

Baseball

GROSSE POINTE SOUTH

Register for camp

It's not too late to register for the 24th annual

Grosse Pointe South Baseball Instructional Camp, which is 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 23, at Grosse Pointe South's main gymna-

sium.

South is located at 11 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe, MI 48236.

Campers receive instruction in hitting, pitching, infield, outfield, catching and slid-

City of Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan

**PUBLIC NOTICE
WEEDS, BRUSH AND GRASS**

TO ALL OWNERS OR OCCUPANTS OF LAND IN THE CITY OF GROSSE POINTE WOODS:

Notice is hereby given that after May 1st of this year the provisions of Chapter 46, Vegetation, Article IV, Weeds, Brush and Grass will be enforced. This article requires the owner or occupant to cut, destroy or remove weeds, brush and grass that is six (6) inches high or more. In the case of noncompliance, the owner or occupant of the land shall be responsible for all costs incurred by the city in connection with such cutting or destruction plus a 30 percent administrative fee. If the charges are not paid within 30 days after billing, payment shall be deemed delinquent and shall be enforceable as a tax lien against the land.

Any person who violates any of the provisions of Article IV of Chapter 46 shall, in addition to the other obligations imposed thereby or by other applicable law, be responsible for a municipal civil infraction and subject to a civil fine.

Lisa Kay Hathaway

City Clerk

G.P.N.: 3/21/2019

ing techniques, and it is open to boys and girls in grades second through sixth.

Coaches may observe, take notes or videotape.

Players should bring their own gloves, bat, helmet if possible, and should report to the main gym 15 minutes ahead of the scheduled start time in proper baseball attire.

All participants must be pre-registered and Grosse Pointe South is not responsible for lost or stolen equipment.

The cost is \$50 per player and coaches are free. Make checks payable to GPS Dugout Club. All of the proceeds go to the South baseball program.

Send enrollment form and check to Dan Griesbaum, 835 Hidden Lane, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236.

For further questions, call Griesbaum at (313) 347-3672 or email to griesbd@gpschools.org.

College signings

GROSSE POINTE SOUTH



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHRIS BOOTH

Collegiate level

Grosse Pointe South seniors, from left, Terrance Lane, Matt Moran and Charlotte Brecht, recently signed national letters of intent to play college sports starting in the fall. Lane is playing football at Brown University, while Moran is playing soccer at Trinity College and Brecht is playing volleyball at Hope College. Lane's head coach at Brown is James Perry, and the Bears are a member of the Ivy League. Lane's first collegiate game is Saturday, Sept. 21, at Bryant University. Moran's collegiate head coach is Michael Pilger, and the Bantams are a member of the New England Small College Athletic Conference. His season starts in September and finishes at the end of October/early November. Brecht takes her talents to Hope to play for head coach Becky Schmidt. The Dutchmen finished 25-8 overall and 7-1 in the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association, placing second to Calvin.

Field hockey

UNIVERSITY LIGGETT SCHOOL



PHOTO COURTESY OF AMANDA AMINE

Banner raised

Assistant coach Amanda Amine, standing far left, and the University Liggett School girls field hockey team celebrated when their Division 2 state championship banner was raised to the rafters of the John and Marlene Boll Campus Center — Fruehauf Gymnasium during half-time of a Knights girls basketball game played at the end of February. Head coach Jayant Trewn could not make the event. The Knights won the state championship with a win over undefeated Wixom St. Catherine.

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UNIVERSITY LIGGETT SCHOOL



PHOTOS COURTESY OF REBECCA WALL

Next level

University Liggett School senior David Barthel, above center, recently committed to playing lacrosse at the collegiate level at Hope College. Joining Barthel at his signing were parents David and Jennifer Barthel. Hope's head coach is Michael Schanhals. Hope competes in the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association against Alma, Trine, Calvin, Adrian, Albion and Kalamazoo. In addition, ULS senior Daniel Bowen, below center, will play lacrosse at Denison University. Joining him at his signing were parents Daniel Bowen and Susan Cooper, as well as brother William Bowen. Denison's head coach is Mike Caravana. The Big Red compete in the North Coast Athletic Conference, competing against DePauw, Oberlin, Wabash, Kenyon, Wooster, Wittenberg, Hiram and Ohio Wesleyan. Bowen and Barthel are two of the top players in the area and will help the Knights, under head coach Mike Costanzo, battle for a Division 2 regional championship this season.



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**CITY OF HARPER WOODS
WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN
SYNOPSIS: REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 4, 2019**

The regular City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Kenneth A. Poynter at 7:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL: All Councilpersons were present.

MOTIONS PASSED

1) To receive, approve and file the minutes of the regular City Council meeting held January 23, 2019.

2) That the agenda of the regular City Council meeting having been acted upon, the meeting is hereby adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

RESOLUTION PASSED

1) To approve the following items on the Consent Agenda: (1) approve the Accounts Payable/Payroll Vendor listing for Check Numbers 115837 through 115929 in the amount of \$218,319.53 as submitted by the City Manager and Finance Director, and further, authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the listing. (2) approve payment to Anderson, Eckstein & Westrick, Inc. in the amount of \$16,528.26 for professional services during the month of December 2018 for the following projects: Stormwater Asset Mgmt Plan, #180-202; 2018 Gas Main Replacement, #180-198; and Housing Rehab Project, #180-178. (3) approve payment in the amount of \$9,000.00 to Guardian Sewers for their assistance with several watermain breaks.

2) Accept the proposal dated January 29, 2019 submitted by Plante and Moran for auditing services in the amount of \$42,925 for the 2018 audit.

Kenneth A. Poynter, Mayor

Published: GPN, March 21, 2019

Leslie M. Frank, City Clerk

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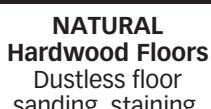


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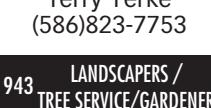
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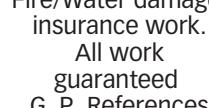
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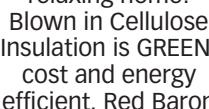
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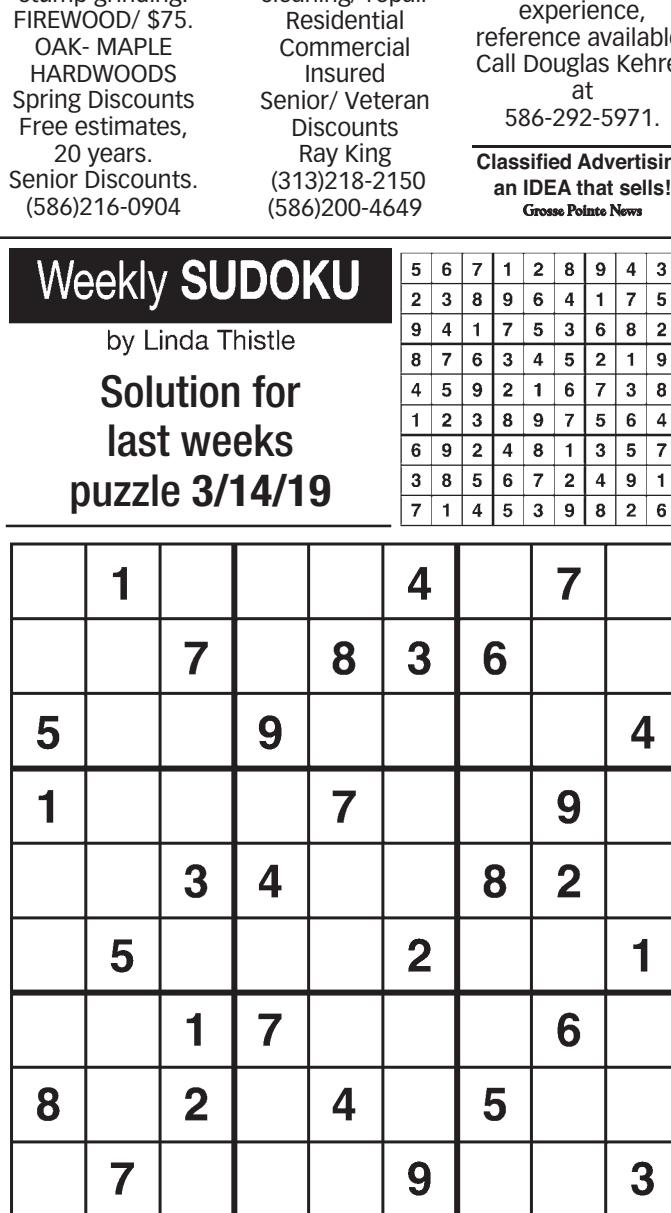
Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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Solution Time: 25 minutes



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DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

- ♦ Moderate
- ♦♦ Challenging
- ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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3/21/19



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