

SCHOOLS

Looking back

Changes to the school district marked 2019 **PAGE 8A**

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Grosse Pointe News

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 GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

2019 IN REVIEW

Contention abounds in '19

By GPN staff

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — It was a year of contention and controversy in the Shores with ongoing trials over the Deeplands development, debates on whether dogs should be off-leash in Osius Park in the off season, the retirement of City Manager Mark Wollenweber, accusations of racism against a councilman, campaign finance complaints and the resignation of councilman Bruce Bisballe.

a blueprint for future improvements to Osius Park and nearby municipal grounds. The plan includes a new splash pad and playscape, as well as entrance and gatehouse to the park.

February

◆ The Grosse Pointe Yacht Club earns Distinguished Club status — with special “Iconic” designation — by BoardRoom magazine.

◆ A fatal accident on Lakeshore closes the roadway for hours while public safety personnel respond and Michigan State Police gather evidence. The single-car crash claims the life of an 89-year-old St. Clair Shores woman.

On the brighter end, the Shores also became a Purple Heart city and hosted its inaugural Veterans Day ceremony.

This is the year in review.

January

◆ City council approves *See SHORES, page 2A*

◆ Residents in all the Pointes are concerned about air quality after Fiat Chrysler proposes a new vehicle assembly line to replace the Mack Avenue Engine plant.

◆ St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church, in partnership with Chas. Verheyden Inc. funeral home, is making sure the deceased without known families are getting the burials they deserve. Nine such people receive a proper funeral Mass at the church, which has offered the practice since 2015.

◆ Thomas Hardware Co., marks its 100th anniversary. The marine outfitter, launched by Mr. Thomas and Mr. Gerish in Detroit, currently sits at Charlevoix and Wayburn and is owned by Todd Jones.

◆ The Park is nationally recognized for contributing to the preservation of monarch butterflies.

◆ While students enjoy their mid-winter break,

◆ The DTE Energy caravan is making its way south. The energy company begins work to



FILE PHOTO

The roundabout at Kercheval and Wayburn reopened to two-way traffic in August.

2019 IN REVIEW

A year of transformation

By GPN Staff

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Transformation was a theme in the community throughout 2019. From the reopening of a street boundary line between the Park and Detroit to a victory by each of three first-time city council candidates, change was underway. The loudest voices debating old vs. new could be heard among residents who turned out at public meetings in large numbers to discuss issues like a dog recreation area proposed at Patterson Park. A flashback through the year reveals even more of the city’s ongoing developments and debates:

◆ The wait is over for Park residents wanting to play pickleball at the city’s park. Three new indoor pickleball courts open at the Lavins Activity Center.

February

◆ The Eastside Community Network is working to stymie disinvestment and redevelop the area along Mack between Connor and Cadieux. Its focus is on developing people, places and plans for sustainable neighborhood growth on Detroit’s lower east side, said ECN CEO and President Donna Givens.

January

◆ The DTE Energy caravan is making its way south. The energy company begins work to

replace gas mains on Jefferson and Balfour in the Park, with work on residential and commercial service lines beginning in the spring.

◆ The wait is over for Park residents wanting to play pickleball at the city’s park. Three new indoor pickleball courts open at the Lavins Activity Center.

February

◆ The Eastside Community Network is working to stymie disinvestment and redevelop the area along Mack between Connor and Cadieux. Its focus is on developing people, places and plans for sustainable neighborhood growth on Detroit’s lower east side, said ECN CEO and President Donna Givens.

◆ While students enjoy their mid-winter break,

Park public safety officers use the opportunity to train to protect them, participating in active shooter training at Pierce Middle School.

◆ Former WDET radio host and Detroit Land Bank Authority spokesman Craig Fahle is sentenced in 32B Municipal Court on drunken driving and drug possession charges stemming from 2018.

March

◆ Thomas Hardware Co., marks its 100th anniversary. The marine outfitter, launched by Mr. Thomas and Mr. Gerish in Detroit, currently sits at Charlevoix and Wayburn and is owned by Todd Jones.

◆ The Park is nationally recognized for contributing to the preservation of monarch butterflies.

April

◆ Residents in all the Pointes are concerned about air quality after Fiat Chrysler proposes a new vehicle assembly line to replace the Mack Avenue Engine plant.

◆ St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church, in partnership with Chas. Verheyden Inc. funeral home, is making sure the deceased without known families are getting the burials they deserve. Nine such people receive a proper funeral Mass at the church, which has offered the practice since 2015.

May

◆ Marinas in each of the Grosse Pointes are responding to Mother Nature’s deluge of water this spring. Though the

See PARK, page 3A

Trees are healthier following epidemic

By Eddie B. Allen Jr.
 Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — The end of 2019 coincided with the end of a nearly two-decade epidemic affecting green space in the Pointes.

The Park suffered only six losses of ash trees through the course of last year, the fewest since seven trees were lost in 2002 when the emerald ash borer appeared in Michigan.

While the late '90s saw tree deaths due to

Dutch elm disease, first diagnosed in the Park in 1951, the emerald ash borer plague had mysterious origins.

“Something was killing these ash trees. We didn’t know what,” said Brian Colter, arborist for Grosse Pointe Park.

Research eventually revealed that the emerald ash borer, an exotic beetle formally known as the argil’s planipennis, had traveled from China on wooden pallets with products

See TREES, page 2A

Court building renovation moves forward

By Laurel Kraus
 Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — City of Grosse Pointe City Council was presented a design update on renovations of the court, being built in the current public safety building, during its meeting Monday, Dec. 16.

“We’ve been meeting with the

court members, we’ve had meetings with the judge, state liaison and a couple other group members that have helped us kind of develop this court layout and actually develop it further from where it was originally,” said Lauren Lee with Partners in Architecture, PLC. “It’s not going to look drastically different, but there were some key

elements that they helped us define to make a more functional long-term use facility.”

Among the updates, the 1990s addition to the back of the building has been removed, which allowed the architects to see what originally was there.

“There’s some very distinctive gray boxes to the red brick,” Lee said. “That is telling us that there

used to be old windows there, something that we didn’t necessarily anticipate in the original design process, but something that we are going to be restoring as we go back through.”

There will be five large windows on the lower level and seven on the second floor. Due

See RENOVATION, page 4A

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Pointer of INTEREST
See story, page 4A



Rosalie Lochner
 Home: Grosse Pointe Park
 Advocate for asylum seekers and
 co-founder of Michigan Support Circle



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2A | NEWS

SHORES:

Continued from page 1A

◆ Administrators from the Farms and Shores attend a meeting with Wayne County Commissioner Tim Killeen and others to address dangerous conditions with the deteriorating seawall along Lake St. Clair.

March

◆ Public safety responds to several vehicle accidents on Lakeshore that slowed or detoured traffic. The series of collisions is caused by icy driving conditions.

◆ The Edsel & Eleanor Ford House welcome new president and CEO Mark Heppner, who replaces Kathleen Mullins, who retired summer 2018 after 10 years of leading the organization.

April

◆ Residents in all the Pointes are concerned about air quality after Fiat Chrysler proposes a new vehicle assembly line to replace the Mack Avenue Engine plant.

◆ Ford House announces construction crews are preparing to install the final steel beam to complete the structure of its new

administration building and visitor center. Both projects are expected to open this spring.

May

◆ Marinas in each of the Grosse Pointes are responding to Mother Nature's deluge of water this spring. Though the increased water depth benefits waterway commerce and aquatic life, the surplus of water with the high lake level and heavy rainfall is creating a soggy mess as it encroaches onto shoreline properties and grounds.

◆ The Shores is the first of the Grosse Pointes to be designated a Purple Heart city. Patriots of Chapter 1818 Military Order of the Purple Heart present the honor during a city council meeting.

June

◆ The Michigan Court of Appeals hears a case filed by neighbors of 55 S. Deeplands, who believe designs for development of the land are restricted by the deed of the original property owner.

◆ City council unveils a historical marker at its municipal building, constructed shortly after the Shores was incorporated in 1911.

◆ After eight years without a park manager

due to budget constraints, the Shores welcomes Alison Scarfone to the position.

July

◆ Shores resident and former Grosse Pointe News owner, Robert G. Liggett Jr., dies following a battle with cancer.

August

◆ The Michigan Court of Appeals rules to uphold the trial court's decision and dismisses the 55 S. Deeplands neighbors' lawsuit against Deepland Development Co. The ruling notes the "defendant's plan of development does not run afoul of the applicable restrictive covenants."

◆ City Manager Mark Wollenweber announces his plans to retire in October. Wollenweber began his position in the Shores seven years ago, following an already substantial career in public service.

◆ Following two incidents with off-leash dogs at Osius Park, council considers changing the rules that allow dogs to roam off-leash during winter months.

◆ Shores public safety officer Tony Spina, an 18-year veteran, is honored as officer of the year of all the Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods by the



Grosse Pointe Shores pooches got a day in the pool this September, when Osius Park hosted "Dog Days of Summer."

local chapter of the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge.

September

◆ Mark Wollenweber is honored at his last city council meeting, following the announcement of his retirement in August.

October

◆ The existing play park at Osius Park reopens after renovations, including a two-seat seesaw, Little Buddies play structure, snail rider, playhouse with benches, three tot tables and a family bench.

◆ Former Ford House President and CEO Kathleen Mullins, who retired last year after 10 years of leading the organization, dies after a long fight with ovarian cancer.

◆ Attendees overflow out of council chambers at the October meeting

as Grosse Pointe residents remark on a Facebook post by Councilman Matthew Seely, which some label racist.

◆ The Shores Public Safety Department is in the final stages of creating a dispatch/lock-up consolidation agreement with the Woods, which may go into effect February 2020.

November

◆ The Shores hosts its inaugural Veterans Day ceremony.

◆ Council members Tina Ellis and Robert Gesell are honored at their last city council meeting after choosing not to run for re-election. Ellis served on council since 2015, Gesell since 2011.

◆ Incumbent Douglas Kucyk retains his council seat and is joined by newcomers Danielle Gehlert

and John Seago. Mayor Ted Kedzierski is unopposed.

◆ The park committee recommends to council that dogs should remain on-leash year-round.

◆ The Shores public safety department is overwhelmed when reports of a fire on Greenbriar come amid ongoing efforts to extinguish a fire on Rosyln.

◆ Mayor Pro Tem Bruce Bisballe resigns from council, citing lack of city leadership as his reason. He also submits campaign finance complaints with the Michigan Department of State against newly elected council members Danielle Gehlert and John Seago after the two failed to include "paid for by" statements on campaign materials.

December

◆ Council appoints Building Department administrator Tom Krolczyk as interim city manager following the retirement of Mark Wollenweber.

◆ Ford House officials give an update on the progress of its two new buildings. Originally expected to open in spring 2019, an unusually wet spring and summer have delayed the project completion until the end of 2020.

◆ Mayor Ted Kedzierski forms an ethics committee to look into creating an ethics ordinance.

◆ Public Safety Director John Schulte determines dogs are to remain on-leash within the city until council takes a final vote on the matter.

◆ Residents are invited to apply to fill the vacant seat on council left when Bruce Bisballe resigned in November.



FILE PHOTOS

Grosse Pointe Yacht Club debuted its KinderSail program, teaching youngsters to sail, this July.

TREES:

Continued from page 1A

imported to Michigan. Believed to be largely a result of packing and shipping within the auto industry, the insect's presence led to the deaths of 30 million ash trees in Michigan alone, while the epidemic spread to multiple states.

Colter diagnosed the cause of damage to the ash species on a residential block of Kensington. The Park's budget "took a hit" as the emerald ash borer wreaked havoc on trees

within the city, causing unforeseen expenses related to cutting down dying trees, he said. The Park responded by hiring outside contractors to assist in tree removal. New species were planted to replace ash trees that died.

Ash trees, which grow in various species, represented about a fifth of the publicly owned trees on streets in the Park. At the height of the epidemic in 2007, 314 trees were lost, according to city data. The City of Grosse Pointe reflects similar rates of increase and decline in tree deaths from 2002 to 2019, Colter added.

As the epidemic spread beyond Michigan, even mainstream national institutions like baseball were

impacted: The Louisville Slugger brand replaced ash bats with maple wood.

The Park suffered a total loss of 1,307 ash trees, but Colter said there's a positive side to the carnage.

"Personally, I will declare that the urban forest is healthier now than it was in 2002," he added.

Ash trees, Colter said, are "aggressive pollinators," which contributed to allergy issues and often littered lawns with their droppings.

The replacing of ash trees with other varieties also will prove beneficial, he added.

"A diverse urban forest is a healthier one, because it's more resistant to epidemics," Colter said. "The key is to replant."

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Pursuant to PA 104, an auction will be held on January 15, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. at Woods Towing, located at 22755 Lexington, Eastpointe, MI. The following impounded/abandoned vehicles will be auctioned:

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2010 VW Jetta	3VWRZ7AJ5AM035397
1999 Isuzu Rodeo	4S2CM58W9X4328466
2011 Chevy Impala	2G1WB5EK8B1142513
2006 Saturn Vue	5GZCZ33D06S867364
2002 Ford Taurus	1FAFP5322G181005

The above vehicles can be viewed 1/2 hour prior to the auction, at Woods Towing. Payment by cash or certified check only. Cars listed may be pulled or released prior to the auction by the Harper Woods Police Department.

Sgt. Thomas Teatsorth
 Traffic Safety Section

POSTED: December 27, 2019
 PUBLISHED: January 2, 2020

A copy of this notice can be viewed on www.harperwoodscity.org under Public Notices.

PARK:

Continued from page 1A

increased water depth benefits waterway commerce and aquatic life, the surplus of water with the high lake level and heavy rainfall is creating a soggy mess as it encroaches onto shoreline properties and grounds.

◆ City Manager Dale Krajniak announces his retirement after more than 30 years in city management.

◆ Public safety battles a four-alarm blaze on Yorkshire. The fire started in the third-floor attic; a City firefighter suffered minor injuries.

◆ Bob Bashara files a federal appeal, arguing ineffective assistance of counsel and errors by the court led to his denial of a fair trial. The Park businessman is serving a life sentence without the possibility of parole after being convicted of his wife's murder.

June

◆ Public Safety Department Lt. James Bostock joins an advanced class in law enforcement professionals after graduating from a program initiated by the Center for Public Safety at Northwestern University in Chicago.

◆ Dale Krajniak officially retires as city manager. His assistant, Nick Sizeland, becomes acting city manager as the Park prepares to launch a national search to fill the position with a permanent administrator.

July

◆ A local symbol associated with neighborhood separation could soon become a boost to the Park's economy as officials approve a memorandum of understanding to redesign the intersection of Kercheval and Alter into two-way traffic lanes.

◆ Council approves a memorandum of understanding that would pave the way for a performing arts center on Jefferson. In exchange for selling the land at 15003 Jefferson to the Urban Renewal Initiative Foundation so construction can move forward, Detroit receives the Park's agreement to widen a section of Jefferson west of Lakepointe to better accommodate Detroit Department of Transportation buses.

August

◆ The Full Circle Foundation, celebrating its 10th anniversary, wel-



For the fifth year, the K-Line Trolley picked up riders on Kercheval May through October.

comes its first executive director, Ted Coutilish, who has served on its advisory committee the last five years.

◆ Traffic is restored in both directions at Kercheval and Wayburn for the first time in five years. The move is expected to increase patronage at local businesses, as well as improve general relations between the Park and the nearby Detroit neighborhood.

September

◆ Grosse Pointe Park is the third safest place to live in all of Michigan, according to a survey by backgroundchecks.org. The website uses FBI data compiling violent and property crimes to determine annual rankings.

◆ Park native Will Cyr earns a bronze medal in Formula Kite racing in the 2019 Pan American Games.

◆ Nick Sizeland is selected to replace long-time City Manager Dale Krajniak, who retired earlier this year.

◆ The Park will install a new attraction for dog lovers, to the delight and dismay of residents who expressed little interest in middle ground during a city council meeting. A vote passed 6-1 to develop a canine-friendly \$90,000 recreation area on a half acre at Patterson Park.

October

◆ A series of public engagement workshops is underway at Patterson Park, following contentious community debate about the installation of a \$90,000 dog recreation area at the site. Multiple locations within the park are being considered with resident feedback in mind, City Manager Nick Sizeland said.

November

◆ Vikas Relan, Aimee Rogers Fluitt and Michele Hodges unseat incumbents John Chouinard and Mayor Pro tem Dan Clark, while filling a third council spot vacated by Barbara Detwiler. Mayor Robert Denner is unopposed.

◆ Student safety is getting a boost from technology at two busy intersections. City officials and administrators at Defer Elementary and Pierce Middle schools are working with Detroit's Next Energy to provide a new form of traffic regulation in the area.

◆ Full Circle Foundation's nonprofit resale shop nearly falls victim to a counterfeiter, but cashier Megan Wiley spots the fake bill when it is presented at the Mack Avenue store. Her actions are reminders of how all retailers can prevent loss this holiday season.

December

◆ The city announces plans to build a new \$4

million Department of Public Works facility at Mack and Wayburn, replacing the aging building that currently houses staff and maintenance equipment. The new building is projected for completion in 2020. City leaders say they hope it will serve as an anchor to attract new business in the neighborhood.



Dale Krajniak retires after being Grosse Pointe Park city manager for more than 30 years.



FILE PHOTOS

A magician was among the entertainment this summer during the Park's After Six events.

City sets 2020 road improvement plan

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — The City of Grosse Pointe announced and approved bidding on its 2020 road construction plan at the council meeting Monday, Dec. 16.

The projects are scheduled to begin after July 1, 2020, when the new budget begins and are part of the ongoing Road Improvement Program, which started in 2015 after the voters approved the dedicated road millage in August 2014.

In 2020, after strategically focusing on streets that required less work to keep them from falling into disrepair the last five years, the City will concentrate on failed roads that need rehabilitation or complete reconstruction.

"You won't see as much road work this coming summer," City Manager Pete Dame said, since it is significantly more expensive to reconstruct a failed street than to repair one to keep it from getting to the failed condition, which means the City will work on four and a half blocks rather than the 11 and a half on which it worked in 2019.

The current roads scheduled for work in 2020 are Goethe from

Washington to the dead end at University, including a small stretch of University at that intersection with Goethe, with an engineering estimate of \$431,000; Grosse Pointe Court from Charlevoix to Mack, with an engineering estimate of \$178,000; and Rivard from Kercheval to St. Paul, with an engineering estimate of \$396,000.

Goethe between Washington and University will be reconstructed; a 1.5-inch mill and resurface will take place on the short dead end of Goethe west of University; a short piece of University that extends just south of Goethe will get a 3.5-inch mill and resurface, as well as new curbs and gutters; Rivard from St. Paul to Kercheval will be completely reconstructed; and Grosse Pointe Court will get a 1.5-inch mill and resurface.

In original plans, Grosse Pointe Court was not scheduled to be worked on until 2024, but DTE Energy gas upgrades on the street pockmarked it with holes due to the gas main and connection to the homes being under the street. The company will contribute up to \$50,000

See ROADS, page 5A

The Week Ahead

MONDAY, JAN. 6

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Park Public Safety Committee meeting, 4 p.m. at city hall, 15115 E. Jefferson.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods City Council meeting, 7 p.m. at city hall, 20025 Mack Plaza.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores Improvement Foundation meeting, 7 p.m. at city hall, 795 Lakeshore.

TUESDAY, JAN. 7

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores Tree Board meeting, 7:30 a.m. at city hall, 795 Lakeshore.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 8

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Beautification Commission meeting, 7 p.m. at city hall, 20025 Mack Plaza.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Park Beautification Commission meeting, 7:30 p.m. at city hall, 15115 E. Jefferson.

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4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

Volunteer creates connections for asylum seekers

By Mary Anne Brush
Staff Writer

What began as an academic pursuit turned personal for Grosse Pointe Park resident Rosalie Lochner. Lochner wrote her dissertation for her Ph.D. in philosophy from DePaul University on Hannah Arendt, a German-American philosopher and political theorist who, after fleeing Nazi Germany and before moving to the United States, lived in Paris where she helped Jewish children emigrate to Palestine.

“A lot of (Arendt’s) writing is about the problems of ensuring the rights of refugees and the moral obligation we have to recognize the humanity in other people in order to be humans ourselves,” Lochner said. “Her most famous work, ‘The Origins of Totalitarianism,’ was on the breakdown in the European nation-state and how you end up with fascism and concentration camps and World War II.

“Suddenly the refugee crisis was right here and children were involved in a way that I couldn’t deny,” Lochner continued. “Not that children weren’t involved before, but it became realer to me at that particular moment.”

Arendt became a role model for Lochner — “a woman who had no background in helping refugees who ended up doing this. She was an academic who decided, ‘I can’t not help these children. I have to help them get out.’”

That moment arrived for Lochner early in the spring of 2018. Lochner moved to Grosse Pointe Park from Los Angeles due to a change in her husband’s career. Originally working for a production company



COURTESY PHOTO

Rosalie Lochner spoke at a recent fundraiser for Michigan Support Circle.

based in L.A., Erich Lochner moved into a startup involved in new media advertising called The Outloud Group.

Lochner left her academic post as a professor of philosophy at Loyola Marymount University to relocate her family to Grosse Pointe Park where she focused on raising her two young sons, Henry, now 5, and Alex, 3. The couple is expecting a daughter in mid-May.

It was the separation of families crossing the southern border — the idea of being separated from her own children without any warning — that hit home for Lochner.

While a court order allowed families to be reunited, there was no

organized process to reconnect parents with their children.

“They had nowhere to put the kids,” Lochner said. “They were separating kids at such a large number, they all had to go into foster care or group homes. The youngest ones had to be in very special situations. There was no one place in the country where they could go. So they just sent them all out. Texas, California, New York, Michigan, Florida.

“I couldn’t look at my kids across the table and not do something,” she said.

Lochner’s sister told her about a Facebook group raising bond money to free a mother

from detention and drive her across the country to New York to petition to get her children out of foster care.

“You should do something like that in Michigan,” Lochner recalled her sister saying to her.

“With no background in activism, nothing to do with immigration, I started calling people,” she said. “I called Michigan Immigrant Rights Center, Bethany Christian Services where the kids were being held ... and the ACLU — anyone I could think of.”

Lochner and her co-founder, Gina Katz of Ann Arbor, ended up forming a group called Michigan Support Circle, a grassroots organization created to help support the reunification of families by providing rides, housing, clothing and other essentials once families have been released from detention.

The group works closely with organizations like Migrant Mother Drivers, Strangers No Longer and Immigrant Families Together to ensure families’ immediate needs are met, they are supported until a long-term plan is determined and they’re treated with respect and compassion, according to the mission statement. While the group works primarily in Michigan and Ohio, it coordinates with organizations in other states to help reconnect and support families.

Sometimes it’s a question of connecting a family to the right resource, whether it’s a lawyer for legal advice, a food bank where a state ID isn’t required or to the appropriate channels for applying for a work permit after the required six-month waiting period, Lochner said.

Working with about 10 families at a time,

Michigan Support Circle has been integral in reuniting five families.

Witnessing these family reunions is both “magical and horrible,” Lochner said. She recalled driving a woman to the airport to reunite her with her 12-year-old daughter who had been in detention or seeing fathers reunited with their 3-year-old children for the first time.

While it’s “really powerful and amazing to be able to help,” the excitement of that reunion is offset by the pain and healing that must take place in the aftermath of the separation, Lochner said.

Initially created to help with reunification, the organization has expanded its services to help with the trauma associated with post-unification. Volunteers also work with family members separated from loved ones who left the country to apply for a green card and are unable to return.

“We have a family separated for two and a half years because they tried to do the right thing,” Lochner said.

The father is not an American citizen, but is married to one. Assured by a judge all was in order, he left the U.S. to apply for a green card after his youngest of four daughters was 3 months old.

“He hasn’t seen her since,” Lochner said. “Two and a half years. He can’t get his green card.

“Under the Trump administration, a lot’s changed,” she continued. “It’s a lot harder to get a green card. Every ‘i’ has to be dotted, every ‘t’ has to be crossed. Everything has to be down to the letter to such an extreme point, if someone checks the wrong box, you have to start all over again.

You can’t just change the mistake; it’s all got to be started all over again.”

From its early beginnings with four people, the all-volunteer organization has grown to about 500 members. Lochner credits Grosse Pointers for their support and the organization for providing a means for her to create personal connections in the community, particularly as a newcomer to the area with young children.

Lochner welcomes more volunteers to help MSC continue its work. Ways to help range from providing Kroger cards to families experiencing food instability, donating money to a GoFundMe, contributing to a clothing drive or providing much-needed transportation to a meeting with Immigration and Customs Enforcement or court hearing.

“Because we’re so small, you can reach out through Facebook or the website and you’ll either get me or Gina Katz,” Lochner said. “We try to connect people with families that are more local to them so that families are helping people who are close by.

“The goal is to build these networks of understanding and community to support these families so that they’re stable,” she added, “but also so that people who might not know what it’s like to be an asylum seeker, to be a separated family, to have a family member be deported, to be a mixed-status family, to have some idea of these people’s lives, too. On the one hand, we want people to have stability. On the other hand, we want people to be connected.”

For more information, email michiganmcsupport@gmail.com, find Michigan Support Circle on Facebook or go to MIsupportcircle.org.

RENOVATION:

Continued from page 1A

to security risks, one window behind the judge’s podium will not be restored, but will have shutters installed so it resembles a window to preserve the original design.

In August, the cupola on the building was removed. The plan is to put the cupola and weathervane back on, while the bell will be displayed at the new public safety building on Mack at St. Clair.

The courtroom is set to be built in the existing public safety apparatus bay.

“We’re going to be turning that into something pretty spectacular even though it’s going to be your existing concrete plank roofline and concrete ceiling,” Lee said. “It’ll be a little bit of a tribute to the traditional design, but then also showing what it was in the past with being a fire (apparatus).”

The four main changes from the original design plans were the focus of the presentation, including the replacement of the single door at the lobby with a double door for improved circulation and security; a vestibule at the courtroom entry to block the disruptive sound of conversations in the lobby; and a dumbwaiter to transport boxes of paperwork.

“The second floor is currently going to be just storage,” Lee explained. “We’re not using it for anything else; however, there’s a lot of paperwork that comes with city hall, so they would like a way to not have to carry boxes up and down stairs. It’s simply big enough to fit a couple of banker boxes.”

The fourth change is set to be an additional staff restroom apart from the two public facilities.

“The staff restroom was the recommendation of the state

liasion to have a separate restroom for the staff and potentially jury members during that time when they can’t be interacting with the public,” Lee said.

When the court building renovation was budgeted in October 2018, the project was estimated at \$598,038.

Due to more repair to the brick condition on the north wall than intended, the additional windows on the north elevation to restore historic design and the four project additions, \$109,162 has been added, bringing the overall estimated cost to \$707,200.

“The objective is to stay at no more and hopefully a lot less than the bond amount and we’re still significantly under what the bond amount is,” City Manager Pete Dame said.

All of the additional costs, with the exception of the dumbwaiter, are due to recommendations by the state, he added.



COURTESY PHOTO

The tentative floorplan for the first floor of the renovated courthouse: Green is the lobby and circulation space; blue is the office area, staff restroom and conference room, which could be where a jury would meet; pink is the courtroom/council chamber; orange is the receiving area with a cell and visitation space; and yellow is the two facilities and dumbwaiter.



HUMBLE AND HUMAN

Impressionist Era Treasures from the Albright-Knox Art Gallery and the Detroit Institute of Arts, an Exhibition in Honor of Ralph C. Wilson, Jr.

EXTENDED! through January 5

Humble and Human: Impressionist Era Treasures from the Albright-Knox Art Gallery and the Detroit Institute of Arts, An Exhibition in Honor of Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. is organized by the Detroit Institute of Arts and the Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, New York. The exhibition is made possible by the generous support of the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation.



This exhibition is a part of the Bonnie Ann Larson Modern European Masters Series.

Woman Sewing, ca. 1879, Berthe Morisot, French, oil on canvas. Collection Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, New York, Fellows for Life Fund, 1926 (1926:1).



City of Grosse Pointe

More cut Christmas lights

Christmas lights on a 51-year-old Grosse Pointe woman's St. Paul residence were found cut Friday, Dec. 13, and then again Friday, Dec. 20.

Disorderly conduct

A 36-year-old Eastpointe man was arrested for disorderly conduct at 9:58 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 21, after allegedly attempting to break into an apartment in the 17000 block of Mack Avenue.

Elementary school vandalism

Between Friday, Dec. 20, and Monday, Dec. 23, an unknown person broke a small-single pane window on the first floor of an area elementary school.

— Laurel Kraus

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

Grosse Pointe Farms

Bank fraud

A 66-year-old Detroit man reported an unknown person had withdrawn \$1,377 from his bank account at a bank on Moross Road Tuesday, Sept. 3. The branch manager determined a driver's license was used for the transaction, which the man said he lost about a year ago.

Facebook accusations

The uncle of a 32-year-old Farms woman accused her and her husband Friday, Dec. 13, through Facebook posts of holding information related to a recent murder. He then showed up outside their home Sunday, Dec. 18. The woman said she has no idea what her uncle is referring to.

ROADS:

Continued from page 3A

toward the project.

While plans for future years are only tentative projections, Maumee between St. Clair and Neff; Neff between St. Paul and Kercheval; and Rivard between Jefferson and Maumee, Waterloo and 270 feet north of Waterloo, and Kercheval and Waterloo may be worked on in 2021.

"Each year adjustments are made based on the annual condition assessment and circumstances," Dame explained via email.

PASER ratings — a system to determine the condition of roads — shows the percentage of Grosse Pointe roads from 2014, right before the Road Improvement Program began, to 2019 have gone from 32 percent to 22 percent in the poor category, 57 percent to 47 percent in the fair category and 12 percent to 31 percent in the good category.

The average PASER rating in 2019 on the City's 14,840 miles of road was 6.235 out of 10, which is up from 6.183 in 2018.

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

Insurance forgery

After being pulled over at Moross Road and Chandler Park at 5:18 p.m. Friday, Dec. 20, for having heavily tinted windows, a 34-year-old Detroit woman was arrested for forging her insurance certificate.

Driving while license suspended

A 22-year-old Van Buren Township man was arrested for driving while license suspended after he disobeyed a red light at Mack Avenue and Moross Road at 4:58 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 21.

Missing phone

After leaving a bar in Detroit at 2:05 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 22, a 19-year-old Grosse Pointe man realized his phone was missing and numerous charges had been made from his Venmo account. He said a man outside the bar offering to sell him cocaine had placed his arm around him and may have stolen the phone.

Attempted murder suspect

Officers arrested a 24-year-old Warren man wanted by the Warren Police Department for attempted murder, after noticing him running in all black at Moross Road and Beaupre at 4:43 p.m. Monday, Dec. 23, before falling and rolling around on the ground.

The man had a deep cut on his hand and had allegedly stabbed his mother 12 times the day before.

Expired since '03

A 40-year-old Detroit

man was arrested after driving through a red light at Mack Avenue and Bournemouth at 9:01 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 24, when officers discovered his license was expired since 2003 and he had a felony child support warrant.

— Laurel Kraus

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

Grosse Pointe Shores

Operating while intoxicated

An officer on patrol at 4:21 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 22, noticed a 28-year-old Bloomfield Hills woman slumped over her steering wheel on Vernier Road.

When she woke up, she was uncertain of her whereabouts and there was a strong odor of intoxicants coming from the vehicle.

She was arrested for operating with a blood alcohol content of .17 percent or more, having no title or registration and no vehicle insurance and was cited for improper lane usage and preliminary breath test refusal.

— Laurel Kraus

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

Grosse Pointe Woods

Assaulted jogger

Public safety officers are investigating a report that a jogger was deliberately hit by a vehicle while running at approximately 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 21, near the corner of Allard and Arthur.

The 35-year-old victim was jogging east in the 2200 block of Allard when a gray F-150 truck appeared onto westbound Allard. The driver made eye contact with the jogger before swerving to hit him, forcing him onto grass.

After the victim yelled, the driver got out and made threats before following the jogger in his vehicle as the victim ran.

Investigators said the vehicle's license plate was matched to that of a metro Detroit man with an outstanding warrant for misdemeanor assault.

Auto theft

A 54-year-old Ascension St. John Hospital employee discovered her vehicle stolen around 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 21, after she'd parked it in the north lot approximately four hours earlier.

Grosse Pointe Woods Public Safety found a large amount of broken glass on the ground near where the vehicle had been parked.

The vehicle is described as a GMC Yukon with a handicapped Texas license plate number 7JHCM.

Attempted auto theft

Public safety seeks information about an attempted car theft at Ascension St. John Hospital around 5 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 26, after a hospital employee dis-

covered a man in his vehicle.

The 45-year-old victim walked into the hospital's north parking lot where he encountered the suspect behind the wheel of his car, which had been started. A second man in a pickup truck signaled the suspect to get out of the victim's car.

When the victim asked the suspect what he'd been doing, the suspect replied, "Bill told me to work on your car." The suspect then got into the pickup truck with the second man as the pair fled.

The victim discovered his driver's side door and ignition damaged, and he was unable to drive the car.

The first suspect is described as a black man in his mid-20s or early 30s, between 5 feet, 10 inches and 6 feet tall, with a slim build, wearing a hoodie and possibly a Green Bay Packers skull cap. The suspect driving the getaway vehicle was described as black, around 6 feet tall and 40 to 50 years old. The getaway vehicle was described as a turquoise F-150 with a truck bed cap.

Lifted laptop

An HP laptop and its case were stolen off a table at a sandwich shop in the 19400 block of Mack around 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 27. The suspect, a cus-

tommer who staff members recognized, reportedly told the laptop's owner, who is an employee, that he was waiting to use the restroom.

When he walked toward the restroom, he took the computer before exiting the store, walking east, according to surveillance footage.

— Eddie B. Allen Jr.

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

Grosse Pointe Park

Stolen items secured

An 11-year-old and a 12-year-old, both from Detroit, confessed to stealing approximately \$350 in packages from porches in the 1000 and 1200 blocks of Balfour around 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 22. All the stolen property was delivered to its owners.

Vehicle damaged

Two driver's side tires on a 2013 Jeep Wrangler were slashed between 9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 26, and 1:30 a.m. Friday, Dec. 27, at the corner of Goethe and Wayburn.

The suspect was unknown.

— Eddie B. Allen Jr.

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

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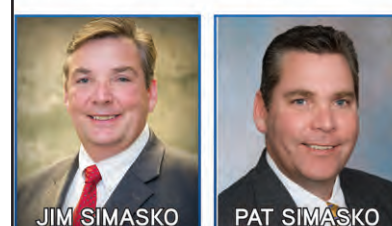
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OUR VIEW

Schools, cities being starved

Because the stakes of education funding are so visible in the Grosse Pointes, with two elementary schools slated to close next fall, the impact of inadequate state support for school districts tends to get attention.

There are other victims, of course. One of them is city government.

As with schools, part of the problem lies with Proposal A — the 1994 change to Michigan's Constitution that restructured education finances and allocated money on a per-pupil basis.

Another part rests with state lawmakers. To meet their own fiscal crises in the last two decades, they cut a lot, including a long-standing practice of voluntarily sharing some of the state's revenue with municipalities.

As a result, over the 15 years from 2002-17, the average Michigan city has seen its budget shrink by 12 percent when adjusted for inflation. That includes a 37 percent decline in revenue sharing and a 15 percent decline in property and income taxes designated for their general funds.

The statistics were compiled for the Michigan Municipal League and cover 225 cities around the state. The study excluded Detroit because of its outsized impact.

The City of Grosse Pointe was the only city surveyed in this corner of the county: Its 2017 general fund remained 32 percent below its 2002 level, when adjusted for inflation. Property tax collections for the general fund had fallen by nearly 28 percent and revenue sharing by 42 percent.

Grosse Pointe is hardly alone. Nearly three-quarters of the cities surveyed had inflation-adjusted declines in that period. Many are worse off. Neighboring St. Clair Shores, for example, saw its general fund shrink by 41 percent.

Yes, a quarter of cities recovered. Some have seen their property tax collections meet or exceed the level reached before the economic turbulence of the Great Recession. Birmingham's property tax collection, for example, stood at a bit more than 6 percent above 2002 inflation-adjusted levels. By 2017, booming Traverse City also had exceeded its 2002 property tax level — by 0.3 percent.

There is a long-winded explanation for how two different constitutional amendments throttle the local property tax; both were well-intentioned efforts to protect homeowners from runaway bills. But now munic-

OUR VIEW

Council seats

Two of the Pointes — the City and the Shores — have kicked off the process for filling each of their council vacancies.

Interest in serving will hopefully be high, given that the November election saw contested council races in all five of the Grosse Pointes. The level of dissatisfaction varied greatly across the cities; Park voters, for example, booted all their incumbents.

But both the Shores and the City retained their council incumbents, adding new members only to fill vacancies created by retirements. And their current openings — partial terms that will be filled by council appointment — have resulted from very different actions.

In the City, Councilwoman Sheila Tomkowiak was in the middle of a four-year term when she ran for mayor — and edged out the incumbent. The two-year remainder of her term needs to be filled.

In the Shores, Mayor Pro Tem Bruce Bisballe was also in the middle of a four-year term when he resigned after the election, expressing some discontent with the current council (subscribers



PHOTO BY JOHN MINNIS

The Wayne County Roads Division, which is responsible for maintaining Lakeshore Road and East

Jefferson Avenue, repairs a sinkhole recently found at the Grosse Pointe Farms-Shores border.

OUR VIEW

Action still needed on roads

Speaking of votes, the 2018 election gave Michigan a new governor — and a Legislature with which she's at loggerheads.

Roads were the election mantra, yet a year has passed with absolutely no solution. It took several twists and turns just to get a regular budget in place by Oct. 1, including some final, rather petty executive actions by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer.

Thankfully, most of those got fixed in December. But on roads — nothing, nada, zero.

Voters have to keep up the pressure, especially as candidates for the state House emerge for the

2020 election. That includes paying attention to the August primary, which determines the general election result in the most gerrymandered districts.

State politics can get lost in the national noise of a presidential year; Michigan also has some key congressional districts and a U.S. Senate race that will draw widespread attention.

But if all politics are local, the governor and lawmakers elected in 2018 still need to be held to account on roads. Voters clearly expected — and deserve — something better than a permanent standoff.

ipal revenue can barely creep forward. And no one envisioned an actual drop in house values, such as occurred in the Great Recession.

So cities took to other tools, including service cuts, fee increases and special millage requests. State lawmakers could temper some of that, as they once did, by sharing more state revenue with municipalities as part

of the annual budget. But that hasn't happened.

The key message is that, as with schools, the root of most local budget problems rests with the state's financial structure and state elected officials' inability to address the aspects they do control. Remember that the next time a candidate for state office asks for your vote.

The report is available online at SaveMICity.org.

can find the news report in the archived edition of Nov. 28).

It's as important for interested citizens to step forward now as it was in the election, so that multiple voices emerge. The councils should have choices, and that can happen only if citizens engage.

City applications are due Jan. 17 and should include a letter, resume and summary of activities

that demonstrate leadership and participation. They can be sent to City Clerk Julie Arthurs at 17147 Maumee Ave., Grosse Pointe, MI 48230 or jarthurs@grossepointecity.org.

Shores application forms are available at city hall and are to be returned there. They must be received in time for distribution at the Jan. 21 council meeting.

For more information, contact each city hall.

LETTERS

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

Rotary surpasses Tot Lot goal

To the Editor,

On behalf of the board of the Grosse Rotary Foundation and the members of the Grosse Pointe Rotary Club, I would like to extend our sincere thanks to you and the staff at the Grosse Pointe News for your assistance in promoting our efforts

to successfully raise over \$250,000 in just a few months for the "reimagination" of the Rotary Tot Lot located at St. Clair and Waterloo.

Your weekly funding "thermometer" kept readers up to date on our progress and directed donors to our GoFundMe page.

We are very proud that the timely achievement of

this challenging fundraising goal enabled us to complete the purchase of the new playground equipment and to make plans to begin site preparation in the early spring of 2020.

With help from Mother Nature we aim to complete construction of the renovated Tot Lot by June 2020.

The Grosse Pointe Rotary Club established the original Tot Lot at its current location in 1973. In 1997-98, the club provided funding for a needed update of the play area.

Last year, our club leadership decided that a complete renovation of the Tot Lot was warranted and, with approval of the club Board of Directors, set about laying plans for a complete update including much needed ADA-

compliant playground equipment including an extensive "poured in place" safety surface.

As mentioned in our promotional information about the Tot Lot project, any funds received in excess of our stated goal of \$250,000 will be retained by the Grosse Pointe Rotary Foundation and will be used to help fund our annual Frank B. Sladen Scholarships for Grosse Pointe high school students.

As the new year begins, we will continue to keep you posted on our progress and for any developing news related to this wonderful project that will benefit generations of Grosse Pointers to come.

ROGER W. HULL JR.
President, Grosse Pointe Rotary Foundation

See LETTERS, page 7A

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

LETTERS

Continued from page 6A

Taken aback by gym comment

To the Editor:

I felt compelled to write to you after seeing the article "Cashier foils counterfeiter attempt" by Eddie B. Allen in the recent issue (Dec. 12).

What at first glance is a nice story about an employee saving the day begins with quite the insult. "Some heroes could even stand a few trips to the gym" reads as an implied insult to the employee at the center of this article.

I was taken aback at such carelessness (hopefully not malice).

I hope Mr. Allen, and his editor, take more care in the future.

COURTNEY GRAHAM

Grosse Pointe Park
Editor's note: By his gym comment, Mr. Allen was referring to weight lifting (strength) not weight loss.

In fact the following sentence begins, "Despite her lack of superhuman strength or otherworldly powers, Megan Wiley ..."

We apologize for not making that clear.

Christmas at the parking lot

To the Editor:

My car was still cold that December morning when I approached the booth to exit the parking lot that serves retail along Kercheval. The

always-pleasant attendant asked if I wanted a receipt for my \$1 fee, and as she handed it to me, I smiled and said, "Merry Christmas!"

She reached down beneath the cash register, then presented me with a white envelope, a small candy cane taped to the front, and wished me a merry Christmas as well.

At home, I set aside the candy cane as a tiny gift for a friend and then opened the card: "May your Christmas be filled with the blessings of family and friendship." It was signed in lovely script and inside was a folded page with a story that, as I read, touched me deeply.

I Wish You Enough...*

At the airport, I overheard a father and daughter speaking in their last moments together before the daughter boarded her plane. The father said, "I love you and I wish you enough."

The daughter spoke softly, "Daddy, our life together has been more than enough. Your love is all I ever needed. I wish you enough, too, Daddy." They embraced, kissed each other's cheek and she walked away.

The father stepped to the window where I was seated. From the way he stood, the expression on his face, he seemed on the verge of tears. I did not want to intrude on his privacy, but he invited me in, welcoming me by asking, "Did you ever say goodbye to someone knowing it would be

forever?" "Yes, I have," I replied, recalling my own father and memories of expressing my love and appreciation for all he had done for me.

Recognizing that his days were limited, I visited regularly, sharing in words and gestures how much he meant to me. I did this for my mother, in her last days, as well. I knew what this man was experiencing.

"Forgive me for asking, but why is this a forever goodbye?"

"I am old and she lives too far away. I have challenges ahead and the reality is that her next trip back will be for my funeral."

"When you were saying goodbye I heard, 'I wish you enough.' May I ask what that means?"

With a small grin, he answered, "That's a wish handed down over generations. My parents said it to everyone." He paused for a moment, then looked up, trying to remember the wish in detail. He faced me, smiling broadly. "When we said, 'I wish you enough,' we wanted the other to have a life filled with enough good things to sustain them." He recited:

"I wish you enough sun to keep your attitude bright. I wish you enough rain to appreciate the sun. I wish you enough happiness to keep your spirit alive. I wish you enough pain so that the smallest joys in life become much bigger. I wish you enough gain to satisfy your wanting. I wish

you enough loss to appreciate all that you possess. I wish you enough 'Hellos' for a graceful, final 'Goodbye.'"

With tearing eyes, he took my hand and said, "I wish you enough," then walked away.

*Adapted story in *Chicken Soup for the Grieving Soul*

For me, just as poignant as this story of farewell, is that this person, who sees me as one among thousands on those very few occasions during the year when we exchange smiles and fees and receipts, would be so kind and generous as to share a Christmas candy, a Christmas card and a Christmas story.

Her gift epitomizes the holiday season, the more touching for the kindness of strangers. In paying forward her story, I honor her

serene and thoughtful spirit.

Thank you, Gentle Woman, for bringing a fresh, new joy to me at Christmastime and to those many with whom

I have shared, and will share, your story throughout my lifetime. Fare thee well. I wish you "Enough..."

CHRISTINA PITTS
Grosse Pointe Woods

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!
2020 Info Nights for the Grosse Pointe Public School System

- Kindergarten and Young Fives – Thursday, 1/9/20, 6:30pm at your fall 2020 Elementary
- High School (for parents of incoming 9th graders next fall) – Wednesday, 1/15/20
- Multi-Age Info Night – Thursday, 1/16/20, 6:30pm, Richard Elementary Library, 176 McKinley
- Middle School Info Night TBD

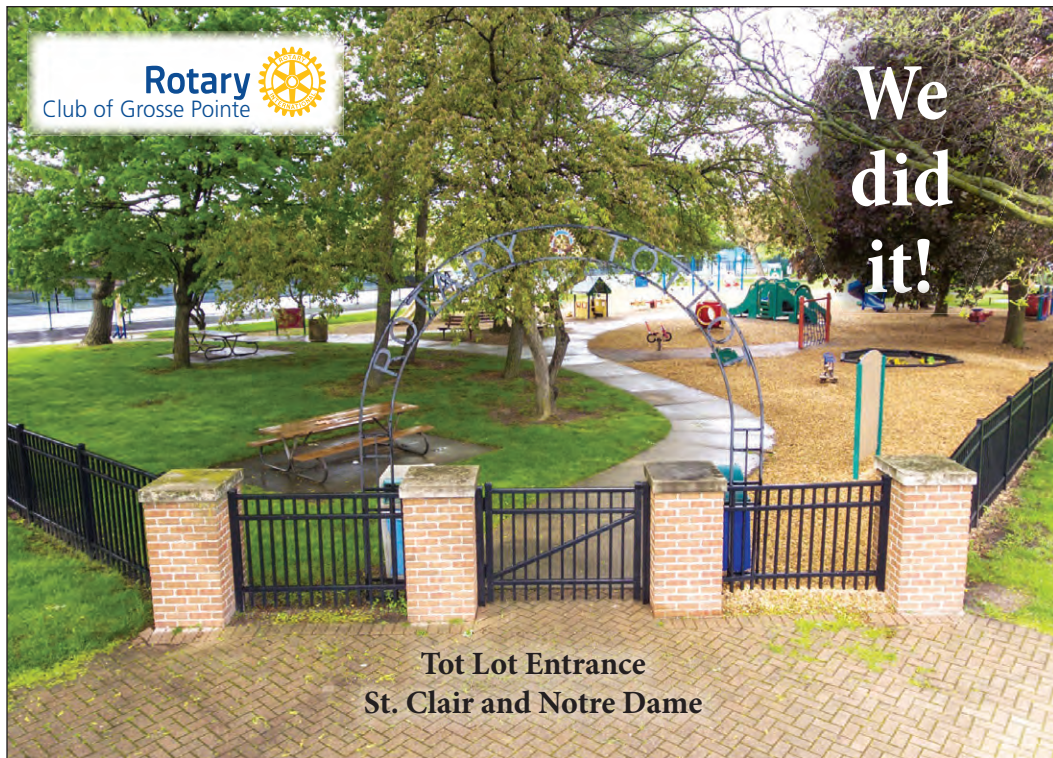
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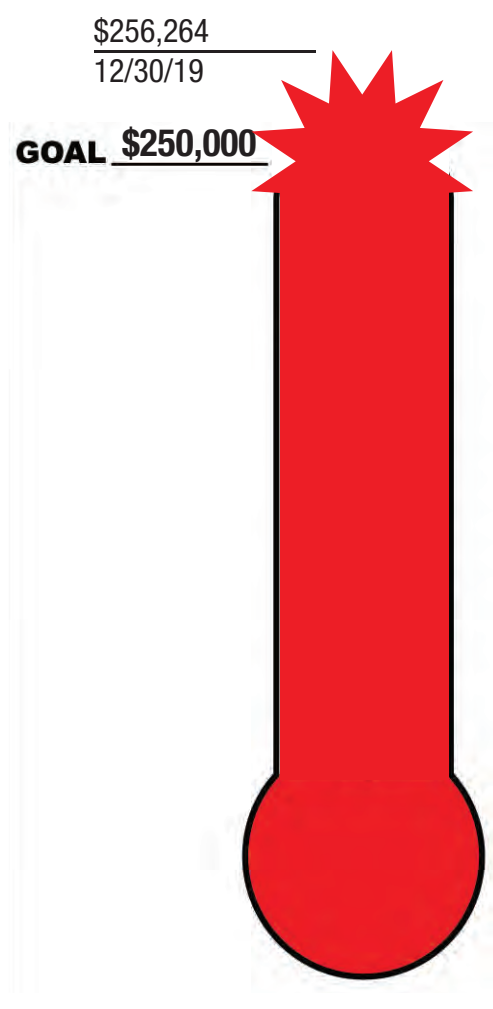


tot lot
Re-Imagined.

Thanks to you, we have surpassed our fundraising goal of \$250,000!

All donors will be permanently recognized at the Tot Lot for future generations.

Stay tuned for further developments!



8A | SCHOOLS

2019 IN REVIEW

BoE reconfigures school district

By Mary Anne Brush
Staff Writer

The June vote by the Board of Education to close two elementary schools and move fifth grade from elementary to middle school is the central event for the Grosse Pointe Public School System, prompting opposition at school board meetings and a recall effort.

This is the year in review.

January

◆ Members of GPPSS administration present the first iteration of possible scenarios for rightsizing the school district at the Jan. 14 regular meeting of the Board of Education. Reconfiguration is in response to declining enrollment over 15 years, the work of the blue ribbon facilities committee the previous year and 2018-19 enrollment numbers triggering a board resolution to begin the process.

◆ Inquiry-based learning fuels a car project among third graders at University Liggett School. The three-month project, which involved students creating individual components of the car, culminates in an assembly line in which each student plays a role in putting the vehicle together.

◆ As part of the exploring global issues class, students from Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South high schools present facts and myths about vaping to sixth- through eighth-graders at Parcels Middle School. The students chose middle schoolers as their audience because they believed they could have a bigger impact on them than their same-age peers.

February

◆ Teachers at Monteith Elementary School spend a half day during professional development in Stop the Bleed training, learning how, as first responders trained in life-saving procedures, they can bridge the gap in time between a trauma and the arrival of emergency personnel.

◆ University Liggett School students observe a social media fast in response to the school's screening of the documentary "LIKE" for middle and upper school students. "LIKE," an IndieFlix Original documentary, explores the impact of social media on people's lives and the effects of



ULS students, environmental science teacher Liz Dann and Ford House team members — including border collie Moss — pose for a group photo after they finish planting a rain garden in Detroit's Jefferson Chalmers neighborhood.

technology on the brain.

◆ Parcels Middle School sixth graders give a presentation to state Rep. Tenisha Yancey, 1st District, on Michigan's six main ecosystems and specific invasive species. Yancy, in turn, teaches students about the legislative process involved in creating a bill and turning it into law.

March

◆ GPPSS partners with local groups to present a #OneGP Parent Camp to address parents' most prominent issues and questions. Topics include social media, cultural competency, bullying, suicide prevention, anxiety, trauma, special education and early intervention.

◆ Grosse Pointe North High School hosts its ninth annual physics cardboard boat regatta, a project incorporating science standards in physics and engineering and allowing students to apply classroom learning to a real-world problem.

◆ Trombly Elementary School celebrates March is Reading Month with its One School One Book program and special visit from state Rep. Joe Tate, 2nd District, who reads "Mackinac Bridge," by Michigan author Gloria Whelan, to the students. Tate said he viewed his role as a legislator as building bridges.

April

◆ Brownell Middle School hosts its first Career Day, inviting professionals from throughout the community to share their experiences and offer words of advice on a range of careers, from assistant prosecutor to culinary arts. The event grew out of the counselors' desire to connect a real-world application to

what students do at school, according to Principal Roger Hunwick.

◆ Students from all three GPPSS middle schools share their experiences with the district's new Bring Your Own Device program with the Board of Education. Advantages cited include easy access to work, making studying for tests more fun and allowing collaboration with partners on projects both at school and home.

◆ Grosse Pointe South High School's solar car team revs up for its new season. Founded in the 2012-13 school year as one of the first high school solar car teams in the state, the program continued through 2015-16, when it ceased due to lack of funding and space. Team leaders geared up to raise money and get the team back on track for summer 2019.

May

◆ Plans to move fifth graders from elementary to middle school for the 2020-21 school year as part of reconfiguring the district meets with mixed reviews from parents. Preliminary discussions begin among central administration and fifth-grade teachers to begin planning for the transition, which is pending a June vote of the Board of Education.

◆ Grosse Pointe South High School choirs, under the direction of Christopher Pratt, compete in nationals in Illinois, with the Pointe Singers named grand champions and the Tower Belles named first runner-up in the unisex division.

◆ Trombly Elementary School families stage a safety walk as both a dem-

onstration and test run of what traffic is like on Jefferson at rush hour and approximately how long it would take a student who lives south of Jefferson to walk to Defer in the event Trombly closes and students are moved to Defer.

June

◆ Sela Losier, a fourth grader at St. Paul Catholic School, wins the Michigan Level 1 Letters About Literature competition after writing a letter to the author of a book to which she feels a special connection.

◆ Brownell Middle School counselor Angie Niforos is named 2020 Michigan School Counselor of the Year.

◆ The Board of Education votes to close Poupard and Trombly elementary schools and change to a K-4, 5-8 grade reconfiguration despite parent protests and a recommendation from the Michigan Department of Civil Rights to slow down the process or even begin anew.

◆ Threats of a school board recall become a reality as petitions to recall board Secretary Kathleen Abke, Treasurer Judy Gafa and Trustee Christopher Profeta are submitted for approval to the Wayne County Election Commission. At a hearing June 26, the commission votes 2-1 to reject each petition due to lack of clarity.

July

◆ Recall efforts are renewed, with the language for petitions for Board of Education members Kathleen Abke and Judy Gafa approved at a second hearing of the Wayne County Election Commission and denied for Trustee Christopher Profeta. The role of the commission is to determine if the language is clear and factual before a recall petition may be circulated for signatures.



FILE PHOTOS

Defer Principal Lisa Rheame with superheroes, front row, Patrick Morris; middle row, Owen Gifford and Dylan Crosby; and back row, Stephen Warnick, Natalie Warnick and Ben Ryan. Students and staff gave the Nyenhuis family a superhero sendoff for their Make-A-Wish trip to Disney World Resort in tribute to Matthew Nyenhuis, 3, who was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia in December 2017.

◆ Monteith Elementary School receives \$19,660 from the Children's Foundation for its Leader in Me program. Leader in Me is an integrated approach to building life skills for elementary-age children that prepares them for college, career and life.

◆ Grosse Pointe South journalism teacher and student newspaper adviser Kaitlin Edgerton is among 23 journalism teachers across the country selected to participate in a new weeklong workshop at Kent State University sponsored by the Knight Foundation-endowed Center for Scholastic Journalism.

August

◆ Julie Bourke, a fifth-grade teacher at Poupard Elementary School, participates in the Michigan Council of Teachers of Mathematics annual conference in Grand Rapids, presenting a session called "Tackling Tricky Word Problems" geared toward elementary math teachers and attended by administrators and instructional coaches as well as teachers.

◆ Once again, GPPSS earns the top spot with teachers named best in Michigan and No. 1 among best places to teach in the

state, according to Niche rankings. GPPSS places fourth among 556 school districts and 10 of 14 K-12 schools are ranked in the top 25 in the state. Among top high schools, Grosse Pointe South places 10th and Grosse Pointe North 20th. Among middle schools, Brownell Middle School places third, followed by Pierce Middle School at No. 7 and Parcels Middle School at No. 13.

◆ St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic School welcomes new leadership. Ann Crowley, who brings with her 35 years of experience, primarily at Detroit Public Schools, is appointed principal and former St. Clare teacher Samantha Cooley is named assistant principal.

◆ It takes three hearings, but language on a recall petition against Trustee Christopher Profeta is approved by the Wayne County Commission 3-0. Kathleen Abke and Judy Gafa file appeals with the circuit court.

September

◆ GPPSS middle schools begin the new school year with an "off and out of sight" policy. From first bell to dismissal,

See REVIEW, page 9A



Ricky Raccoon, Richard's mascot, gets ready to cut the ribbon for the school's new sensory motor room opposite its autism spectrum disorder classroom. Funding for the space was provided by a grant from the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education and a Donor's Choose account.

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Happy new year from Defer

Students from Defer Elementary School shared wishes for the new year with the Grosse Pointe News. (These essays have been gently edited for clarity.)

From Shelley Denison's third-grade class

I have quite a few wishes for the new year! I really want a dog for the new year because dogs make you happier. When you're sad, they comfort you so you are not sad anymore. I also really want to go to Costa Rica more often because my dad lives there with the rest of my family that speaks Spanish. I also really want to travel to Japan. Japan has a lot of better things than Michigan does not have like holders for your umbrella when you walk into a building or a restaurant. Those are all my three wishes for the new year! — *Nina*

I have quite a few wishes for the new year. I don't want any more fires in buildings or houses because it is not safe to be in a building or a house when a fire is burning. I want good people all around, who are nice, caring and help with problems. I want everyone to have a good neighborhood, not having mean people and not rude and selfish. — *Amaya*

For the new year I have many exciting wishes. I wish for more supplies for schools, like glue sticks so the kids at school can glue stuff on, crayons so kids can draw stuff, and scissors so kids can cut paper. I wish for more grocery stores like Krogers because when me and my dad drive around we see barely any grocery stores. My last wish is for more food for kids who don't have a home because they will

starve. I hope my wishes come true. — *Miles*

For the new year I have very exciting wishes. My first wish is for my aunt, uncle and favorite cousin to come to my house from Spain. I haven't seen them in a long time and I want to open my presents with them. I would also love to make gingerbread houses with them as well. My family is important to me because I love them and they love me. I also wish for people to have less cancer and diabetes. I want them to spend a good new year with their friends and family. I also would like the people who have cancer and diabetes to be happy and get well. These are my favorite wishes for the new year. — *Marina*

I have quite a few wishes for the new year. What I want most is for my aunt to come from Spain to my house to celebrate Christmas and rip open presents we give her. She is in Spain teaching right now. My second favorite wish for the new year is I want a Nintendo switch. I want games like Super Smash Bros. and Mario Kart because I've heard and seen good things about them. My third favorite wish is to get a new phone like an iPhone 11 Pro. I want games like Agar.io and Superhex.io to play all day long. Those are my wishes for the new year. — *Spencer*

I have quite a few wishes. I wish that the homeless will have homes. It's sad that they have nowhere to go. I want them to have hot food, water and a cozy bed to sleep in. My second wish is for there to be no more fires in homes. Little kids die a lot in fires. My wish is for them to learn about surviving. I also

want the iPhone 11 so I can have my first phone. I hope my wishes come true. — *Gabe*

For the new year I have many exciting new wishes. My first wish is for more high schools. There are only two of them, North and South. I hope it comes true. I'm also wishing for no more pollution for the year. Most of the ocean is full of trash, chemicals and oils. My last important wish is no more sick children and more children spending more time with their families. Kids are getting sick from diseases. I hope all my wishes come true. — *Bromley*

I have great wishes for the new year. For my first wish I hope for less kids to go into orphanages because only sometimes you get an air mattress and blankets and it is a place no one wants to go or be. Kids would rather be with their families for Christmas. For my second wish I would like for less people to be in hospitals. They're usually sad because they're hurt or they broke a bone or are getting diabetes or cancer. It could also be something else. For my third wish I would like for less kids to get diabetes because you have to get at least five shots per day and sometimes it's very painful. Do you have any wishes for the new year and, if so, what are they? — *Griffin*

From Christi Mendez's third-grade class

I have many new year's wishes but my favorite wish is that I could have a puppy because it would be so interesting to play with it. My second wish is to have my birthday two times in one year because then I would get to see my family a lot. My third wish is to have a machine so I

can play in it in the big rooms. Then my last wish is for me to win the lottery so I can buy stuff I need and want. — *Gabbi*

I have many new year's wishes. One of them is I wish I could go snowboarding on the week-ends because I never went snowboarding. Another one is I wish I could go to India to visit my grandparents because I miss them. Another one is I wish I could cook macaroni and cheese because I love to cook. Last but not least, I wish my dad could spend more time with me because he works too hard. He is a doctor. — *Zaffran*

I have many new year's wishes. One wish I have is to get a puppy because I can play with it instead of watch TV. My second wish is to have six birthdays a year so I can have six times the amount of presents. My third wish is to have a mansion so I can have lots of space in my room. I wish I have \$10,000 so I can spend it on anything. My fourth wish is all the colored diamonds and opals and rubies so I can be rich. — *Javonna*

I have many new year's wishes this year. My favorite wish is that my new baby sister is healthy. One other wish is that I get good grades in school because if I get good grades now I will get into a good college. My third wish is I get to go to the Philippines and Japan because I'm from the Philippines and I love sushi. My fourth wish is I get to go to Poland and Germany because I think it will be fun and I'm from both. Finally, I want to go to Spain because I'm from Spain and because Spain took over the Philippines. As you can see, I would like to travel a lot! — *Estella*

I wish I had a robot so it can do everything for me. I wish for a machine so I can swim in the pool. I want to

stay healthy so I'm strong. I wish I had a million dollar bill. — *Myla*

One of my wishes is to visit my cousins Dane, Charlie and Rorry in Ohio so we can play. Another wish I have is to decorate the Christmas tree with my dad in my house because I like to decorate. Another wish is to go to New York with my dad, mom and Chris because I have not been there before. — *Nate*

I have many new year's wishes. My first one is I wish to have a puppy so I can take it for walks. My second wish is to have my own personal Chromebook/laptop so I can do work and play games. My third wish is more diamond earrings because I lost one of them and now there is only one earring in my ear now. My fourth wish is to have one million dollars. And my final wish is that I want a 25 foot unicorn plush because they are so soft and cuddly. — *Idalia*

From Christine Bergeron's second- and third-grade class

Hello, I am going to show you my wishes for the new year. I hope you enjoy. My first wish for the new year is that I have a good year, nothing bad happens and I have a good time. My second wish is for money. Okay I might sound greedy, but I'm saving up to buy (a VR headset). That is why it's my wish. My last wish for the new year is to get my own spirit stores. If you don't know what spirit stores, they basically give you an aura that protects you from certain things when you are sleeping. That's the end. I hope you have a good new year! — *Jack*



ARTWORK BY NINA

1. For starters, I want to see Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker. The good news is that it is now out. The bad news is that it is the last one. 2. Next I want a lot of presents for my birthday because all I got last year was a broken R2-D2 robot. 3. I want to finish magnet and get good grades. 4. I want to go up to Marquette and see ships in the ore dock. 5. Last I want to watch "Hamilton." I really hope it is good. — *Bentley*

As Christmas rolls around you get a few holiday wishes. Well, here's three of mine! 1. I would love to go to Paris, France and explore their culture and food. I've always wanted to go because I'm going to be a baker when I grow up! I have heard Paris has awesome baked goods! 2. I've always wanted a hamster. I think they are sooo cute! If my parents still won't get me a hamster after this I don't know what I will do. I would love a hamster so I can play with it and take responsibility. If I could have a hamster that would be awesome! 3. I would really like a pair of headphones because I can't listen to music or play games with sound! (It sorta sucks.) That is why I would really like a pair of headphones! I really hope I can get the stuff that I want for Christmas and same to you. Thank you for listening and happy holidays! — *Lainley*

Teacher of THE WEEK



Alexis Lecznar

School: Parcels Middle School

Years at Parcels: 6

Grade/Subject: 8th grade U.S. history; 8th grade AVID; 7/8 innovation and design; 7/8 coding (new class for spring semester)

Nominated by: Dan Hartley, principal

Principal's quote:

"Alexis is a creative educator who uses project-based learning and positive relationships to motivate her students to excel in and out of the classroom. She is our building 'teaching with technology' coach and in addition to teaching social studies, has written curriculum for our innovation and design, AVID, and coding classes at Parcels. In the extracurricular arena, she is the facilitator of our Where Everyone Belongs sixth-grade support program and is a club sponsor for Strong Girls, cross country club and swimming and a coach for our track team."

What motivated you to become a teacher?

I was motivated to become a teacher by watching my family. I come from a family of educators — my mother, grandmother, and aunt were all teachers and I always looked up to them. I started college not sure

if I wanted to go into education and as I reflected on the various jobs I worked, I realized one of my favorite aspects of each of those jobs was when I was able to teach others. I love watching students overcome their own obstacles and finding solutions. I love watching them grow academically and socially throughout the year and getting them to realize how much they are capable of.

What are some of your inspirations?

I am inspired by my family of educators and seeing their continued passion for education and helping others. I'm also inspired by my coworkers; I have been fortunate to work with amazing people who challenge me to become a better teacher. I am inspired by the students when they finally grasp a difficult concept, have an ah-ha moment, or believe in themselves for the first time. I am inspired by the students when they are eager to take on challenges and push themselves toward deeply engaging in a topic. This is the next generation of leaders and I am continuously inspired by their creativity and passion. My coworkers keep me going.



COURTESY PHOTO

What advice would you give a new teacher?

Every day is a new day. Take chances and try new things; some creative ideas may be great and others may crash and burn. That's OK. Ask for help; your coworkers have all been there and they want to support you. There are many challenging aspects to the career and there are so many positive ones. Focus on the positive. Despite the challenges, this is a great career to be in and it's so much fun. Have fun and your students will too.

Favorite quote:

My favorite education-related quote is from "Mr. Holland's Opus":

"A teacher has two jobs: fill young minds with knowledge, yes, but more important, give those minds a compass so that that knowledge doesn't go to waste."

REVIEW:

Continued from page 8A

students are required to keep phones in their lockers or in string bags provided for this purpose. No longer distracted by their phones during lunch, recess or passing time in the hallway, students have more opportunity for social interaction.

◆ Changes to Ferry Elementary School's library are unveiled during the back-to-school event for students and parents, with the space transformed into a 21st-century learning center with new furniture, technology, tools and a dedicated Makerspace.

◆ Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic School alumnus Christian Franck visits the school to share his love of archaeology and artifacts from his collection with the students.

October

◆ Counselors at Brownell, Pierce and Parcels middle schools screen the IndieFlix Original documentary "Angst" to students at all three schools and offer a preview in the evening for families in response to reports of increased anxiety in children and adolescents.

◆ The Grosse Pointe Academy, formerly the Academy of the Sacred Heart, celebrates its 50th anniversary of opening its doors under its new char-



North hosts its first Bring Your Kid to Work Day. Pictured is English teacher Jonathan Byrne with his son, Joshua, and niece, Soliana Leiby.

FILE PHOTO

ing at 389 St. Clair in the City of Grosse Pointe. The Board of Education approves the sale Nov. 25.

◆ Kerby Elementary School's green team kicks off its recycling program. Inspired by what they learned at a special assembly hosted by Peace Love & Planet, students institute Waste Free Wednesdays, setting a goal for nothing to end up in the trash, landfill or recycling.

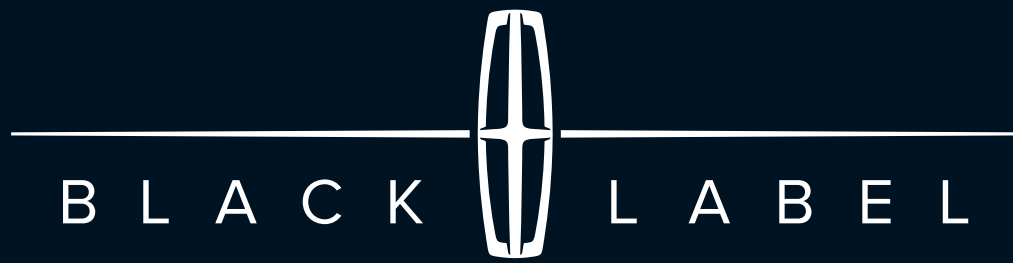
December

◆ University Liggett School prekindergarten students engage the senses with a fully interactive, multisensory pop-up museum. The color museum, a response to the children's natural interest, offers opportunities for exploration in language arts, music, science and art.

◆ Parcels Middle School hosts its third career day, with professionals throughout the area offering advice to students along with tips for success.

◆ Among grants awarded by the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education is \$2,930 for training and certification of a therapy dog, Tuka, for Grosse Pointe South's counseling office.

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Go all in for 'Guys & Dolls'

The Grosse Pointe Theatre production opens Jan. 10

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Grosse Pointe Theatre has something special in store for those who come out to see "Guys & Dolls," which runs Jan. 10 to 19, at the Christian A. Fenton Performing Arts Center at Grosse Pointe North High School.

A feast for the senses, this show promises to be a step up from previous "Guys & Dolls" performances.

"Guys & Dolls' is everything," said Don Bischoff, who's directing the show. "It's beautiful costumes and beautiful scenery, top-notch dancing and beautiful voices. We'll call this an upgrade."

This is Bischoff's fourth time involved with the show, which first hit Broadway in 1950 and was made into a film in 1955.

"Typically, it's done the same way, with the characters and choreography from the original movie and Broadway show," he said. "We're including a lot of tap dancing, which we love. There will also be special surprises you typically wouldn't see in a Grosse Pointe Theatre show."

"Guys & Dolls" revolves around four main characters — Sky Masterson, the smooth-talking gambler who, on a bet, tries to impress a "mission doll" named Sarah; Sarah Brown, a missionary who tries to convert sinners, including gamblers, but ends up falling in love; Nathan Detroit, a well-known gambler who makes the bet with Sky Masterson; and Adelaide, a showgirl and the patient fiancée of Nathan Detroit.

"The four main characters are intertwined," Bischoff said. "There's no



PHOTO BY PATRICIA ELLIS

Sky Masterson, center, rolls the dice surrounded by fellow gamblers, from left, Nathan Detroit, Big Jule, Nicely-Nicely Johnson and Benny Southstreet.



Zak Shugart as Sky Masterson.



Megan Welenc as Sarah Brown.



Nick Marinello as Nathan Detroit.



Catie Hauff as Adelaide.

PHOTOS BY DALE PEGG

real lead in this show." "It's a classic American musical, because it speaks a lot to the American experience," added Nick Marinello, who plays Nathan Detroit. "It's about love and redemption and gamblers and sin. And it takes place in New York — America's city."

A larger stage and a series of colorful back-

drops give this version of "Guys & Dolls" stunning visual appeal, "almost like a cartoon or comic book," Marinello said.

"With these beautiful drops, we wanted to put interesting set pieces onstage as well," added Bischoff. "We wanted it to be three dimensional and bring pieces that make it more of a living set, not a stagnant set."

Those pieces include a working water fountain, a full-size taxi, a pallet of newspapers and a newspaper stand. Colorful costumes also add to the visual appeal of the production.

Kristina Croes, who was introduced to Grosse Pointe Theatre last season when she assisted backstage for "Camelot," "Arsenic & Old Lace" and "Annie," is co-running the costuming department for this production. The Richmond Community Theatre veteran said color is key to this show.

"Don says, 'The brighter, the better,'" she said. "The backdrops are saturated, so we want the costumes to match that level of intensity."

More than 130 pieces have been sewn from scratch, "as well as additional suits and costumes," Croes said. "And the woman who made the hats (Kathy Conlan) ... her grandmother was a milliner, so she learned the trade firsthand. These hats are all beautiful, all unique. You can't find hats like these anywhere."

This is the third time Grosse Pointe Theatre has brought "Guys & Dolls" to the stage. It previously was performed in the 1960s and 1992.

"Every show has become more and more exciting," said Patricia Ellis, who takes the stage as a showgirl. "There's a lot of energy in this show. The pace — one thing flowing into the other — is a lot of fun. Don has this great vision and excitement. I think the audience will be surprised, which is good; you always want to keep it fresh."

Cast members have rehearsed the last two months, with time off for the holidays.

Marinello said he's enjoyed playing Nathan Detroit, a character portrayed by Frank Sinatra in the film and Nathan Lane on Broadway.

"It's a fun part to play," he said. "He's a character; I enjoy playing characters. I'm doing my best to make it big and do justice to the part."

Joining Marinello among larger-than-life characters is Doug Clark, who was cast as Nicely-Nicely Johnson.

"Nicely-Nicely has one of the most iconic songs of all time, 'Sit Down, You're Rocking the Boat,'" Clark said. "That's been on my bucket list. He gets to be the nice guy throughout. He's fun. He's the kind of guy you'd like to know, even if he is a gangster."

Catie Hauff, who recently performed lead roles in Grosse Pointe Theatre's "42nd Street" and "Singin' in the Rain," said she was excited to land the role of Adelaide, "a real comedy role," she said. "There's so much to work with. This is something I've never done before."

Added Bischoff, "When Catie was cast, we had to change the direction of her role. She went from a showgirl who sings and dances to a showgirl who sings and dances. ... When you cast a show, you have to play to the talents of the cast. She gives this role such dimension — comedy, a

See GUYS, page 6B



Rehearsing "Fugue For Tinhorns" are, from left, Doug Clark, who plays Nicely-Nicely Johnson; Tom Pagano, who plays Big Jule; and Kyle O'Donnell, who plays Benny Southstreet.



PHOTO BY PATRICIA ELLIS

Hot Box dancers, from left, include Sarah Born, Tracy Bischoff, Alex Hysick, Catie Hauff, Becky Bodley and Genevieve Michael.

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2B | FEATURES

ASK THE EXPERTS By Sadie Bolos O'Neill

Positive use of technology; peaceful communication

Q: How can I have my child use technology in a more positive manner?

A: First, you must define when and where technology can and should be used. Then, you have to help your child understand the positive uses of the technology. One of the main issues with technology is it is open for use 24/7/365. Parents must help their children understand that the use of technology should be for the betterment of their person. Ask your child to ask one question before using

technology: Does this make me a better person? If so, use it. If not, don't.

Q: How can I create more peaceful communication in my home?

A: This begins with you, as the parent. You must first understand the issue. When you do, you can address it more clearly. The next part is more difficult. When the conversation gets heightened, you must be the volume controller. You must display poise and control, even when the other party might be get-

The Family Center

STRONG FAMILIES VIBRANT COMMUNITY

ting more emotional. This will help the communication be more peaceful. If need be, separate for a few minutes and come back to the topic instead of trying to power through it. The volume level and tone is vital for peaceful conver-

sation.

Sadie Bolos O'Neill, BSCRJ, CSP, MCC, has 30 years of experience as a business and family life coach. Richard Popp, BSED, MAT, is a teacher, dean of students and football coach with more

than 30 years working with all ages. Bolos O'Neill and Popp will present a workshop for parents in January.

The Family Center is a nonprofit organization that provides resources and preventive education to empower families to successfully navigate life's social, emotional and physical challenges. The Family Center is completely supported by community donations. To learn more, visit familycenterweb.org, call (313) 447-1374 or email info@familycenterweb.org.

SAVE the DATE

"Strong Parents, Resilient Children," a series of five workshops

6:30 to 8 p.m. Wednesdays, Jan. 15 to Feb. 12, at Christ Church Grosse Pointe, 61 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms.

Dinner is available at 6 p.m. for a suggested donation of \$20 per family. Childcare also is available; advanced registration is required.

Register for the free workshops online at familycenterweb.org or call (313) 447-1374.

AREA ACTIVITIES

Ecumenical Breakfast

The Grosse Pointe Men's Ecumenical Breakfast meets at 8 a.m. Friday, Jan. 3, at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Cost for breakfast is \$7. Registration is not required and first-time guests eat free.

BNI

The Business Network International Pipeline Chapter meets at 7 a.m. Friday, Jan. 3, at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 20338 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods. Call Ryan Marier at (313) 638-7526.

The Business Network International East Side-Launchpad Chapter meets at 7 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 8, at St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 20475 Sunningdale Park, Grosse Pointe Woods. Call Beth at (313) 690-5723.

Libraries

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

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

◆ Tween After Hours, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 10.

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

◆ Signing Story Time with Momcat Kelly, 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 4.

◆ Read, Rhyme & Play, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 7.

◆ LEGO Club, 4 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 8.

◆ Puzzle Tournament, 1:30 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 11.

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

◆ Reader Dog Drop-In, 5:30 to 6 p.m. Monday, Jan. 6.

◆ Playtime Pop-In, 9 a.m. to noon Thursday, Jan. 9.

◆ World War II Underground Railroad, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 9.

◆ Reader Dog Drop-In, 1 to 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 11.

NAMI

The National Alliance on Mental Illness Eastside meets at 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 6, at Henry Ford Medical Center-Cottage, 159 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms. Call Barb at (313) 886-8004.

Rotary

The Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe meets at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 8, at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, 788 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Shores. Ruth Azar of Second Mile Center speaks. Cost is \$10 and includes snacks; a cash bar is available. Visit grossepointerotary.org.

GPAA

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

◆ "Painting Life in Color with Bette Prudden," 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesdays, Jan. 8 to 29.

◆ "Stamp Your Story with Deborah Friedman," noon to 3 p.m. Fridays, Jan. 10 to 31.

◆ "Zorn Palette Portrait Painting with Liz Frankland," 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sundays, Jan. 12 and 19.

◆ "One Day Workshop: Character Creation and Design with Keith Hinman," 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 18.

◆ "Master Class Preview with Chris Page," 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 30.

◆ "B o k a s h i Landscapes: Japanese Block Printing with

Nobuko Yamasaki," 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursdays, Jan. 30 to Feb. 20.

◆ "Master Class: Drawing with Chris Page," noon to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 8 and 9.

Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

◆ 1 to 6:45 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 8, Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ 10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 9, Henry Ford Medical Center-Cottage, 159 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Register at redcrossblood.org.

Alliance Française

Registration for the winter session of French classes through the Alliance Française de Grosse Pointe runs Thursday, Jan. 9, through Thursday, March 12. Cost is \$120 per session. More information is available at afgrossepointe.org.

Alliance Française de Grosse Pointe presents the following programs at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms: 4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 11, at the Grosse Pointe Public Library Woods Branch, 20680 Mack. Cost is \$12 per person.

The Helm

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

◆ Grief Support Group, 4 to 6 p.m. the second and fourth Thursdays of each month, beginning Jan. 9. Psychotherapist Frank Wilberding facilitates.

◆ Guided Meditation Series, 6 to 7 p.m. Tuesdays, Jan. 14 to Feb. 18, facilitated by Jonathan Itchon. Cost is \$30 for members, \$40 for non-members.

◆ Pilates, 6 to 7 p.m. Thursdays, Jan. 16 to

March 5, with facilitator Amy Pugleisi. Cost is \$48 for members, \$58 for non-members.

Registration is required. Call (313) 882-9600.

Toastmasters

Northeastern Toastmasters meets at 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 13, at the Mary Ellen Stempfle University Center, 19305 Vernier, Harper Woods. Call Wendy Bradley at (313) 884-1184 or Ron or Marcia Pikielak at (313) 884-4201.

Men's Club

The Men's Club of Grosse Pointe meets at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 14, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Patrick Colbeck, founder of MI Freedom Centers at Detroit Metro Airport, speaks.

War Memorial

Julie McCutcheon, certified in plant-based nutrition, teaches the differences between vegan, vegetarian and whole-food plant-based nutrition, as well as what foods to avoid, the best protein and calcium sources, how to create a daily meal plan and more during "Plant-Based Nutrition for Better Health," 6:30 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 15, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. She'll also share resources about cookbooks, local restaurants and other meal planning information. Brochures and recipes will be discussed and sent home with students. Cost is \$25 per person. Call (313) 881-7511.

Gilda's Club, Lake House

Gilda's Club Metro Detroit, Lake House, 23500 Pare, St. Clair Shores, offers the following programs:

◆ Bollywood Dancing, 6 to 7 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays of each month.

◆ Holy Yoga chair yoga, 1 p.m. the fourth Wednesday of each month.



PHOTO COURTESY OF FULL CIRCLE

Yarnell Waller gets help at the register at the Shores concession stand.

Student preacher with cerebral palsy a 'true advocate'

By Theodore G. Coutilish
Guest Writer

When you meet Yarnell Waller, you may think he has cerebral palsy.

And you'd be right.

He uses a wheelchair and has impaired speech. But what you may not know is he is a highly sought-after ordained minister who preaches and sings on Sundays at various local churches and ministries. He even was an invited guest who beautifully sang "Amazing Grace" in a deep voice on The Mildred Gattis Show on 105.9 Kiss FM.

Impressive for any 22 year old.

But especially impressive for someone who currently is a Grosse Pointe Public Schools student with special needs in the Community Campus program at Full Circle Foundation.

"He loves to preach," said Mary Fodell, founder of Full Circle. "He's a showman. He's also humble, sweet, lovable, spiritual, respectful, accepting of everybody. He does not let his disability get in his way."

Waller is the son of Erica Sample. He lives independently in Grosse Pointe Woods.

Each summer, he works at the Grosse Pointe Shores concession stand. Math comes slowly.

His hands are a bit shaky.

Yet customers love him. "He's a true advocate for himself," said Sue Banner, administrative coordinator at Full Circle. "He motivates people to be better. Everybody gravitates toward him. He's the person everyone wants at their table."

Waller's passion is to put a smile on people's faces.

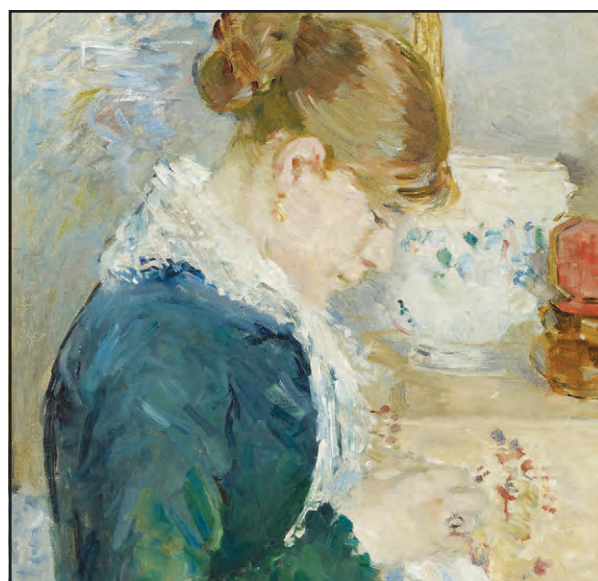
"When they come to the concession stand, they know it's not just about buying a hot dog," he said. "They know their spirits can be lifted up and their day could be made. That's why I'm here."

Waller says Full Circle is the greatest thing for people like him.

"A lot of us can't attend a regular college," he said. "If we do not have one-on-one time with Full Circle volunteers, we are lost. You're more than your disability. You're more than people view you. I can work. I can help this world."

"Full Circle helps show people we matter."

Inspired by the Full Circle Foundation, "Circle of Love" is dedicated to people with special needs living in the Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods communities and those who love and support them. For more information, visit fullcirclefdn.org.



HUMBLE AND HUMAN

Impressionist Era Treasures from the Albright-Knox Art Gallery and the Detroit Institute of Arts, an Exhibition in Honor of Ralph C. Wilson, Jr.

EXTENDED! through January 5

Humble and Human: Impressionist Era Treasures from the Albright-Knox Art Gallery and the Detroit Institute of Arts, An Exhibition in Honor of Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. is organized by the Detroit Institute of Arts and the Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, New York. The exhibition is made possible by the generous support of the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation.

RW RALPH C. WILSON, JR. FOUNDATION

This exhibition is a part of the Bonnie Ann Larson Modern European Masters Series.

Woman Sewing, ca. 1879, Berthe Morisot, French, oil on canvas, Collection Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, New York, Fellows for Life Fund, 1926 (1926:1).

DIA DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

The Encore Years: Toni DiLaura

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Toni DiLaura has never been one to idly stand by.

From her career to her 70-year marriage and into retirement, she's always had something constructive to do.

"When I was in high school, I worked for NBD," she said. "After the war, they laid off the married women to give jobs to the men who were returning home. I wasn't laid off, but I was worried about losing my job.

"On March 1, 1949, the first new bank opened after the Depression," she continued. "I got a job there and worked my way up at a time when women were not being elevated. I started in the credit department as an analyst."

Working was important to DiLaura, whose career spanned 40 years, culminating in a vice presidency at Citibank.

"I was driven," she said. "It never entered my mind to stay home. The more responsibilities I had, the more I loved it.

"We weren't allowed to work more than 40 hours a week," she continued. "What I did for a while, I would sign out at 5 p.m., but stay and work until 7 p.m. ... Eventually, personnel called and said, 'You can't do that.' ... So I would sign out at 5 p.m. and bring my work home. Then my husband got a little upset about it. So I'd wait for him to go to sleep and finish my reports."

Even as she approached her retirement, DiLaura — who promised her husband, Vince, she'd call it quits at age 62 — had second thoughts.

"The closer I got to it, I



PHOTO BY JODY MCVEIGH

Toni DiLaura, 93, devotes her time to volunteering, needlepoint and gardening.

didn't want to do it," she said.

When her husband overheard her telling a friend about her reservations, he told her she could do whatever she wanted, but he was leaving to travel the country in their newly purchased 37-foot motorhome — with or without her.

"So I retired," she said. "And I never regretted it, though I thought I would.

"We loved that motorhome," she continued. "We had some wonderful experiences. He was always concerned with what would go wrong; I was always concerned with what it would cost. ... He made me learn to drive it, but I only drove it in Texas. The road was a straightaway, so you couldn't hit anything; I don't back up and I don't turn corners."

In addition to the United States, the DiLauras traveled to several other countries, including Spain, Portugal, Italy, Germany, Greece and elsewhere.

"I loved it all," she said. "I loved the his-

tory."

In their retirement years, they even found a place to live in Arizona five months of the year, which they did for 20 years, until Vince got sick.

A blood disorder required him to get an increasing number of blood transfusions. He wasn't immobile, she said, but occasionally she needed some extra help. Like when their nephew, David Trott, was sworn in to Congress. They were invited to Washington, D.C., but she didn't want to go without her spouse. With help from an understanding doctor and another relative strong enough to push a wheelchair, they both were able to enjoy the proud family moment.

While caring for her husband, who died two years ago, DiLaura set aside some of her favorite pastimes. One of them was needlework, a love she has started to rekindle.

"When I'd come home from work, I couldn't be

qualified to do; I just don't want to cook."

DiLaura started sorting equipment in The Helm's basement loan closet — "the dungeon," she said. "Now I've graduated to whatever office work they want me to do."

DiLaura has volunteered for The Helm's Christmas Bazaar and occasionally works the phones. During the summer, she cut back on her hours so she could spend time on another favorite hobby — gardening.

"I decided to cut down to every other week at The Helm," she said. "I love gardening, but I let my garden go when my husband got sick. I feel good and I'm able to do it; I'm out there three days a week for four hours a day, digging and hoeing and cleaning up. Next year, I can do every week again at The Helm; my garden is in good shape."

DiLaura also walks the mall three days a week with friends.

"I feel I have to be accomplishing something," she said. "I'm doing things I really enjoy. I feel life's been

good to me and I feel badly I couldn't do more when I was working. ... I'm not happy if I'm not doing something that I feel is constructive. I've had a very good, full life with lots of friends."

The 93-year-old, who still lives in the Grosse Pointe Woods house her husband and father built, is counting on one of those friends to help her complete an item left on her bucket list — a European riverboat cruise.

In the meantime, DiLaura, whose sense of humor is as sharp as she is, recently received a positive report from her physician.

"He said everything is fine," she said. "He said, 'Keep doing what you're doing,' so I keep eating chocolate."

Do you know someone who is breaking the stereotypes of aging? We are looking for individuals who are doing any number of things that previously were not associated with people 60 or older. Have a suggestion? Call or email Jody McVeigh at (313) 343-5590 or jmcveigh@grossepointenews.com.

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Second Friday event to educate seniors

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Older adults and their families in Grosse Pointe and surrounding areas are invited to the first installment of Second Friday Senior Friends, planned 10 to 11 a.m. Friday, Jan. 10, at Lakeshore Family YMCA, 23401 E. Jefferson, St. Clair Shores.

The free series, presented by Right at Home Grosse Pointe, rotates venues each month.

"The whole point of going into a different place is I want people in the community to get information from other people in the industry and, at the same time, tour a new place every month," said Belinda Grunewald, owner and president of Right at Home Grosse Pointe.

Vendors from an assortment of senior-related fields — from Advanced Care Planning and rehabilitation to attorneys and Medicare experts — are invited to participate at no cost. Visitors can pick and choose who they want to approach.

"If all you want to do is

find out the difference between rehab and a hospital, or if you want some legal advice ... you can go right to who you want to talk to," she said. "All the people are there to give free advice and free information.

"Each place has a different capacity, so the number of vendors will vary," she added. "Some vendors will be the same, especially if they have a specialty niche, but the more vendors these places can hold, the more variety of vendors they can have."

Visitors also will have an opportunity to tour each facility and learn more about them.

The February event is scheduled to take place at The Wilson Center in the City of Grosse Pointe; March's event is hosted at The Neighborhood Club. Other planned venues include The Helm, Wayne County Community College District and Sunrise of Grosse Pointe Woods.

Grunewald, who founded the Healthy Seniors Coalition in May, said this series is a next step to educating the community.

"When seniors go to see their doctor or someone else who provides services to seniors, they don't know of all the services available — the free classes in the community, that you can get X-rays at home, the free transportation services available," Grunewald said. "My goal is educating. That's how we'll improve their quality of life. I think we can really make a difference if people are made aware of these things."

Grunewald said she hopes for a big turnout for Second Friday Senior Friends. She advised it's best for seniors to be prepared.

"You don't know what you don't know," she said. "So many times people say, 'I'll wait until I need it,' but they don't need it until they're in crisis mode and then there's a lot of information that they'll miss. I wish people would start learning about it before they need it."

For more information, visit the Right at Home Grosse Pointe Facebook page, healthygphw.org or grossepointechamber.com.

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Our luxury senior living community is ideal for seniors 55+ who desire top-tier services while maintaining their privacy and independence, all in a luxurious environment. Enjoy spacious one or two bedroom apartment accommodations. Lakeshore offers numerous recreational options with activities designed to encourage residents to pursue their interests, continue to learn, make friends and have fun.

Lakeshore Senior Living's Harbor of Lakeshore Memory Care program provides a home-like environment for people with memory loss who require a more specialized, secure environment.



"Living here is the best thing that has ever happened to me."
- Julie De Yonker
Lakeshore Resident



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586-218-6228
www.LakeshoreSeniorLivingSCS.com

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.

Michael A. Bojalad

Michael Anthony Bojalad, 66, of St. Clair Shores, passed away Monday, Dec. 23, 2019, in Grosse Pointe. He was born June 2, 1953, in Detroit, to Anthony and Carmela Bojalad. Michael is the beloved brother of Kathleen Willmer (Richard); the cherished uncle of Ryan Willmer (Jessica) and Rachel Willmer and great uncle of Delaney McEachin.

Michael began his career in real estate when he was 18, renting rooms to students at the University of Michigan. In his early 20s, he hired in with Schweitzer Real Estate where Violet Schweitzer took him under her wing and got him started at what was to become a rewarding real estate career.

Along the way, Michael taught continuing education classes and loved teaching. His career took him to a management position with Century21East, later to become Century21 Associates in The Village.

In 2008 Michael became director of education for C21 Town & Country of Grosse Pointe and a broker for Century21.

Michael was a member of the National Association of Realtors, The Michigan Association of Realtors and the Grosse Pointe Board of Realtors, where he served a term as director and treasurer. He also served as co-chairman of the annual charity golf outing for the board and through the years served on various committees. He also was a member of the St. Clair Shores Zoning Commission.

Michael will be missed by clients and peers who loved him. He was a gentleman who always had a smile for everyone. Family and friends said he was one of a kind and, to Michael, the glass was always half full.

Michael's family will receive friends beginning at 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 4, until the service at 1 p.m. at Kaul Funeral Home, 28433 Jefferson, St. Clair Shores. Memorials in memory of Michael A. Bojalad may be made to the Michigan Humane Society at michiganhumane.org or to the American Lung Association at lung.org.

Michael C. Bolton

Michael Charles Bolton of Grosse Pointe Woods passed away Tuesday, Dec. 24, 2019. He was 68. A son of the late Charles and Elizabeth (nee Motschall) Bolton, he was born May 22, 1951, in Detroit.

Michael was a proud alumnus of John Carroll University in Cleveland, Ohio. He made his career at Art Van Furniture for more than 35 years, retiring as chief financial officer in 2017. Michael married Barbara (nee Allmand) May 1, 1982, in Ann Arbor. They were joined in love for 37 1/2 years. When Michael was not working, he could be found

golfing or spending time with family. His family admits they do not know which activity he liked best. Michael organized an annual golf tournament for his friends for 43 years, many of whom he had known since grade school and high school. He also enjoyed vacationing wherever he could find a golf course and a beach.

Michael was the beloved husband of Barbara; loving father of Jeff (Bridget) and Sarah Borgesen (Joe); cherished grandfather of Nolan, Mya and Melanie Bolton and Andrew Borgesen; dear brother of Timothy, William (Mariann) and the late Theresa; brother-in-law to Cathy Pardon (Scott) and David Allmand (Patricia); treasured son-in-law of the late Charles Allmand (Marian); and proud uncle of many nieces and nephews.

A memorial visitation for Michael takes place 2 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 2, with a 7 p.m. rosary at A. H. Peters Funeral Home, 20705 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods. Friends and family will gather at 9:30 a.m. Friday, Jan. 3, until the memorial service at 10 a.m. at Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish, 467 Fairford, Grosse Pointe Woods.

Donations in Michael's memory may be made to the Province of St. Joseph of the Capuchin Order, 1820 Mt. Elliott St., Detroit, MI 48207, or the Jerome F. Williams Gastric Cancer Program, 19229 Mack Ave., Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236.

Ann Chevalier

Ann Chevalier (nee Coughlin), 72, died Saturday, Dec. 21, 2019, at Ascension St. John Hospital.

Ann was the beloved wife of Bob for 51 years; loving mother of Tara Teitge (Stefan), Robert II (Cheryl) and Jason (Jennifer); dearest grandmother of Luc and Landen Chevalier and Bobby and Graham Teitge; and dear sister of Mary Stevenson, Micheala Hector (Tom), Joe Coughlin (Donna) and the late Francis X. Coughlin.

Ann was born Nov. 20, 1947, in Detroit, to Francis and Ellen Coughlin. She graduated from Dayton University in 1969, and worked in air quality control for the state of Michigan. Ann was a religious education teacher and enjoyed traveling, reading, cross-country skiing and boating.

But, most of all, she loved children. In addition to her own three, she fostered another 30.

A funeral Mass took place Dec. 27, at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Capuchin Soup Kitchen, 1820 Mt. Elliott St., Detroit, MI 48207. Share a memory at verheyden.org.

Dorothy Jean Davis

Longtime Grosse Pointe resident Dorothy Jean Davis (nee Koerber) died Friday, Dec. 13, 2019, surrounded by family. She was 92.

Born June 9, 1927, to John and Dorothy Koerber, Dorothy was the loving wife of the late Stanley R. Davis; beloved mother of Dee Clark (Patrick), Fran Ralstrom (Curt), Teri Davis and Sandy Davis (Jennifer Elliott); proud grandmother of Kathleen Wolney (RJ), Molly Clark, Elizabeth Ralstrom (Sam Blanchard), Laura Ralstrom, Christopher Ralstrom, Patrick DiVincenzo (Kelly Solarek), Catie DiVincenzo, Andrew DeMay and Lisette DeMay; and adored great-grandmother of Luke and Madeline Wolney, Kenny, Teddy and Daniel Blanchard, and Isabella DiVincenzo. She also was the dear sister of Ronald and James and the late Jack, Thomas and Donald.

Dorothy graduated from St. Martin High School in Detroit and went on to study at Michigan State University and the University of Detroit Mercy. She was a longtime member of Bayview Yacht Club and a member of St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church for more than 50 years, where she served as a Eucharistic minister. Dorothy enjoyed volunteering in the Cottage Hospital gift shop, playing bridge with friends and spending time on the water. More than anything, Dorothy loved to spend time with her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren; she could be found cooking them meals and making them laugh through the final weeks of her life.

Visitation takes place 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 14, at Chas. Verheyden Inc., 16300 Mack Ave., Grosse Pointe Park. A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 15, with instate at 9:30 a.m. at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Hospice of Michigan at hom.org or a charity of your choice.

Richard A. Dean

Richard Arthur Dean, 91, passed away Sunday, Dec. 22, 2019. He was born Oct. 20, 1928, in Detroit, to Arthur J. and Marie L. Dean.

Richard was a lifelong educator who was a principal for the Detroit Public School System and more recently a dean at Bishop Gallagher High School. He had a passion for theater and music and was a fervent world traveler.

Richard is survived by his three loving children, Patrick Dean of Rochester Hills, Janice Dean of Little Rock, Ark., and Cathy Dean of Grosse Pointe Woods, as well as two grandsons, Jake and Matthew. He also is survived by many loving extended family and close friends.



Michael A. Bojalad



Michael C. Bolton



Ann Chevalier



Dorothy J. Davis



Richard A. Dean



Richard Jungwirth

A memorial gathering took place Saturday, Dec. 28, at A.H. Peters Funeral Home, Grosse Pointe Woods.

Expressions of sympathy may take the form of contributions to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society at lls.org.

A more extensive celebration of Richard's life will be held at a later date.

Online condolences may be left at ahpeters.com.

Richard Jungwirth

Grosse Pointe Farms resident of 53 years, Richard Jungwirth, 85, passed away Friday, Dec. 27, 2019.

Richard was born in Detroit in 1934, to Raymond and Evelyn Jungwirth.

He was the beloved husband of Mary Kathleen, who predeceased him, for 35 years; loving father of Maureen Sperry (Martin), Richard E. Jungwirth (Kelly), Patricia Hesse (Scott), Mark Jungwirth (Angela) and John Jungwirth (Sheree); proud grandfather of Ryan, Sara, Kevin, Benjamin, Shannon, Jason, Clara Mary, Stephen, Brendan, Kaitlyn, Erin Kathleen, Charlie, Gabriella, Luke, Bridget, Christian, Faith, Lindsey, Noah, Elijah and Emily; dear brother of Robert (the late Jane) and the late Raymond (the late Rita).

Richard was a sports fan, but had a special place in his heart for baseball, which he played for years. As a 1952 De La Salle High School alumnus, Richard stayed active on the Board of Trustees. After joining the Army, he received a master's degree from the University of Detroit Mercy and began working at Merrill Lynch, where he worked more than 30 years before retiring.

Richard was an active parishioner of St. Philomena Church more than 50 years. He also had a passion for volunteer work, especially with Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe, where he volunteered 20 years.

Richard was known for his two elaborate Christmas trees and his "famous" Fourth of July parties at the cottage. More than anything, he loved spending as much time as he could with his family at their cottage in Port Sanilac.

A funeral Mass was held Dec. 31, at St. Clare of Montefalco Parish, Grosse Pointe Park.



Donald N. Leal



Margaret E. Wittwer

Memorial contributions may be made to Beaumont Health Meals for the Homebound, Grosse Pointe, 468 Cadieux, City of Grosse Pointe, MI 48230.

Donald N. Leal

St. Clair Shores resident Donald N. Leal, 77, passed away Saturday, Dec. 28, 2019.

Donald was the loving husband of the late Barbara; dear father of Pamela Klaus, Melinda Coury (Steve), Donna Armbruster, Sandra Carey (James) and the late Donald H.R. Leal (the late Amy); and beloved brother of the late William Leal. He is survived by six grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, cousins and friends. He was predeceased by one grandchild.

Donald was a past master and brother of the Roseville Masonic Lodge No. 522.

Visitation takes place 1 to 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 3, 2020, with a Masonic Service at 7 p.m., at Chas Verheyden Inc., 16300 Mack, Grosse Pointe Park.

Jacquelyn Stieler

Jacquelyn "Jackie" Stieler, 83, passed away Monday, Dec. 23, 2019. She was married to her longtime friend and love for 56 years, Robert Stieler, who predeceased her in 2013.

Bob and Jackie were members of the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club more than 50 years and members at the Old Club on Harsens Island more than 30 years. They enjoyed being on the water; especially their summer boat trips on the Great Lakes with family and friends aboard the Quest.

Jackie is survived by her children, Paul (Diane) and Lisa Wells (Steven); grandchildren, Kaitlyn VanHees (Jared), Christopher Stieler, Robert Wells, James Wells (Emily) and Jessica Wells; great-grandchild-

dren, Ava VanHees, Harper VanHees, Easton VanHees and soon, baby Finn Wells.

A memorial service will be announced at a later date.

Margaret E. Wittwer

Margaret Elizabeth Wittwer (nee Hock), 93, of Grosse Pointe Woods, passed away Wednesday, Dec. 25, 2019.

Margaret was born Jan. 6, 1926, in Detroit. She attended Eastern High School, Albion College and Wayne State University, and retired from the Detroit Public School System after teaching 43 years.

Margaret was affiliated with Alpha Xi Delta National Women's Fraternity, the Grosse Pointe Women's Club and Christ the King Lutheran Church in Grosse Pointe Woods.

She is survived by her loving and devoted husband of 70 years, Alfred "Fred" Wittwer; brother, Dr. Kenneth Hock; children, Ellen Rohde, Tom Wittwer (Val), Nancy Fitzpatrick and David Wittwer (Sally); and eight grandchildren.

Family and friends will gather Saturday, Jan. 11, from 10 a.m. until the memorial service at 11 a.m., at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 20338 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent to Christ the King Lutheran Church, 20338 Mack Ave., Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236.

Karl M. Parsons

Karl M. Parsons, 56, passed away Friday, Dec. 27, 2019. He was the beloved husband of Kelly (nee Oliver).

A memorial gathering begins at 11:30 a.m. and runs until his memorial service at noon Thursday, Jan. 2, at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 22412 Overlake, St. Clair Shores.

Read the full obituary in next week's Grosse Pointe News.

Seeing 20/20 in the new year

By Marla Maiuri
Guest Writer

What if you allowed yourself to let go of all resistance? Resistance to what you ask. To letting go of all that no longer serves your highest good. Perhaps this feels overwhelming, not knowing how and where to begin. Hum, go within. With so much love flowing in December, from classic Christmas music to spiritually heightened church services, did you take the opportunity then to truly feel you? No? Stay calm — you're here and there's still time.

I do believe spirit was flowing through my friend Darren when,

while dining out with him and his partner, he birthed a beautiful nugget. "Marla, I like that your 'Spiritual Vision Go Global with Marla G. Maiuri' event is happening in 2020."

To know Darren is to know there would be more shared. He continued, "Think about 20/20 vision and your spiritual vision. 2020 can be the year for us all to become clear on things."

The conversation ensued over lunch. I love having creative friends; Darren got me thinking. Initially, I allowed myself to feel some disappointment that the big "Spiritual Vision Go Global" event was not to

take place in the final quarter of 2019. Desiring a more positive energy, I worked my way back to a place of appreciation and trust. Not having the "why" portion of the story, I continued to trust. When Darren shared his inspired thought, I could feel the resonance. In addition, I have met people in those final months of 2019 who are to be a part of all this with me. When we pay attention, we notice that the timing of life is amazing. I've also had some existing relationships go deeper, inviting for even richer engagements. There are to be gorgeous humans sharing the stage with me on that day that

would have otherwise not taken place.

So, what are the things that no longer serve us? Anything and everything outside of love. Feel a chill? That is because we are love and we are here to experience love. We are either aligned with love, or on the journey back. When the soul is our lens, the vision is always 20/20. It is then that our physical senses can really go to work for us. Now when you see behaviors in someone that just don't honor your existence, you find yourself choosing to release them with love. You are so solid in your decision; you don't need to justify it to others. Or when you

hear a statement someone made that immediately calls you to pull back, you choose to not stay in the negativity. Instead, you feel inspired to move further into what you do want for yourself and the world. Perhaps, choosing a peace march instead of an anti-war rally. At church, you might leave the table you're at during coffee hour and move to another spot, because you no longer want to take part in building on more and more negative momentum in the world. You would rather initiate a conversation on where that negativity is inspiring you to go. You're not worried about who will

follow; in your wisdom, you know like attracts like. You no longer hang onto things like you once did.

Knowing we will all step away from our higher selves, you no longer judge yourself or others harshly. You're feeling better than ever and you don't even need that information a friend passed along to you recently about an ailment you used to complain about, because you woke up one morning free of that discomfort.

Life is truly good. Every year can be a 20/20 year.

Blessings to us all. *Maiuri is a writer/speaker and resident of Grosse Pointe Farms. Follow her on Twitter @ maiuri_g, Instagram at marlagmaiuri or Facebook at Spiritual Vision Go Global with Marla G. Maiuri.*

Northeast Integrated Health & DPD: Touching the lives of homeless

By Karen Love
Guest Writer

Northeast Integrated Health, formerly Northeast Guidance Center, instituted a program in 1997 entitled Community and Police Partnership and Advocacy, or CAPP, a jail diversion program offered to the citizens of Detroit to support Detroit's downtown police services unit.

CAPP is one of the nation's oldest police/mental health clinician co-responder programs. NIH and DPD work as a co-responder team when it is a mental health call specifically involving the homeless population. With their combined expertise, the homeless individual with the mental disorder benefits from diversion and placement into services and deferred adjudication, when applicable. In addition to the outreach and support offered to the DPD, over the years, "CAPP has trained officers across Wayne County and in 22 different jurisdictions, including FBI and Homeland Security officers, college and university security," said Sherry McRill, president and CEO of NIH. NIH recently received the National Association for Civilian Oversight Law



PHOTO COURTESY OF KAREN LOVE

Members of the Community and Police Partnership and Advocacy team.

Enforcement award for CAPP being the earliest program in the nation for providing a co-responder program.

One-third of the total homeless population includes individuals with serious untreated mental illness, according to a research summary by the Treatment Advocacy Center. Thirty-three percent of the homeless are individuals with serious mental illnesses that are untreated. Many of these people suffer from schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorder, bipolar disorder or major depression. With NIH and DPD working as a co-responder team, a specially trained officer

and a mental health crisis worker are able to respond together to mental health calls. With their combined expertise, they are able to link people with mental illnesses to appropriate services or provide other effective and efficient responses.

On Nov. 2, NIH, DPD and Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network hosted the annual Day of Restoration for the homeless at the Cathedral of St. Paul. This outreach program is designed to provide Detroit's homeless population, comprised of men, women and children, with basic necessities such as winter coats, outerwear

and hygiene kits, in addition to a hot meal and health and depression screenings. More than 40 vendors participated, including Eastern Michigan University nursing students, Homeless Action Network of Detroit, Veterans Affairs, University of Detroit Mercy School of Dentistry, City of Detroit ID Card program, Detroit Health Department and Blue Cross Blue Shield. Coats that can be converted to sleeping bags and are waterproof were donated by Empowerment Plan, haircuts were provided by Michigan Barber School and non-perish-

able food was donated by Gleaners. More than 80 volunteers were on hand, 20 of whom were cadets from DPD.

Sgt. Jeremy James stated, "All Detroit police recruits are nationally certified in Mental Health First Aid, an eight-hour course in how to appropriately respond to those in crisis, as well as the recruits recognize mental health disorders. The state of Michigan only requires three hours of mental health training, so DPD goes above and beyond. We provide additional hours of scenario-based learning on how to respond to persons in mental crisis, so the CAPP program is ideal."

"Over 450 homeless people attended Day of Restoration," said Ida Colquitt, clinical director of Adult Outpatient at NIH. "I was pleased that so many people thought to attend and gather resources in preparation for winter. People were grateful and stated they would return next year. It was humbling for our staff to be able to touch the lives of so many of the homeless."

For more information regarding the CAPP program or to volunteer for the 2020 Day of Restoration, call (313) 308-1400 or visit nih.detroit.org.

Tuesday Musicales concert is Jan. 14

A free concert featuring well-known Detroit-area performers takes place at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 14, at St. Clare of Montefalco Church, 1401 Whittier, Grosse Pointe Park.

Presented by Tuesday Musicales of Detroit, the concert features pianist Joseph Palazzolo, the music director of the Grosse Pointe Community Chorus and Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church and founder and principal of the Metro Detroit School of Music.

Other musicians include flutist William Underwood, pianist Brenda Kee, cellist Nadine Deleury and pianist Tridib Chakraborty. James Rose, bass, and Bonnie L. Brooks, soprano, lend their voices to the performance.

Also of particular interest is a rendering by Claudia Fontana of two Schubert pieces in eurythmy, a form of movement seldom seen in the United States.

The concert is free to the public.

For more information, visit tuesdaymusicaleofdetroit.org.

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6B | FEATURES



PHOTOS BY DALE PEGG

Rehearsing one of the Save A Soul Mission scenes are, from left, Megan Welenc as Sarah Brown, Brad Hardecki as Calvin, Julia Bayer as Martha and Olyvia Brown as Agatha.



Phil Potter, left, as Lt. Brannigan and William Giovan as Liver Lips Louie.

GUYS:

Continued from page 1B

beautiful voice and the best dancer on the planet.”

Zak Shugart, cast as Sky Masterson, said he’s thrilled to work with this team, including Bischoff, who taught him how to tap dance.

“There’s a lot of cool dancing in this show,” Shugart said. “Sky is a smooth-talking guy. It’s a lot of fun to play him. He’s got heart to him.”

Sarah Brown, the center of the bet between Sky Masterson and Nathan Detroit, is played by Megan Welenc.

“I love the transformation Sarah goes through with her character arch,” Welenc said. “I get to play a little bit of everything in one role.”

Bischoff discovered Welenc when she played the same role with the Birmingham Village Players. When he began casting for Grosse Pointe Theatre, he reached out and asked her to join.

“She has such a beautiful voice; soprano for days,” Bischoff said.



The ensemble rehearses.

Beautiful voices will be heard throughout the family-friendly show in familiar pieces such as, “Luck Be a Lady,” which was recorded by Sinatra after his role in the film.

“No matter how bad of a day you’re having, come to the show,” Ellis said. “You’ll feel so much better, you’ll be entertained. We’re having the time of our lives; it’s a gift and we’re happy to share it. We hope the audience feels the same way.”

Ellis, who recently retired from a position

with Karmanos Cancer Institute, has been a Grosse Pointe Theatre member since 1982. This marks her return to the stage after 15 years.

“I love my work and I love Grosse Pointe Theatre,” she said. “To balance that is hard when your job is 24-7, but I always stayed active with Grosse Pointe Theatre; I just could never make rehearsals.

“Watching everybody onstage the last 15 years just doesn’t cut it,” she continued. “I’m grateful

Don gave me the opportunity. I’m delighted to have the chance at doing this again.”

Ellis performed as a showgirl in Grosse Pointe Theatre’s 1992 “Guys & Dolls” run.

“I am so glad I can still move,” she laughed.

“Guys & Dolls” consists of nine shows in 10 days, Bischoff said.

“We’ve got four matinees,” he added. “The last few years, matinees have been selling like crazy, so we’re giving people what they want.”

Shows take place at 8 p.m. Fridays, Jan. 10 and 17, and Saturdays, Jan. 11 and 18; 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 16; and 2 p.m. Saturdays, Jan. 11 and 18, Sunday, Jan. 12 and 19.

Tickets are \$26 and may be purchased by visiting gpt.org/guysanddolls or calling (313) 881-4004.

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SPORTS

YEAR IN REVIEW

A look back at 2019

Several teams earned a ton of success in 2019 PAGE 2C

3-4C CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Gymnastics

GROSSE POINTE UNITED

Gymnasts even record with win

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

The Grosse Pointe Unified gymnastics team evened its record at 1-1, beating Huron Valley 137.725-135.075 on Dec. 20.

“It was great to get our first win of the season against a very good

Huron Valley team, and to see many of our gymnastics alumni who were back in town,” head coach Courtney Hamidi said. “We had 10 different gymnasts each do three or four events in the meet and bars and beam were especially strong overall.”

The gymnasts

recorded a balanced score in each of the four events, with a high of 35.275 on the balance beam, 35.225 on floor exercise, 34.2 on vault and 33.025 on uneven parallel bars.

On the bars, Cate Gagnier led the way with a 9.0. She was followed by Amanda Nguyen with

8.075, Maeve Jamieson with 7.975, Sammy Lucido with 7.975, Madi Lucido with 7.05, Kate Ennis with 6.8 and Maddie LoPorto with 6.125.

Ennis had a team-high 8.9 on the beam, followed by Jamieson with 8.85, Gagnier with 8.825, LoPorto with 8.7, Madi

Lucido and Sammy Lucido with 8.475 and Nguyen with 7.75.

On vault, Nguyen had 8.85, followed by Gagnier with 8.8, Jamieson with 8.35, Sammy Lucido with 8.2, LoPorto with 8.0, Ennis with 7.95 and Madi Lucido with 7.7.

Gagnier led the team

with a 9.4 on the floor exercise and Nguyen had an 8.9. Jamieson and Ennis each posted an 8.475, while Sammy Lucido had 8.175. LoPorto and Madi Lucido also competed in the event.

Next is a home meet Wednesday, Jan. 8, against Bloomfield.

Ice hockey

Blue Devils, Knights ice rivals

NORTH, SOUTH & LIGGETT BOYS

Blue Devils edge ULS in finals

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

Grosse Pointe South boys hockey team won the annual University Liggett School Holiday Tournament Dec. 21, beating the host squad 3-2.

It gave the Blue Devils a 2-0 mark against their rivals as they defeated Grosse Pointe North 5-2 in the semifinals.

Grosse Pointe South is 4-0-0-1 in the Michigan Interscholastic Hockey League and 10-0-0-1 overall; ULS is 3-2 in the Michigan Metro Hockey League and 6-5 overall.

“Hats off to them (ULS). They played us tough,” South head coach Paul Moretz said. “We played well for half of the game, but then seemed to not do the little things we strive to do to win hockey games.”

“We came out with a lot of nerves, but once we settled down we played well against a good South team,” ULS head coach Mike Maltese said. “It’s a tough loss because we had a lot of chances to tie or even go ahead, but it wasn’t meant to be.”

The Blue Devils dominated the opening period, leading 2-0 on goals by senior Alex Miciuda. He scored on the power play and then again with only 76 seconds left in the period.

Senior Alex Stapleton tallied early in the second period to give the Blue Devils a 3-0 lead, and junior David Rivard missed a penalty shot that would have added to the advantage.

The momentum turned after the Blue Devils took several penalties late in the second stanza.

Even though the Knights didn’t score, they put a ton of pressure on the Blue Devils’ defense and senior netminder Will Strickler.

Sophomore Doug Wood got the Knights on the board at the 6:54 mark of the third period,



PHOTO BY RENATO JAMETT

South goaltender William Strickler earned back-to-back wins in the tournament.

and things got really interesting when freshman Jake Kolk lit the lamp with 34.5 left, making it a 3-2 game.

The Knights gained possession and had one final shot on net, but it sailed over Strickler’s head and South claimed the tournament title for the second straight season.

“It’s nice to get this win, but we need a few days off,” Moretz said. “We have a tough stretch after the first of the year, so the rest will help.”

Junior Grant Lindsay played well in net for the Knights. He made several top-notch saves to keep the Knights in the game.

Lindsay made 30 saves the day before to help ULS blank M1 Unified 2-0 in the second semifinal.

“Grant was great tonight,” Maltese said. “We expected a tough game, and M1 played us toe-to-toe. It was an even game.”

The stars of the game were Lindsay and M1 senior goaltender Ross Koerber, who is a college commit at Adrian.

It was a scoreless first period, but the Knights scored in the second period on a goal by freshman Campbell Marchal and one in the third on a goal by senior Will Nicholson.

In the first semifinal,

North head coach Rob Blum had his Norsemen ready to play. They played well, but the Blue Devils are deeper and used that advantage to wear down the Norsemen.

Juniors Dean Therriault and Aaron Vyletel scored two goals apiece, while senior Keegan Spitz had one to lead the Blue Devils. Strickler earned the win in net.

For the Norsemen, junior Ethan McCormick scored both goals, including his second on the power play.

Senior Brian Clogg played well, but suffered the loss in net.

In the consolation game, North lost a nail-biter, 3-2, to M1.

Blum’s squad trailed 1-0 and 2-1, but each time came back to tie the game.

Senior Will Weiss scored the Norsemen’s first goal, and McCormick had the second tally. Weiss scored at the 14:43 mark to make it 1-1, and McCormick’s goal came at the 10:09 mark.

M1 scored the winning goal with 6:03 left.

Senior Connor Obermok was the tough-luck losing goaltender. He played a solid game.

Grosse Pointe North is 0-6 in the Michigan Interscholastic Hockey League and 1-8 overall.

NORTH, SOUTH & LIGGETT GIRLS

Knights crush rival for title

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

In a battle for bragging rights, the University Liggett School girls hockey team earned those again after beating Grosse Pointe South 6-1 in the finals of the annual University Liggett School Holiday Tournament Dec. 21 at McCann Ice Arena.

“We played well early, but let down a little in that second period,” ULS head coach Greg Paddison said. “We played a great third period. We really took off after scoring our third goal.

“I can see the girls buying into our system. I think we will get better and better.”

The Knights led 2-0 after the first period. Junior Kendall Zinn scored on the power-play at the 2:14 mark and junior Gabrielle Anusbignan tallied with less than a second left.

Head coach Hailee Craig watched her Blue Devils dominate the second period. Senior Lauren Benoit scored at the 4:05 mark to make it a 2-1 game.

They had all of the momentum and had chances to tie the game, but Knights senior goalie Evie Bournias stood tall in net.

With the title on the



PHOTOS BY RENATO JAMETT

University Liggett School’s Evie Bournias made consecutive solid performances in the holiday tournament.

line, the Knights scored four third-period goals to win going away.

Freshman Guiliana Luffy scored on the power play at the 12:43 mark, and less than two minutes later freshman Izzy Fruehauf tallied to make it a 4-1 game.

Sophomore Natalia Dragovic finished the scoring, tallying her first goal on the power play at the 9:05 mark and added a second 67 seconds later.

Senior Emily Desnoyer suffered the loss in net for the Blue Devils.

ULS improved to 5-1 in the Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League and 7-1 overall; Grosse Pointe South is 1-3 in the league and 2-4 overall.

In the consolation

game, Grosse Pointe North lost 7-1 to Warren Regina.

Head coach Casey Quick’s team has been depleted thanks to illness and injury. They played their last three games without several players as they fell to 2-2 in the league and 2-6 overall.

Senior Darby Pickford scored with 4:05 left in the third period for the Norsemen. Junior goalie Mia Cassar took the loss in net.

In the first semifinal, South defeated North 8-0 as Benoit, and sophomores Bridget Backer and Olivia Livingstone scored two goals apiece.

Senior Kelsie Francis and junior Regan Sherry also scored goals as the Blue Devils had three goals in the first period, two in the second and three in the third.

Benoit’s goal at the 8:28 mark of the third period ended the game via the mercy rule.

Desnoyer earned the win in net and Cassar took the loss.

In the second semifinal, ULS defeated Regina 7-2 as Dragovic and sophomore Allyson Doppke scored two goals apiece.

Senior Anika Vreeken, sophomore Madeline McKee and Zinn also scored goals as the Knights had a 2-0 lead at the end of the opening period.



South’s Julia Gebeck, center, moves to get puck possession in the middle of North’s Mia Cassar, No. 30, Mackenzie Stockwell, No. 4, and Darby Pickford, No. 9.

Year in review

GROSSE POINTE SOUTH

Girls tennis captured state title

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

Grosse Pointe South started 2019 with division titles from the boys swimming and diving and wrestling teams under respective head coaches John Fodell and Patrick Salazar.

Both won division titles and sent competitors to the post-season.

The girls hockey team lost to Farmington Hills Mercy in the state championship game. The boys hockey squad had its share of ups and downs before falling in the first round of the state playoffs.

On the hard court, the girls basketball team had

its first winning season in a few years, finishing 13-9 under head coach Kevin Richards, and head coach Troy Glasser and his boys squad had a winning year, going 11-11.

In the spring, the girls tennis team won a Division 1 state championship. Head coach Mark Sobieralski and his Blue Devils started the season ranked No. 1, and finished No. 1 as the girls put together great runs in the regional and state finals.

The boys track and field team won its first regional title as head coach Mark Sonnenberg put together one of the program's best-ever squads.

The boys lacrosse team, under head coach Justin Macksound, won a MAC Red Division crown at 6-0 before losing to eventual state champ Brother Rice in the second round of the regional tournament, and the girls team with Alycsa Valentine at the helm finished above .500.

The golf team made a second-day run to take second in the boys state finals tournament. They won the MAC Red Division with a perfect record and finished second in the regional tournament.

On the diamond, head coach Dan Griesbaum led the baseball team that won the districts over

Eastpointe East Detroit, won the regionals by defeating Livonia Churchill and U-D Jesuit before losing in the Super Regional to Macomb Dakota.

The softball and girls soccer teams ended their season below .500.

This fall was solid across the board for a majority of the athletic teams at South.

The girls golf team, under head coach Rob McIntyre, won a division and regional championship before finishing runner-up in the Division 1 state finals tournament.

Audrey Becker earned All-State with her top-10 finish with the support of teammates Kaitlin

Ifkovits, Mia Rancilio, Jennifer Crowley, Alston Smith and Sable Imesch.

The girls swimming and diving team sent a dozen girls to the Division 2 state finals with Fodell at the helm, and the football team won a MAC White Division crown, crushed Grosse Pointe North for a second straight year and made the playoffs.

Key ingredients to the team's success was senior quarterback Alex Shaheen, who set season records for 234 pass attempts, 138 completions, 2,130 yards through the air and 29 touchdown passes.

Head coaches Krysta Kreyger and Francesco

Cilano guided the girls volleyball and boys soccer team to district championships, beating Grosse Pointe North in both title games. They went on to lose regional semifinals.

The girls field hockey squad had a solid season with first-year head coach Jessie Rouleau at the helm.

John Willard and his boys tennis team played well, won another MAC Red Division regular season title as well as made the Division 1 state finals.

Jack Hurst made the state finals in cross country for the boys team, and the girls cross-country squad improved throughout the season.

UNIVERSITY LIGGETT SCHOOL

Fall athletic teams lead the way

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

The year began with of an equal amount of ups and downs at University Liggett School.

The girls and boys hockey teams enjoyed success, hovering around the .500 level. Both should be better in 2019-20.

On the hard court, the girls basketball team, with John Bandos leading the way, exceeded expectations by finishing .500 and won a share of a Catholic League title.

The boys struggled,

winning only one game. Things turned around in the spring as several teams enjoyed success.

The baseball team made the Division 3 state championship game at Michigan State University, losing 4-0 to Homer.

Head coach Jennifer Larson and her girls lacrosse team made a Division 2 regional championship game, losing to Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Kingswood to finish 13-3 overall. Head coach Cathy Hackenberger and her girls tennis team earned

a spot in the Division 4 state finals tournament.

Junior Melanie Zamparo, the Knights' No. 1 singles player, made the finals of her flight, but lost. She made All-State.

Head coach Alan Parish and the Knights' boys and girls track and field teams sent five competitors to the Division 3 state championship meet.

Head coach Dan Sullivan and the boys golf team completed one of the best seasons in program history, finishing second in the Division 4 state finals tournament,

only 11 strokes behind state champ Kalamazoo Hackett.

Colin Degnore shot a two-day total 158 to tie for eighth and earned All-State.

The boys lacrosse team finished at the .500 mark, losing to city rival Grosse Pointe North in the Division 2 regionals.

The girls soccer and softball teams finished below the .500 mark.

It was a fruitful fall at ULS.

Head coach David Dwaihy and his boys soccer team advanced to the Division 4 state champi-

onship game for the first time since 1999. They lost in a shootout, but the Knights had a season to remember.

Head coach Dan Sullivan and his girls volleyball also played well, earning a district title and making it to the regional finals before bowing out to a very good Lutheran Northwest squad.

The boys tennis team finished in third place in the Division 4 state tournament. Junior Will Cooksey won a third straight state championship at No. 1 singles.

The girls field hockey team made the Division 2 state semifinals, but lost to Ann Arbor Skyline. Head coach Jayant Trewn has created quite a juggernaut at ULS.

The girls swim team had several members make the Division 3 state finals. The girls cross-country program, as well as Ashton Pongratz, made the state finals with first-year head coach Colleen Mellon at the helm.

Finally, Cimini had his football team in contention to make the state playoffs, but finished 4-5.

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HIGH SCHOOL ASBESTOS/HAZ-MAT ABATEMENT PROJECTS

Bid Proposals will be received by Mr. Richard Van Gorder, Director of Buildings and Grounds for the Grosse Pointe Public School System, at 389 St. Clair Avenue, Grosse Pointe, Michigan 48230, on or before **10:00 a.m.** (local time) on January 28, 2020 ("Due Date"). The Board of Education will not consider or accept a Bid Proposal received after the Due Date, the date and time specified for Bid Proposal submission. Bid Proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud immediately following the Due Date at the same location. **Bid proposals for the five (5) separate schools will be evaluated and awarded separately with a bidder's option to submit combination proposals.**

A mandatory pre-Bid Proposal meeting will be held on January 17, 2020. Bidders must attend a walkthrough at the school that they choose to bid on. All bidders are not required to visit all of the schools. If the bidder will be bidding on all 5 schools then the bidder must attend the walk at all 5 schools. The walk sequence and meeting locations are as follows:

- 11:30 a.m. at Administration Building located at 389 St. Clair Avenue, Grosse Pointe, MI. 48230. All persons attending the Pre-Bid will be required to meet at the rear parking lot.
- 12:30 p.m. at Defer Elementary located at 15425 Kercheval Ave., Grosse Pointe, MI. All persons attending the Pre-Bid will be required to meet at the side parking lot off of Kercheval.
- 1:15 p.m. at Parcels Middle School Elementary located at 20600 Mack Ave., Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan 48236. All persons attending the Pre-Bid will be required to meet at the east parking lot off of Sunningdale Park.
- 2:00 p.m. at Ferry Elementary located at 748 Roslyn Rd. Grosse Pointe Park, MI. 48236. All persons attending the Pre-Bid will be required to meet at the parking lot off of Morningside Dr.
- 2:45 p.m. at Monteith Elementary located at 1275 Cook Road, Grosse Pointe, MI. 48236. All persons attending the Pre-Bid will be required to meet at the south entrance in the parking lot off of Chalfonte Ave.
- 3:45 p.m. at South High School located at 11 Grosse Pointe Blvd, Grosse Pointe Farms MI 48236. All persons attending the Pre-Bid will be required to meet at the side parking lot (Contractor's Lot) off of Fisher Rd.

Each Bid Proposal must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the owner or any employee of the bidder and any member of the Board of Education or the Superintendent of the Grosse Pointe Public School System. The Board of Education will not accept a Bid Proposal that does not include this sworn and notarized disclosure statement.

Each Bid Proposal must also be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement certifying that the Contractor is not an Iran Linked Business. The Board of Education will not accept a Bid Proposal that does not include this sworn and notarized statement.

Each Bid Proposal must also be accompanied by a bid bond in the amount no less than five percent (5%) of the total bid amount(s).

The Grosse Pointe Public School System's Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any and all Bid Proposals, either in whole or in part, to waive any informalities or irregularities therein, or to award the contract to other than the contractor(s) submitting the best financial Bid Proposal (low bidder), in its sole and absolute discretion.

Bid documents, including Bidders Information Manual, scopes of work, Drawing and Specifications will be made available Monday, January 3, 2019 at the following website:

<https://app.e-builder.net/da2/daLanding.aspx?QS=6b77fb6014954da78706d0bf4275a148>

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Joseph T. Konrad at (734) 707-6571 or email at jkonrad@tectest.com, and/or Madison Konrad at (734) 255-9145 or email at mkonrad@tectest.com.

GROSSE POINTE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

Published: GPN, January 2, 2020

GROSSE POINTE NORTH

Hoops, baseball
highlight year

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

Grosse Pointe North started 2019 with the girls basketball team leading the path to success.

Head coach Gary Bennett and the Norsemen won a Macomb Area Conference Red Division title with a 10-0 mark and won a Division 1 district title with a win over city rival Grosse Pointe South behind several talented seniors to finish 20-4 overall.

The boys basketball team, under first-year head coach Andy Ayrault, also won a district title over Grosse Pointe South before losing to U-D Jesuit in a regional final.

The boys wrestling team, behind state-qualifier Ray Hamilton, won a MAC Gold Division league meet title under head coach Derek Davison, and the gymnastics team, under the guidance of Kristin Remillet, made the state finals.

Head coach Casey Quick led the girls hockey team to a .500 record, and the boys

hockey squad, under head coach Joe Drouin, finished below .500 and lost in the opening round of the Division 3 state playoffs. The boys swimming and diving team had several state qualifiers for head coach Ben Winn.

In the spring, the girls track and field team captured a regional crown, and the boys took second behind their city rival. Both squads had solid seasons behind head coaches Diane Montgomery and Jeremy Baldes.

Head coach Ron Smith and the Norsemen softball team won a district title, but lost to Garden City in the regionals.

The baseball team, under first-year head coach David Martin, won a share of the MAC White Division with St. Clair and was ranked No. 4 in Division 1 before losing 11-10 in nine innings to Grosse Pointe South in a district semifinal game. Olivia Dallaire's girls soccer team made a district final, but lost to Dearborn, and the boys lacrosse team behind head coach Mark Seppala lost to DeLaSalle in a Division 2 regional

title game.

Head coach John Van Alst guided the girls tennis team to the Division 2 state finals and won a MAC White Division crown.

The girls lacrosse and boys golf teams struggled to less than .500 seasons.

This fall, it was a rough stretch for the Norsemen.

The boys soccer team was in contention for a league and district title under Brad VandeVorde, plus the girls cross-country team with Scott Cooper at the helm ran well.

On the boys cross-country team, head coach Diane Montgomery watched junior Preston Navarre earn All-State honors with his impressive display in the state meet. The team also held its own this fall.

The girls field hockey team played better than expected under head coach Emma Yee.

Van Alst led his boys tennis team to the Division 2 state finals.

However, the football, girls volleyball, girls golf and girls swim teams struggled to earn victories.

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 AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____
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209 HELP WANTED PROFESSIONAL

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 The City of Grosse Pointe Woods is seeking a candidate for the position of Administrative Clerk I/Cashier. This is a part-time union position within the Finance Department. The Cashier duties include good customer relations, cash receipting and reconciliation of utility bills, tax bills other miscellaneous payments. Monday thru Friday, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., starting pay is \$16.86/hr. Candidates must possess well developed interpersonal communication skills and be a person of utmost integrity. Please send a completed city application and resume to:
 City of Grosse Pointe Woods,
 Attn: Treasurer/Comptroller
 20025 Mack Plaza Drive,
 Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236.
Submission deadline is 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 15, 2020.
 The City of Grosse Pointe Woods is an EOE. General information and employment application is available at www.gpwm.com.
No Phone calls please.

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King Crossword

Solution for last week's puzzle 12/26/19

B	I	B	B	A	H	A	A	M	O	S	
A	L	O	E	M	E	N	T	T	U	B	E
R	I	L	E	O	R	T	H	O	D	O	X
B	A	T	T	E	R	S	U	N	S	E	T
L	O	E	B	G	A	L					
O	R	I	E	N	T	A	L	L	I	S	P
D	I	N	S	T	R	I	P	D	O	E	
D	O	V	E	O	R	N	A	M	E	N	T
E	N	D	E	I	R	E					
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O	R	G	A	N	I	Z	E	A	C	M	E
A	I	L	S	M	O	N	C	O	M	A	
F	L	E	E	B	O	T	E	N	O	S	

- ACROSS**
- 1 Big fish story?
 - 5 Chart
 - 8 Chow —
 - 12 Reverberate
 - 13 Commotion
 - 14 Loosen
 - 15 Sense
 - 16 Result of canonization
 - 18 Liberty
 - 20 Supermarket section
 - 21 Fellow
 - 22 Former M&Ms color
 - 23 O. Henry's specialty
 - 26 Realm
 - 30 Distant
 - 31 Compete
 - 32 Rage
 - 33 Hollywood hope
 - 36 140-character message
 - 38 Conger, e.g.
 - 39 Prohibit
 - 40 Islamic decree
 - 43 Ennui
- DOWN**
- 1 Comic
 - 2 Computer brand
 - 3 Roller coaster outcry
 - 4 Grave
 - 5 Lawyer played by Burr
 - 6 First 21-Across
 - 7 Luau dish
 - 8 Cutting the volume
 - 9 Tackles' teammates
 - 10 "American —"
 - 11 Alaskan city
 - 17 Flatbread of India
 - 19 Rotation duration
 - 22 Dead heat
 - 23 Conditions
 - 24 Snitch
 - 25 Man-mouse link
 - 26 Basinger or Catrall
 - 27 Conk out
 - 28 Raw rock
 - 29 Bumped into
 - 31 Encyc. component
 - 34 Finder's fee
 - 35 Campus VIP
 - 36 Pitch
 - 37 Mechanic's tool
 - 39 Layered ice cream treat
 - 40 Crazes
 - 41 On
 - 42 Genealogy display
 - 43 Match in the ring
 - 44 "Over hill, over — ..."
 - 45 Ellipse
 - 46 Fix
 - 48 "CSI" evidence

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
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15				16				17			
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47					48				49		
50					51				52		
53					54				55		

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle
Solution for last weeks puzzle 12/26/19

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

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8				2				9
	5				6	4		

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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