

Grosse Pointe News

VOL. 81, NO. 15, 14 PAGES
 ONE DOLLAR (DELIVERY 86¢)

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APRIL 9, 2020
 GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

Businesses provide 100 lunches for medical team

By Eddie B. Allen Jr.
 Staff Writer

A few business owners combined resources to help the community's helpers Monday, April 6.

The Curis family, owners of Champs Rotisserie & Seafood, and the Baratta family, owners of Fairway Packing Co., distributed 100 individually packaged lunches to staff members at Ascension St. John Hospital. As the professionals worked to treat patients exposed to a pandemic illness that's taxed the local medical community, the employees

earned the gesture of appreciation, Dan Curis Jr. said.

"We wanted to do something to give back to the hospitals in Grosse Pointe, with all that's going on in the world today," Curis said.

Champs remains open to walk-in customers 3 to 8 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday, which has given the restaurant a lifeline of support since its dining room closed in March, Curis added.

"We're very fortunate. We've got a very loyal clientele and we're lucky that we can keep

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PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Dan Curis Jr.'s car was filled with 100 lunches made at Champs Rotisserie & Seafood and delivered to healthcare workers at Ascension St. John Hospital. Pictured are Curis with Champs chefs Connor Fox and Joe Czerniakowski.

Hope for Heroes Campaign to show appreciation for healthcare workers

By Laurel Kraus
 Staff Writer

In an effort to show gratitude for what healthcare workers are doing behind the scenes during the COVID-19 outbreak, the Ascension St. John Foundation launched the Hope for Heroes Campaign Friday, March 27.

Community members are encouraged to write Cards for Heroes, which could include thank-you notes or inspirational words and will be displayed throughout the hospital's hallways; Lawn Signs of Love, which will be placed around the property for staff to see when looking outside; and Posters of Prayer, which will be placed throughout the parking structures for



COURTESY PHOTO

Hope for Heroes was launched to show appreciation and support for every team member at Ascension St. John Hospital, from the nurses to housekeeping services.

staff to see when they come to work each day.

our caregivers and everyone else," said Lorraine Owczarek,

chief development officer.

"It means so much to

See HEROES, page 5A

Beaumont launches programs to show support for staff

By Laurel Kraus
 Staff Writer

After receiving numerous calls and emails from community members looking to do something to support healthcare workers during the COVID-19 outbreak, the Beaumont hospital system has put together various programs to show support.

"Our doctors and nurses, our respiratory therapists and social workers, our pharmacists, our housekeeping and nutrition workers, our transporters and all of our staff are just working tirelessly to support our patients and they really need the support of the community," Beaumont Nurse Lisa

Muma said, "and we have such a tremendously supportive community that has absolutely been phenomenal throughout this."

Leading the effort is a play off of Beaumont's popular Moon Beams for Sweet Dreams program held in December, where families gather outside Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak to shine flashlights as a show of support for pediatric patients in the hospital during the holidays.

Now, Beaumont is asking everyone to participate in Home Beams for Healthcare Teams by stepping outside at 8 p.m. every night and shining flashlights

See SUPPORT, page 4A

Online learning continues through end of school year

By Mary Anne Brush
 Staff Writer

School buildings may be closed for the remainder of the school year, but learning continues in the Grosse Pointe Public School System.

Beginning March 16, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer closed elementary and secondary schools throughout the state to mitigate

the spread of COVID-19. It was uncertain at that time whether buildings would reopen.

The answer came with a new executive order. On April 2, Whitmer announced she was suspending in-person instruction of K-12 students and providing "limited and temporary relief from certain restrictions and requirements so that K-12 education may continue by the

best alternative means possible."

According to the order, "While there is no substitute for a highly trained and experienced teacher interacting with students in a classroom, schools must continue to provide, and students must continue to receive, the highest level of educational opportunities possible under the difficult circumstances now

before us."

While the governor has asked school districts to create a continuity-in-learning plan and submit it for approval, how this is achieved differs from school district to school district, Grosse Pointe Public School System Director of Secondary Instruction Maureen Bur said.

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Pointer of INTEREST

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Elisa Gurule

Home: Grosse Pointe Park Resident launches "Feed the Frontline" to nourish overworked hospital staff members



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Landlord gives three-month rent forgiveness to Detroit businesses

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

While businesses across the state are facing struggles following Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's stay-at-home order, approximately 40 percent of small-business owners and retailers in downtown Detroit are breathing a little easier thanks to a small-business survival plan set up by development company Bedrock.

"When we began to understand the impact of COVID-19, we reached out to all of our tenants to understand what challenges they had, what concerns they had sort of on an individual basis and concluded that we could be helpful in a couple dif-

ferent ways," said Matt Cullen, CEO of Bedrock and a Grosse Pointe Woods resident.

The most significant is a three-month rent forgiveness plan — 60 days for larger businesses — which includes rent payments, associated charges and even parking.

"We knew that a number of the restaurants were closed already," Cullen said. "Some were outright closed. Some were still doing carryout and so on, but had a lot of challenges relative to looking after their people and making decisions on their business. Retailers at the time were still open, some of them, but they were making decisions to close as well, so what we

did is we rolled out a program that we thought would be a thoughtful reaction to their circumstances. It was significant enough to be impactful economically and it was a long enough duration that it gave them some breathing room to get organized."

The plan impacts dozens of Detroit businesses at a cost of millions of dollars for Bedrock.

"We've worked really hard to put the retail and small-business network in place downtown," Cullen explained of the Dan Gilbert company. "There's a component of doing good, if you will. It's the right thing to do. We're kind of in this together and when people are down and need a helping hand, then we

can be there in this instance and be helpful, but there's a part that's pragmatic, too, which is look, this is important and it's tough to put together and we don't want to lose it during this period of time."

Bedrock's plan should help the businesses remain open despite the extreme loss in revenue during the COVID-19 outbreak.

"It's easy to contemplate that even when the stay-at-home thing changes, it'll still take a bit of time to ramp up and we didn't want people to be kind of week-to-week trying to make decisions as to whether or not they would have the resources to stay in place," Cullen said, "and so we felt like if we did

90 days right out of the box, they would be able to be thoughtful about getting ready to reopen as opposed to worrying about how they were going to maintain themselves through another week or two.

"Based on the feedback from our tenant base, it has been a great relief to them and I think we could anticipate that it will be very impactful on a number of them staying in place," he added.

Additionally, the Bedrock team gathered comprehensive information on available programs and best practices for small businesses during this time, which is offered on its website, bedrockdetroit.com, and is helping the busi-

nesses remain connected with their customers.

"I think because it had been created having worked with all the different folks, it reflected their concerns in a very appropriate way and I think it's been well received as a result," Cullen said.

While he believes not all circumstances are the same, Cullen hopes other landlords will see Bedrock's approach and look into putting similar plans in place.

"It may not be the same, but I hope people will follow the lead of understanding how important the small businesses are and doing what they can do to help them get through this," he said.

Pier Park gate crusher ends up in Lake St. Clair

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — Yet again, the exit gates at Grosse Pointe Farms Pier Park were crashed through by a vehicle at approximately 1:30 a.m. Saturday, April 4, leaving

them a total loss and damaging the gatehouse as well.

The Chrysler 300 struck an interior fence as it continued into Pier Park, before driving into the harbor near the west end of the recreation building.

Discovering the vehi-

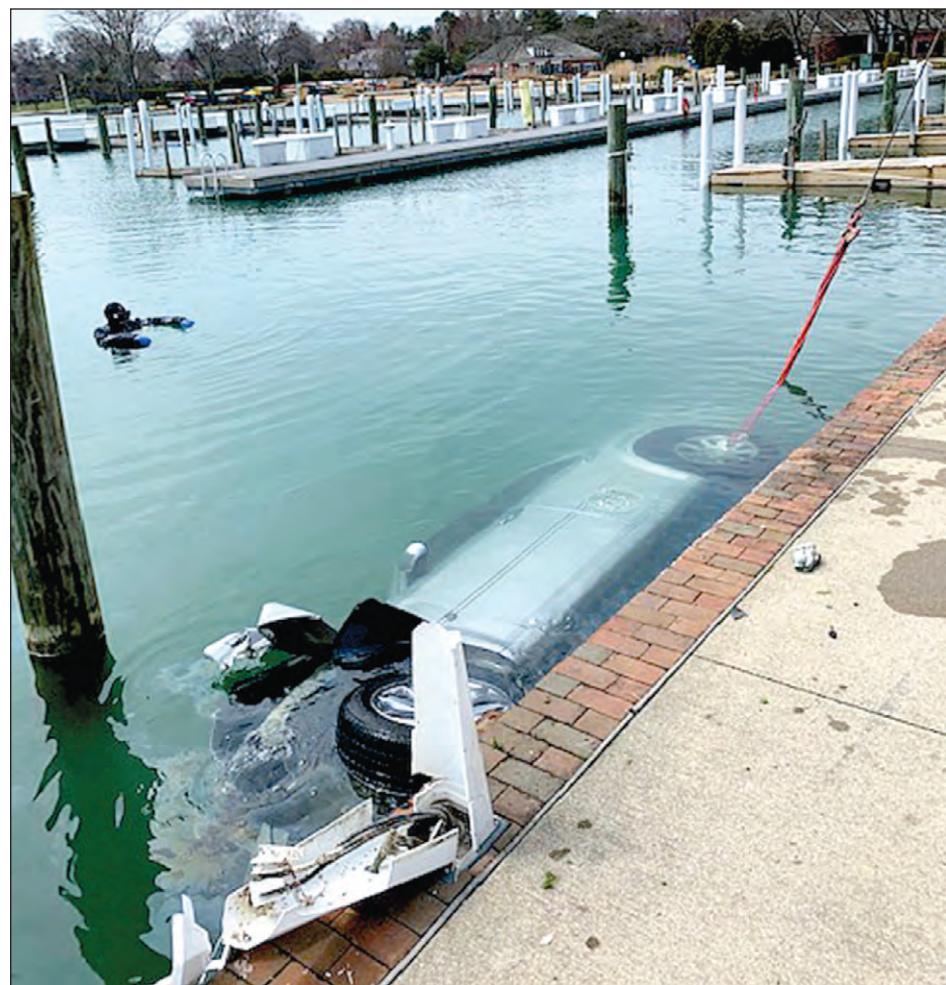
cle entirely submerged in Lake St. Clair, the Grosse Pointe Farms dive team was activated, but no one was found in the car or the surrounding area.

When a registration check on the license plate showed the vehicle registered out of Warren, detectives were able to interview the owner of the car, who reported that at approximately 3:30 a.m. her boyfriend arrived at her home via cab and was soaking wet.

The man in his mid-30s reportedly told her he had driven her car into the river, then left her residence.

The car was uninsured, the woman added.

Public safety is aware of the suspect's identity and the investigation is ongoing.



COURTESY PHOTO

The Grosse Pointe Farms dive team investigates the Chrysler 300 submerged in the harbor.

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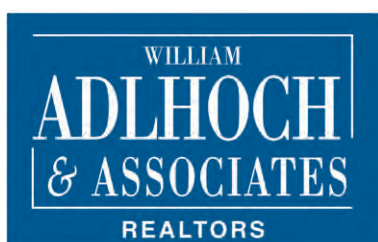
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Patriot Theater virtually reopens

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — In a program

Grosse Pointe News

USPS 230-400

PUBLISHED EVERY
THURSDAY BY
POINTE NEWS INCORPORATED

16980 KERCHEVAL AVE.
GROSSE POINTE, MI 48230
PHONE: (313) 882-6900

PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID at Detroit,
Michigan and additional mailing offices.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: \$44.50 per year
via mail in the Metro area, \$65 outside.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to
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The deadline for news copy is 3 p.m.
Monday.

Advertising proof deadline is 5:00 p.m.
Friday.

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similar to the Netflix experience, The Patriot Theater at The War Memorial now offers virtual cinema screenings through its website.

"The studios and theater owners like The Patriot Theatre have been brainstorming for ways to keep our audience, our patrons engaged while they can't actually go to the theater and it was kind of a groundswell of an idea that leveled up from several studios and a lot of us owners and they said, 'What if we just make the films available to you?'" Patriot Theater curator Bruce Ferguson explained.

The Patriot Theater currently is streaming "Balloon," "The Perfect Nanny," "Once Were Brothers: Robbie Robertson and The Band," "The Whistlers" and "The Etruscan Smile," but already is in licensing talks for a half dozen additional films that could drop in the next week.

"Right now they're

primarily what I think a lot of us would consider independent films," Ferguson said, "a lot of the stuff we would be showing at The Patriot Theatre anyway. ... The smaller studios and theaters like us have really found a cool partnership here.

"So it's a lot of independent films, a lot of documentaries and a lot of stuff that's getting great reviews, but people wouldn't know where to go see it," he continued. "So we're thrilled that we've got some really cool and maybe a little hard to find or outside of that mainstream blockbuster-type films available."

Since the physical Patriot Theater currently is closed and does not have operating costs, a significant portion of the net proceeds from the virtual cinema will go toward the non-profit arts community.

"It will be to help the arts community get back on their feet after this, so what we're

doing is simply saying, what we make on this isn't going to go into The Patriot Theater/War Memorial pocket," Ferguson said. "We're going to turn around and make sure we're meeting needs in the short term and then benefiting the broader arts, culture Detroit community at large, because we think there's going to be a lot of ways that we can be that hand up to people when things get back to normal, whatever the normal's going to become."

Virtual cinema offerings will continue at a minimum until The Patriot Theater is able to reopen, Ferguson reported.

"Nothing is going to thrill me more than to get patrons back in our seats," he said. "I want to see our place filled. I want to see the movie theater industry filled again, because people love the going-to-the-movies experience. But we also realize there's

See THEATER, page 3A

Departments consolidate

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES AND WOODS — Following years of preparation for a consolidation agreement that began with a \$500,000 grant from the state, the Shores Department of Public Safety transferred its dispatch and lock-up services to the Woods Wednesday, April 1.

“Pretty much things are so far, so good,” Shores Public Safety Director John Schulte reported. “We know that 911 lines, they’ve been tested (and) they’re functioning properly. Our non-emergency calls that come into the phone distribution center, those are being transferred properly.”

The partnership includes the Woods housing the Shores’ arrests, along with bond collection and handling its incoming 911 calls.

The City and Park have a similar consolidation agreement.

“We have a good relationship with the Shores,” Woods Public Safety Director John Kosanke said. “We have a mutual-aid pact with the Shores that we’ve worked together for decades and I’ve worked with Director

Schulte on this project for quite a while and we both wanted the same thing. We wanted this to be a good relationship after the consolidation and so far, from what I see, it’s going very well.”

Previously, the Shores partnered with the Farms for dispatch and lock-up services since November 2011.

“There’s a couple little bugs that we need to work out,” Schulte said of the switchover. “We have alarms that are on a dedicated line to Grosse Pointe Farms. We’re going to switch those to Grosse Pointe Woods and we also have a high water alarm for the city of Grosse Pointe Shores that reports to the Farms dispatch center that’s being redirected to Grosse Pointe Woods. But Grosse Pointe Farms has been very understanding and very helpful in the switchover and in monitoring the situation in the interim.”

Shores residents shouldn’t notice much of a change, he added. 911 calls will be received the same as in the past, but simply routed through the Woods rather than Farms.

“My officers, instead of directing their broad-

casts to Grosse Pointe Farms, they now direct them to Grosse Pointe Woods,” Schulte further explained. “For the officers, it’s basically the same other than the identifier in sending your radio requests or receiving radio calls.”

As part of the \$500,000 grant, the Woods recently upgraded both its 911 system and lock-up facility.

“This is an ideal set up for Grosse Pointe Shores,” Schulte said. “We are a very small community and our calls for service are minimal and we have been cordially welcomed by Grosse Pointe Woods. ... It’s a great partnership and I have a feeling that it will last for many, many years. It’s ideal for us, because we’re really too small to get back into the dispatch business and they’ve done such a great job.”

Both directors reported the transition has been fairly seamless so far.

“My hope is to even strengthen our relationship more with Grosse Pointe Shores and maybe in the future to consolidate maybe more services and equipment purchases,” Kosanke said.



Ghost town

City of Grosse Pointe resident Garrett Myers took his drone to the skies Friday, April 3, while enjoying a sunny early spring day.

“Normally, you’d expect throngs of people to be out on such a nice spring day, walking, playing tennis, Little League tryouts, young families at Elworthy Park and lots of auto traffic,” he wrote in an email. “I was the only person at Elworthy and encountered nearly no one on my five-block walk through the Grosse Pointe Village on the way to the park.”

Pictured above is Elworthy’s empty field and tennis courts, and below, an aerial shot of Kercheval in The Village and empty Village sidewalks.



THEATER:

Continued from page 2A

probably going to be a niche or bigger that’s not going away, of services needed that we can fill by providing virtual cinema. So I don’t see this going away. I think it’s critical to everybody right now, but I also think that when The Patriot Theatre reopens, there’s still going to be a real benefit to the arts community at large for us to stream.”

He also is considering putting together a series of guest curators to stream virtual mini film festivals.

“So there’s a lot of things in place here,” Ferguson said. “A lot of moving parts. A lot of ideas that still have to take shape, but this has

opened up a potential whole new door to really meet our audience’s requests and desires.”

A number of bigger studios began virtually dropping blockbuster movies such as “The Invisible Man” and “Emma” about a week prior.

“I couldn’t be more thrilled that The Patriot Theatre has reopened for all of our audiences,” Ferguson said. “That’s the most important thing to me. We’re not

dark. We’re not quiet. We’re open again. There’s nothing I like better as the curator at The Patriot Theatre than bringing film to people and so the fact that I can do it in the midst of this COVID thrills me.

“The future’s going to be great,” he continued. “Future plans are great, but the bottom line right now is The Patriot Theatre’s open and we’re getting great film content to our audience. I couldn’t be happier.”

LUNCHES:

Continued from page 1A

going based on the volume of our carryout,” he said.

Teaming with the family of their primary meat supplier to provide hospital workers with rib and chicken snacks was a logical decision, since Champs has worked with Fairway for years, Curis said.

Gino and Joey Baratta, third-generation owners of Fairway, said the lunch effort represented the Baratta and Curis families’ commitment to a hospital that serves the community where they were raised. The Grosse Pointe News and Mary Anna Daskas, CEO of KBD Detroit and a Fairway business associate, helped sponsor the meal giveaway.

“We’re all in this together right now,” Gino Baratta said. “It’s like a nightmare situation at all levels.”

Joey Baratta said Fairway has begun relying on curbside delivery and online orders after losing about 95 percent of the company’s conventional distribution profits.

“We’re feeling it, too, right now,” he said.

But the Baratta family’s need to support the community’s healthcare effort outweighed business concerns, he added.

Depending on the length of the crisis, the lunch giveaway could become a monthly event, Curis said.

“What better than to feed the people on the front lines, fighting to save people’s lives?” he said.



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4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

Food for 'frontline' is Pointer's focus

By Eddie B. Allen Jr.
Staff Writer

Elisa Gurule is a firsthand witness to the dedication of doctors serving the public during an unprecedented health challenge. Her husband, Chris D'Angelo, is an emergency room physician who, like countless others today, makes daily sacrifices to help send his patients home.

But Gurule says there's one sacrifice no medical professional should have to make in such a difficult time — food.

Unlike larger hospitals, several emergency healthcare facilities lack cafeterias or in-house meals for staff. The need to help sustain caregivers overwhelmed by long hours led Gurule to launch the "Feed the Frontline" project. Targeting Henry Ford Health System satellite locations, the days-old effort seeks donations of food and cash to supply some of the Detroit area's premier chefs with necessities.

"I'm trying to keep things going through the chefs, so I'm not asking them to donate the food. I'm asking them to donate the time," Gurule said.

James Beard Award-nominated Omar Anani, owner of the Moroccan restaurant Saffron De



COURTESY PHOTOS

Elisa Gurule recently launched "Feed the Frontline" in support of health care workers.

Twah, and Mike Ransom, owner of Ima Noodles, have signed on, along with Rose's Fine Food owner Molly Mitchell, Gurule said.

A Grosse Pointe Park resident, Gurule notes that nearby Ascension St. John Hospital and downtown Detroit-area hospitals are more visible than

locations like Henry Ford Medical Center-Fairlane, which "Feed the Frontline" has first targeted. Her goal is to also serve Henry Ford's Cottage location in Grosse Pointe Farms and similar sites.

Working with urgency from her home, and while caring for her

young children, Gurule hasn't even had the chance to personally meet the chefs who've agreed to prepare 50 lunches for each hospital delivery.

"You can do a lot with an internet and a telephone," she said.

Aside from filling a basic need, Gurule wants "Feed the Frontline" to symbolize a relationship.

"I am a really avid home cook," she said. "I'm not a chef, by any stretch of the imagination, and I don't even go out to eat very much because it's too much of a hassle to arrange babysitting and things like that. But I host the big holidays at my house and I spend a lot of time thinking about food and its uses and purposes, the way that it connects people, the way that it preserves culture, the way that it expands interaction."

Both Saffron De Twah and Rose's Fine Food temporarily closed before being directed to do so by the state, out of concern for the public's safety. Anani said he'd begun looking for ways to help the community, so he was immediately receptive to "Feed the Frontline" when Gurule contacted him.

"I was of more benefit to our community by closing than by just wait-

ing in the restaurant for people to pick up food" for carryouts, he said.

Anani had already delivered 100 meals to laid-off restaurant industry employees, some of whom include his own staff.

"While I say we do these things, we don't do them to anywhere near the level of the people sacrificing what these doctors are doing to try to keep their families safe," Anani added. "Instead of saying, 'I'm just going to stay home,' they're going out and treating people who are sick."

Saffron De Twah's temporary closure is the reason he has time to build food boxes for "Feed the Frontline," he said.

Gurule is grateful for

the support of chefs and restaurants who've jumped on board with short notice, but more help from caterers and food suppliers is needed for local doctors and nurses, she said.

"In my perfect world we'd have the Olympic nutrition team, because they're doing hard work and it's extremely physical," Gurule said.

Anyone seeking information or ways to support "Feed the Frontline" can email Gurule at ehgurule@gmail.com. Ima Noodles' and Saffron De Twah's websites are set up to receive donations to support hospital staffs.

"I want them to feel 'loved on,'" Gurule added, "because they're doing impossible work with unmet resources."



Gurule and her son, Frankie, check out a butterfly.

SUPPORT:

Continued from page 1A

toward the nearest hospital.

"That will let all of our staff know that they're thinking about them," Muma explained. "Many staff will be driving home at that time (and) people in your neighborhoods that are healthcare workers might not be at work at that time, so it'll be seen by lots of people and it's also a way to show your care for your neighbors. We're not able to get out and talk with our neighbors at all, but if everybody's out in their front yards or their porch shining a flashlight, that's a show of support for each other as well."

As another way to support its healthcare teams, blue ribbons have been tied around the trees on all Beaumont campuses, including the Southfield service center.

"They were extremely happy to see the blue ribbons out," Muma said of Beaumont staff. "Several people commented on just how that show of



COURTESY PHOTOS

Blue ribbons are tied around trees at all Beaumont campuses as a show of support for healthcare workers amid the COVID-19 outbreak.

support and unity really helped them. As they're leaving for the day, seeing those ribbons flying and knowing that that's support for them, they really appreciate it."

Community members also are asked to tie blue ribbons around their trees if they already have

the supplies. Muma emphasized they don't want anyone going to stores to buy ribbon.

Blue Christmas lights or placing a blue bulb in porch lights are other alternatives.

Additional options for supporting Beaumont staff include sending an e-greeting via the hospital's website, sending drawings and artwork to socialmedia@beaumont.org and donating supplies.

"Everyone's working really hard," Muma said

of the morale in Beaumont hospitals. "It's a stressful time and everyone is working together. The teams are pulling together and working very hard."

Beaumont is asking anyone who participates in these efforts of support to take pictures and post them with the hashtags #healthcareheroes and #Beaumont health.

"That support really makes a difference and it really lights the spirits of our team members," Muma said.

City officials say Woods pension strategy is on target

By Eddie B. Allen Jr.
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — Recent concerns discussed in some corners of the community about the future of retiree city pensions might be valid, but Woods pension deficits resemble the state of pension funding in cities across Michigan, a review by the Grosse Pointe News found.

Pension debt has long been a concern for municipalities tasked with providing city budget distribution for a broader spectrum of current employees, resources and services, and the challenges related to the formula for properly balancing what retirees have earned with what cities generate have grown in recent years.

"Only five of the largest municipalities in Michigan fully fund their pension, with the average city funded at only 71 percent — more than \$5.572 billion in total liabilities," reads a 2019 finding by the Mackinac Center for Public Policy.

As the city with the largest population in the Pointes, the Woods also has been staffed with a larger number of city workers and eventual retirees. There are 75 employees paying into the program of 102 beneficiaries. Mayor Bob Novitke, who is a member of the Grosse Pointe Woods Pension Board, said the city undergoes continuous monitoring by auditors who regularly evaluate the funding's status.

"They feel we're in very good shape compared with where most

communities are," Novitke said.

While the Woods pension status of \$42 million liability is about 40 percent funded, according to Government Accounting Standards Board Statement 68, an actuary assesses the status at 70 percent funded, so even making firm determinations can be tricky, said Cathy Behrens, the city's comptroller and pension administrator.

"We are funded at a level based on what the actuary is recommending," Behrens added.

Funding is based on a percentage of the city's payroll and the financing translates to \$100,000 annually.

"We have an approved plan through the state of Michigan that says we are going to try and put into this plan \$200,000 a year," Behrens said.

"It's a very complicated thing and it's a moving target because it changes every year."

Despite criticism that the numbers are being mishandled and the Woods might not be addressing its deficit competently, Behrens said the city handles its pension funding guidelines according to state recommendations. Variables like the number of employees who have deferred their pensions because they're too young to retire add to reasons that a look at the figures won't tell the whole story: "You're not comparing apples to apples," she said.

Factors like the nationwide 2008 housing crisis impacted city budgets

See PENSION, page 5A

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Community members are encouraged to post their support with the hashtag #healthcareheroes.



COURTESY PHOTO

Special delivery

Last Friday and Saturday, April 3 and 4, The Hill Seafood & Chop House donated and delivered 100 meals to Ascension St. John Hospital. This week, April 9-11, and next week, April 16-18, Edmund T. AHEE Jewelers is donating funds to deliver another 150 meals each week. The Hill also plans to deliver food to Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe. Pictured from left are Chef Sherard Nunn, Dianna Bennett and Chef Jeff Kay.

Szandzik named state's Pharmacist of the Year

Edward G. Szandzik of Grosse Pointe Woods received the Michigan Pharmacists Association Pharmacist of the Year Award during the association's recent annual convention.

The award, Michigan's highest honor in the pharmacy profession, is given to a pharmacist who demonstrates professional excellence and exemplary service to the profession in advancing public health at the state or local level.

Szandzik received his degree in pharmacy from Wayne State University in 1980, and began his career with the Henry Ford Health System the same year. Over the ensuing

years, he has held a variety of positions with increasing responsibilities, including clinical pharmacist, administrative manager, senior manager and director of pharmacy. He completed an MBA degree at Wayne State University in 1986. Currently he is vice president of pharmacy at Henry Ford Health System with overall responsibility for pharmacy services at the organization's six Michigan hospitals. In that position, Szandzik worked with pharmacy leadership to help unify and standardize pharmacy services across the system and expand residency training programs.

PENSION:

Continued from page 4A

that rippled into pension funding challenges, experts say.

Only seven cities in all of Michigan had greater pension assets than liabilities, based on a recent Mackinac Center for Public Policy report. Even within the Pointes, the best reflection of balance stems from the city with the smallest budget. Rhonda Ricketts, finance officer and treasurer for Grosse Pointe Shores, represents a one-woman department where she oversees everything from pension funding to water billing.

"As far as our pension system, our pension system is good," said Ricketts, who has worked 33 years for the city.

But similar to the Woods, the Shores' actuarial of 93 percent differed from the state's assessment, which "was a lot lower," Ricketts said. Unfunded liability for the Shores pension system is just \$1.5 million while the total liability is \$23.5 million, said Ricketts. But retiree healthcare remains a concern for the city, "probably along with 99 percent of the communities in the state of Michigan," she added.

"As far as retiree healthcare, for one thing, healthcare expenses keep increasing every year and those increases could even be double digits," Ricketts said.

Changes in lifespan

also have impacted calculations like the Woods' \$34.3 million in healthcare liability, compared to just \$800,000 in assets, Behrens said.

"People are living longer," said Behrens, "which is a good thing, and we have these obligations."

Unions representing city employees throughout the Pointes have negotiated similar retirement healthcare benefits, but the nature of benefits further impacts liability, Ricketts said.

"Those things have been promised to our retirees and you want to try and keep your promise, obviously, but in ways that decrease the expense," she added.

As in the Woods, examining ways to ensure benefits is an ongoing process in the Shores.

"It is a concern for us, probably along with 99 percent of the communities in the state of Michigan," Ricketts said.

In the Woods, measures to address retiree healthcare funding have included negotiating to decrease liability for employees hired after 2007, and negotiating terms among those hired after 2012.

While the effort is tremendous and ongoing, the city meets required goals and will continue working toward improvement, Behrens added.

"We are among other municipalities," she said. "Some are just scrambling because they're in such bad shape."

HEROES:

Continued from page 1A

cer/interim director of operations at Ascension St. John Foundation. "It's the nurses; it's the physicians; it's the maintenance workers; it's the housekeeping services; it's food and nutrition. They're all in that hospital and they're all impacted by this and we don't want any of them to feel that their jobs aren't as important as someone else's."

"Everyone's job in that hospital is important and that's what makes the associates at Ascension St. John Hospital so wonderful, because they work together as a team," she continued. "And it's because of that teamwork that we're able to do what we do."

Materials may be dropped off in a bin located outside of Professional Building II off Moross.

"One of the gentlemen was putting up his sign ... out in front of the hospital and he called me afterward and he said all the people that walked by going into the hospital just kept saying, 'Thank you. Thank you,'" Owczarek reported. "So we know how much this is appreciated by our staff, because they have so much on their shoulders right now."

The bin already has handled a significant amount of materials from the community.

"The community that our hospital sits in is beyond words," Owczarek said. "They are just the most caring and selfless people I know and they just want to see that everyone's taken care of and the outpouring from them has been wonderful."

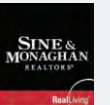
Ascension St. John will continue collecting materials until



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COURTESY PHOTO

The bin to drop off cards, signs and posters is located outside Professional Building II off Moross on the Ascension St. John Hospital campus.

approximately the end of April. "We just appreciate everybody who is helping out and every little bit counts," she said.

Grosse Pointe Park

Seat stealer

Two white, metal patio chairs valued at \$200 were stolen from a home in the 900 block of Three Mile sometime between Saturday, March 28, and Thursday, April 2. The suspect is unknown, police said.

— Eddie B. Allen Jr.

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

City of Grosse Pointe

Car wash needed

After being fired from a business in the 300 block of Fisher Road, a 32-year-old man spit on his manager's vehicle and wrote a derogatory word in mud on the rear of the vehicle Friday, March 27.

Kids will be kids

A group of children entered a new construction home in the 300 block of Lakeland Street Friday, March 27, but no damage was reported.

Grumpy grandma

A 64-year-old Park woman was found to be operating while intoxicated after being involved in a road rage incident in the 300 block of Rivard Boulevard Thursday, April 2.

She said she just wanted to see her grand-

PUBLIC SAFETY

kids and was cited for operating while intoxicated and violating the COVID-19 stay-at-home order.

Bicycle theft

An unlocked bike was discovered stolen from the 400 block of Fisher Road Thursday, April 2.

Open roads, risky decisions

An officer overheard a 24-year-old Woods man yelling at another driver to drag race at Jefferson Avenue and Lakeland Street, before observing the race Thursday, April 2. The driver was cited.

House fire

Smoke was seen inside a home in the 700 block of University Place and the wood on the addition of the home was smoldering Friday, April 3. Officers were able to extinguish the fire and vent the home.

The homeowner reported he had been burning leaves earlier in the day.

Working from home

Officers found the 72-year-old owner of a business at Mack Avenue and Fisher Road to be living inside his business Saturday, April 4.

The man denied living there, but the officers observed food and garbage scattered through the building.

The world is not your toilet

A 43-year-old man was seen defecating on a sidewalk at Mack Avenue and Lincoln Road Saturday, April 4.

Officers found the man and gave him the opportunity to clean the mess, to which he complied.

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

Grosse Pointe Farms

Next in a long line of gate crashers

At approximately 1:30 a.m. Saturday, April 4, a man in his mid-30s drove his vehicle through the Pier Park exit gates and into Lake St. Clair. He was gone by the time officers arrived, but public safety was able to identify him through the vehi-

cle's registration. The investigation is ongoing.

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

Grosse Pointe Shores

Pick a side

A 53-year-old Detroit man was arrested for operating under the influence at 1:56 a.m. Tuesday, March 31, after an officer noticed his vehicle parked half on the grass and half on Lakeshore Road in front of Grosse Pointe Shores Osius Park.

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

Grosse Pointe Woods

Public safety reports were not available.

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

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Grosse Pointe News

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY POINTE NEWS INCORPORATED
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OUR VIEW

Sad, ugly, good of our times

The speed and fury with which COVID-19 has struck metro Detroit remains mind-numbing, even defiant of analysis beyond the pleas to stay home and stay safe. But a few themes are beginning to emerge:

The sad: Mourning has become the mode as COVID-19 penetrates into every community. Because of the severity of the outbreak, those who are passing on from any cause hardly get their due in terms of grief and, ultimately, appreciation.

Among the newly missed is Edward Barbieri Jr., the driving force behind Da Edoardo in Grosse Pointe Woods, who died April 2 at the age of 70. The restaurant was named after Mr. Barbieri's father, who had a restaurant downtown and often was at work in the Woods location. But Mr. Barbieri Jr. "was the one that made that business go," his son, Edward Barbieri III, told the Detroit Free Press.

Da Edoardo elevated the Italian menu for an untold number of Grosse Pointers, as Mr. Barbieri Jr. introduced the flair of northern Italy after visiting his father's hometown near Modena each summer.

His death followed a decade of lung problems unrelated to the coronavirus outbreak. His life brought years of wonderful meals and hospitality to all his local patrons.

The passing of Tiger great Al Kaline this week is another milestone that stings. At age 85, his legendary years on the field and then in the broadcast booth have long been woven into the cultural fabric around here. Detroit's record-holding Hall of Famer, member of 18 All-Star teams — gone during the deprivation already created by no baseball this spring. It just feels unfair.

The ugly: The increase in walking, jogging, dog parading, etc., has led to an increase in litter. There are even misguided if perhaps well-intended deposits near the trash cans inside fenced-off school playgrounds.

This is no time to get lazy about picking up after yourself or your dog. If anything, getting the germs back to your own garbage is more important than ever.

The increase in disposable gloves and other forms of protection has led to another problem: people who strip away their gear after shopping and drop it outside, a hazard that the city of Grosse Pointe Woods has pointed out.

It's rude, disgusting and unnecessary. You can remove gloves by turning them inside out, so the exposed surface is all tucked away, until you can dispose of them properly.

Presumably this is a short-term problem and Grosse Pointers can rise to the challenge of carting their own trash back home.

And that trash, according to a reminder from the City of Grosse Pointe, needs to be carefully packed into a tied bag in order to protect the sanitation workers who then have to get all your germs and castoffs into their trucks. (Recycling, conversely, needs to be loose but rinsed clean and dry.)

Please remember that everyone's safety is important these days!

The good: The Guest View suggestion a week ago about turning Jefferson-Lakeshore into a Sunday promenade may have roused a smile or two. It came from Paul T. Giblin of Grosse Pointe, who likened a recent, nearly traffic-less Sunday stroll to the Avenue des Champs-Élysées.

Is this something to experiment with now, as an unexpected community plus, with help from the public safety departments involved? To file away for the future, especially if a new road plan can be incorporated into rebuilding the seawall?

Or, just maybe, a lakeside promenade could also be one item in a bigger file: Dreams in the time of COVID-19.

As rough a period as this is for many, many people, do some things actually seem better? Or give you unexpected joy? What, if anything, out of this period would you build upon, especially as a community?



One of our own

The Grosse Pointe News lost a dear friend and co-worker to the coronavirus this week: Barbara Yazbeck

Vethacke, who ran the Classified Advertising department for more than 20 years. Work was her hobby, she always said. She was usually the first one in the office and the last to leave at the end of the day. We already miss her cheerful greetings in the morning and her professionalism day in and day out. She died Sunday, April 5, at Ascension St. John Hospital. She was to turn 75 this month.

GUEST VIEW By Joy Flood, Grosse Pointe Farms

The COVID-19 Neighbor

Friends and strangers alike have mentioned how different the landscape is with all the people outside, walking, riding bikes, working in their yards while maintaining a social distance. For all the ills, COVID-19 is bringing people outside to share their communities and neighborhoods.

The Grosse Pointe neighborhoods provide safe sidewalks, uncrowded streets and beautiful homes and yards. It remains to be seen if we are able to display a decorum of neighborly concern and respect as we become accustomed to "Stay Home, Stay Safe, Save Lives."

Some things to consider as you reflect upon the changes to your daily routine and how we impact our neighbors:

Are you a dog walker? It's not a new problem, but could you be more diligent at picking up after your dog and disposing of the bag in the correct place? Why leave the bags on the sidewalk? Take them to the trash. There are community trash cans throughout the Pointes; there is a trash can at your home.

Are your children riding bikes on the sidewalk? Great that they are outside getting fresh air. Have you told them they must share the sidewalk with walkers? Could you teach them bike riding etiquette? They should shout passing when behind walkers and pass on the left. Without the verbal warning or bell, the walker, dog and rider collide.

On trash pick-up day, do you leave your trash cans

out past 7 p.m.? Why and how many times have you walked or driven past them? A pleasant walk can be spoiled by unsightly trash cans.

Our children are being schooled from home. Many adults are working from home. It's a new arrangement. Granted you might want to have the kids outside, because you are struggling with this new constant and yet are you teaching them to use moderate outside voices? Are you teaching them that they should be considerate of their neighbors?

Some voices — children's and parents' — exceed the school playground sound limit and they adversely affect the peaceful coexistence of your surrounding neighbors. There is a moderate outside voice vs. a continuous level of high pitch noise. It's time to open our windows and let fresh air in, we should be able to do this with some assurance of peacefulness.

Are you a neighbor who has a devotion to their leaf blower? Granted you can clear a yard quickly with a leaf blower and yet could you consider the noise level and the effect on your neighbors as they try to work, keep the kids focused on school work or nap? Think about open windows, working on a deadline, new levels of stress and the hour-, two-hour-long routine of the neighbor's lawn blower.

This new normal could exceed our expectations, even our fears. Respecting our community and neighbors, on all levels, might lighten the burden of the COVID-19 crisis and brighten our days.

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.

Children count

To the Editor:

My name is Dr. Leela Chandrasekar and I am a pediatrician from Grosse Pointe.

The 2020 census is already well underway and children under 5 are at a high risk of being missed.

The 2010 census missed more than 2 million children under 5, costing states \$550 million per year in lost federal funding for the Children's Health Insurance Program, Medicaid, foster care, adoption and child care

services. On average, schools lost \$1,695 per year for every school-aged child missed.

Counting all our children lets the federal government know how much we need to spend on children's health care, child care, education and other resources as children grow over the next 10 years.

Census figures will determine how the government spends over \$800 billion in federal funding. If a 2-year-old child is not counted in the census, the implications last for 10 years, which is the majority of

their childhood.

All children, including babies born before April 1, need to be counted.

There are many ways to complete the census — online, by mail or by phone. It should take 10 minutes or less and the results are completely confidential.

Please spread the word and encourage your family, friends and neighbors to count their children in the 2020 census.

LEELA

CHANDRASEKAR, M.D.
Grosse Pointe

Take a pause on reconfiguration

Dear Board of Education and Administration:

I am writing to you to ask that you take a pause on this reconfiguration effort.

Considering this unprecedented challenge that COVID-19 has brought upon the world, the timing for this reconfiguration could not be worse.

As with the rest of the world, our community is still reeling from the tragedy surrounding this virus and the continual impact it has on our everyday lives. Our kids are being asked to comprehend something that many adults are having a hard time with.

In addition to the physical health concerns obviously associated with this virus, the mental health and well being are also a concern.

The abrupt end to the school year will make transitioning next year all that much more challenging. The loss of learning (despite our teachers' fantastic efforts so far), the inability to say goodbye to friends and teachers and just the lack of emotional closure that comes with that end of the year time, particularly those at Poupard and Trombly, will make transitioning to a new building all that much

See LETTERS, page 7A

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I SAY By Eddie B. Allen Jr.

Donning the right mask



The worst-case scenario goes something like this: I'm getting peculiar glances and cautious stares from the other customers.

It's an extended daydream, generated as I contemplate my first venture outside in three days. I'm at the grocery store. It's mainly Vitamin C I need. (I'm kind of a health nut — between extended junk food binges.)

I notice the glares, but don't know why I'm receiving them. Activity

in the aisles slows to a virtual halt, aside from occasional whispers, more loudly projected than normal, due to social distancing. My bemused state is interrupted when I hear a voice behind me.

"Sir, I need you to come with me," the man says.

I turn toward him, already knowing I'm about to look into the face of a cop.

"What's wrong?" I ask, genuinely clueless. "I just walked in the door."

"You're wearing a mask, sir," he replies. His partner shakes his head, disapprovingly.

I look around at the other customers, all of who've made me the center of their attention.

"But everybody's wearing a mask!" I note

with frustration.

"They're white, sir," the cop tells me, calmly.

I look again, quickly realizing he's right. I sigh as I'm led from the store. At least, there are no handcuffs in my purely imagined, worst-case scenario. Apparently I'm not headed to lockup.

In real life and real time, I should note that John Kosanke and Stephen Poloni, the public safety directors of cities I cover, head departments in which, literally, every person has treated me pleasantly and professionally.

I don't envision myself in the Park or Woods encountering officers like the pair in my daydream. But those were the peculiar thoughts in my mind as I pondered a

market run.

With no medical mask — only red and black bandanas to choose from — could I cover my nose and mouth without looking like I robbed stagecoaches?

I've been skipping the masks and would have kept doing so if it weren't for a relative who works as a nurse. She suggested I add it to the personal safety precautions so many of us are taking these days.

But I blame my mother for planting the seeds of paranoia that I might get arrested for — of all things — breathing while black. It was Ma who told me, "Don't let the police see you like that," on a cold winter day years ago, as I headed out to remove her snow, bandana secured over

my mouth and nose.

"Seriously?" I wondered. "Wouldn't they have to notice the shovel, too?"

I've since become familiar with the saying, "Just because I'm paranoid doesn't mean they're not out to get me." The reality is that citizens can become suspects for crazy things.

But what bothers me most about so many masks is that they hide smiles.

I'm more anxious when I venture out now, careful to gauge the mood in the room. Understandably, many seem tense and somber.

So I find myself completely relieved when I come across a cashier or sales associate who greets me like it's any other day, at any other

time. You never know when you're giving a stranger the only smile or kindness they'll get the whole day.

I caught that little ray of sunlight not long ago at Hungry Howie's on Jefferson. Standing, cautiously spaced from other customers, according to markers on the floor, I saw a young woman at the cash register, simply mastering the first part of her job — she smiled and asked if she could help me.

Later, while waiting on my order, I couldn't help asking Arielle Blagg how she stayed so pleasant with all the squeamish energy from those who walked in. She confessed that she had her own uneasy moments. I admired her for never letting it show.

Heroes like Arielle do the small things. In times of fear, smiles are the mask we should all strive to wear.

YESTERDAY'S HEADLINES

1945

75 years ago this week

THREAT TO SWIMMING DIVERTED:

The outlook for a nice, clean swimming season at Pointe beaches on Lake St. Clair has brightened considerably. Pollution which has been dumped into the lake in the form of sewage from five Macomb County municipalities has now been diverted

into the interceptor.

69 GOLD STARS ON HONOR ROLL: Sixty-nine Grosse Pointe men had given their lives for their country in World War II up to April 6, according to the latest compilations of the Grosse Pointe Honor Roll Association.

Obituaries: Anne Wallace Dyar

1970

50 years ago this week

FEW VOTE IN WOODS ELECTION:

What promised to be a hotly contested race for council in the City of Grosse Pointe Woods turned out to be just another Pointe election marked with apathy. Only 3,429 persons balloted out of 12,579 registered voters. This came as a surprise to Woods officials who anticipated a record turnout since 10 persons were trying for the three council seats.

MERCURY

POISONED FISH POSE THREAT:

Alarmed over confirmed reports that Lake St. Clair game fish contain enough mercury to pose a health hazard to sport fishermen who eat them, the news this week contacted the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in an effort to find out just how serious the problem is. The presence of mercury was first reported last week, when Canadian authorities discovered it in Lake St. Clair walleyes. Officials claimed the fish contained an average of 1.36 parts per million of mercury.

Obituaries: Harvey R. Olson, Verona Munro Barrett, Eileen J. Nash, Hildagard Beck, George W. Parkin, Daniel R. Cronen, Joanne Bokram

date this type of housing," said Farms city attorney William Burgess.

WATER RATE SUIT SETTLED:

Grosse Pointe's share of a \$4.25 million settlement in a lawsuit over excessive water usage rates may only be a drop in the bucket, but it's better than nothing. The five Pointes, along with Harper Woods and Macomb County, will receive a small portion of the settlement the city of Detroit will pay its water treatment customers are the metro area as a result of the suit.

Obituaries: Frances V. Lutomski, Lois Schmidt, Alice M. Dargel, Louis J. Jost, Margaret Jane Ferris, Armina C. Besimer, Neva Ann Rueger, Abraham Meide

WEST BACK ON COUNCIL:

A familiar face is back on the Grosse Pointe Farms city council. Martin West, a councilman from 1997 to 2001, was appointed to complete the term of the late Councilman Doug Roby.

NEW SPACE FOR FULL CIRCLE:

The change of address cards have been sent out and now the staff at Full Circle Resale Shoppe looks forward to serving its customers in a new, larger location. Though it's just down the street from its previous location, the new space is larger, brighter and more customer friendly. It's located at 15201 Kercheval at Lakepointe in Grosse Pointe Park.

Obituaries: Barbara Near, Anne Blake, Michael M. Carey III, Thomas E. Mahoney, Loretta Short, Sally Zimmer, Eleanor H. Hogan, Lucile McIntosh



Pure Grosse Pointe

Harper Woods Public Safety Officer Jason Zimmerman recently visited his nieces, Olivia Bahr, 3, and Mackenzie Bahr, 10 months, at their home in Grosse Pointe Woods. The photo, taken by the children's mother, Ashley Bahr, was submitted to Grosse Pointe News by Ashley and Jason's mother, Patti Zimmerman, who had this to say: "Officer Zimmerman is one of their favorite uncles and was there to check on his favorite nieces on a recent break. It's a big thrill for the kids when Uncle Jason visits. Usually a big hug for both of them, but for now it's just a wave and a smile from the porch."

1995

25 years ago this week

RESIDENTS UPSET GROUP HOME COMING TO FARMS:

Despite the objections of residents in the 400 block of Lothrop in the Farms, a group home is coming to the neighborhood. Although the neighborhood is zoned for single-family use, federal law pre-empts the local zoning ordinance, rendering the Farms city council powerless on the issue. "We have a duty not to interfere, but to accommo-

2010

10 years ago this week

LETTERS:

Continued from page 6A

harder.

Sure, our kids are resilient and our teachers and most administrators are awesome, but why put them through this unnecessarily?

Why not spend your time working on how to transition our kids back to the classroom as seamlessly as possible?

We just don't know enough right now about how long this situation will last or what the new school year might look like. Why add additional uncertainty and anxiety

when you can simply pause this reconfiguration effort for now?

Why not spend your time planning for what could be another round of this in the fall? Experts have opined that this will likely be a seasonal occurrence, much like the flu.

Let's face it, we were scrambling to move to an online platform when this happened. I applaud the efforts of our teachers to get as much accomplished as they did as quickly as they did. But, why not be better prepared in the future?

In addition, aside from

the impacts of COVID-19, there are other matters that the Board and Administration seem to be ignoring.

I feel like you are making this up as you go along. Something as important as this requires better. Our community, our kids deserve better.

Please, take a pause on the reconfiguration and focus on successfully transitioning our kids back to the classroom, whenever that may be.

WENDY SAIGH
Grosse Pointe Woods
Editor's note: This letter has been edited for length.

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Tips for homeschooling children with special needs

By Mary Anne Brush
Staff Writer

When schools were slated to close due to the new coronavirus pandemic beginning March 16, special education staff joined teachers and administrators across the district preparing for distance learning in the coming weeks.

“Our staff went right into mode Friday, March 13, to plan, prepare, communicate and share resources,” Director of Special Education Stefanie Hayes wrote in an email. “We understand the spectrum of disabilities that our students have and how that can impact each family in a different way. It has got to be so difficult.

“Our teaching staff are communicating with families and students to ensure access to the curriculum, access to their accommodations and to continue their support to the students,” Hayes continued. “The ancillary staff have also provided resources and materials such as vocabulary boards, leveled packets, social stories, behavior tips for home, virtual sessions, ongoing email and calls, etc. We have guided our teams to listen, maintain relationships and to keep in mind that each person’s situation is unique and their own.”

The abrupt change in routine from a structured school day to learning at home, while an adjustment for any child, is especially difficult for students with special needs, according to autism expert and psychotherapist Annette



PHOTO BY MARY ANNE BRUSH

This chalk drawing on the 1300 block of Bishop in Grosse Pointe Park is an example of a positive message psychotherapist Annette Nunez says is important for both parents and students.

Nunez, Ph.D., LMFT. The sudden upheaval of a child’s normal routine can cause extreme reactions and getting them onto a different schedule is challenging for parents.

Nunez, who has more than 22 years of experience working with children with ASD and other related disorders, offers the following tips for parents.

Set a routine. This is the most important part to ease the transition, helping students with ASD be more successful and resulting in fewer meltdowns, Nunez said.

“The first and foremost thing I recommend to parents is to create a schedule,” she advised. “It doesn’t have to be elaborate.”

She also recommended including bathroom breaks in the schedule — something teachers

include, but parents may forget, as well as lunch and snack time.

“Things that we take for granted, kids like to see on that schedule,” she said.

Nunez recommended parents stick with a schedule even if they grow bored with it. “The sameness and the longer you can keep that sameness, the better it calms your child,” she said.

Take breaks. Nunez urged parents to practice self-care and take time for themselves.

“Wake up early to have that quick walk around the neighborhood or if you need that extra cup of coffee, do it,” she advised.

Students with ASD “feel the stressors much more than we do. The calmer parents can keep and the less anxious they seem around their kids,” the better, she added, especially when added stress can

lead to meltdowns.

Nunez recommended parents set an alarm to remind themselves to take a “5-minute breather where you alone walk outside and take a deep breath.”

It’s also important to take weekends off, she said — whether from working at home or homeschooling your children.

Limit duration of activities. “Don’t do any activity for longer than 45 minutes,” Nunez said. “I recommend 30 minutes.”

Include transitional warnings. “Transitions are huge for kids with autism,” Nunez said. “What you want to do is give them a transitional warning. Set alarms on your phone at the beginning of the morning.”

“Every time you are going to transition from one activity to another, give your child a two-minute warning. (Tell your child), ‘In two minutes, when the timer goes off, we’re going to finish up math and have a snack.’ “Program the alarm to have fun alarm sounds,” she added. “Make it fun to kids. The alarm indicates that a transition is about to happen.”

Set goals. “This is a

great time to work on a goal they’re not working on at school,” Nunez said. “Eat with a utensil. Dress him or herself. Wash their hands appropriately. Set a goal for what you want to accomplish over the next two to three weeks.”

“It can be a social skill goal. It can be a self-help goal,” she added. “It can be a goal revolved around potty training or brushing their teeth. So I recommend to parents to work on a goal that’s not an academic goal so when they return to school, they have a new skill added to their list.”

Allow downtime. “It’s OK for your kid to have downtime,” Nunez reminded parents. “Downtime gives both you and your child time to have a break from one another. It’s OK for your child to engage in self-stimulatory behavior. It’s OK to have screen time.”

“In a home environment — if you’re stuck at home — it provides a break for both of you,” she added. “It allows you to get cooking down or cleaning done and provides a welcome break.”

Include sensory breaks. Children with autism need physical input, Nunez said, so “when they go back to a sitting-down task, they are able to focus more.”

Whatever that activity is — wheelbarrow walking, doing jumping jacks or wall push-ups or even crashing into the couch — she recommended taking

5-minute sensory breaks.

Go week by week. Now that Gov. Gretchen Whitmer has issued an executive order suspending in-person instruction of K-12 students, the question at least has been answered whether traditional classes will resume. Regardless, some uncertainty remains for the start of the next school year. Nunez recommended parents resist giving their children a set start date.

“Kids think that’s the date and they’re rigid about it,” Nunez said. “... What I like to tell parents is to go week by week. This is what this week is going to look like. ... Then when we have a for-sure date where we’re positive ... schools are going to open at this time, that’s when you create a countdown for when they’re going to go back to school.”

Stay positive. “We can’t control what’s going on in the outside world, but we can control our mindset,” Nunez said. “What I encourage parents to do is put positive prompt cards around the house. ‘You’ve got this.’ ‘You’re great.’”

These reminders aren’t just for your kids, she reminded parents. It’s for parents, too.

“It really is all a mindset how you view this and how you’re going to come out of this,” Nunez said. “There’s so much negativity. ... If you have a positive mindset, it can really help you get through anything.”

LEARNING:

Continued from page 1A

“Everyone’s trying to figure this out. Everyone’s doing this a little bit different,” Bur said.

For GPPSS, preparation for online learning began with teacher meetings Friday, March 13. These plans weren’t intended to carry learning through the remainder of the school year, however.

Following Whitmer’s announcement, administrators held virtual meetings with department chairs and grade-level leaders at the elementary and secondary levels, using information derived from these meetings to develop a template provided by the Michigan Department of Education, Director of Pre-K and Elementary Instruction Keith Howell said.

This plan, fine-tuned the week of April 6, will be submitted to Wayne Regional Educational Service Agencies for approval before it’s unveiled to staff members in an email upon their return from a week-long spring break Monday, April 13.

Also to be released are student and staff expectations around remote learning and grading at the secondary level, Bur said.

“The main focus of our conversation has been all around how we are ensuring a student-centered, flexible approach to learning and grading,” Bur said. “Everyone’s new normal is so vastly changed. ... We’re trying to make sure we’re balancing what was possible on March 13 or prior is not something that is possible now. Really, we’re focusing on how

we make sure everyone is healthy. ... Obviously we’re going to continue to challenge (students) academically, but that social-emotional piece is at the forefront of that decision as well.”

“We’ve been talking a lot about keeping empathy for this loss of normalcy,” Howell said. “We’re at a very different time now than we were before March 13. We want to create as much normalcy for our kids as possible and not focus so much on the end result of what we’re expecting at the elementary level.”

This includes “taking a hard look at all the basic skills and essential skills we want our kids to know,” he added, with a focus on supporting teachers through professional development and providing a differentiated approach for students based on individual families’ needs.

“We’re not going to be able to replicate what we’re going to be able to do when we’re in a school building face to face,” Howell said, adding the emphasis will be on creating learning opportunities that foster an intrinsic desire to learn and student self-sufficiency.

Much of this already has been the focus since mid-March.

“Teachers are doing that right now,” Howell said. “They’ve been doing that for the first three weeks. They’re having video conference meetings through Google Hangouts with families and kids. They’re providing information to their students through the learning management system, through Schoology. There’s a lot of communication taking place between teachers and students.”

The difference going forward is students will be exposed to new curriculum content, Bur said.

“From the beginning, Grosse Pointe took the stance we’re going to continue with new learning,” Bur said. “This is not just enrichment.”

At the high school level, students “are still working for credit,” Bur said. “We are really focused on what are the content skills remaining for each course. We are going to focus on those skills and making sure our students are able to master those.”

The focus at the elementary level will be asynchronous learning, Howell said, meaning students don’t have to log in to complete their work at a set time. This flexibility is especially important for parents with different work requirements juggling the demands of multiple children or with a limited number of devices in the household.

“Our teachers have done a nice job understanding this is a whole new normal for our kids,” Bur said.

Bur added she is proud of the way not just teachers, but all staff members have stepped up to help, from custodial, secretarial and paraprofessional staff to teachers, administrators, technology heads, food service staff and members of the business office.

“These last three weeks for me have been a reinforcement of the relationships that have been built within our buildings,” she said. “Our folks have gone and done everything within their power to reach out to the kids they have relationships with. ... It truly has been all hands on deck.”

GROSSE POINTE ANIMAL ADOPTION SOCIETY



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Corinne Martin - Director



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2B OBITUARIES | 3B CHURCHES | 5B ASK JEFF AND DEBRA

Keeping connected Bakery owner offers free online cooking classes

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Giving back to the community that has given so much to him, Freeman Gunnell, owner of Cornwall Bakery in Grosse Pointe Park, has started offering free cooking classes on the bakery's Facebook page.

Two sessions of Cornwall Cooking School have been hosted so far, both of which have attracted hundreds of viewers.

"We're offering them every once in a while," said Gunnell, adding he'll soon add a baking class to the mix. "I did it partly because I've seen other people doing it, but I also

wanted to do more of an online thing so I could build up a repertoire; maybe make a virtual cookbook that people can subscribe to at some point. I'm experimenting with it."

Class is offered via Facebook Live. So far, instructing from his home kitchen, Gunnell has created lentil salad, a warm spinach salad, orzo pasta and pasta with sundried tomatoes and mushrooms.

"A lot of friends and family are watching," he said, "and people who have kids and are at home."

The idea was something he'd pondered before, but was waiting

to bring to fruition until he got a break in his busy schedule. Now that Cornwall has temporarily closed and residents have been ordered to "Stay Home, Stay Safe," that time is now.

"It's being connected in a different way," Gunnell said. "This gives people something to occupy themselves, but also keeps things going. People want a sense of things going back to normal again. Who knows what normal is going to be in the future."

Gunnell said workers at Cornwall offered carry-out services for a short time before the business closed. Customers gave feedback that they enjoyed the service.

"It helped them and it helped us," Gunnell said, adding he wanted to continue, but questioned whether it was safe or not. "That was the hard part to figure out."

While he misses his customers and running the bakery, he hopes the cooking classes give people something to look forward to.

"It's kind of a sad situation," he said. "Cooking is a great thing to get

people to change it up and get their minds off of things they can't change. ... It's not watching Netflix all day. Variety makes it more doable. I want people to say, 'I can get through this day by having these things to look forward to.' Everyone is being imaginative in this area."

Gunnell has provided — and plans to again — meals for hospital staff. If they get the sense they're being supported, he said, it helps them keep going.

"I'm sure it's just a drop in the bucket, but it's nice to do again if it's something that's needed and safe," he said. "We want to play our part in what's going on."

For now, that part involves Cornwall Cooking School, which could take on different forms.

"It may not always be cooking," Gunnell said. "I'll take questions. What are your concerns? What are you short on? How can we help with substitutions? Some people might believe if they're missing one ingredient, they can't make a recipe. But I can show you how to make it similar or



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MEGAN GUNNELL

Freeman Gunnell's Cornwall Cooking Class is filmed in his home kitchen and posted via Facebook Live.



Food was prepared and delivered to medical staff in the area by Gunnell and his family.

maybe show you how to make a new recipe that works with the ingredients you do have.

"I'm really happy that people are showing their support and being nice," he continued, referencing the financial hardship many business owners are experiencing due to shutdowns. "We're looking at the same problem from different angles, but we're still seeing the same prob-

lem. And we're all working towards that. When the government and the people work in that regard, communities thrive and get better.

"This community, how close it is, I wouldn't trade that for anything," he added. "In a small community, if your neighbor or friend has a hardship, you feel it as well. ... Here, it really means something to be a part of the community."

Grosse Pointe Theatre cancels remainder of season

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

With heavy hearts, the board of directors of Grosse Pointe Theatre announced the cancellation of the remainder of its 72nd season.

Its final two productions — "Little Shop of Horrors" and "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" — will be added to next season's lineup, which also includes "A Christmas Carol: The Musical," "The Game's Afoot," "Something Rotten" and "Cinderella."

Purdon Studio Theatre's production of "Talk Radio" is postponed until March 2021.

"Due to the coronavirus pandemic, we have had to cancel shows for

the rest of this season; however, we did not want to disappoint the casts and crews who have been hard at work rehearsing and planning their shows, and the patrons who were excited to see these productions," said Linda Zublick, executive director. "Instead, we have rearranged our 2020-21 season to include these productions. GPT will offer a six-show main-stage season next year. Season ticket prices will remain the same, even with the added show.

"Right now, we are busy reaching out to our season ticket holders and offering them a refund for the two shows that have been postponed until next season," she added. "Patrons who pur-



chased single tickets have the option of transferring their tickets to the rescheduled dates or receiving a refund. In either case, patrons will also have the option of donating their refund back to Grosse Pointe Theatre, which will help

us mitigate some losses due to canceling these shows. We are very appreciative of those who have selected to donate as we know this is a difficult time, not only for GPT, but for the entire community. Our thoughts are always foremost for

the safety of our members and patrons and we look forward to being back on stage performing for our audiences again."

The theater has taken additional measures during this time, including postponing its 10-Minute Play Festival — during which eight new plays written by members are performed during a day of free theater — until late September.

The performance of its Youth on Stage production of "Frozen, Jr." is on hold, Zublick said.

"(We're) hoping we can still perform this show over the summer," she added. "The children in this program and our Technical Theatre program have worked hard and are excited to bring

this Disney favorite to life."

Sunday, March 29, Zublick sent a message to GPT patrons, addressing the changes.

"We need your support now more than ever so we can continue to offer the finest in live theatrical experiences to the community," it read in part. "We are deeply grateful for those who have already donated back their ticket refunds or pledged funds to Grosse Pointe Theatre.

"We are also working to help our patrons in this difficult time," it continues, "knowing we all need interaction and the personal touch right now, even if it is at a social distance."

See THEATRE, page 4B

Red Cross in need of host sites, blood donations

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Perhaps one of the most essential services of those listed by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer as being exceptions to her "Stay Home, Stay Safe" executive order is that of the American Red Cross, whose services are essential no matter the circumstances.

The agency has seen 30 percent of its drives canceled due to concerns over COVID-19; that's nearly 9,000 cancellations nationwide resulting in 250,000

fewer blood donations. Elizabeth Frahm, donor resource development representative for the Southeastern Michigan region, said she's putting emergency drives into the calendar daily.

"As you can imagine, what's happening with us is we've had the rug pulled out from under us," Frahm said. "Normally, we plan drives weeks and weeks in advance. Now we're planning them days in advance."

Frahm said she's seen an overwhelming

response to the call for help; people who've never hosted before are being accommodated to blood drive organizers.

For example, she said, a restaurant in St. Clair Shores — vacant during Whitmer's executive order to close all Michigan restaurants to sit-down business — hosted a blood drive three days last week.

"Normally, we wouldn't think of using a restaurant, but they're vacant now," Frahm said. "Also, Ken Welch at



Pointe Fitness hosted a drive (March 20). Fifty-two people came through."

Frahm said the American Red Cross at all of its drives is practicing social distancing and following Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommen-

dations.

"Before you even come into the drive area, we take your temperature," she said. "Everyone is six feet apart. People can even wait in their car if they want; we'll text them when it's their turn."

Hand sanitizer is avail-

able before and during the drive and every area of the drive is disinfected after each use, she said, including computers and donation beds.

Additionally, all American Red Cross employees wear gloves, which they change often; use sterile collection sets for every donation; and prepare the arm for donation with aseptic scrub. Donations only are collected from people who are healthy at the time of donation; there is no evidence or

See BLOOD, page 4B

2B | FEATURES

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.

Jill Williams

Eleanor S. "Jill" Williams, 83, passed away Sunday, March 22, 2020, in Grosse Pointe. She was born Aug. 24, 1936, in Detroit, the only child of Gerald F. "Sonny" Schneider and Eleanor R. "Ellie" Carlisle Schneider.

Jill grew up in Grosse Pointe, where she attended local schools and graduated from Grosse Pointe High School in 1954. High school years were fun for Jill, partly because her father sold Cadillac and Packard automobiles. Jill and her friends made great use of the access she had to the pride of Detroit manufacturing.

Jill studied art and interior design at Bennett Junior College in Millbrook, N.Y. She returned to Grosse Pointe and quickly found work with J.L. Hudson Co., in Detroit. She loved fashion and design, and Hudson's was the place for that in Detroit in the 1950s. It was an exciting time for Jill, during which she met her first husband, William E. "Bill" Hosler Jr. Bill lived at Shangri-La, a boarding house for young professional men. Bill and Jill met when she and her friend, Judy, were retained to decorate Shangri-La. Bill and Jill married in 1957, and moved to Lewiston, N.Y., a suburb of Niagara Falls. Their son, William E. "Will" Hosler III, was soon born and their daughter, Eleanor C. "Nell" Hosler Beattie, was born two years later.

Jill joined community theater troupe Frontier House Theater in Lewiston. She loved performing and the variety of eclectic friends she made. A memorable stage experience Jill had, one of several recounted in newspapers, involved her being swung in the air by two players from the Buffalo Bills National Football League team while she admittedly sang out of tune. Jill mostly loved spending time with her children and "Headlight," a big, clumsy basset hound, while living in N.Y.

Jill "unmarried" Bill in 1967, returned to Grosse Pointe and quickly found work at Saks Fifth Avenue in Detroit. Despite her limited retail experience and young age, Saks hired Jill as a women's clothing buyer; she soon was promoted to head an exclusive women's clothing boutique shop. Jill often travelled to New York City to buy for the boutique, where her customers included local and national celebrities. She met David P. Williams, who also was previously married and became the

love of Jill's life.

Jill and David married in July 1972, when Jill and her children, Will and Nell, lived with Jill's mother in Ellie's rambling Grosse Pointe house, from which Ellie ran her successful interior decorator business. For decades, a constant throng of customers, delivery drivers, family and friends, as well as a revolving menagerie of pets, helped create joyous mayhem in the house that Jill loved. To this, David agreed to become a part. Jill and David resided in Grosse Pointe nearly 50 years, despite David working and playing golf on the other side of town; David would do anything for Jill.

After her employment with Saks, Jill was a partner for 15 years with Chapman, Klingensmith & Williams, a Grosse Pointe Park shop that sold antiques on consignment and conducted estate sales. Thereafter, Jill continued her mother's tradition working as an interior decorator out of her Grosse Pointe house.

Jill loved Grosse Pointe and the entire Detroit community, as evidenced by her lifelong participation in and support of local charitable, educational and philanthropic groups. She was former chair of the Red Cross Ball, Christmas Walk at Meadowbrook Hall and Village Antiques Show at Lovett Hall in Greenfield Village. She was a member and supporter of the Detroit Institute of Arts and longtime member and past president of DIA's Women's Committee. Jill also was a member of Garden Club of Michigan, Sigma Gamma Association, Detroit Institute for Children, Meadow Brook Hall, Detroit Artists Market and Detroit Music Hall.

Jill further was sustained and enriched by a special group of childhood friends with whom she remained connected throughout her life. Within the borders of the Grosse Pointes, Jill, Lauren, Susan, Lynn and Judy married, established families and were a constant presence in each other's lives. Perhaps due to her sensitivity as an only child, Jill considered these women "sisters" to each other.

When David married Jill, she became stepmother to David's daughter, Tracy Williams, and sons, M. S. Perry Williams and David P. Williams Jr. While none of her stepchildren resided fulltime at the Grosse Pointe house, their visits were always much fun. David was the key to Jill's life. With him, she laughed, loved and traveled and could be serious, silly and herself. They were each other's fiercest supporters. With impeccable taste and easy charm, Jill entertained with him for his career as a corporate leader at home and internationally. The couple unwound at their residence in Florida, within a golfing community where the clubhouse once was decorated by Jill's mother, Ellie.

Jill is survived by her husband, David; son, Will, of Bloomfield Hills; daughter, Nell, of Beverly Hills, Mich; grandchildren, William Elliott Beattie IV, Brooks Carlisle Beattie and Dean Otto Hosler; stepdaughter, Tracy, of New York City; stepson Perry, of Clarkston; and stepson, David, of Ft. Lauderdale. Jill also is survived by her step-grandchildren, Makenzie Williams and Marshall Williams; most of her "sisters" and many other dear friends in Grosse Pointe and beyond.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, no service or memorial is planned. Jill's family hopes one may be scheduled in late spring or summer this year, at which time they express their love to see or hear from those who wish to celebrate the gift of Jill's life. Details will be posted online at ahpeters.com.

The family suggests expressions of sympathy be made to the charity or hospital of the donor's choice, noting Jill's special fondness toward Children's Hospital of Michigan, 3901 Beaubien, Detroit, MI 48201; childrensdmc.org.

Jane Ellen Schneider

Grosse Pointe Woods resident Jane Ellen Schneider (nee Leuking), 78, died Thursday, April 2, 2020, at home surrounded by her loving family.

Jane was born Jan. 9, 1942, in St. Louis, Mo., to Lester and Ellen (nee Obermann) Lueking.

Jane grew up in St. Louis and graduated at the top of her class from prestigious Normandy High School. She earned a bachelor's degree from Washington University and became a passionate and dedicated teacher. She began her career teaching high school students. As head of an English department, she helped create curriculum for English classes. To no one's surprise, her contributions continued as coach of tennis and volleyball teams and heading the school newspaper. Upon leaving her position, it was necessary for three people to replace her.

Jane resided in St. Louis until she married her beloved husband, Fred Schneider, in 1983. She and Fred were blissfully wedded 37 years. They met at Camp Arcadia where Jane and Fred were summer visitors growing up. In the midst of a volleyball game, Fred held his ground rather than change positions so he and Jane could play beside each other. It was the beginning of their love story.

Jane is survived by her beloved husband, Fred. She was the dear mother of Bret Schneider (Denise) and cherished grandmother of Andrew, Ava and Ryan. Jane also was the loving sister of Karen Parsons (Chuck) and Lew Lueking III (Jill). Arrangements were handled by Chas. Verheyden Inc.



Jill Williams



Jane Ellen Schneider



John Reed Cobau



Judith Marie Sables



Robert G. Hodges



Mary Lou Ferrante

John Reed Cobau

Longtime Grosse Pointe resident John Reed "Jack" Cobau, died Wednesday, April 1, 2020, from COVID-19. He was 85.

Jack grew up in New Castle, Pa. He attended Kenyon College and graduated from Princeton University and Harvard Law School.

Jack met his wife of more than 60 years, Arlene Louise, while studying at Harvard. The couple's partnership grew stronger throughout their marriage and innumerable contested bridge matches. They moved to Grosse Pointe after residing in Cincinnati. Jack practiced law in Detroit and at his office on Mack in Grosse Pointe Woods.

Jack was an avid tennis player and never failed to miss a Rotary Club meeting. He and Arlene shared a passion for art; they visited museums across the country and around the world.

A true intellectual, Jack lived for ideas, reading voraciously and engaging in book clubs and discussion groups. He attended Grosse Pointe Memorial Church.

Jack is survived by his wife, Arlene; sons, William (Marcia Torres), Jay (Ellen), Tom and John (Ellen Grant); 10 grandchildren; and brother, Bill Cobau, of Charleston, S.C.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a memorial service will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, Jack's family would appreciate contributions in his memory to Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe, grossepointerotary.org.

Judith Marie Sables

Former Grosse Pointe resident Judith Marie Sables, 82, passed away suddenly Sunday, March 22, 2020, in Naples, Fla. She was battling cancer.

Born Feb. 10, 1938, in Detroit, Judy was a beloved and cherished mother, daughter, grandmother, sister, aunt and friend.

Judy was a graduate of the University of Michigan and Detroit College of Law. She was the only woman in her graduating class to earn a law degree from Detroit College of Law in 1962.

Judy practiced law many years and opened a law practice with her father. She also launched

many entrepreneurial enterprises.

She enjoyed summer months in Michigan at Torch Lake and wintered in Naples, Fla.

Judy was the beloved wife of the late Dr. Ronald Sables and mother of four children, Jean Weston, Stefanie Sables, Laura "Lori" Leber and Ron Sables. She was the loving "Grammy" to Kathleen, Emily, R.J., Elle, Andrew, William and Grace; and cherished sister to the late Andrew Stefani, Joan Ferrara, Mary Lou Staricco and Gigi Gryzenia.

A celebration of Judy's life will be held at a later date.

Memorial donations in Judy's name may be made to Rose Hill Center, 5130 Rose Hill Blvd., Holly, MI 48442, or Capuchin Ministries, 1820 Mt. Elliot, Detroit, MI 48207.

Robert G. Hodges

Longtime Grosse Pointe Park resident Robert Gerrie Hodges, 85, died Wednesday, April 1, 2020, in Merida, Mexico.

Bob was born Jan. 26, 1935, in Detroit, to Milton and Viola Hodges. He married his high school sweetheart, Joyce Chappell, June 28, 1958.

Bob served in the U.S. Naval Reserve for 10 years, beginning in 1953. He practiced law his entire adult life and served from 1961-62 as one of the youngest delegates to the Michigan Constitutional Convention. He also was active in the Michigan Democratic Party and served the people of Michigan as a workers compensation administrative law judge. He was a partner for many years with the Sachs Waldman law firm in Detroit. As a workers compensation attorney, he loved helping working people.

Bob loved his family and being around people. He was a great conversationalist and always ready to discuss history, politics and other topics of interest. Bob was an aficionado of Corvettes. Having purchased his first Corvette in 1959, Bob always owned a Corvette until his passing.

Bob was passionate about travel; he flew on the Concorde and cruised the Atlantic on the Queen Mary. In addition, Bob and Joyce once traveled around the world. He loved learning about different cultures and meeting people. Bob made friends easily and often.

Many friends described Bob as their best friend.

John was predeceased by his parents and his wife, Joyce. He is survived by his two children, Avis and Heather; longtime significant other, Mary Lou Martin; and innumerable friends and colleagues.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a memorial celebration and reception will be held at a later date.

Mary Lou Ferrante

Grosse Pointe Woods resident Mary Lou Ferrante passed away Sunday, April 5, 2020, in Naples, Fla., due to complications from dementia. She was 81.

Mary Lou was born to Louis and Naomi Schulte, in Detroit. She was predeceased by her siblings, Lou and Joan Schulte.

A graduate of St. Catherine High School, Mary Lou was a respected real estate agent and trusted advisor known for her generosity, work ethic and unwavering loyalty. She built many lifelong relationships managing the Grosse Pointe office of Johnstone & Johnstone Realtors. Mary Lou retired in 2006.

Mary Lou continued to enjoy her passions in retirement: gardening, lunch with friends, family gatherings and, most important, showing unwavering devotion to her grandchildren's dance, drama and sports activities.

Devoted to her Catholic faith, Mary Lou enjoyed daily services and supporting the parishes of Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church in Grosse Pointe Woods and St. Ann Catholic Church in Naples, Fla.

Mary Lou raised her family in St. Clair Shores and Grosse Pointe Shores. She was the loving mother of Jennifer Bonnell (Bill), Jill O'Neill (Tim) and Domenic (Molly); and devoted grandmother to Billy (Amanda), Steve (Brooke), Jack, Julia, Matt, Nicole and Luke.

Mary Lou will be greatly missed, but her ever-present smile, energy and spirit of always putting others first will live on.

A service to celebrate Mary Lou's life will be held later this year.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to Our Lady Star of the Sea Alter Care, 467 Fairford, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236.

See OBITS, page 3B

Correction

The obituary for Timothy Wynn Butler Jr., which appeared in the April 2 Grosse Pointe News, should have listed the link for donations in Timothy's memory as <https://www.volunteer.vagov/apps/VolunteerNow/>

OBITS:

Continued from page 2B

Stanley Frederick Kramer Jr.

Stanley Frederick Kramer Jr., peacefully passed away Saturday, March 28, 2020. He was 99.

Stan was born April 3, 1920, in Detroit, to Stanley and Crystal (nee Coady) Kramer. A graduate of Eastern High School, Stan earned a degree in mechanical engineering from Michigan Technological University. He was a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy during World War II, serving in Mobile, Ala. After the war, Stan and his wife, Mary Kathleen (nee Hogan), returned to Michigan and settled in the Grosse Pointes.

Stan had a 40-year executive career with General Motors Co. As director of production engineering for Fisher Body, he was responsible for building the assembly line at GM's plant in Lordstown, Ohio. During the Korean War, he helped build the Republic F-84F Thunderstreak. The dedication he showed on the job — and particularly to the well-being of his employees — was a hallmark of his leadership and well-known among his peers. Stan was an active member of the GM Retirees Association.

Stan's life was defined by selflessness and service to causes he saw as bigger than himself, including his family, the

Catholic Church and GM. He and his family were parishioners and supporters of St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church. Stan contributed his talents to the church, teaching religious education and as a member of Teams of Our Lady. Stan also attended daily Mass and was devoted to the Holy Rosary.

Stan was a volunteer math tutor and member of Grosse Pointe Men's Club. He enjoyed playing bridge, sailing and traveling with his family. He was the oldest member of Gowanie Golf Club in Harrison Township, where he pursued another lifelong passion, golf. An avid reader, Stan was a regular patron of the Grosse Pointe Public Library into his mid-90s.

Stan is survived by his loving wife of 15 years, Sue Grambo Kramer. He was predeceased by his wife of 55 years, Mary Hogan Kramer. Stan also is survived by his children, Mary Pat (Robert Freund), Kappy (Russ Mann), Stanley Frederick "Fritz" Kramer III (Rhonda Paul), David Kramer (Kate Sands), Mark Kramer (Jeff Weese) and Paul Kramer; stepsons, Bob, Pete and Bill Grambo; grandchildren, Amy Macrae, Mary Ellen Ellis, Andy Freund, Henry "CJ" Jackson, Corrie Kramer, Montana Mitchell, Kerry Kramer and David Kramer Jr.; and great-grandchildren Cohen Mitchell, Hugh Maska-Jackson and Wendy and Hannah Macrea. He was predeceased by his daughter,



Stanley F. Kramer Jr.



Joseph A. Backer Sr.

Nancy (Henry Jackson Jr.) and grandson, Stan Kramer IV.

Interment will take place at St. Paul on the Lake Columbarium at a later date.

Joseph A. Backer Sr.

Joseph A. Backer Sr., 81, passed away Tuesday, March 24, 2020, after a six-year battle with Parkinson's disease. He was born Nov. 5, 1938, in Detroit, to Joseph and Minnie (nee Ohrmann) Backer. Joe was raised with love by Joseph and Bertha (nee Allgaier) Backer.

Joe attended St. Jude grade school, Austin Catholic Preparatory High School and East Side Design and Engineering Institute. At General Motors Co., he was a talented body draftsman with Fisher Body Division and drafting room supervisor with Cadillac Motor Division. Joe retired from GM in 2001, after 42 years of loyal employment.

Joe was a former mem-

ber of St. Jude Parish Council and Archdiocese of Detroit Vicariate. An avid hobbyist, he belonged to special interest clubs including Early Ford V8 Club and Men's and Women's Garden Club of Grosse Pointe.

Joe's family was his greatest source of joy. He is survived by his loving wife, Sharon (nee Cottrell); children, in whom he found great pride, Gretchen Backer, Joseph Jr., Kurt (Laura) and Karl (Leslie); cherished grandchildren, Benjamin (Krysten), Zachary, Rachael, Andrew, Maxwell, Bridget, Eric, Nicholas, Paden McCown and Katherine Partridge (Alex); sister, Gertrude Stadwick (Ken); and nieces and nephews. Joe was predeceased by his siblings, Mary Herrando and William Neinger.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Memorial contributions in Joe's name may be made to Michigan Parkinson's Foundation, 30400 Telegraph Rd, Suite 150, Bingham Farms, MI 48025.

PASTOR'S CORNER

By the Rev. Susan Mozena

In the fight of our lives

I had no idea the message I blithely assumed I would comfortably write and "send" well before I left March 28 for our annual three-generation family vacation would now be written like a college paper, the night before it is due, with no children and grandchildren in hugging distance, for who knows how long. I have delayed to the last minute, because the entire context is changing so very fast.

Seventy-five years ago, the Battle of Iwo Jima ended March 26, 1945. Characterized as some of the "fiercest and bloodiest fighting" of World War II, its codename was "Operation Detachment."

I was born June 1945, between V-E Day and V-J Day. (If you don't know what those terms mean, please ask an older family member or neighbor.) I remember asking my mother once if she and Dad had ever been afraid during the war. She looked at me with a bit of surprise on her face and said, "Of course we were afraid." (Dad was older; he had served in WWI but not in WWII, so they did not have that particular fear during WWII, that he would not come home.) The world into which I was born was forged in the crucible of the blood, home-front ration cards and victory gardens, manufacturing might and communal sacrifice of the generation just before mine. That war covered the globe. In the early years of the war it wasn't at all clear if we would prevail. What a terrible price was paid before those days of victory and peace were celebrated. Of course they were afraid. And so are we.

"Operation Detachment." How ironic. I have no idea where that codename came from and I do not fault it, but those guys on Iwo Jima were anything

but "detached." They were right beside each other, fighting and dying literally in each other's arms, their sense of community coming right down to the most intimate relationships that exist between comrades in combat.

We are in the fight of our lives right now, the biggest fight of my lifetime. (A friend of mine said today that this is "the biggest global human effort in the history of the world." I don't know if historians would say she is right, but it sure feels that way to me.) For once, perhaps for the first time in my life, across oceans and borders, we are all on the same side. We all want the same result. We have to remain "detached" in order to win. How ironic that to save the community we must avoid the community. That has social and economic consequences, all of which are significant. But, first things first: life is first.

So, here's the battle order for our own "Operation Detachment": Stay home. Stay safe. Save lives. Our parents and grandparents rushed together, were shoved together, to get in line, to sign up, to work on the line, to be active, to sacrifice and worry at home — and they won the war. We are being called to stay apart, to stay home (so unlike us!) so we can win this war against what my dear doctor and friend calls "this evil villain." For the sake of all the caregivers who are fighting right beside each other to save the rest of us, let us love our neighbors as we are loved, by staying put, as hard as it is, by creating community in new ways, as long as it takes. May that Greatest Generation be proud of all of us. May God help us. It is our turn.

Mozena is the minister of adult education at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church.

New date for 2020 EyesOn Design exhibition

The annual EyesOn Design Automotive Design Exhibition, a Father's Day tradition, is moving to Sept. 13 — Grandparent's Day.

The 33rd annual car show will keep its usual venue — the historic grounds of the Edsel & Eleanor Ford House in Grosse Pointe Shores — as well as this year's theme, "Marques of Extinction: Significant Designs of Bygone Brands."

Honorary chairmen for the event remain as well: Moray Callum, vice president of design, Ford Motor Co.; Ralph Gilles,

head of design, Fiat Chrysler Automobiles; Kevin Hunter, president, Toyota Calt Design and Michael Simcoe, vice president of design, General Motors Corp.

Automotive legend Bob Lutz is this year's grand marshal and renowned designer Peter Brock will be on hand to accept the 2020 EyesOn Design Lifetime Design Achievement Award. Among his standout designs are the Corvette Sting Ray and the Shelby Daytona Cobra Coupe.

With the change of date will come many

enhancements to the show as well, including an automotive design symposium featuring Peter Brock. Michael Goettner, the 2020 poster artist, will be on hand to speak with guests and sign this year's commemorative poster.

As in past years, more than 200 invitation-only vehicles, spanning auto's earliest days to the concept cars of the future, will be shown on the grounds of the lakefront Ford House.

"We felt it was necessary to move the show date to protect our visitors, exhibitors, staff and

nearly 300 volunteers due to COVID-19," said Dr. Philip Hessburg, founder and medical director of the Detroit Institute of Ophthalmology, which provides research, education and support programs for the visually impaired.

EyesOn Design is the major fundraiser for the DIO. It remains unique among auto shows because it celebrates vehicle design rather than rarity, restoration or celebrity ownership.

Call (313) 936-1966 or visit eyesondesigncar show.com to learn more.

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Monday, April 6, 7:00 pm - Lenten Penance Service
Holy Thursday, April 9, 7:30 pm - Mass
9:00 to 11:00 pm - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Good Friday, April 10, noon - Stations of the Cross
1:30 pm - Celebration of the Lord's Passion
Holy Saturday, April 11, 9:00 pm - Easter Vigil Mass
Easter Sunday, April 12, 10:00 am
- Mass of the Resurrection -

'Art from the Heart' announces week one winners

The Grosse Pointe Artists Association's "Art from the Heart: a front-yard exhibition" has announced its first Best of Show, Honorable Mention and other winners. All winners were selected by the GPAA Promising Artists Council.

Best of Show was awarded to St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church parishioner Eydie Johnson, who completed her work Friday, April 3, just before the deadline. Anne Graves of the religious education staff is coordinating the church's efforts to post ever-changing messages of hope for the people who walk along Lakeshore,



COURTESY PHOTOS

Fr. Jim Bilot signed his name to a portion of St. Paul on the Lake's walkway, which sent a Palm Sunday message to passersby — and earned Best of Show for the first week of the art contest.

where the Grosse Pointe Farms church is located. Johnson will receive family movie tickets

including luxury box seating at The War Memorial's Patriot Theatre.

"Because of the high quality of the entries, the judges from the Promising Artists Council had a difficult time determining how to award prizes," GPAA President Karen Pope said, "so there are two Honorable Mentions and one special award in addition to Best of Show."

One Honorable Mention award was given to Denise Carozzo.

"I drew these nuthatches on the window (using water-soluble pastels) right at the beginning of the social change," Carozzo said of her work. "I thought about adding an encouraging statement, but I decided that beauty for beauty's sake was the best approach."

Passersby will have to look up to see her work; it's on the second floor of her home on Ridgemont in Grosse Pointe Farms. Carozzo will receive a gift card to Tropical Smoothie, courtesy of Nursing Unlimited.

A second Honorable Mention award was given to siblings, 11-year-old Betsy Ropke and 9-year-old Jack Ropke, who created a mosaic pattern on their walkway, "to put a bright spot in people's day during these tough times," their mother, Kristin Ropke, said. Their work is displayed on Wellington Place in the City of Grosse Pointe. They'll also receive a gift card to Tropical Smoothie, courtesy of Nursing Unlimited.

A Flower Power award was presented to 13-year-old Grace Jarman, whose piece was inspired by the tiger lilies in her backyard that her mom really likes. The Grosse Pointe Garden Center will give Jarman and her mom tickets to its annual garden tour, June 19 and 20. Jarman's art is visible on Yorkshire in Grosse Pointe Park.

The GPAA's Promising Artists Council also singled out entries they thought should be shared with the community.

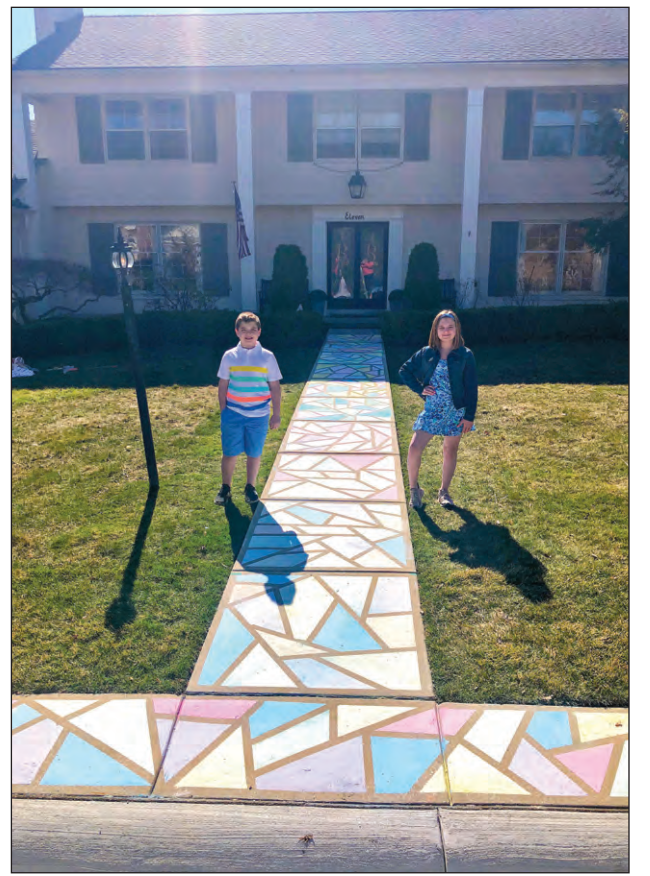


The second-floor window of Denise Carozzo's house, decorated with nuthatches, earned Honorable Mention.

Entries from Jeanene Adams and her daughters, Grace and Eve, as well as Joe Girardi, Colton Shobe, Declan O'Byrne, Joanne Dennis, Kit Aro, Tanya Palazzolo and Elaina, Leo and Simone Keagle may be found online at bit.ly/3dSqP4i.

The deadline for week two entries is 6 p.m.

Friday, April 10. Entries may be sent to gpaa@grossepointeartcenter.org. The name of the artist(s), contact information, location of the art, permission to use the location of the art and a statement explaining the reason for the piece in 50 words or less should be included.



Siblings Jack and Betsy Ropke created a mosaic pattern on their walkway, which earned Honorable Mention.

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ORIGINAL OIL PAINTING BY CHRISTINE WARDWELL
Local artist Chris Wardwell has been painting and exhibiting her art for the past 10-15 years. In her own words, "Nature trains your eye to see light, shapes, and values in a whole new way". This painting, titled "Cottage Still Life", offers the feel of being in your favorite Upper Michigan vacation destination. Donated by Christine Wardwell. Value \$1,000.

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BLOOD:

Continued from page 1B

reported cases of a coronavirus or any respiratory virus being transmitted by a blood transfusion.

"It's a safe environment for everybody," Frahm said. "I can't believe how many people are coming out." Despite a positive turn-

out, Frahm said the need for blood is always there.

"The important thing to remember is we still need to collect, no matter what's going on in the world," she said. "We like to have a five-day supply. Right now, we have a one-day supply."

Even though many hospitals have canceled surgeries, Frahm said, blood still is a necessity. "There are still people

having emergency surgeries," she added.

"There are car accidents and cancer patients who need blood."

Those interested in donating blood or hosting a blood drive may sign up to do either online at redcrossblood.org. Those interested in more information may email Frahm at beth.frohman@redcrossblood.org.

THEATRE:

Continued from page 1B

As such, the theater has started the series "Memorable Moments at Grosse Pointe Theatre" on its Facebook page, highlighting photos from past productions. Its Youth on Stage directors hosted rehearsal via Zoom, allowing "Frozen, Jr." actors to stay engaged.

"We are working to offer previous performances so you can enjoy theater in the safety and comfort of your own home," Zublick added. "Watch for more information as we fine tune

these details.

"Our greatest wish is to be back on the stage performing live for our audiences soon," she continued. "As we all follow the governor's 'Stay Home, Stay Safe' mandate, we deeply hope this situation can be resolved soon and life can return to normal."

Additionally, members of the Grosse Pointe Theatre Board of Directors issued a notice on the group's website, stating in part: "We are YOUR community theater and have been sharing our theatrical passion for 72 years. We have over 400 local volunteers who are the heart of the

organization and will be ready to perform for you next season. This is an incredibly difficult financial decision for us. Grosse Pointe Theatre is always committed to offering the finest in live theater. But for right now, unfortunately, the show must not go on until it is safe to do so.

"Thank you to everyone who has helped in this difficult time and to those who have put their theatrical dreams and plans on hold. With your support, we can continue to entertain and inspire our GPT friends and family. Let's hope this situation passes quickly and everyone remains safe."

Online recovery support offered through CARE

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

While the world adjusts to new social parameters, set amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, some individuals may be struggling with the challenge of staying at home. Self-isolation can be difficult for anyone, but poses an especially challenging obstacle for those in recovery.

To provide an outlet for people in recovery who can no longer attend 12-step meetings or in-person counseling sessions, as well as for parents and teens looking for support, CARE of Southeastern Michigan has started offering free online services.

“Right now people have a lot of fear, anxiety and concern for their well-being and their family’s well-being,” said CARE CEO Monique Stanton. “We wanted to be able to support our community — whether it’s someone in need of recovery support, a parent unsure what to do with their child or a teen wanting to stay engaged with their community while being stuck in the house, we are here to help people cope through this unprecedented time. Our virtual programming offers ways for people to get help while staying safe. Rather than saying we are practicing social distancing, we are practicing physical distancing. We are staying socially connected to people through programs while physically staying away from each other. We are doing this to help keep the people we serve, our team and our community as safe as possible.”

All virtual meetings are led by CARE staff. Specific programs include Persons in Recovery, Women in Recovery, Men in Recovery, Yoga in Recovery, LGBTQ+ in

Recovery, Guided Meditation, Book Club and Grief and Trauma Workshop.

Parenting support and youth activities also are offered.

“Anyone can access our programs,” Stanton said. “They are free and open to the full community.”

Stanton said CARE hopes to resume its in-person programming as soon as possible, but it will follow all executive orders by the governor, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the local health department. In the meantime, she encouraged those in need to reach out and participate in CARE’s virtual offerings.

“Isolation is really hard on the recovering community, especially for people newly in recovery,” she said. “During early recovery, it is critical to find and develop positive recovery support systems. The virtual programming provides a place for people to connect and engage with each other while staying physically away from other people.”

Joseph Calnan, program manager of peer services at CARE, knows this firsthand. The virtual meetings, he said, provide human interaction that goes beyond a phone call.

“It is essential at all times for me to stay plugged into recovery,” he said. “Recovery has given me a life beyond anything I could think of. It has given me, most importantly, some peace and love within. The majority of how this happened was being connected to a support group. Therefore staying plugged in is essential, day in and day out, moment by moment.”

All of CARE’s virtual recovery programs are conducted through a HIPAA-compliant plat-

form to ensure confidentiality, Stanton said. CARE is using the Zoom app for face-to-face appointments. Zoom is a free downloadable app for the phone or computer. Support, class descriptions and registration are available at careofsem.com.

“The online meetings through Zoom are a way for us to break free from self, to share with others what is going on and the experiences we are encountering,” Calnan said. “This current situation isn’t something that has never happened, but it is something that hasn’t happened for quite some time and has its own uniqueness. Thankfully it is happening within a time where we have technology which we can utilize to stay connected. Connection is a key ingredient of recovery and the online meetings allow that to be possible.”

Calnan said for someone in recovery, “riding it out” isn’t an option.

“I know from my experience, alone this is a battle I cannot win,” he said. “The disease of addiction does not take a break or a day off, so neither can my recovery.”

In addition to online recovery support, CARE’s peer recovery coaches, case managers, home visitors and counselors are available to provide services via video and telephone. For more information, visit careofsem.com or call (586) 541-2273.

“Hopefully we can utilize this experience as an opportunity to create a new normal,” Calnan said, “that we can appreciate and value all people and all things. It is a challenge right now, especially for those early in recovery. There is always hope and always a way to find something different.”



PHOTO COURTESY OF RENEE RODRIGUEZ

Pictured from left are Missy Kinyon, Amanda Good, Jenelle Lefief, Deborah Smith, Lavina Hutchinson, Angeles Cuevas Cervantes and Deb Ellinger.

Soroptimist presents awards

Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe hosted its annual awards ceremony at Assumption Cultural Center on March 11. President Aleksandra Andjelkovic announced that six women would receive monetary awards to honor their achievements and fund their educational efforts.

The Live Your Dream Award, the signature award of Soroptimist International of the Americas, is awarded to a woman who is enrolled in school to improve her employment opportunities, is head of household and has financial need. The first-place winner of \$3,000 was Deborah Smith, a single parent currently studying for a bachelor’s degree in social work at Wayne State University. Her goal is to continue into the master’s program. She plans to use her degree to help women gain understanding on how to overcome adversity and achieve dreams.

Second place Live Your Dream winner, Lavina Hutchinson, was awarded \$2,000. At an early age, she was the primary support for her two younger half-sisters and continues to be the primary support of her 18-year-old sister, taking on the “mother role.” Rising above these challenges, she earned an associate’s degree in general studies from Wayne State University and currently attends Macomb Community College,

working toward an associate’s degree in nursing. She plans to graduate at the end of this academic year and will immediately begin studying for a bachelor’s degree in nursing at Oakland University.

Angeles Cuevas Cervantes was awarded the Virginia Wagner Educational Award that honors a woman who is going to school in pursuit of a bachelor’s, master’s or doctoral degree. The award of \$3,000 was presented to Cervantes, a first-generation college student from southwest Detroit, who will complete her bachelor’s degree in language and international careers-Spanish at Eastern Michigan University. Her goal is to become a licensed certified interpreter and start a business using her talents in her community.

The Soroptimist Ruby Award is given to women who have made a positive difference in the lives of other women and girls. Amanda Good, CEO and one of the founders of Alternatives for Girls, was awarded a \$500 donation to be used to help homeless, high-risk girls and young women avoid violence, exploitation and teen pregnancy.

A new award this year is Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe’s Anti-Human Trafficking Award. This award was made possible as a result of the group’s second annual

5k Walk/Run, held in partnership with St. Lucy’s Catholic Church and the Lakeshore Family YMCA. Awards of \$1,575 each were presented to Elli’s House and Phoemale.

Elli’s House is a non-profit organization founded by Deb Ellinger that serves homeless women involved in human trafficking. The mission of Elli’s House is to abolish sex trafficking in the city of Detroit through building relationships, offering safe shelter and providing education.

Phoemale, a nonprofit organization helping women rebuild their lives, was created by Jenelle Lefief and Missy Kinyon for women who have suffered domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking and/or homelessness.

The community is invited to donate to Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe at grossepointesoroptimist.org.

Correction

The article, “Community effort: Hand-sewn masks readied for donation,” which appeared in the April 2 edition of the Grosse Pointe News, should have read that those looking for help or tips on making masks may contact Valerie Moran at valmorran48236@gmail.com.

ASK JEFF AND DEBRA

The evidence for AA

Some people criticize Alcoholics Anonymous because it is not “evidence-based medicine.” AA’s manual, known as the Big Book, originally was published in 1939, so it must be old-fashioned, they say. Aren’t there newer and better methods for treating alcoholism?

There are new methods for treating alcoholism, but not better methods. A newly released study shows that AA is a highly effective treatment and, in most cases, more effective than other methods.

The study was done by the Cochrane Collaboration, a UK nonprofit that develops “systematic reviews of the strongest evidence available about healthcare interventions.” This worldwide organization

of researchers has been helping develop best practices in medicine for a number of years. This particular study was overseen by Stanford University and Harvard University doctors.

The researchers examined 27 studies containing 10,565 participants, winnowing away many other studies that didn’t meet their strict criteria. They studied programs using AA and programs using Twelve Step Facilitation treatment, or TSF. The results may have been surprising to other researchers, but confirmed what frontline clinicians have always known: AA works.

The statements by the researchers were unambiguous.

“Manualized AA/TSF interventions usually pro-

duced higher rates of continuous abstinence than the other established treatments investigated.”

For families struggling with addiction, “continuous abstinence” is the goal. Some researchers have other goals, like fewer relapses or fewer drinks per day. But families aren’t looking for slight statistical improvements. They want their beloved alcoholic to achieve full recovery, which means being clean and sober.

The other treatments investigated included cognitive behavioral therapy, or CBT, motivational enhancement therapy, or MET, and others. Many academics have been loath to place AA in the pantheon of modern treatment. AA was not

developed under the auspices of careful research, but instead was the product of experience. Its development was not guided by physicians, but by alcoholics who had managed to achieve sobriety. For some, AA was merely anecdotal and little better than hearsay.

This view was belied by the fact that more modern support groups have grown very slowly, while AA has meetings around the world. For example, a popular and effective support group which uses CBT is called SMART Recovery. Its members are quite satisfied with it and are happy to pay the small fee for each meeting. After 20 years of promotion, SMART has approximately 20 meetings per week in the metro Detroit area, including Ann Arbor. AA, on the other hand, has well over 1,000 meetings per week in metro Detroit, though some estimates run as high as

1,500 meetings per week, because not all meetings are published. This number does not include Ann Arbor.

So, while AA is often given short shrift in the ivory tower, it is popular among people who are getting sober and staying sober.

The study from the Cochrane Collaboration goes on to state: “There is high quality evidence that manualized AA/TSF interventions are more effective than other established treatments, such as CBT, for increasing abstinence.”

A recent New York Times article reporting on the study included a memorable quote from John F. Kelly, a professor of psychiatry at Harvard Medical School and director of the Recovery Research Institute at Massachusetts General Hospital: “These results demonstrate AA’s effectiveness in helping people not only initiate but sustain abstinence and

remission over the long term. ... It’s the closest thing in public health we have to a free lunch.”

As you might expect, combining AA with other treatments is even more effective. When we work with families, we recommend: 1) a thorough detox and stabilization in a medical facility, 2) a residential treatment long enough to address co-occurring issues and establish a person in sobriety and 3) daily participation in AA. In our experience, if a person practices the AA program with the guidance of a sponsor, they will achieve longer term and contented sobriety.

And you can’t beat the price.

Jeff and Debra Jay have been helping families overcome addiction more than 30 years. Their best-selling book, “Love First,” is a standard in the recovery field. The Jays live in Grosse Pointe Farms and their website is lovefirst.net.

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• LOCKABLE ON/OFF SWITCH
Allows the user to prevent others from using the stair lift.
• DIAGNOSTIC DIGITAL DISPLAY
Informs the user of the status of the stair lift.
• SAFETY SENSORS
Five safety sensors on the footrest and carriage stop the stair lift if an obstruction is encountered.
• REMOTE CONTROLS
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Animal Clinic**
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Automotive

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NOTICE-
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impounded
abandoned
vehicles.
Pursuant to
PA104, an auc-
tion will be held
April 14, 2020
10AM at 18701
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MI 48236.

Vehicles available:
1998 Ford
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2006 GMC
1GKDS13S362297510
2002 GMC
3GKFK16Z82G332688
2006 Hyundai
KM8SC73E86U100506
2013 Kia
KNDJT2A53D7611865
2004 Pontiac
2G2WP542641163801
2007 Chevrolet
3GND13D575S17002

The above
vehicles can be
viewed ½ hour
prior to auction.
Payments: cash
or certified check
only. Vehicles lis-
ted may be pul-
led/released
prior to auction
by Grosse Pointe
Farms Police.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle
Solution for
last weeks
puzzle 4/2/20

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

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

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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today!

DIRECTORY OF SERVICES

Some classifications are not required by law to be licensed. Please check with the proper state agency to verify license.

King Crossword

Solution for
last week's
puzzle 4/2/20

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| M | I | S | C | U | R | L | O | M | E | N |
| E | V | I | L | Z | O | O | N | A | P | E |
| M | A | G | A | Z | I | N | E | A | G | E |
| E | N | N | U | I | B | R | I | N | E | S |
| | | | S | P | A | Y | O | R | E | |
| D | A | M | E | P | E | S | T | E | D | |
| A | L | A | | I | S | A | A | C | I | R |
| M | P | G | | D | E | S | K | S | C | A |
| | | | N | E | E | T | I | M | E | |
| A | G | O | R | A | S | | A | R | O | S |
| T | A | L | E | M | A | G | R | I | T | T |
| O | T | I | C | O | N | E | E | T | A | L |
| P | E | A | T | | G | Y | M | S | O | Y |

ACROSS

- 1 Radius neigh-
bor
- 5 Letterman's
network
- 8 Atlantic food
fish
- 12 Public distur-
bance
- 13 Have a bug
- 14 Dumbo's
"wings"
- 15 Pace
- 16 Also
- 17 Greek vowels
- 18 Proofreader's
finds
- 20 Lava rock
- 22 Army rank
(Abbr.)
- 23 Cul-de- —
- 24 Make fun of
- 27 Small caterpil-
lar
- 32 Literary collec-
tion
- 33 Actress
Vardalos
- 34 Cattle call
- 35 Braised beef
favorite
- 38 Help in crime
- 39 Swiss river
- 40 Spring mo.
- 42 Walk quietly
- 45 Lengthy list
- 49 Defeat deci-
sively
- 50 Bashful
- 52 Pelvic bones
- 53 "— do for
now"
- 54 Not neg.
- 55 Punch
- 56 Partner
- 57 Nevertheless
- 58 Golf gadgets
- 9 Subterranean
passage
- 10 Caspian feeder
- 11 "Hey, you!"
- 19 Gift-tag word
- 21 Baseball bat
wood
- 24 Treasure hunt-
er's aid
- 25 Yoko of music
- 26 Grenade hurler
- 28 Serbian city
- 29 Stimulus of a
kind
- 30 Fish eggs
- 31 Witticism
- 36 Baby's toy
- 37 Acapulco gold
- 38 Sculptor, e.g.
- 41 "Life of —"
(2012 movie)
- 42 Decorate
- 43 Tittle
- 44 Catch sight of
- 46 Lotion additive
- 47 Pleasing
- 48 Tibetan herd
- 51 Weeding tool

DOWN

- 1 Incite
- 2 Taleteller
- 3 Bleak, in
Hollywood
- 4 Assault
- 5 California
island
- 6 Resume
- 7 Unkempt one
- 8 Playground

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | 5 | 6 | 7 | | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | |
| 12 | | | | | 13 | | | | 14 | | | | |
| 15 | | | | | 16 | | | | 17 | | | | |
| 18 | | | | | 19 | | | | 20 | 21 | | | |
| | | | 22 | | | | | | 23 | | | | |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | | | 27 | 28 | 29 | | | | 30 | 31 | |
| 32 | | | | | 33 | | | | | | 34 | | |
| 35 | | | 36 | 37 | | | | | | | 38 | | |
| | | 39 | | | | | 40 | 41 | | | | | |
| 42 | 43 | | | | 44 | | | | 45 | | 46 | 47 | 48 |
| 49 | | | | | 50 | 51 | | | | | 52 | | |
| 53 | | | | | 54 | | | | | | 55 | | |
| 56 | | | | | 57 | | | | | | 58 | | |

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Solution Time: 25 minutes

911 BRICK / BLOCK WORK

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