

# Grosse Pointe News

VOL. 81, NO. 16, 14 PAGES  
 ONE DOLLAR (DELIVERY 86¢) *Your community newspaper since 1940* APRIL 23, 2020  
 GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

**Complete news coverage of all the Pointes**

## Census still moving forward

By Laurel Kraus  
 Staff Writer

**THE GROSSE POINTES** — In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the U.S. Census Bureau has temporarily suspended field data collection and is extending the self-response deadline to Oct. 31.

The Grosse Pointes have reached approximately two-thirds of the way to full participation, according to Regan Stolarski, director of administration for the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce, and census information still is being collected online and over the phone.

“It’s so important because it’s times like this where you find out having the representation for our state at the federal level matters so much,” she said, “in moments like this when things are difficult and we can be fairly represented in terms of getting federal funds and aid.”

As of Tuesday, April 14, 67.9 percent of City of Grosse Pointe residents had completed the census, as had 72.2 percent of Grosse Pointe Farms residents, 65.2 percent of Grosse Pointe Park residents, 71.2 percent of Grosse Pointe Woods residents and 67.1 percent of Grosse Pointe Shores residents.

“In some areas, I think

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DRONE PHOTO COURTESY OF JACK RYAN/SKYVIEW AERIAL PRODUCTIONS

A parade of well-wishers snake past Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe to thank hospital workers.

## A true thanks-giving parade

Community members drive through Beaumont, thank frontline workers

By Laurel Kraus  
 Staff Writer

**CITY OF GROSSE POINTE** — Led by the City public safety department, Grosse Pointe community members lined up in cars with signs thanking healthcare workers and drove by Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe during the shift change Monday night, April 20.

“It went really well,” Sgt. Joe Adams said. “We had a lot of hospital workers out there. You saw tears in their eyes, smiles. They were thankful. It was just great to



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Grosse Pointe Farms’ Engine 3 led the parade.

see all the smiles. A break from their everyday right now in the hospital. It was nice to get out and show them appreciation. Just a sim-

ple thank you, that’s all it came down to.”

The concept evolved from a similar but smaller parade organized by the mother of a

nurse that took place Monday, April 6, which only had about 15 cars participate due to short notice.

“A lot of people responded to that and actually messaged me, as well as friends from the Grosse Pointes called me and said, ‘Hey, can we do that again? I missed it. I see other cities doing that,’” Adams explained.

While planning the second parade, the idea of bringing food for the midnight shift from a local restaurant was brought forward, which

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## Yard care restrictions hinder residents, companies

By Eddie B. Allen Jr.  
 Staff Writer

**THE GROSSE POINTES** — Spring’s arrival often prepares seniors like Elena McKay for visits from the local lawn care provider, but countless Michigan residents are in a quandary.

With statewide landscaping contracts on hold due to Gov. Gretchen Whitmer’s temporary restrictions against non-essential services, those who haven’t touched a mower’s handle in years might be feeling anxious.

Although Executive Order 2020-42 doesn’t prohibit homeowners from cutting their own grass, thousands hindered by Michigan’s allergy season or general physical limitations hope their blades grow as slowly as possible.

“At my age, I’ve done my turn mowing lawns,” said McKay, 90, a retired nursing professional.

While McKay has a relative on standby to tend her yard in the Park, she hopes the order is lifted for economic reasons.

“I wasn’t being personal; I was being very objective and I said, ‘Do you know how many people you’re going to

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## Park group gives essential workers sign of approval

By Eddie B. Allen Jr.  
 Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE PARK** — A local organization known for putting the “we” into community is turning attention toward those who work to keep it afloat.

WeGP, or Welcoming Everyone Grosse Pointe, which promotes diversity, inclusion and human rights, has launched a movement to display yard signs that send employees serving the public during a health crisis a special message.

“Thank you, healthcare workers, first responders and all essential workers!” is the phrase doubling as words of appreciation and a fundraising effort. Shannon Byrne, president of WeGP, said proceeds from the sale of the yard signs will support two local programs providing meals to hospital employees. The suggested donation is \$20.

“We’ve delivered tons of signs already,” Byrne said.

WeGP has contributed \$4,400 to the food distri-



PHOTO COURTESY OF SHANNON BYRNE

WeGP is selling lawn signs that show support of essential workers.

tribution efforts, she added. “We have a hugely generous community and everybody wants to help,” Byrne said. An initial order of 200

signs was followed by more requests, which are being filled by a local printer who’s grateful for the business, she said.

Using PayPal purchases from the “We GP” account or Venmo @ We-GP ensures “contactless” payment and distribution to homes, Byrne said. Placement of signs is done by residents.

WeGP has a short, but significant history of supporting various segments of the community, most notably the Pointes’

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**Keith Bellovich, D.O.**  
 Home: Grosse Pointe Farms  
 Chief medical officer at  
 Ascension St. John Hospital



PHONE: (313) 882-6900 ◆ FAX: (313) 882-1585 ◆ MAIL: 16980 Kercheval Ave., 48230 ◆ ON THE WEB: grossepointenews.com ◆ E-MAIL: editor@grossepointenews.com

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# Commission aims to boost park toddler appeal

By Eddie B. Allen Jr.  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE WOODS** — As city council prepares to resume sessions in coming weeks, advocates hope an ambitious community proposal will soon make its way onto the agenda.

The Citizens' Recreation Commission wants to improve four parks by adding amenities that make Chene-Trombly, Sweeney, Lake Front and Ghesquiere more family-friendly attractions. City officials say parts of a Feb. 11 proposal awaiting the council's review stand a good chance of adaptation, while others depend on budget availability and further consideration.

Amanda York, chairwoman of the Citizens' Recreation Commission, said the push for expanding the park offerings follows the commission's most successful Winterfest in recent years.

"We changed how we were doing things," York said.

Previous Winterfests at Lake Front Park saw declining attendance and little interest in attractions like the annual chili competition, she added.

"It was all this work and I have little kids," York said. "I started bringing my kids and there was nothing for them to do there."

In 2019, the commission relocated the January event to Ghesquiere and tweaked the programming, which drew 700 visitors. The 2020 Winterfest featured characters from the "Frozen" film franchise, along with food trucks and additional attractions, which led to 1,300 attendees.

"I think there was some momentum there and some excitement," York said. "The success of the event just led us to feel

reenergized as volunteers."

Winterfest's growth and the 2019 commission meetings held at each park led York and her colleagues to develop a plan to attract more families year round.

"I said, 'Let's talk about what we like about these parks and what we'd like to see changed,'" York recalled.

The February proposal recommends improvements specific to each location, including bike racks, picnic tables, grills, updated features and other additions. A recurring recommendation is more play equipment for children younger than 5, which would prevent the need for families in the farthest parts of the Woods to drive almost 30 minutes to the Rotary Tot Lot in the City of Grosse Pointe.

Mayor Robert Novitke said the council, which hasn't met since March 16, will have to review the commission's proposal, but budget considerations will determine the extent of which proposal elements might be adapted.

Frank Schulte, director of public works, said adding park benches and picnic tables is a realistic possibility, but increasing overall toddler appeal isn't a priority for the city. Commission recommendations like replacing wood chips in the play area with rubber could create safety concerns, since rubber draws heat in the summer, Schulte added.

Still, York remains hopeful, noting that more "young families" are moving to the city.

"It's really in the hands of the council, so I hope they will review what we did and all the hard work we put in," she said. "I just want them to realize there's a lot of energy around this."



COURTESY PHOTO

## Still serving

The Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce hosted an open house Feb. 19, when it cut the ribbon on its new location at 106 Kercheval on The Hill.

Pictured from left are Grosse Pointe Chamber Director of Membership Linda Reid; Board of Directors Chairwoman Tomasine Marx; former Grosse Pointe Farms Mayor Jim Farquhar; Chamber President Jenny Boettcher; Grosse Pointe Farms City Manager Shane Reeside; Grosse Pointe Farms City Clerk and Assistant City Manager and Chamber Board of Directors Secretary Derrick Kozicki; and Grosse Pointe Chamber Administrator Regan Stolarski.

## Wayne County launches COVID-19 dashboard

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**WAYNE COUNTY** — The Wayne County Public Health Division has created a COVID-19 dashboard, which updates daily at 5 p.m. and can be found on the Wayne County website homepage, waynecounty.com.

"The dashboard is meant to help manage the need for data from different communities in Wayne County and for different perspectives on the impact of COVID-19," said Michael A. McElrath II, communications and community outreach

director for the Wayne County Department of Health, Human & Veterans Services, via email.

The dashboard offers data updates at a glance, such as total cases and deaths; new cases by day; and cases split by city, age and gender.

"Data is pulled from the Michigan Disease Surveillance System by the Wayne County Public Health Division's epidemiology team," McElrath explained. "The numbers are then shared with the Wayne County Information Technology department, which places

the information into a GIS (geographic information system) program to plot the cases to the respective communities."

As of Sunday, April 19, the dashboard reported a total of 6,079 cases and 502 deaths in the county, excluding Detroit. This includes 38 cases and one death in the City of Grosse Pointe; 34 cases and four deaths in Grosse Pointe Farms; 25 cases and 3 deaths in Grosse Pointe Park; 71 cases and 11 deaths in Grosse Pointe Woods; and seven cases and one death in Grosse Pointe Shores.

"Right now the data is

being used to provide situational updates to all communities within Wayne County," McElrath said. "Our communities use this information to help support their residents. The county uses the data to assess the status of the spread and how communities are impacted (by) COVID-19."

The data on the dashboard excludes information from Detroit.

"Detroit is its own jurisdiction with its own health department and the information is shared on their website with their own maps and method," McElrath explained.

## YARD:

Continued from page 1A

put out of business?" she said.

Citing the wide range of small, independent companies, and even college students who perform yard care to help pay tuition, McKay said the restriction seems short-sighted.

"There's a lot of people depending on that work and there are people who are going to be put out of business permanently," she added.

While other cities have allowed yard trimming, Grosse Pointe Woods is enforcing the restriction that includes "landscaping, lawn care, tree service, irrigation and related outdoor maintenance," the city announced in an April 10 email bulletin.

Grosse Pointe Park Public Safety Director Stephen T. Poloni told participants in a virtual Park city council meeting April 13 his department also is enforcing the order.

Joe Backer, whose company, Backer Landscaping, serves the Grosse Pointe area and commercial properties as far away as northern Ohio, has felt the impact. At this time in 2019, Backer Landscaping had around 200 employees prepared to serve residents and companies, but there are only a "few people in the office" now, he said. Until further notice, the company's work is limited to the grounds of medical facil-

ities deemed essential to the community.

"I understand that everybody on a bipartisan level is looking out for the health and safety of Michigan and I completely agree with that," Backer said.

But he hopes lawn care provisions will be re-examined in May if Whitmer's order is extended, he added.

Alex Buckman, president of Grosse Pointe Lawn Sprinklers, co-owns the family business that hasn't yet gained its normal season's momentum.

"Well, we have a lot of people who want their sprinklers to get set up right this second," Buckman said.

The company of about a half dozen full-time employees and college students who work while home from campus usually prepares trucks and equipment for sprinkler activation May 1. Instead, Grosse Pointe Lawn Sprinklers is applying for a paycheck protec-

tion plan and taking other precautions, Buckman said.

Like Backer, he agrees with promoting public health and safety, "but I also want to get moving as soon as possible."

Backer said lawn workers can be given personal protection equipment and operate within safe distance of residents and one another to avoid possible exposure to illness. Residents like McKay find the restriction unnecessary, noting that yard maintenance staff typically performs while residents are indoors.

McKay said she watched a TV segment featuring a lawn care worker on a riding mower, who rhetorically asked, "How about giving me credit for some common sense?"

"I said, 'Bingo!'" McKay recalled.

"I think there's a certain lenience that needs to be allowed," she added, "as long as people know the rules."

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### 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 Grosse Pointe News, 16980 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe, MI 48230.

The deadline for news copy is 3 p.m. Monday.

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

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## SIGN:

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annual Pride Parade, inviting members of the LGBTQ population and their families to participate each June. Attendance averages around 2,000.

Aimee Rogers Fluit, co-founder and a Park city council member, said

positive responses to WeGP events from residents, many of whom attend WeGP's annual picnic, have been common since the Peace March in 2016, when the organization formed.

The Peace March was held in response to a nationwide women's protest of what many viewed as hate speech by President Donald Trump.

Rogers Fluit said she anticipated approximately 100 participants in the "non-adversarial" demonstration, but 1,200 attended.

She and other WeGP members hope for a similarly overwhelming response to the yard sign campaign.

"We support our essential employees," Rogers Fluit said.

# Farms-City Little League addresses postponed season

## Group donates \$10,000 to Ascension St. John Hospital

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**CITY OF GROSSE POINTE AND GROSSE POINTE FARMS** — The Grosse Pointe Farms-City Little League is donating \$10,000 to two Ascension St. John Hospital funds as it waits to see what will happen with its spring 2020 season.

“We, as an organization, are always seeking support for our league’s various events and fundraisers, but this is a unique time where we get to give back to those

who have given to us,” GPFCLL board member Holly Rutherford said.

Split equally in half, the \$10,000 will go toward the COVID-19 Fund, which has provided washable laundry bags for caregivers and is funding free cafeteria meals for associates, as well as portable shower trailers; and the Associate Hardship Fund, which helps employees in need with rent, medication and funeral and other expenses.

“We know we have a large amount of parents

who are healthcare workers and we just decided we need to figure out a way to give something back,” Rutherford said.

Of the donation, \$6,400 comes from \$20 per registration fee for the spring 2020 season.

“We had a board meeting last Monday and it was brought up as a suggestion, because we typically collect \$20 per registration and use it for a raffle at the end of the season to give to the kids,” Rutherford explained. “This year we decided, since we’re not going to have an end-of-the-year picnic, we decided to take that money and add to it and

then find a good cause to donate it to.”

The decision came from a unanimous vote and was a collective effort from the GPFCLL board.

“We’re hoping that some of the other Little Leagues will match or at least try to meet some of that or put that out to their leagues as well, so by doing all this that they’ll step up and really join us in trying to support all these awesome people who are risking everything every day,” Rutherford said.

The league also is encouraging the community to donate to these funds on their own at

stjohnprofoundations.org.

Practices for GPFCLL originally were scheduled to begin March 30, with April 20 as the date to begin playing games.

“We’ve basically been going at the lead of Little League International,” Rutherford reported. “They right now have a pause until May 11. We expect that to be later given the situation with the schools, now that they’re not reopening and most of our fields are on the schools’ property.”

While many state tournaments likely will be canceled, she explained, the league is considering the mid-June as a potential

start date.

In the case that the league is unable to hold this season, registration funds would be refunded.

“We’re still trying to have a season,” Rutherford said. “It all depends on when the governor lifts the order and when we can safely start to resume activity in a safe way. We’re developing a plan on how we do that for the kids. We’ve got a couple ideas but nothing firm yet. We’re waiting on a little bit of guidance from Little League of America ... but at this point we are trying to definitely still have a season for the kids.”

# Signs of the times



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

The sign outside of Trader Joe’s in The Village instructs shoppers to wait their turn as the grocery is only allowing 20 people inside at a time. Upon entry, one employee offers hand sanitizer and another wipes down cart handles for each shopper.



Signs outside of Henry Ford Medical Center-Cottage thank its doctors and nurses for their efforts.



Grosse Pointe Shores posted this banner at Osius Park, thanking the medical community and first responders for their heroics.



A banner in front of the Edsel & Eleanor Ford House thanks “healthcare heroes” for their efforts.

# Beaumont Health to conduct largest serological study in United States

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

As the COVID-19 outbreak and stay-at-home orders in the state continue, Beaumont Health has announced it began undertaking the largest serological study in the country, which regards antibodies and the possibility for immunity to COVID-19, last week.

“This is a major, major undertaking,” said Dr. Matthew Sims, principal investigator and Beaumont’s director of infectious diseases research. “In normal times, I would spend six months to a year to develop something like this and we’ve really pushed it through in about three weeks and that is based on the hard work of probably over 150 people here. ... I have to just thank them from the bottom of my heart. Everybody has gone above and beyond and

put in unbelievable hours to make this happen as fast as it has.”

The study is comprised of the system’s healthcare workers on a voluntary basis — of the 38,000 employees, at least 30,000 are anticipated to join — and uses serological blood testing to detect antibodies created to fight infections.

It will look to answer questions including how susceptible healthcare workers are to acquiring COVID-19; what the relationship is between antibody levels and symptoms or the severity of the disease; whether the antibody response increases or decreases over time and how long it will last; and whether COVID-19 antibodies will protect against a new COVID-19 infection.

“One of the biggest things we want to achieve by doing this is we want

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# CENSUS:

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we’re doing really well,” Stolarski said. “Grosse Pointe Park is definitely better, it looks to me, than it was. Last time their final self-response rates were only 74.8 percent.”

Those who haven’t completed the census by phone or online should receive a hard copy in the mail by the end of the month.

“You can still do it on the document itself, but the computer’s super easy, the phone’s not very difficult at all and that just saves a couple of trees,” Stolarski said.

While field offices may be reactivated for field collection June 1, final dates have been revised with the census report due to the president by April 30, 2021, and to the states by July 31, 2021.

Completion of the census before field data collection resumes will help minimize contact with others during the pandemic.

“They said it’s not just going to suddenly go away for the summer, so we’re all still going to have to be a little bit careful and although these workers will be out there, I just think it’s more respectful of them if we can just try to get as much of this done without them having to

come to our homes, into our neighborhoods,” Stolarski said. “You’re saving a lot of time and a lot of effort and just improving the safety in all our neighborhoods.”

Additionally, Stolarski emphasized the census is collected by address and

includes everyone living there.

“So if you’re sharing an apartment with a friend or two, you’re all filing one census for the address,” she said, “and one person has to take the responsibility to do it.”

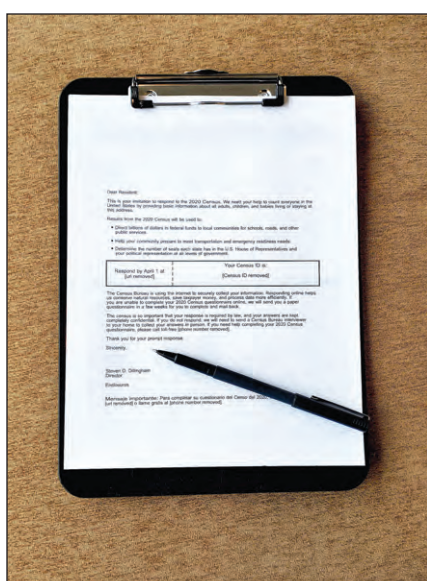


PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

The first census letter people will receive in the mail to be filled out online using their specific Census ID listed on the letter.



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## 4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

## Physician in forefront of fight against COVID-19

By Mary Anne Brush  
Staff Writer

Keith Bellovich, D.O., chief medical officer at Ascension St. John Hospital, has created a playlist so staff members joining a “daily safety huddle,” now done virtually as a Zoom meeting due to social distancing, are entertained while waiting for the meeting to begin.

The Police’s “Don’t Stand So Close to Me” was the first song he chose. More recently, “as we were trying to climb the surge” of COVID-19 cases in the hospital, he selected his wife’s favorite song, “Ain’t No Mountain High Enough.” The Motown theme and inspirational message struck a chord, reflecting not only their Detroit roots, but their relationship.

The couple met at Henry Ford Hospital, where Bellovich, a 1989 graduate of Michigan State University, College of Osteopathic Medicine, completed his internship in internal medicine and fellowship in nephrology. His wife, Debbie, was spending nights in the hospital as a caregiver for her mother, who had breast cancer.

“We would strike up conversations during lulls in the activity,” Bellovich said. “The truth is she asked me out first, knowing that I had a day off at the end of my month rotation.”

He accepted “without hesitation.” They enjoyed a picnic at Dodge Park in Sterling Heights while listening to the Trinidad

Tripoli Steel Band.

A year later, Oct. 30, 1993, they married in Detroit — on Devil’s Night. Their wedding — a ceremony at Sweetest Heart of Mary Church near Eastern Market, a reception at the Atheneum Hotel and an after-party at Lafayette Coney Island — was featured on the front page of Sunday’s Detroit Free Press under the headline: “The Devil and Debbie’s Wedding.”

“It was the end of the Coleman Young administration and right before Dennis Archer was to be elected and they were curious that a suburban couple would choose to have their wedding in downtown Detroit,” Bellovich said. “Now we would say that’s the place you would want to have it, but back then it was front-page news.”

The couple settled in Grosse Pointe Farms and, while moving to different houses, has remained there ever since, raising three children.

Similarly, Bellovich has remained at Ascension St. John his entire career, though in different positions. He also runs a nephrology practice in Roseville, has served on the Board of Directors of the Renal Physicians Association since 2014 — he will serve as president in 2023 — along with many other professional memberships and devotes time to advocating on behalf of kidney care through coalitions of other national kidney organizations.

Nephrology was of

interest to him because it tied into his undergraduate background studying chemistry at Alma College.

“The kidney’s purpose is to balance the chemistry of the body and it made sense to me,” he said. “The other part of it was we were able to be involved in all aspects of medicine because kidney disease overlaps with so many other diseases that I did not have to forego or give up my background or training in internal medicine, but only expand upon it into a deeper direction and research into diseases just of the kidney.”

Bellovich said he was attracted to Ascension St. John because it was a teaching hospital, allowing him to help train fellows in nephrology. This ultimately led to his taking over the program as director of nephrology in 2005. He also was drawn to the institution’s faith-based, values-driven mission, he said.

In December 2019, he officially stepped into the role as Ascension St. John’s chief medical officer when his predecessor, Kevin Grady, M.D., took the reins as president and CEO. Previously, he served as president of medical staff.

Bellovich was accustomed to running a busy practice, traveling for his advocacy commitments and juggling administrative responsibilities at a 500-bed hospital. While the new role brought additional challenges, nothing could have prepared him for a virus that “turned the healthcare delivery in southeast Michigan upside down.

“We’ve been trained to cover contagious illness our whole careers, but never on a massive scale that carried such acuity like we have seen and that’s what made it such a tragedy,” he said.

Especially hard hit were patients with



Keith Bellovich, D.O., asks residents to adhere to the “Stay Home, Stay Safe” executive order for everyone’s safety.

chronic kidney disease.

“Certainly we know about this disease in real time as patients were suffering from those consequences.”

Returning home from 18-hour work days, changing his clothes in the garage — “I converted to an all-washable wardrobe,” he said — and avoiding family members until he showered became part of his new routine. Meanwhile, all three children — Mac, a senior at Wooster College, Sarah, a first-year student at the University of Michigan and Lizzy, a junior at Grosse Pointe South High School — were home studying remotely.

A “silver lining in the midst of the COVID epidemic” is missing out on all the education going on at home, he joked, adding, “I’m really enjoying Sarah’s political science professor and listening to his lectures. I think I have a ‘B’ in his class.”

Looking forward, Bellovich hopes to reflect on what he and other physicians have learned and to share these lessons with others, a process he already has begun with nephrologists

around the country.

While he is optimistic the public policy strategies are working — “the worst, we think, is behind us and our statistics are promoting that fact,” he said — he cautioned the public to “follow through with the recommendations of the health experts so that we don’t allow anything like what happened to happen again.”

Also unknown are the number of people still vulnerable to the infection.

“I think that’s the part that’s hard for the Grosse Pointe community to really appreciate since they weren’t as affected as some of the other areas around our community that were just overwhelmed,” he said.

In the not-too-distant future, Bellovich looks forward to celebrating healthcare workers who, while they won’t acknowledge it, he said, “truly did exhibit bravery in its highest forms.

“When they describe the frontline workers as heroes — ‘heroes work here’ — bravery is not a symbol of not being afraid,” he said. “We all carry fear in dealing with the overwhelming amount of demand with patients that were coming, but they still did their jobs anyway. It wasn’t the job they signed up for that day and it may have changed from the night before. Things were moving that fast and to do it with a can-do effort was beyond brave. And I don’t know if I’ll ever be able to describe that feeling of appreciation for the passion that these people have shown over these past six weeks. It’s just been incredible.”

On the playlist for that celebration?

Journey’s “Don’t Stop Believin’” is the more triumphant choice, Bellovich said, but “Lean on Me,” by Bill Withers, “really captures the spirit of the moment.”



COURTESY PHOTOS

Bellovich and his wife, Debbie.



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## PARADE:

Continued from page 1A

led to a partnership with FLAG, or Front Line Appreciation Group.

The group was founded by women who are all related to frontline workers.

“They have a Facebook page and they just started about a month ago,” Adams said. “... They’ve already raised over \$200,000.”

FLAG agreed to join the effort and brought approximately \$1,300 worth of food from Karas in St. Clair Shores for the 200 employees on the midnight shift at

Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe.

“I guess what they do is they have a list of restaurants that want to be a part of it, because not only are they feeding the hospital workers ... they’re also purchasing from the restaurants to help them as well, so it’s kind of twofold here,” Adams said.

Approximately 40 cars made up the parade.

“It took 10 minutes, but to them, that 10 minutes put a smile on their face the rest of the night while they worked,” Adams said.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

As the shadows grow long and the sun sets on one shift, healthcare workers arrive for the second shift and eagerly await the parade to begin.

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A young boy holds up a sign thanking healthcare heroes.

# Farms approves fire engine purchase

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE FARMS** — The Farms is the only Pointe to still have four full-time fire specialists/engineers within its public safety department. Their main responsibility is to expertly work the complex panel on Fire Engine 3, which was built in 1997 and soon will be replaced with a significantly newer model.

Grosse Pointe Farms City Council unanimously approved the purchase of a Rosenbauer FX Pumper with Rosenbauer Commander Chassis for a price not to exceed \$648,327 during the virtual council meeting Monday, April 13.

"The engine that we're replacing is the workhorse of our department," Public Safety Director Dan Jensen said. "It rolls on every fire. It's the first thing we respond with, do the hook up and fight the fires with. It's a life saver for our men. It's a life saver for our residents. It provides the water so we can put the wet stuff on

the red stuff, as they used to say. It's the most critical piece of equipment we have in the firehall."

Since 2005, the Farms has been setting aside approximately \$60,000 to \$100,000 each year in anticipation of the large expense for a new fire vehicle, Mayor Louis Theros reported.

"We have been saving for this expense for years and so we've been very, very conservative with our budgeting, looking forward to this expense," Councilman Lev Wood said. "It's not something that takes us by surprise."

The accumulated funds now total \$800,000.

In the best case scenario, the fire engine will cost \$615,000. This is if the city chooses 100 percent pre-pay, which affords a \$23,114 deduction and is after the \$10,000 trade-in value for Fire Engine 3.

"In the world of fire trucks, for resale value, they don't care how the condition is," Lt. Andy Rogers explained. "It's the year. It's the year that is hurting us the most. Every year we wait, we

just lose and lose and lose."

The Rosenbauer truck is approximately \$25,000 more than the bids by the two other companies explored, Sutphen and Pierce.

"I think when all is said and done, if Pierce and Sutphen would have added everything that Rosenbauer's offering us, I think the prices would have been much more inline with each other, if not Rosenbauer probably coming out to be the cheapest," Rogers explained.

Although council normally would wait until the adoption of the 2020-21 budget to approve the purchase, the current price quotes are only guaranteed until May and ordering now places the city ahead of other communities that will order in July.

Beyond this, the build time for a fire engine can be 12 to 18 months and the Farms' Fire Engine 3 already is facing many issues.

Rosenbauer guarantees 395 days until delivery from the time of contract signing, Rogers

reported.

"In reality, we won't see the new apparatus for probably another year by the time it's fully constructed," City Manager Shane Reeside said.

While Fire Engine 3 is 23 years old, the National Fire Protection Association considers the average life of a fire truck to be 20 years.

"It's pretty; it's shiny; it's been kept up extremely well," Deputy Director John Hutchins explained. "It looks great from the outside, but there's a lot of underlying issues with the truck, with the motor, with the pump, with the chassis, with all the bells and whistles that made it what it was when it was first delivered."

These issues include a leaking water tank, the need for major pump repair, extremely dim floodlight heads and a fuel gauge that does not work, with some of the issues already having been repaired several times.

"I have total confidence in the choice," Jensen said of the new truck. "I think it's outstanding."

## STUDY:

Continued from page 3A

to give peace of mind to those people who are fighting on the front lines with this every day," Sims said. "To know that maybe they have antibodies that are protecting them. To know that if they've been in and out of every room and have not developed antibodies, that what they're doing is working, that they're not being exposed to the virus and they're not getting sick."

"All of these things will help just because of the stress that the people that are on the front line are undergoing," he continued. "They're putting their lives at risk every day to care for these patients and I want to say every one of them are heroes."

Early results are expected in about a month, while a basic understanding of whether there might be immunity is expected in three months and a very good understanding in six months. Final results should come in approximately a year.

"We recognize that time is really of the essence," said Dr. Nick Gilpin, Beaumont Health System director of infection prevention. "We all feel the pressure to want to get answers to these questions as quickly as possible, but we also have to be mindful that research is a delicate process and we have to kind of proceed diligently and thoughtfully to make sure that we're not arming the community with answers to questions that we haven't correctly thought through yet."

The study is not a precursor to creating a vaccine, as such work already has begun, but could pro-

vide insight into how easy or difficult vaccine development may be.

"If the antibody response is vigorous and shows long-lasting antibodies and shows that it definitely gives you immunity, that probably implies that a vaccine won't be too difficult to make," Sims explained. "However, if the natural antibodies fade out quickly or don't give you full immunity, that's going to imply that a vaccine might be harder to make, so I think this will help in planning vaccine development, but I don't think it's necessary for vaccine development."

While the testing is not yet FDA approved due to the sped-up process, studies can be conducted without FDA approval.

"Because the pandemic moved at such speed, the normal process the FDA does for approval, which can take months, was not going to allow for testing, so the FDA has released a number of these tests under what's called EUA, or emergency use authorization," explained Dr. Barbara Ducatman, Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak chief medical officer. "So not only did the vendor get EUA, we are also submitting for EUA. Every test being done during the COVID epidemic is actually operating under EUA and not the usual FDA process, not just this test."

The test has been validated by both the company that produced it and Beaumont's laboratory and is considered to have around 98 percent accuracy.

"It really has been a team effort from every area across Beaumont to make this a reality," said Hans Keil, Beaumont Health senior vice president and chief information officer.



## Safely serving

Volunteers pick up Meals on Wheels from The Helm to deliver to area residents.



Allie Short, Meals on Wheels coordinator at The Helm, and Meals on Wheels volunteer driver Larry Jaminet.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE HELM

## City of Grosse Pointe

### Public nuisance

A 38-year-old Warren man was stopped for harassing citizens at Charlevoix Street and St. Clair Avenue and found to be under the influence at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, April 16.

When officers tried to pull him from his vehicle as he attempted to leave, the man kicked them in the chest and was tasered.

He was arraigned Friday, April 17, with three counts of felony resisting and obstructing police.

### Uninvited passenger

Officers responded to the 17000 block of Mack Avenue when an unknown woman was reported inside a resident's vehicle at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, April 18.

The 30-year-old woman was found attempting to remove property and arrested for a child support warrant.

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

### Grosse Pointe Shores

No crimes to report per dispatch.

— Laurel Kraus  
Report information about crimes to Grosse

# PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

Pointe Shores Public Safety, (313) 881-5500.

### Grosse Pointe Woods

Public safety reports were not available.

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

### Grosse Pointe Park

#### Stolen car suspect snagged

An 18-year-old Detroit man was arrested at a Warren motel around 4 p.m. Monday, April 13, after abandoning a Ford Edge that was reported stolen in March.

The suspect was followed to a location in the 3000 block of Eight Mile Road, where he was located in one of the guest rooms.

#### High-speed chase ends with handcuffs

A 33-year-old Detroit man was arrested after a high-speed car chase that ended in a crash near Coleman Young International Airport in Detroit around noon Saturday, April 11.

The man was first

detained for running a red light at Cadieux and Charlevoix, where he initially stopped for public safety before leading officers in a 25-minute pursuit through multiple cities.

After the suspect's vehicle crashed, he fled on foot before he was captured. Public Safety Director Stephen Poloni praised the officers involved for an "excellent job."

#### Stolen items recovered

A 23-year-old Detroit man was arrested in the 1300 block of Bedford around 5 a.m. Sunday, April 19, after he was spotted exiting a rear yard, police said.

After a brief chase, the man was taken into custody and admitted having stolen items from a 2003 Chevy Tahoe and rummaging through other vehicles. The stolen items were recovered.

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

### Grosse Pointe Farms

#### Stolen vehicle

A 40-year-old Farms woman's Chevy Cruze was discovered stolen from the 400 block of Calvin Avenue at 11 a.m. Tuesday, April 14.

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### Corona theft

After stealing a 12-pack of Corona beer from a gas station in the 19000 block of Mack Avenue at 7:30 a.m. Friday, April 17, a 42-year-old Detroit man was stopped by officers at a nearby bus stop.

After attempting to claim he had coronavirus, the man was ticketed for the larceny.

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

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**CITY OF HARPER WOODS  
2019 CONSUMER'S ANNUAL REPORT  
ON DRINKING WATER QUALITY  
MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
HARPER WOODS, MICHIGAN 48225**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that copies of the 2019 Consumer's Annual Report on Drinking Water Quality for the City of Harper Woods are available to the public free of charge at the Harper Woods City Offices and the Harper Woods Public Library. Copies of said report were previously distributed to all residents via U.S. Postal Service the week of April 13, 2020, however, additional copies are available to interested persons at the above designated locations. For more information, call the Department of Public Works between 7:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday at (313) 343-2570.

**CITY OF HARPER WOODS  
LESLIE M. FRANK**  
City Clerk

Posted: April 17, 2020  
Published: April 23, 2020

## 6A | OPINION

## Grosse Pointe News

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

ROBERT B. EDGAR: Founder and Publisher (1940 - 1979)

JOHN MINNIS: Publisher

TERRY MINNIS: Vice President

JODY MCVEIGH: Editor

## OUR VIEW

## COVID &amp; the guv

The April 16 Grosse Pointe News went to press on Tuesday last week with what seemed like a few mild quibbles about Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's most recent constraints on Michiganders' activities — and landed in mailboxes the day after a reprehensible demonstration in Lansing against virtually all the efforts to control the spread of COVID-19.

The new coronavirus pandemic is as devastating in southeast Michigan as almost anywhere except the New York City metro area. The Grosse Pointes alone had 175 cases and 20 deaths included in Wayne County statistics at the start of this week; Harper Woods had 191 cases and 11 deaths.

Staying home except for essential work, services or sustenance is the current norm. Asking for fine-tuning in a few areas (lawn services, travel to the family cottage, use of a small motor boat) qualifies as constructive criticism, especially when barriers to disease transmission may have to linger into summer.

It's certainly not a partisan stance, let alone an expression of support for the small, crazed group that stopped traffic around the state Capitol on April 15. Some of the participants showed few signs of respect even for each other, by not using social distancing or face masks when they left their cars.

Grosse Pointers in general seem to know better and behave better, mostly because the area remains in the thick of the Wayne-Oakland-Macomb outbreak. Residents need to stand equally firm on most control measures and when to ease them.

Crucial to local well-being, restrictions can't come off until medical facilities regain enough capacity to resume regular care and still handle any pandemic flare-ups. That benchmark comes from the federal guidelines released by the president; it merits the same full-throated support as the bulk of Gov. Whitmer's stay-home rules.

Squashing COVID-19 initially looked like a two- to four-week process starting March 24. Five weeks in, Michiganders still have to work at showcasing their practical natures, persisting through hard times and, yes, suggesting the occasional policy tweak.

## OUR VIEW

## Virtual BoE

Kudos, mostly, to the Board of Education for pulling off online meetings since Michigan shut down group events because of the spread of COVID-19.

But the abrupt end of the April 13 meeting at nearly the four-hour mark does merit mention. Christopher Stanley, director of instructional technology for the Grosse Pointe Public School System, called it a technical glitch with no known cause. And worse, no one involved in the meeting knew about it at the time.

What viewers lost were end-of-meeting comments from President Weertz and Superintendent Gary Niehaus. Grosse Pointe News staff writer Mary Anne Brush tracked both of them down later for the April 16 edition.

Thankfully, audience comments had ended, because their disruption surely would have sparked outcries of censorship.

Sadly, some censorship might have been useful, if wrong. At least one comment was submitted and read aloud multiple times by district administrators — an act that in-person speakers would probably have been too embarrassed to sustain. Other comments listed unattributed snippets from an online petition.

All but one of the comments came from reconfiguration opponents, as is their right. But they should recognize how annoying the repetition became.

Board rules don't seem to require originality. Anyone can provide a name and address, then take

See *VIRTUAL*, page 7A

POINTE NEWS  
INCORPORATED

Member Michigan Press Association,  
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EDITORIAL  
(313) 882-6900

Jody McVeigh:  
Editor

Bob St. John:  
Sports Editor

Eddie B. Allen Jr.:  
Staff Writer

Mary Anne Brush:  
Staff Writer

Laurel Kraus:  
Staff Writer

Elizabeth Martin:  
Staff Writer

Renee Landuyt:  
Staff Photographer

Barb Arrigo:  
Editorial Writer

CIRCULATION  
(313) 343-5578

Kristin Martin Duus

PRODUCTION  
(313) 343-5573

Ken Schop:  
Production Manager

John Pigott:  
IT Manager

Patty Dressler

David Hughes

Donna Zetterlund

ADVERTISING  
(313) 882-3500

Shelley Owens:  
Advertising Manager

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Account Executive

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The McGarvah family during pre-coronavirus times, from left, Taylor; her twin brother, Luke; Shae and parents Jamie and Becky.

COURTESY PHOTO

GUEST VIEW By Becky McGarvah

## Miracles do happen — twice

On April 23, my husband, Jamie, and our family are celebrating not only his recovery from COVID-19, but the 10th anniversary of his bilateral lung transplant. We think sharing his two-time miracle story will be a source of positivity for our community who may be feeling fear and angst during this time of uncertainty.

Being a transplant survivor, and therefore immunocompromised, Jamie was always a target for this horrible virus. When coronavirus started making headlines, we instantly self-quarantined him. His only trips were to necessary doctors appointments, walks around the block or to Belle Isle to enjoy a pizza and the sunset from our car.

On March 23, he began feeling ill. We followed our normal routine and immediately contacted his pulmonologist at University of Michigan for a televisit. Aside from the fever, his symptoms were not mimicking those of the virus, so he continued with Tylenol, rest and fluids. But a few days later, after monitoring his oxygen levels at home and finding they had plummeted to 88 percent, Jamie was admitted to the U-M emergency room. The next day, our hearts sank as we heard the news that Jamie had tested positive for coronavirus.

After his diagnosis, Jamie FaceTimed me. He told me how much he loved our children and myself, and I could hear in his voice that he was about to tell me what I did not want to hear. That afternoon, he would be sedated, placed on a ventilator and put fully into the hands of God and the healthcare heroes at University of Michigan. The next day, we were informed that Jamie also had stage III kidney failure and would need to be placed on 24-hour dialysis.

Miraculously, Jamie began making the tiniest of steps toward recovery. His nurses began reducing his oxygen support, he was reacting well to the dialysis and he was responsive while still being sedated. As his family, these small steps felt like large leaps. On April 1, after just one week on the ventilator, Jamie came out of his sedation and had self-extubated. We knew this was his way of saying, "I'm good, I got this." They began reducing his oxygen support daily, taking him off dialysis, and his vitals were looking better.

On April 6, we all thought Jamie was kidding when he called asking for a ride home. Though, to our surprise and excitement, the doctors had discharged him. We were able to welcome him home and feel complete once again.

Sharing my husband's milestone is an opportunity to extend our love and gratitude to all healthcare heroes who suit up and risk their health for us. To the doctors and nurses at the U-M Hospital, especially those in the RICU and on 8D and 8B, we will never find the words to thank you. You treated him with the utmost love and care. You answered each one of our calls at all hours of the day and night, no matter how many there were. And although we felt like we were continuously being hit with bad news, you always followed up with something positive, allowing us to feel even the smallest glimmer of hope.

We would like to thank our family, friends and everyone who has supported us. It is with your love and your endless prayers that Jamie and our family can get through times like these. The power of prayer is a magnificent tool and we truly believe it had a major play in both of Jamie's recoveries.

## 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](mailto:editor@grossepointenews.com).

## Lawns can wait until May

To the Editor:

I was very disappointed to read your editorial opinion ("Guv Needs a Governor?").

You took our governor's decision to keep our population safe into a political reason to attack.

We should all look at worldwide and local pandemic results and actually do what was asked of us instead of risking others lives because we continued on our merry way.

The drive on Lansing certainly proved the reason for her decision.

Stay home and stay safe. Our lawns can easily stay uncut until May.

DEB KRAFT

Grosse Pointe Woods

## Retract editorial

To the Editor:

I am writing to ask you to retract your most recent editorial about the governor's stay-at-home

order. The position taken unnecessarily inflames people, encourages people to ignore the governor's orders and risks lives.

First and foremost, you must remember that people can transmit this virus without having any symptoms. Second, you must remember that some people who become infected will become seriously ill and that hospitals are still overwhelmed by cases.

Indeed, even so-called mild cases tend to last two to three weeks, and people are really sick.

Third, there are reported cases in all of the Grosse Pointes and the number likely is much greater than what has been reported given the lack of testing.

In light of this reality, your lack of support for the governor's order is nothing short of irresponsible.

It is April and a chilling one at that. Nothing bad is going to happen if people's lawns are not mowed for two more

weeks — grass does not grow quickly this time of year. Nothing bad is going to happen if no one goes to their cottage for two weeks.

On the other hand, if lawn service resumes, people will be traveling together to service lawns, working closely with each other and potentially spreading the virus through contact with each other, contact with the residents they are servicing and contact with others at gas stations and the like.

If people from this area travel to their cottages, they risk carrying this virus to the areas in which their cottages are, spreading the virus to those they come in contact with as they travel as well as those they come in contact with up north.

There is simply no good reason to not wait two more weeks to engage in either activity you point to. Please reconsider your position for the health of all in Michigan.

KAREN MCDONALD  
HENNING

Associate Professor of  
Law, University of Detroit  
Mercy School of Law

## Councilman brings more shame to Pointes

To the Editor:

Once again, mere months after the last shame brought upon the pointes by embattled Grosse Pointe Shores Councilman Matt Seely,

he has once again embarrassed our community through his hand in planning Operation Gridlock in Lansing on April 15.

As armed militia with Nazi and Confederate flags commenced upon the capital lawn (PPE a rare sight), Seely (per usual) used a crisis as a means of propping up his political aims.

A short reminder that last year an Ethics Committee was formed after Seely's sexist, anti-Islamic and racist comments were published in the Detroit Free Press.

The downside would be that Seely is on that committee. That's meant to address his lack of ethics.

Don't worry, Grosse Pointe Woods, we have our own shame in Richard Shetler, who also attended the rally. Word is he has plans to run for mayor.

Our people are dying every day. These are our local leadership.

SUSAN WOLFE  
Grosse Pointe Woods

## Postpone reconfiguration

To the Editor:

We all know the reconfiguration of schools will happen. If there was ever a less than favorable time to make these changes, it would be now. With the abrupt ending to the school year and the uncertainties of COVID-19 in the fall, it

See *LETTERS*, page 7A

I SAY By Jody McVeigh

# Banding together while staying apart



With all the doom and gloom and fear and anger I see on TV or read online, my mantra for these crazy times we're living in is "Stay grateful."

While working from home has its downsides — the ever-present husband and loud-mouthed cat, for example — I am grateful I still have work

to do.

I find it interesting that I feel more productive working from home than at the office. At my makeshift workspace (read: dining room table), I don't get the same stream of phone calls or drop-in visitors, and I'm certainly not running out to appointments day after day.

I sit, I call, I question, I type. Repeat.

And while most of the world has shut down over the new coronavirus, so much of Grosse Pointe has sprung to life — from resident musicians performing concerts on their porches and inspirational chalk

art adding color to sidewalks, to businesses switching it up by creating hand sanitizer and crafters making masks by the dozens.

I love sharing the good news of the Grosse Pointes — I have since I started this job — but I find myself struggling to keep up.

Every day I'm hearing about more and more efforts of the members of this community who are giving of themselves and their talents to help medical professionals, neighbors and even strangers.

I admit, sometimes I have to remind myself "furloughed" and "laid

off" is not the same as being on vacation.

It's tough when I'm clacking away at my keyboard or conducting phone interviews with the next in a long line of newsworthy Pointers, while my self-employed husband watches Netflix, naps or spends hours on the phone. He's nearly run out of household projects, most recently taking a chainsaw to several perfectly healthy arborvitae in our backyard. I'm sure he'd do anything to rejoin the workforce.

Today I have gratitude for my job; it's not a chore sharing good

news about our Grosse Pointe neighbors. I have gratitude for the home I live in and the safety and comfort it provides. I have gratitude for my solid marriage; we're using our faith and good humor to stay off of each other's nerves — and I really can't complain about being on the receiving end of home-cooked meals every night. (I love that he's that bored!)

I have gratitude that John and Terry Minnis have continued to produce this local newspaper, with its bare-bones staff. It's a challenge for them, no doubt, but we are getting through with

the support of our advertisers and subscribers (though we could always use more!).

It can be so easy to focus on the negative and get sucked down that rabbit hole of COVID-19-related chaos. As long as I keep my thinking straight, I can find a lot to be grateful for.

And while this virus is sure to wreak more havoc than it already has, I'm grateful for the daily reminders that a community in crisis can find strength in banding together for their neighbors, for their friends, for strangers — all while staying apart.

## YESTERDAY'S HEADLINES

### 1945

75 years ago this week

**AGENCIES RALLY TO HELP VETERANS:** Help for returning Pointe war veterans is promised in a movement now on foot, which is completely outlined in a letter sent to 83 local and metropolitan organizations, including churches, PTAs, municipal and township officials, service clubs, Red Cross, hospitals, health authorities, veteran groups and others. It states, in part, "The extreme importance of

the difficulties facing returned veterans and the urgent necessity for the local community to work with them in a coordinated and harmonious way, cannot be underestimated by any of us."

*Obituaries: Mrs. W.H. Hendricks, Sgt. Thomas E. Lamb*

### 1970

50 years ago this week

**WOODS ORDINANCE UNCONSTITUTIONAL:** The much-discussed and debated Grosse Pointe Woods ordinance 295,

which regulates public demonstrations, parades and picketing in that city and passed by council in July 1969, was ruled unconstitutional by Wayne County Circuit Judge Joseph Moynihan on April 7. The ordinance was tested by Robert T. Smith and Ernest Hoffman when they were arrested after ignoring warnings to stop an unauthorized picket in front of the Wrigley's Supermarket. They were part of a group of over 25 persons involved in an area grape boycott.

*Obituaries: Walter J. Weidenbach, Douglas Feben, Gertrude E.*

*Fairless, Charles A. Ramsay, Herman A. Lauer, Angela Flores, William A. Linde, Bertha M. Mavius, Charles A. Dox*

### 1995

25 years ago this week

**HILL BUILDING DEAL OFF FOR NOW:** A beyond-capacity crowd, made up mostly of neighbors of the Meade building on Kercheval, jammed the Grosse Pointe Farms council chambers Monday to voice their opposition to the proposed plans for the property. After hearing from Realtors and developers

and from the nearby residents at Monday's preliminary hearing, the Farms council decided not to set a date for a site plan review. The plan was proposed to bring the Staples Inc. office supply company to the Hill.

*Obituaries: Virginia F. Skau, Hedwig Jacoby, Dorothy H. Cleek, Alfred Leon Gostow, Dorothy A. Groehn, Robert M. Shea, Talbott "Tim" Barnard*

### 2010

10 years ago this week

**SENIOR FACILITY PROPOSED:** Plans for a \$36 million senior hous-

ing development on property once occupied by the Children's Home of Detroit were to be presented to the Grosse Pointe Woods Planning Commission at a meeting April 27. Preliminary plans for the Continuing Care Retirement Community of Grosse Pointe include 40 single-story detached residences, a three-story independent living facility, a three-story assisted living facility and a three-story nursing center on 14 acres at 900 Cook Road.

*Obituaries: Raymond R. Tessmer, Geraldine Marie Brush, George J. DeClerk, Thomas Motter, Pamela Francis, Michael R. Tucker, Reginald Joseph Zielinski M.D.*

## LETTERS:

Continued from page 6A

would be in the best interest of the children to postpone any significant changes.

While a lot of work went into reconfiguration it is not all for naught, just a postponement until life can get back to some kind of normal.

It is hard enough for the children and parents affected by the reconfiguration to make this change. Throw in a pandemic, the loss of three months of a structured learning environment, three months of summer vacation and again, the uncertainties of possible state mandate for safe distancing should be reasonable enough to give you pause.

Please reconsider and postpone. It would ease the minds of many.

SUSAN SNYDER  
Grosse Pointe Woods

### Reconfiguration during COVID-19

To the Editor:

I am writing this letter as a matter of conscience. I am not speaking for the Board of Education or individual board members. I am writing this letter as your elected official

expressing my own opinions and research.

I cannot ignore my conscience. I stand with our parents, teachers and taxpayers who have pleaded with the board and administration through phone calls, letters, comments at board meetings and petitions to pause reconfiguration because of the coronavirus. We are not ready.

The whole world has been thrown into turmoil and my fellow board members continue to ignore the reality of the Grosse Pointe Public School System's situation brought on by the novel coronavirus. The board and administration have decided to go full steam ahead with reconfiguration plans.

There is literally unprecedented uncertainty all around the world at all levels of government — federal, state and local. How will the world be going forward?

Corporations are not even sure how to go back to work in the coming months, yet our school board is certain about reconfiguration? The disparity between the world's uncertainty and our district's certainty is glaring. We are enacting massive changes and the timing could not be more wrong.

The board has not faced the possibility that we may not be able to open school in September. If we do, classrooms will not look like our classrooms of the past.

There is much uncertainty about whether COVID-19 is able to reinfect people once they've had it and whether it will resurface in the fall. We are not even finished with its initial pass through the population.

With this global uncertainty comes huge economic uncertainty, especially with regard to tax revenue. Will GPPSS be getting the anticipated amount of per-pupil foundation money? Due to months of no business taxes and consumer taxes coming into the state's coffers, there will be a necessary contraction.

The board and administration are not listening and show no respect for the community as it dismisses numerous, very real concerns raised by parents, teachers and taxpayers during public comments at virtual board meetings and those 1,700-plus people that have signed the petition asking the district to pause the reconfiguration plans at change.org.

This board also demonstrates no respect for process. The Open Meetings Act requires a quorum for the purpose of deliberating toward or rendering a decision. At present, board members, in groups of one or two members at a time, are presented plans of reconfiguration, building projects, curriculum changes, loss of magnet classes and impact on special ed students without full board discussion.

Then, board meetings are used to announce what has been decided. Public comments are read for the sake of appearance, but issues raised are rarely, if ever, addressed or debated. There seems to be a conscious avoidance of public scrutiny. The board has not discussed matter or any of

the "what if" scenarios.

The board has not discussed plans for summer school, virtual or otherwise. Why aren't we planning to take advantage of the 10 weeks of summer to bolster students' mastery of necessary skills or advance their learning in new subjects?

Have you noticed the lack of empathy and respect for our senior class? Why aren't we brainstorming workable ideas for loss of senior events and graduation?

The board has had no discussion on busing from Poupard. No safety plan for Trombly students crossing Jefferson to attend Defer. No discussion on required playgrounds at the middle school for fifth grade students and no discussion on the advisory addition

for fifth grade and other curriculum questions.

When construction projects are authorized to begin, is there enough time for them to be completed before school resumes? Given that the very first order of construction is asbestos abatement, which cannot be started until sometime in June, is there time to complete any of the construction given possible delays and coronavirus restrictions with social distancing?

Does anyone else on the board feel the frustration and bewilderment that I have? Why is this board and administration going full steam ahead when there are red flags all over the place. It's time to do the right thing.

CINDY PANGBORN  
Grosse Pointe Farms

## VIRTUAL:

Continued from page 6A

up to three minutes to make a lucid argument or start in on "War and Peace."

So if filibuster-style tactics become the norm, the board needs to insist that the livestream be monitored and that all district business, plus mem-

bers' and administrators' final thoughts, take place first. Then read comments, hoping no technical glitches ensue, and as a safeguard post them all online.

Virtual Board of Education meetings are streamed at [atgpschools.org](https://atgpschools.org). Go to the drop-down menu for School Board and choose Watch the Meeting.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. Monday, April 27.

## KEEP CALM, CALL TOM & STAY HOME

I am always available to discuss any of your real estate needs.

Wishing you health and happiness in this time of uncertainty.

Many thanks to essential workers, we see you and we appreciate all you are doing!



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All the News of All the Pointes Every Thursday Morning

Grosse Pointe News

Complete News Coverage of All the Pointes



VOL. 29—No. 12

Entered as Second Class Matter at the Post Office at Detroit, Michigan

GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN, MARCH 21, 1968

\$2.50 Per Year 10¢ Per Copy

40 Pages—Two Sections—Section One

HEADLINES of the WEEK

NEW HAMPSHIRE DEMOCRATS returned a startling split decision on Tuesday, giving President Johnson a narrow, empty victory in the nation's first primary...

SECRETARY OF STATE Dean Rusk has refused to promise the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that Congress will be given a role in future Vietnam war policy decisions...

ENEMY TROOPS raked a U.S. Army supply convoy from ambush along winding Route 14 in the Vietnam central highlands...

FIGHTING THE FRENZIED wave of gold buying in Europe, the government triggered higher interest rates for American borrowers today and called an emergency meeting of representatives of gold pool nations...

THE PRICE OF GOLD reached \$44.36 an ounce on the Paris market Friday, more than \$9 above the \$35 price guaranteed by the United States...

AT LEAST 20,000 U.S. and South Vietnamese troops are sweeping between Saigon and the Cambodian border in the biggest operation of the Vietnam war...

SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY began his fight for the presidency of the United States on Saturday when he announced an all-out battle to snatch the party nomination away from President Johnson...

IN PARIS THE price of gold fell on the bullion market today for the first time since speculators launched their buying spree that threatened the world's money system and the American dollar...

SENATOR EUGENE M. MCCARTHY, B-Minn., turned down Senator Robert F. Kennedy's call for a campaign alliance and said he didn't plan to invite the New Yorker to campaign for him in Wisconsin...

DEVIL TANKERS STATE CHAMPS

Final Event Gives Victory To Pointers

Second Place In Freestyle Relay Edges Out St. Joseph By Narrow 3-Point Margin



Grosse Pointe High School's swimming team won the State Championship last Saturday, edging St. Joseph 81-78 in a nip and tuck battle...

Board of Appeals Denies Request on Building in Woods

Original Plans Submitted Not Same As Ones Used For Construction Of New Residence; Family Room Violates Zoning Ordinance

A Board of Appeals hearing was held on Monday, March 18, in the Woods Council Chambers to hear an appeal for a variance on the property of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Peterson...

Holdup Pair Dump Victim Sans Clothes

Man Robbed In St. Clair Shores Driven To Pointe; Ejected After Being Forced To Strip

City police officers Cpl. George Brackx and patrolman Richard Lanski were stopped on Monday, March 18, at 1 a.m., on Jefferson at Lakeland by William J. Cummings...

Nab Quartet Smoking Pipe of Marijuana

17-Year-Old Boys And Juvenile Girls Caught In Parked Car On Country Club Property

Two 17-year-old St. Clair Shores boys and two juvenile girls were arrested by Farms police on Friday, March 15, on charges of trespassing...

Farms Gives Approval to Curfew Law

Follows City And Woods In Passing Ordinance Granting Special Powers During Crisis

At its regular meeting held on Monday, March 18, the Farms council approved an ordinance granting emergency police powers to the mayor in the event of a major crisis or civil disorder...

Youths Arrested Following Fight

Five youths, four of whom were juveniles, were arrested by City of Grosse Pointe police on Friday, March 15, in front of Marino's Restaurant, 17445 Mack...

Cottage Hospital Picked As Stockpiling Plan Unit

Ralph L. Wiltrude, Administrator of Cottage Hospital, has announced today that Cottage Hospital has been selected to participate in the Michigan medical stockpiling plan...

Capacity Audience Hears Dr. Martin Luther King Lecture at High School

Breakthrough Members Picket Outside Gymnasium; Standing Ovation Punctuated By Interruptions By Hecklers

While a heterogeneous group of some 2,700 persons filled Grosse Pointe High School's auditorium-gymnasium to capacity last Thursday night to hear Nobel Prize winner Dr. Martin Luther King speak on "The Future of Integration..."

Comments on Myths

With respect to myths... Time... the old myth that time can solve racial injustice... Time is always ripe to do right...

Views on Vietnam

On Vietnam... the war in Vietnam is creating havoc with our domestic destinies and added that issues of race and the Vietnam War cannot be separated...

Courteous to Hecklers

Throughout Dr. King's speech he was interrupted by members of Breakthrough, who shouted derogatory remarks. Each time the hecklers were quietly escorted from the gymnasium...

Placed Under Arrest

The four teens were informed of their rights and placed under arrest and taken to the station, where they were formally charged with trespassing...

Returned to Shores

Cummings was turned over to Patrolmen William Brewer and Edward Thomas of the St. Clair Shores Police Department, where the incident occurred...

REPORTS STOLEN COAT

LYNN WESSON, 9000 East Jefferson, reported to City police on Wednesday, March 6, the theft of a three-quarter length suede coat from the coat room at Leons Hairdressers, 17888 Mack...

MCCLARY PROMOTED

Sidney R. McCleary, of 827 Lincoln road, has been appointed director of traffic for the General Motors Assembly Division...

Pointe Theater Opening Wallach Comedy Friday

The Grosse Pointe Theater opens the third production of its 20th Anniversary Season, "The Absence of a Cello," a comedy by Ira Wallach, on Friday evening...

Correction

Last week the NEWS printed a story on the capture of the cat burglar, who robbed Fischer's Cards, 17047 Kercheval last October, and 7. The report listed his address as 731 Manistique, Detroit, due to a typesetting error...

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Check back here on May 21 for a Frontpage Memory of the 1970's

Pointe Nutrition advertisement featuring a word cloud with terms like HEALTH, VITAMINS, ENVIRONMENT, and DOCTOR. Text includes: 'Three Fully Trained Staff Members On Site To Assist. 19850 Mack Ave. Across the street from G.P.W. City Hall (313)821-4950'



# FEATURES



*Integrity. Heritage. Lifestyle.*  
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higbiemaxon.com



2-3B OBITUARIES | 3B CHURCHES | 5B ASK THE EXPERTS | 6B CLASSIFIEDS

## Dig in Pointer offers free Seed Station at Woods home

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

As Mother Nature slowly starts warming up the crisp, clean spring air, Danielle Carlomusto wants people — especially children — to get their hands dirty. And the time is now.

Carlomusto, creator of the music, video and community outreach program Gro-Town, offers free first-growing experiences for children through the program's outreach arm, Motown is Gro-Town. Typically set up at public libraries

throughout metro Detroit, Carlomusto is getting creative during "Stay Home, Stay Safe" by offering a Seed Station at her Grosse Pointe Woods home.

Carlomusto initially created Gro-Town for her own young children, but has watched it grow by leaps and bounds. The program "seeks to instill a sense of gratitude and wonderment for the world around us and to celebrate the small and simple," she said, "especially the beauty and simplicity of gardening." "I'm a firm believer in



PHOTOS COURTESY OF DANIELLE CARLOMUSTO

The Seed Station in front of Danielle Carlomusto's Grosse Pointe Woods home.

the endless benefits of diggin' in the dirt: hope, health, patience, commitment, fun," she added. "Plus, it's an extremely low-cost/high-reward endeavor almost anyone can do."

Carlomusto had planned to distribute 5,000 donated seed packets to beginning gardeners this year, but between the stay-at-home measures and library closures she had to come up with a new plan.

"As an avid backyard gardener, I know that surge of energy and excitement we all get when our beautiful community begins to thaw and bountiful garden plans spring into action," she said. "When the 'Stay Home, Stay Safe' protocols were announced, my thoughts split two ways with regard to gardening: 1) What a perfect time for families to get growing. 2) Where are they going

to get their seeds?

"I knew I could help and was thrilled to do so," she continued. "Though I'm still reserving some direct-sow varieties for Seed Stations later in the season, I compiled seven boxes filled with over 1,000 packets of garden delights of all kinds ready to find their forever homes. The response has been absolutely amazing with families, children, walkers, bikers all stopping by to choose goodies to keep while adhering to safety measures."

Carlomusto hosted a Seed Station in front of her house on Huntington three times last week. She plans to continue to do so as long as there's interest.

"I've received inquiries every day, so I will likely set them out a few more times," she said. "I would love to see them all go." So far, she's distributed

nearly 300 packets. She has set a limit of two packets per person to make sure there's enough to go around.

A variety of vegetable and flower seeds are free for the taking, she said. Seeds were donated to her by several businesses, including Bordine's Nursery in Rochester Hills, Hart's Seeds, Hudson Valley Seed Co., Burpee and Great Lakes ACE Hardware on Mack.

"I combed through my stock in order to choose mostly varieties requiring cooler weather or a time-sensitive indoor start for now," she explained. "Tomatoes, peppers, eggplant, etc., as well as many flower varieties need to be started indoors before planting in the garden outside. ... Likewise, lettuce, radishes and peas do much better when started in cooler

weather."

Carlomusto said she hopes the distribution helps foster a lifetime of growing enthusiasm.

"In a world that seems to value bigger, faster, louder and more 'epic' with each passing day, gardening takes us where I think we all need to go more often: a smaller, slower, quieter, decidedly un-epic place," she said. "Gardening is peace. Gardening is gratitude. Gardening is connection to our food, our communities, ourselves."

"I think this is an especially important message for children," she added. "Not everything is awesome. Not every day is epic. But find true joy in the small things and you will always be fulfilled. There's nothing quite as small or worthy of celebration as the humble seed. That first bite of a

See SEEDS, page 5B



Carlomusto with a basket of donated seeds.

## 3D printers put to use during pandemic

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

Between the "Stay Home, Stay Safe" executive order and the tremendous amount of layoffs and furloughs throughout the state, many Michiganders are in a self-isolation holding pattern.

With idle time on their hands, the novice and expert alike are doing what they can to help others.

Cloth masks are being made by myriad Pointers of all ages and donated to hospital staff and those at high risk for the coronavirus. Taking things another step further are Pointers who are using 3D printers to fabricate face shields, also for donation.

Among them is University Liggett School Lower School Dean of Pedagogy & Innovation Michael Medvinsky, a Grosse Pointe Woods resident. When the school building closed, Medvinsky asked if he could bring home a couple of Liggett's 3D printers.

"I try to keep busy," he

said. "I needed to channel my energy in a way that would help society."

Through social media, Medvinsky found a face shield template recommended by Budmen Industries. As he printed, he began sharing his efforts online.

"I started partnering with families at Liggett who are first responders, medical professionals, who began taking them to work and either wearing them themselves or distributing them," he said, noting some colleagues at Liggett noticed his efforts and followed suit. For example, the school's Robotics team also is printing face shields and several student families are sewing fabric masks. "We've connected our efforts and become a unified group."

Medvinsky also started making N95 cotton mask covers, which sustain the longevity of N95 masks. It's a family affair, he said. His children are cutting the fabric to size, his wife is pinning and clipping the fabric and he's running the sewing machine. So far, they've



Michael Medvinsky has been creating face shields on 3D printers and cloth face masks with help from his family.

donated 110 masks between Henry Ford Hospital, Ascension St. John Hospital, Michigan Medical, Veterans Hospital, Beaumont Hospital Grosse Pointe and The Rivers.

"I'm waiting on delivery of materials," Medvinsky said. "Fabrication is limited to the materials I have. I'm out of elastic. The face shields continue to print; I will have 80 shields ready to distribute."

Medvinsky's 3D printers run 24 hours a day, he said. He sets an alarm during the night to keep the process going

smoothly.

"I'm looking for balance between the

requests from the medical professionals and the supply from distributors," he said. "I continue to order materials. I need to get them into the hands of those who need them."

Medvinsky already has delivered 110 face shields, but has many more to distribute once more materials come in.

"This effort is directly relatable to the support, the equipment, from University Liggett School and the willingness of them to contribute to the cause," Medvinsky said, estimating that Liggett also donated \$1,000 in

material for the project. "To think about this establishment caring so much and giving to the community; I wouldn't be able to do what I'm doing if it wasn't for the equipment from Liggett."

While Liggett donated the filament for the project, Medvinsky has been purchasing acetate himself. However, once he started sharing his efforts online, community members started asking how they could help.

"Through the donations of community members I'm able to continue the fabrication of it," he said, noting his colleagues planned to start a GoFundMe account.

Through his role at Liggett, Medvinsky said he models for students problem finding, problem solving and taking action.

"We ask our learners to do this while they're in school with us," he said. "We teach by doing and now we're building the community even when we're not together in school."

Another Pointer help-

See PRINTERS, page 5B



COURTESY PHOTOS

Healthcare workers at Henry Ford Hospital were on the receiving end of Medvinsky's face shields.

# 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.

## Clinton R. Bogen

Grosse Pointe Woods resident Clinton Russell Bogen, 72, passed away Monday, April 6, 2020. Born June 8, 1947, Clint was the third son of William Bogdziewicz and Patricia Gutenberg Bogdziewicz.

Clint graduated from Denby High School in 1965, and furthered his education at Ferris State University. A U.S. Army veteran, he was stationed in Germany in the 1960s. Clint's career included employment with A.H. Peters Funeral Home, Chrysler Corp., and Westin Hotel. He also was a licensed builder for many years.

Clint and his beloved wife, Joan Murphy, were married 48 years; together they raised two children. A loving husband and proud father, Clint also enjoyed coaching youth sports, especially baseball. He served on the Board of Directors for Grosse Pointe Woods-Shores Little League in the 1990s. Clint cherished time spent with his family, particularly when bowling in his family-friend league or playing golf.

Clint was predeceased by his parents. He was the loving husband and best friend to his wife, Joan. He also is survived by their sons, Marty (Favi) and Jimmy, and grandson, Ethan. Clint's siblings, Ronald, Thomas (Georgia), William (Kathy), John (Adriana) and Terri (Ron Kachmar) and cousin, Michael Black (Pam), also survive him. In addition, Clint leaves a large extended family of in-laws, nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, no visitation or funeral will be held. Arrangements were handled by A.H. Peters Funeral Home. A memorial service to celebrate Clint's life will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to Grosse Pointe Crisis Club, [gpcrisisclub.org](http://gpcrisisclub.org); or Michigan Humane Society, [michiganhumane.org](http://michiganhumane.org).

## Brian R. Gallagher

Brian Richard Gallagher, 49, peacefully passed away Tuesday, April 7, 2020. A loving husband and father, Brian was born July 28, 1970, in Grosse Pointe Farms, to Thomas and Christine (nee Palombit) Gallagher.

Brian attended Grosse Pointe South High School and furthered his education at College for Creative Studies in Detroit.

He and Jennifer Ann Kooistra were married July 15, 2000. Together they lovingly raised their two children, Caroline and Jack.

A self-employed artist, Brian had a passion for oil painting and sculpting. He also loved baseball, sports and fitness. Combining things he loved, Brian created fantastic works of art; his paintings of sports legends were much admired.

Friends and family describe Brian as a devoted friend and family man, generous, kind and compassionate. They will

remember him for his great narratives, love of 1970s pop culture and sports, especially the Detroit Tigers.

Brian was predeceased by his father, Thomas. He is survived by his wife, Jennifer; children, Caroline and Jack; mother, Christine; sister, Bernadette Platt; and nieces, uncles, aunts and cousins.

Given the COVID-19 pandemic, a celebration of Brian's life will be scheduled at a later date so all who wish to gather may celebrate appropriately.

## Milton Scott Miller

Milton Scott Miller passed away Friday, April 10, 2020. He was 67. Milton was born in 1952, in Detroit, to Ralph and Millicent (nee Riggs) Miller.

Milton graduated from Grosse Pointe South High School and attended Wayne State University. He painted cars for Riverside Ford dealership and loved classic automobiles.

Milton's passion was playing the organ. He served as church organist more than 40 years for Lutheran churches in the metropolitan Detroit area, including Reformation Lutheran, Advent Lutheran and Bethlehem Lutheran churches.

Milton was predeceased by his parents. He is survived by his siblings, Ralph (Yvonne Begian), Paul (Theresa), Donald (Rhonda), Laurie Strachan (David), John (Debra) and Roger. He also is survived by his nieces and nephews, Kristen, Claire, Jonathon, Katherine "Kate," Elizabeth "Libby," Abigail, Sarah, Matthew, John, Richard, Ana and Lillian.

A memorial service may be held at a future date.

## Robert Gregory MacEachern

Former Grosse Pointe resident Robert Gregory "Greg" MacEachern passed away suddenly Friday, April 10, 2020, in Kettering, Ohio, after a short illness. Born Dec. 27, 1949, Greg was the oldest of eight sons of the late Elizabeth and Duncan MacEachern.

Greg attended St. Paul grade school and graduated from St. Paul High School in 1968. He was an expert Enduro motorcycle racer as a young man and made many friends as he entered and won contests throughout the Midwest.

Never without a job or smile on his face, Greg's life continued to improve when he met his future wife, Sue MacDonnell. The couple married in 1983. Together, Sue and Greg shared their love of Cape Breton, as the history and culture of their parents' former homes in Nova Scotia became part of their lives and social fabric. Greg was a long-serving board member of Nova Scotian Club of Detroit; he enjoyed and helped organize many of the club's social events. Greg was proud of his Scottish heritage and enjoyed staying in touch with many aunts, uncles

and cousins.

Greg and Sue made their home in the area of Beaver Creek, Ohio, where Greg was an active member of the southern Ohio sports community. He refereed soccer 15 years and lately refereed lacrosse games for local clubs and high schools.

Greg worked many years with Heartland Payment Systems and recently with Get Beyond, where he provided human resource and payment systems solutions throughout Ohio. He was employed previously in the personal watercraft division of Bombardier of Canada.

Greg is survived by his wife, Sue; son, Alec Angus MacEachern (Stephanie); twin daughters, Margaret "Maggie" MacEachern and Dana MacEachern; and beloved grandchildren, Gaia, Madeline, Wilkins and Hunter. Greg also is survived by his brothers, Doug (Kim), Leonard (Theresa), John (Nicole), Ken (Judy), Michael, Duncan (Peggy) and Lloyd (Mary Pearson). Greg was known as a true brother, wonderful father, loving grandpa and dear husband. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

## Robert D. Kirk

Former Grosse Pointe resident Robert D. Kirk, 90, died Friday, April 10, 2020, in Grand Rapids, of natural causes. He was the son of Desault and Zoe Kirk.

Bob earned a degree in journalism from Wayne State University in 1951. He also played trombone in WSU's concert and marching bands, as well as dance bands throughout metropolitan Detroit.

A veteran reporter and editor at The Detroit News for decades, Bob began his career with the newspaper as a city-county bureau reporter and afterward was the Lansing bureau and Michigan Supreme Court editor. Following early retirement from The Detroit News, Bob was a teacher at WSU, editor at Traverse City Record Eagle and member of the public relations staff at AAA Michigan.

Bob was predeceased by his wife of 64 years, Shirley. He is survived by his children, Alison O'Gorman (Mark) of Kentwood, Jeff Kirk (Bethann Verbiest) of Grosse Pointe Farms and Nancy Doyal (Tom) of East Grand Rapids. Bob loved spending time with his grandchildren, Todd O'Gorman, Kirk O'Gorman (Sarah Lowe), Kate O'Gorman Fodell (John), Torrie Kirk Abello (Roberto), Bryan Kirk, Jennifer Kirk, Sally Doyal and Charlotte Doyal, as well as 11 great-grandchildren.

Bob resided for the past decade in Grand Rapids, where he made many wonderful friendships. He had a quick wit and loved martinis, golf, Detroit Tigers baseball and lively discussions. Bob was happiest when surrounded by his family. While those who knew Bob will dearly miss him, he will live for-



Clinton R. Bogen



Brian R. Gallagher



Milton S. Miller



Robert G. MacEachern



Robert D. Kirk



Georgette Zahar

ever in his loved ones' hearts.

His family is grateful for the gentle and attentive care Bob received from staff at Sunrise of Cascade, Heather Hills Care Center and Hospice of Michigan.

A private family service will be held in Bob's honor in Glen Arbor this summer. Arrangements were handled by Metcalf & Jonkhoff Funeral Service, Grand Rapids.

## Georgette Zahar

Longtime Grosse Pointe Farms resident Georgette Zahar peacefully passed away Thursday, April 16, 2020, in Grosse Pointe Woods, due to complications from congestive heart failure. At age 100, she was one week shy of her 101st birthday.

Born April 23, 1919, in Detroit, Georgette was the daughter of Syrian-born parents, the late Mary and Albert Zahar. The loving sister to her late siblings, Helen, Josephine and Joseph, Georgette was a dear aunt and cousin to many surviving relatives.

Georgette graduated from Highland Park High School. She completed one year of trade school and began work as a secretary with various Detroit area companies. Georgette settled into a 30-year career at Motor Vehicle Manufacturers Association where she became a fixture, much liked and respected for her work. Georgette received a remarkable send-off when she retired in 1984 at age 65.

She resided with and cared for her parents many years and later did so for her brother, Joseph, when he fell ill. Georgette was gregarious, loved travel and had many longstanding friendships. Always close to immediate and extended family, she was best known as Aunt Georgie. Her life was characterized by deep faith in God nourished by daily Mass, the Rosary and many other times of prayer, individually and with others. An active parishioner for many years at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church, her sense of humor and unpretentiousness made her an easy person to be with.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, a private burial will take place at Mt. Olivet Cemetery. A memorial Mass will be celebrated at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Grosse Pointe Woods, when distancing restrictions permit.



Foster K. Redding, M.D.



Patricia M. White

## Foster K. Redding, M.D.

Former Grosse Pointe Park resident Foster K. Redding, 90, passed away Friday, April 17, 2020. Foster was born July 22, 1929, to proud parents James and Dorothy Redding. His medical practice was in Grosse Pointe Farms.

Foster is survived by his beloved wife of 60 years, Carol Redding. He was a loving father to Susan Decker (Matthew), Stephen Redding, Karen Tarr and Jane Garland (Scott); and cherished grandfather of Jessica Redding, Danielle Redding, Aloysius Redding, Hannah Decker, Stephen Redding, Steven Garland, Harrison Tarr, Evelyn Decker, Claire Decker, Ethan Garland and Barrett Tarr. Foster will be missed by many family members and friends.

A memorial service will be held at a later date. Interment will take place at Great Lakes National Cemetery. Memorial donations are appreciated to Perelman School of Medicine at University of Pennsylvania, Penn Medicine, [pennmedicine.org/giving/ways-to-give/gifts-in-memory-or-honor](http://pennmedicine.org/giving/ways-to-give/gifts-in-memory-or-honor).

Arrangements are entrusted to Kaul Funeral Home, St. Clair Shores.

## Patricia M. White

Longtime Grosse Pointe Park resident Patricia Mary White, 90, died peacefully Easter Sunday, April 12, 2020. She was born April 17, 1929, in Detroit, to Joseph Martin White and Marie Motz White.

Pat is survived by her dear twin sister, Betty Greenia (Maurice). She was predeceased by her parents and siblings, Joseph White Jr. (Rose), Dennis White (Kathleen) and Mary White. Pat was a beloved and generous aunt to 19 nieces and nephews and many grand-nieces and grand-nephews.

A graduate of St. Charles Borromeo High School, Pat earned a bachelor's degree and teaching certificate from University of Detroit in 1952, and a master's degree in reading in 1959. She taught at a U.S. Department of Defense school in France and traveled extensively throughout Europe and South America in the 1960s. A dedicated elementary school teacher and reading support specialist in Roseville Public Schools more than 30 years, Pat was especially committed to teaching children with reading difficulties.

Pat was a proud parishioner of St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church, a devoted member of more than 70 years of the Third Order of Saint Francis and an active volunteer with Father Solanus Guild. Pat loved to garden, read and travel. She was champion and cheerleader for each niece and nephew by sending birthday cards to each, delivering gifts every Christmas and holding elegant wedding showers and family celebrations. In Pat's retirement, she and her sisters, Mary and Betty, were known as Angel Makers. They made hundreds of angels every year; by hand-delivering them to ill parish members and those residing in nursing homes, Pat and her sisters brought Christmas cheer to many.

Pat was a woman of deep faith, kindness and generosity and an exemplar of the Jesuit motto, "Men and women for others." She left a lasting legacy and example for her nieces and nephews to follow.

A memorial Mass will be celebrated at St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church, Grosse Pointe Park, at a later date. Memorial donations may be made to Father Solanus Guild, 1780 Mount Elliott, Detroit, MI 48207, or [solanuscenter.org/donate](http://solanuscenter.org/donate).

Share a memory at [verheyden.org](http://verheyden.org)

# OBITS:

Continued from page 2B

## Mary Anne Pahl Zinn

Mary Anne Pahl Zinn, 84, of Grosse Pointe Farms, died peacefully Sunday, April 19, 2020. She was predeceased by her husband of 53 years, George Hiner Zinn Jr.

Born Jan. 31, 1936, in Jackson, Mary Anne was the only child of Marion Eleanor and Luther Albert Pahl. She graduated from Jackson High School in 1954, then attended the University of Michigan where she majored in history and met the love of her life. She graduated college in 1958, with honors and married George in June 1959. She taught history and English to sixth graders in Lathrop Village for almost four years before starting a family.

A resident of Grosse Pointe Farms, Mary Anne had multiple interests including tennis, bridge and music, all while being an avid volunteer, organizer and nonprofit leader. She belonged to the Junior League of Detroit, Junior League Gardeners, Country Club of Detroit, Sigma Gamma, Detroit Institute of Arts, The Libri and Morning Music Club. Her real love was music, whether pounding out jazz or a marching band song on piano, or performing classical music on violin. She was a long-time parishioner and choir mother of Christ Church Grosse Pointe, where she became an ardent supporter of the choir program. She spent years organizing the Christ Church Antiques Show, co-chaired it twice, and in 2006 served as honorary chair with her husband. In addition, she and her husband traveled frequently following the boys choir



Mary Anne Pahl Zinn



Anne Marie E. Shaheen

starting in 1981, from London to Vienna and beyond. She was a member of the Washington National Cathedral Association and supported Detroit Industrial School, Bridge Marathon and Children's Home of Detroit.

A unique, strong-willed woman, mother and wife with an amazing memory, life with Mary Anne was never dull. She would always win Trivial Pursuit on the history category alone and was never a chef, as the family fire alarm and the Grosse Pointe Farms fire department can attest. She loved spending summers at the family home in Canada on Lake Huron, continued playing bridge until her recent hospitalization, could not live without her daily copy of USA today with its crossword puzzle and read every mystery/grocery store paperback she could get her hands on. She had a wide, warm and wonderful community of friends and stayed in touch with them by phone, letters and, reluctantly, email.

She is survived by her children, Suzanne Zinn Mueller (Kent), George Hiner Zinn III (Bonnie) and L. Pahl Zinn (Christie); and cherished grandchildren, Eleanor, George IV, Spencer, Kate, Trevor, Matthew, Luke and Kendall.

A memorial will be held

this summer at a date to be determined. In lieu of flowers, send donations to The DeHaven Fund for Music CCGP at Christ Church Grosse Pointe, 61 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms, MI, 48236; Washington National Cathedral at cathedral.org; Gamma Phi Beta Foundation (memo line Mary Anne Pahl Zinn — Beta Chapter Scholarship) at Gamma Phi Beta P.O. Box 731649 Dallas, TX 75373-1699; or St. John's on the Lake, 70642 Bluewater Hwy 21, Grand Bend, ON N0M 1T0.

## Anne Marie E. Shaheen

Grosse Pointe Woods resident Anne Marie Elizabeth Shaheen, 91, died Saturday, April 18, 2020. She was born April 15, 1929, in Detroit, to Joseph Amedee Cauchon and Ida LeGendre Cauchon.

Anne Marie attended Marygrove College before marrying Michael Shaheen. A homemaker and mother of seven, Ann Marie worked together with Michael as an avid volunteer on Kiwanis-sponsored events. She also was a passionate volunteer in helping homeless individuals and needy women and children through St. Clare of

Montefalco Catholic Church. As a parishioner at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church, Anne Marie found much happiness in Bible study classes.

An amazing cook, Anne Marie loved preparing Lebanese cuisine for family and friends. Her incredible green thumb guaranteed there was nothing she could not grow. She also possessed an exceptional knowledge of birds. Anne Marie's spirit for gardening and love of nature extended to the most cherished sanctuary, her Lake Huron cottage.

Anne Marie is survived by her children, Paula Koueiter, Carol Kennedy, Anne Margaret Holman, Michael Shaheen, Kenneth Shaheen and Jeffrey Shaheen; grandchildren, Michael Koueiter, Michelle Koning, Alexandra Shaheen, Michael Shaheen, Stephen Shaheen, James Shaheen, Phillip Shaheen, Matthew Shaheen, Michael Shaheen, Katie Shaheen, Anne Marie Debevoise, Paula O'Connor, Darrell Kennedy, Alexander Dane, Nicholas Dane and Erik Shaheen; and great-grandchildren, Julian Koueiter, Raymond Koueiter, Francis Koueiter, Kaia Koning and Theodore Shaheen. She was predeceased by her husband, Michael; son, Gerard Shaheen; and siblings, Rita Rausch, Frances Simmons, Paul Cauchon and Vincent Cauchon.

Arrangements were handled by A.H. Peters Funeral Home, Grosse Pointe Woods. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, no visitation was held. Private interment took place Monday, April 20, at Resurrection Cemetery, Clinton Township. The family encourages those who knew Anne Marie to share a memory online at ahpeters.com/obituaries.



Members of the mission team are, back row from left, C.J. Anderson, John Cobau, George Brophy, Demetri Stathis, Jennifer Skalsky, Mike Skalsky and the Rev. Keith Leonard; and front row from left, Tom Cobau, Olivia Randazzo, Ashley Boulier and Joey Cobau.

## Mission team shares faith with abused, neglected kids

College students and young adults of Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church spent time in December sharing their faith with the Methodist Children's Home Society. Through a service event coordinated by the church's Jennifer Skalsky and Katie Woodstock, the home's outreach director, the mission team visited the home, which supports children and families that have experienced the trauma of child abuse and neglect.

The mission of the Methodist Children's Home Society includes providing residential care to approximately 60 children, many of whom have dealt with unfortunate family circumstances and have nowhere else to go.

Saturday, Dec. 28, a team of students from Central Michigan University, Purdue University and the University of Michigan, along with adult volunteers, converged on the Redford compound to spread the word of God. Volunteers set up multiple stations in the gym, including basketball, football, life-size Jenga, life-size Connect Four and cornhole games.

Additionally, catapults were set up downstairs and the boys formed

teams to shoot pingpong balls into cups for points. A photo booth took Instamatic photos of the boys, who then decorated photo frames as an art project.

For a few hours, volunteers connected with 38 orphaned boys through games and provided them the opportunity to have an enjoyable time. Afterward, Tom Cobau and Mike Skalsky performed a science experiment involving Coke and Mentos, demonstrating the science of a chemical reaction.

Later, the team and children ate dinner together.

Before the GPUMC volunteers left, the games, footballs and candy were left as a parting gift for the children.

The team thanked the congregation of GPUMC for its supportive prayers, the church's Outreach Committee for its financial support, as well as its United Methodist Women and Palooza Team for their special support.

"This event was a great opportunity for college kids to give back to the community in their short time home," Cobau said. "It was a successful mission because the team was able to show the love of Jesus to children who needed it."

## Cleanup canceled

Traditionally, the city of Harper Woods hosts a city-wide cleanup in honor of Earth Day. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's "Stay Home, Stay Safe" executive order, the April 25 event has been canceled.

"In past years, this event has drawn together over

200 participants that worked hard cleaning up Kelly Road, Salter Park and the city hall/library campus, as well as weeding and planting flowers throughout the city," organizer Mary Kingston wrote in an email. "Unfortunately, to help prevent further spread of the coronavirus, the large-scale event will

not take place for 2020." Kingston offered the following suggestion in its place:

"We have all been instructed to be responsible to reduce the spread of the coronavirus by social distancing ourselves from others; however, we can still commemorate the 50th anniversary of Earth Day individually. Why not pick up and dispose of any litter around your residence and on your street?"

Clean out your closets and donate clean usable clothing. Weed your gardens and trim unsightly bushes; rake up those dead leaves around your yard. Replace your single-use plastic bottles with glass or stainless steel bottles. Turn off lights when you leave a room. ... Use a cloth towel rather than paper towels. Ditch plastic straws. Get outside, walk more, ride a bike, plant some flowers, plant a tree."



Mike Skalski, left, and Demetri Stathis demonstrate the flip-cup catapult game.

COURTESY PHOTOS

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10:45 a.m. - Sunday School

**MONDAY**  
7 p.m. - Worship Service  
2nd & 4th Monday of the Month

**WEDNESDAY**  
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*Making New Disciples - Building Stronger Ones*

# Tau Beta Spring Market shopping days canceled

Online raffle planned in its place

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

An enormous amount of work goes into planning and executing Tau Beta Association's annual Spring Market.

This year — its 17th — was no exception.

Twenty-four vendors signed on to participate, including 13 new vendors and several returning favorites. Sponsorships were solicited and raffle items procured. The three-day event was planned to a T, from its exclusive preview party to elaborate market days.

However, the popular shopping event was called off due to concerns over COVID-19.

"We made the decision to cancel the physical shopping days," said Sharon Wacker, who co-chaired the event with Patty French. "We considered doing it online, but the logistics were not something we could take on."

Instead, Wacker and French approached the raffle donors, who agreed to maintain the raffle. Tau Beta will draw winners between 6 and 9 p.m. Thursday, April 23, for the following items:

- ◆ Luxury beauty package donated by Neiman Marcus, valued at \$1,600.
- ◆ Chanel gold tweed handbag donated by Tenue, valued at \$5,500.
- ◆ Sydney Evans gold and pave diamond ring donated by Girlie Girl, valued at \$1,675.

◆ Sydney Evans gold and diamond enamel Love Disc necklace donated by Girlie Girl, valued at \$1,090.

◆ "Cottage Still Life" oil painting created and donated by local artist Christine Wardwell, valued at \$1,000.

Raffle tickets are \$25 each or five for \$100. To purchase tickets, visit [tau-beta.org](http://tau-beta.org).

While organizers are disappointed their hand-picked vendors will not be coming to Grosse Pointe this spring, each vendor has been invited back for next year's event. In the meantime, Tau Beta invites would-be shoppers to visit the vendors' respective websites and social media pages.

"We want to drive people to their websites and social media," Wacker said. "We're so excited to have so many new ones."

Links to vendor pages are accessible via Tau Beta's website, [taubeta.org](http://taubeta.org).

"They feel so badly they're not able to come," French said.

Proceeds from annual Spring Market events benefit The Children's Center of Detroit; this year's raffle proceeds are no different.

"The funds raised this year will be given to our main focus area — The Children's Center of Detroit — which we have partnered with for over 11 years now," said Tau Beta President Jenny Fruehauf. "Tau Beta also contributes

to local charities through our Recognition Grant Program, which is in its second year."

Added Wacker, "It's a nice boutique, a nice market for the community to participate in, but our focus really is about raising funds for these kids."

"Because so many from the community attend this event, we wanted to let everyone know how we're trying to accommodate," she added.

"We also want to thank our corporate sponsors," French said.

Corporate sponsors include Legacy Wealth Management Group, Ascension St. John Hospital, Plasman, Bodman Attorneys & Counselors, Michael F. Shields, Sunset, Gallagher Kaiser, TCF Bank, Backer Landscaping, The Blake Company, Higbie Maxon Agney Realtors, Clark Hill Legal and Professional Services, Kirlin, Russell Development Co., The Board of Directors, North American Bancard, The Corner Studio, Pointe Capital Management LLC, The Macomb Group, Raymond James Advisory Group of Grosse Pointe, Ed Rinke Chevrolet Buick GMC, Fisher Dynamics, Dr. David S. Balle, Stevenson & Bullock and Detroit Name Plate Etching Co.

"The Spring Market committee was awesome, too," French said. "They're so disappointed it wasn't going to happen this year, but I'm thrilled with what they were able to accomplish."



PHOTOS COURTESY OF DENNIS HYDUK

With smiling eyes, employees at Ascension St. John Hospital display their donated cookies.

# Sunrise Rotary making its mark

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

Each fall, Sunrise Rotary of Grosse Pointe hosts the Grosse Pointe Run, which takes participants on 5K, 10K and one-mile routes through the Pointes. The event serves as the organization's biggest fundraiser; moneys raised support scholarships to high school students in Grosse Pointe and beyond.

Last year was a banner year for the run, bringing in around \$34,000. And while the club still plans to provide scholarships to students at Grosse Pointe North, Grosse Pointe South, University Liggett School, Regina, De La Salle and Harper Woods high schools, there was plenty of money left to share with the community.

So the club reached out to lend a hand, selecting projects that could benefit from donations.

"Our local club foundation is in the black," Sunrise Rotary President Steven Kosinski said. "If not now, when?"

Member Dennis Hyduk's wife saw on Facebook a Girl Scout troop leader who still had 600 boxes of cookies left after face-to-face cookie sales crumbled at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Our club bought about \$300 of cookies and donated them to (Ascension) St. John (Hospital) on behalf of our members," Hyduk said.

Other contributions from Sunrise Rotary included \$2,000 to the Pope Francis Center, which regularly offers a warming center, showers and food to the homeless. The club noticed the center was short on funds for food, Hyduk said.

Vets Returning Home in Roseville, which houses 45 veterans, rehabilitates them and helps them find jobs and housing, also was low on money for food. Sunrise Rotary contributed \$500 and the Knights of Columbus, of which Hyduk also is a member, contributed \$400.

Sunrise Rotary contributed \$1,000 for food to St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Detroit, where the club hosts Sunday dinner for the homeless



Sunrise Rotary Club member Robert Duker displays the masks the club is donating to local health-care workers.

four times a year.

Lastly, the club is raising funds for an ongoing effort — delivering personal protection equipment to area hospitals.

"Hospitals are running low on PPE items, which are gowns, masks, gloves, shields," Hyduk said.

Another club member, Bob Duker, reached out to a friend with a business in Colorado who uses suppliers in China. Through the connection, the club was able to procure an initial 500 masks for donation.

After that, the club contributed \$5,000 and collected an additional \$5,000 from the community to purchase another 6,000 masks, which were donated to Ascension St. John Hospital and Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe. Another \$5,000 was collected next and masks also were donated to Henry Ford Hospital, as well as Henry Ford Medical Center-Cottage.

"They're coming in, we're distributing them and trying to add what we can," Kosinski said. "The first shipment was

money from our club foundation. The second batch was from individual contributions from club members."

The club also has received donations from friends and neighbors who want to support the cause.

"We're going to keep doing our best to get as many masks as we can," Kosinski said.

The 38-member club may be small, but it is mighty, Kosinski added, "amazingly giving, active and involved. I'm very proud of our members. They really stepped up to the plate."



Ascension St. John Hospital employees with their Girl Scout cookie donations.

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ASK THE EXPERTS By Frank Wilberding

# Processing change and moving on



**Q: I'm worried about how my kids are dealing with our current situation — being isolated from their friends, teachers, etc. How can I make sure they are able to process the changes and move on in a healthy way when life returns to normal?**

**A:** The way life has been upended and the uncertainty of it all can disrupt efforts and progress parents and teachers have made to help foster resiliency in our children. While many/most of us are feeling unsure and unsettled, there are things we can focus on that will help.

During World War II, a mental health study reported on the differences between children who had stayed with their parents during the

bombing of London compared to children who had been sent to safety outside London.

The findings were surprising. Despite the physical dangers, the children who stayed with parents displayed significantly less anxiety, depression and mood disorders than those who stayed with relatives and friends in a safer environment.

Resilience can only be built through exposure to and navigation of challenges that cause us to adapt — always with the help of others.

With children, despite today's scary and unpredictable environment, the most important thing is to meet them where they are, giving them a voice to express their fears and concerns without judgment. As they

feel emotionally safe to express themselves, they experience a connection to their parents and siblings that enhances their sense of identity within the larger family entity. Over time, this can lead to a culture of family resilience.

The idea of emotional safety supersedes the idea of physical safety in conferring resilience to children. As they feel emotionally safe, children can begin to model their response to challenging environments in attunement with their families.

One helpful tool comes from PositivePsychology.com and Professor Helen McGrath's Bounce Back! Program. Bounce Back! is an acronym for some of the foundational principles of resilience:

**B** — Bad times don't last and things get better.

**O** — Other people can only help if you share with them.

**U** — Unhelpful thinking only makes you feel worse.

**N** — Nobody is perfect — not you, not your friends, not your family, not anybody!

**C** — Concentrate on the good things in life, no matter how small.

**E** — Everybody suffers, everybody feels pain and experiences setbacks; they are a normal part of life.

**B** — Blame fairly — negative events often are

a combination of things you did, things others did and plain bad luck.

**A** — Accept what you can't change and try to change what you can.

**C** — Catastrophizing makes things worse; don't fall prey to believing the worst interpretation.

**K** — Keep things in perspective. Even the worst moment is but one moment in life.

*Wilberding is a clinical social worker and certified Hazelden-trained addiction counselor in Grosse Pointe Park. He is a member of The Family*

*Center's Association of Professionals and serves on the board of directors. Wilberding can be reached at (312) 443-2112 or fdwilberding@gmail.com.*

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

## PRINTERS:

Continued from page 1B

ing build the community is Grosse Pointe South High School sophomore Dougie Cowan, who is using his own 3D printer to build face shields.

"One of the parents I sail with also has a 3D printer," Cowan said. "He was doing it before me. He sent me his plans."

The Grosse Pointe Farms resident has created 50 face shields so far.

He discovered his love for design through an engineering class at school.

"I thought it was cool to design whatever I want and print it out right in my house," said the 15-year-old, who also has created a timer mount for his sailboat and an Xbox stand, among other items.

His face shield project also is a family effort.

"We're all doing it together," he said. "The clear part is laminate; my sister is putting that through the machine. My mom is (involved in) the whole thing and my dad is the delivery driver."

"It's cool to help doctors who really need them; they're in massive need right now," he continued. "Not many people have a 3D printer. ... I know I'm not the only one doing it and I didn't design it. All I'm doing is using my 3D printer as output."

Cowan's mother, Amy Gmeiner Cowan, said she's amazed by her son's efforts.

"He got inspired," she said. "He got into it his freshman year in high school. He had a class with a 3D printer. He likes to build things, design things and see them come together."

Cowan has made two donations to Ascension St. John Hospital so far, as well as to other healthcare professionals who have asked for the face shields.



PHOTO COURTESY OF DOUGIE COWAN

### A sample of Dougie Cowan's face shields.

Gmeiner Cowan recently ordered two more roles of filament so her son could make more.

"I love the fact he's not sitting in front of the television or on the Xbox," she said. "He's sitting around designing."

When her daughter, Courtney, suggested selling the shields, Gmeiner Cowan said her son would hear nothing of it.

"He said, 'We're not selling them; we're donating them,'" she said. "He's adamant. He gets the fact there's a cost behind this. We buy the filament, but it's all going for charity."

*Those interested in helping Liggett's Robotics team with its efforts may send donations to University Liggett School, c/o Kim Galea - Robotics PPE projects, 1045 Cook Rd., Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236.*



PHOTO COURTESY OF DANIELLE CARLOMUSTO

### A neighbor and his son select seeds.

## SEEDS:

Continued from page 1B

cherry tomato warmed by the summer sun that you grew yourself? Now that's epic."

*Carlomusto is a musician, filmmaker and avid*

*backyard gardener. Her garden-themed children's album "Motown is Gro-Town" is offered through Detroit PBS Kids. She was named 2019's Inspiring Michigan Mom by Hello Bello, the line of organics founded by Kristen Bell and Dax*

*Shepard. She's also been nominated for the Detroit Music Award's Best Children/Family Musician two years running, as well as the Detroit Food Power Community Award by the Detroit Food Policy Council.*

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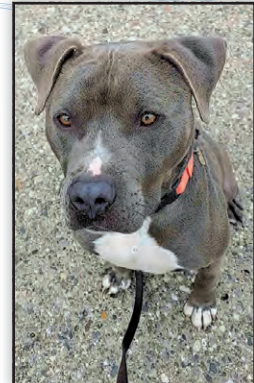


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Corinne Martin - Director

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## City of Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Proposed 2020-2021 City Budget

The City Council of the City of Grosse Pointe Farms will hold a Public Hearing on the proposed 2020-2021 City Budget, at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, May 11, 2020 in the City Hall at 90 Kerby Road, or as otherwise posted at the City website at: [www.grossepointefarms.org](http://www.grossepointefarms.org). **The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of the Public Hearing.** The proposed Budget is on file in the Office of the Clerk for public inspection during regular office hours, 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, and is also available on the City's website. The following is a summary of the proposed Budget:

GENERAL FUND	
ESTIMATED REQUIREMENTS	
Municipal Court	\$ 336,270
General Government	1,832,740
Public Safety	5,402,150
Public Works	2,255,200
Parks & Recreation	1,487,970
Other Functions	2,835,500
Contingency	51,500
Transfer - Other Funds	2,036,220
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 16,237,550</b>
MEANS OF FINANCING	
Taxes	\$ 12,165,200
Licenses & Permits	473,850
State Grants	12,000
State-Shared Revenue	920,800
Charges for Service	1,794,600
Fines/Forfeitures	347,500
Interest Income	25,000
Other Revenue	198,600
Fund Balance Appropriation	300,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 16,237,550</b>

Public comments, oral or written, are welcome at the Public Hearing on the proposed City Budget.

**Derrick Kozicki,**  
Assistant City Manager/City Clerk

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