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Grosse Pointe News

VOL. 81, NO. 23, 22 PAGES ONE DOLLAR (DELIVERY 86¢) Your community newspaper since 1940 JUNE 4, 2020 GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

Circuit court upholds Provençal annexation

By Laurel Kraus
 Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS AND WOODS — Seven Provençal Road properties annexed last year from Grosse Pointe Woods will remain in Grosse Pointe Farms, according to a Wayne County Circuit Court ruling last week.
 Following an appeal by Grosse Pointe Woods of the order issued Oct. 28, 2019, by Orlene Hawks, director of the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Circuit Judge Martha Snow affirmed the annexation of seven Provençal homes from the Woods to Grosse Pointe Farms Tuesday, May 26, denying the Woods' appeal in a final order.

(The Provençal residents) started out trying to do this almost 10 years ago and everybody along the way told them, 'Sorry, it's not possible to do. There's no process to annex (from) one city to another,'" said William Fahey, attorney for the Provençal residents. "So we've managed to do something that I think surprised everybody and certainly pleasantly surprised the homeowners."
 The order addressed the Woods' arguments against the annexation, including the claim that the State Boundary Commission does not have the authority to decide city-to-city annexations and that the issue must be voted on by voters of both cities, citing the 1963 case Magnuson vs. Kent Co. Bd. of



GOOGLE MAPS PHOTO COURTESY OF STEVE BROWNE

The boundary line, shown in yellow, between Grosse Pointe Woods and Grosse Pointe Farms will remain shifted following the Circuit Court's decision to deny the Woods' appeal on the annexation of seven Provençal homes.

“(The Provençal resi- See ANNEXED, page 2A

Boater survives explosion at Park marina

By Eddie B. Allen Jr.
 Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — A sailboat owner has been hospitalized after suffering significant burns in an explosion aboard the vessel in pier four's marina at Windmill Pointe Park around 4:30 p.m. Friday, May 29.
 The cause of the explosion that injured the male boater is still being investigated after Grosse Pointe Park's and the City of Grosse Pointe's Engine No. 1 responded, finding the fiberglass vessel fully engulfed. Firefighters extinguished the blaze using water and foam and transported the boater to Detroit Receiving Hospital



PHOTO COURTESY OF PATRICK W. CLARK

Black smoke pours from the boat at Windmill Pointe Park's marina.
 where he was being treated, according to Grosse Pointe Park Public Safety.

See FIRE, page 2A

Monteith PTO treasurer charged with embezzlement

By Mary Anne Brush
 Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — Former Parent Teacher Organization Treasurer Quinn Smith, 43, has been charged in connection with the embezzlement of almost \$100,000 from Monteith Elementary School's branch of the organization and from the Grosse Pointe Public School System Millage Committee for Renewal.
 According to the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office, Smith was the treasurer

of Monteith's PTO between July 2017 and January 2020. An audit of the organization's finances revealed unauthorized activity on the account after the PTO president filed a report with the Grosse Pointe Woods Public Safety Department Feb. 20.
 Following an investigation, Smith is alleged to have accessed the PTO account without authorization and embezzled more than \$91,000 in funds over two and a half years.
 In addition, Wayne

See CHARGED, page 9A

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Public pools in metro Detroit may begin reopening soon

By Laurel Kraus
 Staff Writer

WAYNE COUNTY — Grosse Pointe municipal pools now have the option to open, following the go-ahead by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer Monday, June 1.
 Whitmer's latest executive order creates a uniform statewide policy that allows public outdoor swimming pools to

open with limited capacity and other restrictions and directs that indoor swimming pools remain closed.
 If Grosse Pointe Shores is granted a permit by the Wayne County Public Health Division to operate the Osius Park pool this summer, it is now obligated to do so, following a vote by city council during the meeting Tuesday, May 19.

The motion passed 4-3, with opposition from Councilman Doug Kucyk, Mayor Pro Tem Bob Barette and Mayor Ted Kedzierski, who called the vote premature and expressed concern for the lifeguards who staff the pool.
 “The centerpiece of our city is the park and the centerpiece of the park is the swimming pool, and to not have the swimming

pool pains me greatly,” Kedzierski said. “... But on the other hand, I'm not going to ignore the realities of this virus and what could happen.”
 The city is gearing up to open the pool July 1, following the vote.
 “I think our community is capable, more than capable,

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Christina Miano
 Home: Grosse Pointe Woods
 Seamstress has made and donated more than 700 masks and counting



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Woods water quality causes no woes

By Eddie B. Allen Jr.
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — Local residents may continue feeling comfortable turning on their kitchen faucet taps.

The municipal water supply remains safe for consumption and reveals no dangerous levels of common contaminants, according to the Grosse Pointe Woods 2020 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. Recently published based on 2019 samples, the report compares Woods supply standards with Environmental Protection Agency and state requirements. Traditionally printed in the local media, the report is being mailed to homes in the city, in compliance with monitoring and reporting requirements.

While water contamination has received increased public attention in recent years, since the lead poisoning crisis from which thousands of Flint residents are still recovering, some consumers might not know lead, chlorine and other elements categorized as “regulated contaminants” are commonly present in city tap systems.

“Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain, at least, small amounts of some contaminants,” states the quality report. “The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk.”

Grosse Pointe Woods homes receive drinking water from the Detroit River, situated among nine Detroit-area and Canadian watersheds. Watersheds are land swaths that drain streams and rainfall to local outlets like smaller bodies of water.

“The sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells,” reads the quality report.

But, even with the purest bodies of water as faucet supply sources, home products like lawn fertilizer or elements like the lining from supply pipes can filter into a drinking glass.

“As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material and can pick up substances resulting

from the presence of animals or from human activity,” adds the report.

The good news for Woods residents is that regulated contaminants like copper and lead, the main element contributing to countless health issues in Flint, were present at safe levels, according to 2019 testing.

“We are way under the guidelines of EGLE (Environment of Great Lakes Energy),” said Frank Schulte, the city’s director of public works.

A government mandate, in the wake of the Flint emergency five years ago, led the Woods to increase its annual number of homes tested from six to 30.

“We’ve had to really step up our game for sampling,” Schulte said.

The city must replace all lead service lines into residences by 2045, he added. Unlike homes in the City of Grosse Pointe, Grosse Pointe Park and Grosse Pointe Farms, many of which were built almost 100 years ago, just 10 percent of Woods residences contain lead service lines, which will spare the Woods significant costs, Schulte said.

“We are a new community, which helps us out,”

See WATER, page 3A



PHOTO COURTESY OF RENEE LANDUYT

A close-up on the port side, where the fiberglass burned and melted the boat.

FIRE:

Continued from page 1A

“I was very impressed with the quick response by three patrol cars and then the firefighting equipment,” said Park resident Patrick W. Clark, who witnessed the fire.

“I heard a ‘woomph’ and felt the concussion of the initial explosion as I was walking off of dock three, heading home after doing a project on my boat,” Clark said. “I turned to see what caused the very loud noise and witnessed a man screaming and leaping off his boat with clothes afire. There were other people over on that dock rushing to assist him.”

The sailboat was later towed as Windmill Pointe Park closed for several hours. The boater was expected to recover from his injuries.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SHAWN RYAN

Firefighters work to douse the flames.

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ANNEXED:

Continued from page 1A

Canvassers.

“Since Magnuson was decided, the Legislature has amended the annexation statute and it declined to include a provision requiring a vote of the elec-

tors of both cities involved in the annexation,” the order reads. “Accordingly, this court finds that the holding of Magnuson, supra does not mandate a vote of the registered electors in this case.”

Noted as significant reasons for the annexation were that emergency

response times for the residents will be faster if provided by the Farms and that the residents have historically been receiving all municipal services from the Farms since the homes were built approximately 100 years ago.

“It’s been a long journey,” said Steve Brownell, who owns one of the annexed homes. “It’s been an expensive journey and we are fortunate in that we have properties quite frankly where the savings that we will accrue from (not) being double-taxed will basically pay for the litigation.”

While this is deemed to be a final order, the Woods could seek a leave to appeal with the Michigan Court of Appeals.

“It has to be a pretty egregious mistake that was made by the first court that would lead the second court, the higher court, to decide to grant leave,” Fahey explained. “... My guess is, if this case gets put in front of the Michigan Court of Appeals, the Michigan Court of Appeals is going to simply deny leave.”

It is unclear whether the Woods will choose to con-

tinue with this option, but thanks to an order by the Supreme Court which places deadlines on hold while Gov. Gretchen Whitmer’s stay-at-home order is in effect, the city has time to decide.

“Even though the period for filing an application for leave to appeal is typically 21 days, that 21 days won’t begin to run until after the governor’s stay-at-home order ends,” Fahey said.

The Provencal residents began seeking annexation in 2013.

“We were sort of met by a brick wall of disinterest then and then we raised the issue again in 2017 a little more informally (and) sort of got the same stiff-armed resistance, so we started looking at it again in late 2018,” Brownell explained, “and decided to get serious and hire council and explore whether or not there might be a track through the state boundary commission to gain some relief, because really we feel like it was relief more than anything else.”

Grosse Pointe Woods City Attorney Chip Berschback declined to comment.

Crash.

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Groups stage caravan in support of #BlackLivesMatter

The Grosse Pointe Democratic Club, Welcoming Everyone Grosse Pointe and Little Pointers for Diversity organized a caravan in support of the #BlackLivesMatter movement, gathering at Eastland Center on Saturday, May 30.

More than 200 drivers, who decorated their vehicles with signs and messages, followed a posted route through the Grosse Pointes. Participants were asked to stay on the route and in their cars while adhering to regular traffic laws.



DRONE PHOTO BY JACK RYAN/SKYVIEW AERIAL PRODUCTIONS

A caravan of vehicles assembled in the parking lot of Eastland Center in Harper Woods.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF RENEE LANDUYT

More than 200 decorated cars took part in the caravan.



Colton Dale, second vice president of the Grosse Pointe Democratic Club, walks along the line of cars with a megaphone reminding them of the rules for the event.



Harper Woods City Councilwoman Ernestine Lyons, Harper Woods Mayor Ken Poynter and Harper Woods City Councilwoman Valerie Kindle wave to cars as they leave Eastland to drive the route.



Colton Dale answers questions for Mary Beth Bradford about the route.

Online engagement tool launched for Mack redevelopment project

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE CITY, FARMS, PARK AND DETROIT — As the next step within phase two of the Mack Avenue Improvement Plan, which focuses between Cadieux and Moross, an online engagement tool will be open until at least Friday, June 19, to gauge feedback on redevelopment concepts for the area.

“This is a tool that we built through a third-party system and what it basically allows us to do is rather than just kind of having a one-way feed of information coming at you like you might in a survey where we show you a concept and you vote on it or rank it and then we only see the

answers and compile it, it’s a little bit more interactive,” said Julie Connochie, project manager at McKenna overseeing phase two of the Mack Avenue Improvement Plan.

The tool, called the Mack Avenue Ideas Wall, can be accessed through an embedded link at mackaveplan.com.

“There’s a little disclaimer here that everything that we’re showing you is very preliminary,” Connochie clarified. “We’ve made no final decisions about what the exact recommendations are going to be and you’ll see that there are kind of specific fiscal concepts for certain areas, so that’s really important that we’re not just putting down plans and calling them concrete and

final. Everything is going to be adjusted based on what we hear.”

Participants can click “like,” “dislike” or add comments on the concepts, which are categorized by type of improvement, including branding and identity, community development, public realm/landscaping, street improvements and zoning/urban design.

“A big focus of this effort is to try to unify the zoning on the corridor, so that what’s allowed on the Detroit side is also allowed in Grosse Pointe, is also allowed in Grosse Pointe Farms and Grosse Pointe Park,” Connochie said. “So making sure that everybody has kind of the same playbook and the same rules is really important; making

sure that the vision that we develop for the corridor can happen physically.”

“Zoning gives us the tools for implementation,” she added. “It gives us the keys for developers to know what they can do and what they cannot do.”

The focus areas of Fisher and Mack; Moross and Mack; Bluehill and Mack; and East Warren and Mack make up the sixth category.

“This came out of our second public engagement,” Connochie said. “We had an exercise where we asked people to identify key areas of opportunity and key areas of concern. In many cases, people put areas of concern and areas of opportunity on the exact same spot, so

we picked four of what we’re calling focus areas to put together kind of initial physical design concepts for what we could possibly see being redeveloped there.”

Fisher and Mack focuses more on redeveloping a vacant used car dealership, while East Warren and Mack looks at regularizing the crosswalks and improving the quality of bus stops.

Further applications on the tool include a project map and more in-depth surveys on each of the focus areas.

“These are just initial ideas and we’ll be modifying them throughout the project,” Connochie said.

To date, the project has completed an existing

conditions and market analysis, hosted two public workshops, conducted a business survey and drafted initial concepts for public feedback.

“The corridor improvement plan is really looking at a variety of different recommendations from kind of the community development spectrum to zoning to street improvements,” Connochie said. “It’s kind of running the whole gamut of things that we can be doing to see this area thrive.”

The next steps include collecting responses from the online engagement tool, finalizing recommendations and creating an implementation plan.

WATER:

Continued from page 2A

he added.

A water development unrelated to the 2019 report also stands to save

Woods residents money. The Eye on Water digital app, which can alert homeowners to toilet or pipe leaks, should be available for use by August. The technology can notify residents of

what appears to be excessive usage, even if they’re not at home.

For an added safety measure involving consumption, the quality report suggests a simple step: “When your water

has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to two minutes before using water for drinking or cooking.”

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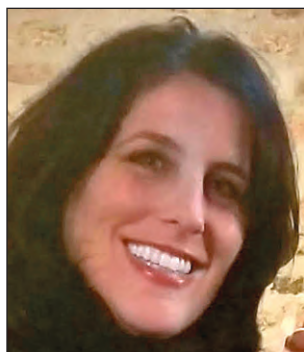
Woods resident 'sew' generous with mask donations

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Christina Miano remembers the days when sewing was a necessity.

"When I was a little girl I sewed buttons back onto my jackets and cuffs at the end of my jeans," the Grosse Pointe Woods resident said. "As a mother, I've sewn figure skating dresses for my daughter to compete, but over the years I've grown to enjoy it and now I find myself sewing out of love."

"On March 16, I was sent home from my job (as a front desk clerk) at Poupard Elementary due to COVID 19," she continued. "That was the day it



Christina Miano

hit me how serious this virus was and it was then that I knew I wanted to help."

Since the start of the pandemic, Miano has been putting her seamstress skills to use making masks.

"It began small, as most things often do," she said.

"I sent masks to my younger sister to distribute to her co-workers at a hospital in California. It felt right to be of service in such a time of need and it was something I knew I was capable of doing."

It wasn't long before the project began to grow.

"All at once our neighbors, mail carriers, grocery deliverers and many others were safely conducting their everyday lives in my

masks," Miano said. "After receiving positive feedback, I connected with nearby organizations such as Vista Maria, Christ Child House and the Neighborhood Services Organization (NSO) — a nonprofit organization that helps to house the homeless."

Miano has sewn more than 10 hours a day for the last two and a half months, tallying more than 750 hours at the sewing machine, "and I'll continue to do so as long as this pandemic poses a threat," she said.

Her masks are available free of charge to those in need.

"I'm grateful to have been an active part in the safety and well-being of my community," she said. "I keep baskets filled to the brim every day with masks, awaiting those who are in need."

Last weekend, she even made masks for Grosse Pointe North High School teachers, who were required to wear them during graduation ceremonies.

In total, Miano has made more than 700 masks and counting, "for family, friends, neighbors, strangers and organizations."

While she buys most of her own fabric and supplies, this project has been supported by numerous friends along the way. Among them, Miano said, are "my neighbor Cathy

Dean, who gave me my very first donation; my friend, Dr. Sue Cabadas, a dentist in Allen Park, who provided some supplies that in turn helped me sew improved masks; Michele Ramsdell, who has connected me with amazing organizations in need of masks; Pat and Mike Mocerri of Mocerri Landscaping, who gave supplies and a generous donation; Ann Turnbull at Village Palm, who has given donations for masks made with Lilly Pulitzer fabric; Charlene Wark, who has lent me her sewing machine because mine stopped working; Linda and Kevin Rossell, who have provided me with ear protectors to give to the healthcare workers and people who need to wear masks for extended periods of time; Jaide Highgate, for her donation of aluminum mask nose strips; and of course, my wonderful family, who has encouraged me every day. I have not done it alone.

"The donations I've received go directly towards the production of more masks," she added. "I have also donated fabric, needles, bias tape to my sister, Cheryl Pari, who is now sewing masks with me in California. She is donating her masks to various nursing home facilities."

Additionally, Miano has shipped masks to numerous states across the



PHOTO COURTESY OF SHARON MAIER

A staff member at the Neighborhood Services Organization selects a mask.

country.

Her efforts have not gone unnoticed, especially by Sharon Maier, vice president of corporate development at NSO, which provides services for Detroit's homeless, as well as people with disabilities and mental health issues. Miano has been donating masks to NSO every week since the pandemic began.

"She even took on making masks for the employees," Maier said. "We have 215 employees. ... It's incredible, the impact she's had."

NSO employees are continually on the streets working with the homeless, Maier said. Without masks, staff and the people they're helping both are put at risk.

Miano's masks have

removed that risk, she added.

"The people we work with, the homeless, need shelter," Maier said. "This (wearing masks) makes them comfortable."

"Sheltering in place is extra hard for the homeless; they're used to wandering," she added. "Or if they have a drug problem, they're used to being on the streets. Having these masks allows them to be treated with dignity and that's the most important thing."

Maier said she's greatly appreciative of Miano's ongoing and tireless efforts.

"She's an incredible lady," Maier said. "It really says something about our society when we can solve these issues all on our own."



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHRISTINA MIANO

A basket of mask orders sits on Miano's porch for pickup.

Racing For Kids to the Hill 2020 canceled due to COVID-19

Racing For Kids to the Hill — one of the most widely anticipated and well-attended events on the Grosse Pointe social calendar — has been cancelled for 2020 because of the continuing risk associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. The annual end-of-summer festival has been a fixture in the community the last 14

years and has seen great support from sponsors and the community at large.

Racing For Kids is a locally-based national children's charity that uses the popularity of motorsports to focus public attention and funding on the healthcare needs of children. Racing For Kids to the Hill is the charity's largest fun-

draiser and proceeds from past events have benefited pediatric programs at Ascension St. John Hospital, Beaumont Grosse Pointe, Henry Ford Health System and the Children's Hospital of Michigan Foundation.

"Over the past 14 years, with the support of our wonderful sponsors and the community, The Hill Event, as it's commonly called, has grown into one of the most popular events in Grosse Pointe," said Tom Buhl, co-chairman of the annual event. "So the steering committee's deci-

sion to cancel was particularly difficult to make. But after reviewing all our options, we realized it just wouldn't be feasible to stage an experience of this scope during this challenging time."

While this year's event has been cancelled, the work of Racing For Kids is ongoing.

"Our mission of helping sick kids get better faster has not paused," said J. Patrick Wright, executive director and CEO of Racing For Kids. "While we can't make our regular bedside visits to hospital-

ized children right now, we continue to work with the Child Life departments of the hospitals we would normally be visiting and have come up with creative ways to interact with our young patients, like staging virtual visits of our INDYCAR racers with hospitalized kids and sending hats, coloring books and Wikki Stix.

"Additionally, we have worked with our restaurant partners to deliver meals to a local hospital and the frontline responders of Grosse Pointe Farms DPS and DPW," he added.

"They have been the backbone of our annual event and we wanted to say thank you."

Buhl hinted there may still be some sort of event to mark the end of summer.

"We are exploring ways to stage some kind of event around our original date of Sept. 2, 2020," he said. "As these ideas take shape, we will be back in contact with the community to let you know what's happening."

For information about Racing For Kids, visit rac ingforkids.org.

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POOLS:

Continued from page 1A

well educated, to figure this out on how to do some kind of limited

opening of the pool," said Councilwoman Danielle Gehlert, who voted in favor. "There are people if they don't want to come to the pool or if they're uncomfortable, they

don't have to come to the pool."

Specifications still need to be developed regarding how the pool could safely open.

"I really think the measured approach is to develop a plan," Shores City Attorney Brian Renaud said. "Maybe it's similar to what they're doing in northern Michigan right now — 50 percent capacity; six-foot distancing between pool chairs; limiting pool chairs, because it's unlikely they get wiped down between each use; close water slides or hot tubs."

The Wayne County Public Health Division had announced an order Thursday, May 28, for all "licensed pools" to remain closed indefinitely — including all Pointe municipal pools and those at private clubs — but rescinded it Tuesday, June 2, to align with the governor's order.

"With temperatures rising, swimming pools have potential to attract large groups," the initial press release read. "As regional leaders, we are

committed to doing the right thing and closing pools is the right thing to do to protect the health and safety of residents and prevent the spread of the virus."

The decision had been made in conjunction with the City of Detroit Health Department, Oakland County Health Division and Macomb County Health Department.

"This effort is also intended to help reduce the potential of a summer spike in new COVID-19 cases that could prevent schools from opening in the fall," read the press release. "Although pool water poses a low risk of transmitting COVID-19, it is difficult to maintain social distance in and around pools, as well as in the associated facilities (such as) enclosures, deck areas and sanitary facilities."

With the pools now allowed to reopen, the cities will first have to contact the Wayne County Health Department for an opening inspection and a water sample analysis, which is protocol regardless of the outbreak.

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Balfour neighbors paint their pride

By Eddie B. Allen Jr.
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — A difference of opinion with many of Lee Kirtley's and Heather Wilberger's neighbors in the wider community led to a united front on their block.

Following a public debate about waving the LGBTQ pride flag from city hall, Kirtley and Wilberger ushered in nationally recognized LGBTQ Pride Month with around 40 other Balfour residents, painting their sidewalks in the flag's rainbow colors Sunday, May 31.

"In our block, in general, every year it's celebrated," Kirtley said.

Kirtley and Wilberger, who live across the street from each other on Balfour, were among Park residents hoping city council would vote to hoist the pride flag at Palmer T. Heenan Municipal Center this



DRONE PHOTO BY JACK RYAN/SKYVIEW AERIAL PRODUCTIONS

An aerial view of the rainbow-colored sidewalk on Balfour.

month, but even many LGBTQ supporters in the Park disagreed. Some called it inappropriate to display any banner except the American flag on city property. So rather than battle with others, Wilberger and Kirtley planned their own celebration.

"Diversity was one of the main reasons we moved here to the Park," Wilberger said.

Just three years ago she and Kirtley were

both out-of-towners, complete strangers eventually drawn to the same stretch of Balfour by the city's reputation for friendliness toward families of various gender, religious and cultural makeup. On the surface, Kirtley, a gay man, and Wilberger, a wife and mother of three girls, had little in common except their previous residences in the Northwest United States. Both chose Grosse Pointe

Park after determining it to be the most progressive of the Pointes.

Like many others, Wilberger had associated the general area with "old money" and conservative social views. Kirtley calls it "pretty awesome" that Wilberger and his other Balfour neighbors who are not members of the LGBTQ population don't discriminate, but celebrate pride with him and his husband.

The washable paint images Balfour residents put on their sidewalks will be freshly coated again before Saturday, June 20, the end of a week-long Pride March through the Pointes.

"Grosse Pointe does have a reputation, so we were a little apprehensive about moving here versus Ferndale or Ann Arbor," Kirtley said. "It was serendipitous that we wound up on Balfour with the neighbors we have."

Budgets, rates set

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — During its first meeting since the COVID-19 pandemic reached Michigan, the Shores city council convened via conference call Tuesday, May 19, to vote on the 2020-21 fiscal year budget, tax rate and water rate.

The tax rate is to remain the same in 2020 as it was in 2019, at 17.7031 mills.

"We did not vote to raise the taxes this year, but we anticipate it may have to happen next year," Councilman Bob Barrette said.

In a unanimous vote, council approved two increases to the water and sewer rates, following increases from the Great Lakes Water Authority of roughly 3.5 percent and the Southeast Macomb Sanitary District of more than 8 percent.

"At the last finance committee meeting, it was in agreement that we would raise the city's combined water rate by 6 percent based on the information that was supplied to us at that time," Finance Officer/Treasurer Rhonda Ricketts explained. "The following day, we were notified by

Great Lakes Water Authority that they're going to delay the increase from July 1, as originally planned, to Oct. 1, basically due to the pandemic. So based on that information, we are recommending to defer the water rate increase portion to Oct. 1 also."

Beginning July 1, the water and sewer rate will increase by 4.72 percent to \$15.49 per 100 cubic feet. Oct. 1, the rate will be raised to \$15.68 per 100 cubic feet.

Large expenditures laid out in the 2020-21 fiscal year budget, which passed 6-1 with Councilman Doug Kucyk opposed, include two patrol cars and a sanitation truck.

"The public works pickup truck was originally approved for the current fiscal year budget but has been deferred until next fiscal year," Ricketts said. "(Other items include) a new in-car camera system for the public safety vehicles, which the chief is also applying for a grant to fund at least 25 percent of that purchase, along with inflationary increases to our insurance costs, our fuel costs, contractual wage increases and so on."

City of Grosse Pointe

Vehicle fire

A vehicle caught fire on the top deck of a parking structure on Cadieux Road at 2 p.m. Thursday, May 21. It was fully engulfed when officers arrived, but the fire was contained to the single vehicle.

Hit and run

An unknown vehicle struck a new Dodge Ram parked on St. Clair Wednesday, May 27, breaking off the side mirror.

— Laurel Kraus

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

Grosse Pointe Farms

Unemployment identity theft

An employee of the city was contacted by the state of Michigan via mail regarding an unemployment claim filed under his name and employer Saturday, May 16.

Invisible thief

An unknown suspect may have intercepted and signed for a 54-year-old Madison resident's delivery out of range of his Ring camera around 8 p.m. Thursday, May 28.

FedEx received a signature that was not his, but the Ring camera showed no one delivering the package.

— Laurel Kraus

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

Grosse Pointe Shores

Car confusion

A 27-year-old Ferndale man was arrested for unlawfully driving an automobile away, after he claimed to have accidentally taken the wrong car home from a business on Lakeshore Road at 11 p.m. Wednesday, May 27.

The 70-year-old Woods owner had left the automobile unlocked with her

keys and cellphone inside. When her husband called the phone, the suspect answered and told the couple to pick up the vehicle from his home in Ferndale. His car, which was still parked at the business, was impounded.

Driving while license suspended

After crossing the double line twice at Vernier Road and Morningside Drive and failing to signal, a 28-year-old Detroit man was pulled over and arrested for driving while license suspended at 12:27 a.m. Thursday, May 28.

Fleeing and eluding

At 4:29 a.m. Thursday, May 28, Woods officers spotted a vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed along Mack Avenue with a passenger hanging out of the window; shortly after, the vehicle passed Shores officers going 47 mph on Lakeshore Road.

A brief chase ensued down southbound Lakeshore, but officers stopped pursuit due to the high speed. A rollover accident involving the same vehicle at a nearby school was then called in and officers arrived to find two people running away on foot.

A 27-year-old Detroit man was arrested for police officer fleeing-third degree, license plate forgery and identity theft, while the second suspect was not located.

Operating while intoxicated

When found sitting in a parked car on Lakeshore Road with the lights off at 4:24 a.m. Sunday, May 31, a 26-year-old Detroit man was arrested for operating while intoxicated, not having insurance and carrying a gun while intoxicated. A preliminary breath test showed his blood alcohol content at .20 percent.

— Laurel Kraus

Report information

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

Grosse Pointe Woods

Operating under the influence

A 26-year-old Harper Woods man was arrested for his second alleged operating under the influence offense around 1:30 a.m. Tuesday, May 26, after he was detained for speeding northbound on Harper near Allard. Public safety reported the driver smelled of intoxicants and was later tested, revealing a .261-percent blood alcohol level.

— Eddie B. Allen Jr.

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

Grosse Pointe Park

\$40,000 fraud

A business owner in the 17000 block of Mack reported \$40,000 in missing company checks or checks that were improperly cashed between Friday, May 1, and Monday, May 11. A total of 13 checks were missing, police said.

Tricycle taken

A Taga adult tricycle was stolen from an unlocked garage in the 1000 block of Somerset between 9 p.m. Thursday, May 28, and 9 a.m. Friday, May 29. The tricycle was valued at \$1,000.

Felonious assault

Two male suspects were sought in the pistol-whipping attack of a man in the 1200 block of Maryland around 8:30 p.m. Sunday, May 31.

The resident was in his garage near the alley when the first suspect spoke, getting the victim's attention. When the victim saw the suspect's

gun, he moved toward the suspect and was struck in the head with the pistol.

The second suspect remained in the alley until both suspects fled.

— Eddie B. Allen Jr.

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

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6A | OPINION

Grosse Pointe News

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OUR VIEW

Class of 2020 will stand out

Graduation ceremonies, such as they are, conclude today for Grosse Pointe North and South high schools, with a decidedly different atmosphere from the usual formal walk across an outdoor stage at each school.

Yet each senior becomes no less an official graduate and permanent member of the Class of 2020.

Yes, it's disappointing being caught up in the rules Michigan has set for fighting the pandemic known as COVID-19, which forced the district to concoct a combination drive-through and video event. But it may also become a badge of honor as the years pass.

This class will forever stand as different — one of a kind, most likely, but perhaps the pioneer in forging a new educational bargain that makes social distancing the norm.

Since their last day in school March 12, Grosse Pointe Public School System students have benefited from the cadre of experienced teachers here who went quickly — and, by most accounts, expertly — into remote instruction. Graduates can have confidence that they are as well prepared for the future, under the circumstances, as most or all of their peers around the country.

Along with that confidence, hopefully they have also acquired new levels of flexibility, adaptability and creativity in the face of abrupt change. Yes, traumatic memories may linger, but eventually the Class of 2020 will end up with a unique perspective and a unique talking point they can take into their golden years.

Graduation is also a family event, with the ceremony often as important to parents as to the graduate. They, too, will have to cope with the differences, while maintaining their sense of accomplishment at reaching this milestone.

Then, graduates and their families must surely be hoping that the rules will ease enough to allow at least outdoor celebrations this summer. What's a graduation without a party?

So, congratulations, Class of 2020, the new standard bearers for this community, as you advance into a future with far more unknowns than most of your predecessors. Just the fact of your graduation has already filled entire neighborhoods in the Pointes and Harper Woods with pride.

OUR VIEW

Bill Bryant RIP

The passing of former state Rep. Bill Bryant marks, for the Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods, the memory of a time when long-serving elected officials represented their communities with unstinting dedication.

Rep. Bryant, who died May 20 at the age of 82, gave the local community and the Michigan Legislature 26 years as that dedicated voice, which ended in the years after voters passed term limits in 1992. Of vital importance here, Rep. Bryant dedicated himself to schools, serving as chairman of the House Education Committee.

His position had the ultimate influence when the Legislature restructured school finance in the 1990s. The result, which voters approved in a 1994 ballot issue known as Proposal A, included hold-harmless provisions that kept high-spending districts such as the Grosse Pointe Public School System from sinking immediately to the statewide average for per-pupil spending.

Although the hold-harmless effect is less pronounced these days, especially as student numbers shrink, that formula got the district off to as good a start as possible.

He was the last of his kind around here and left an impact felt to this day.

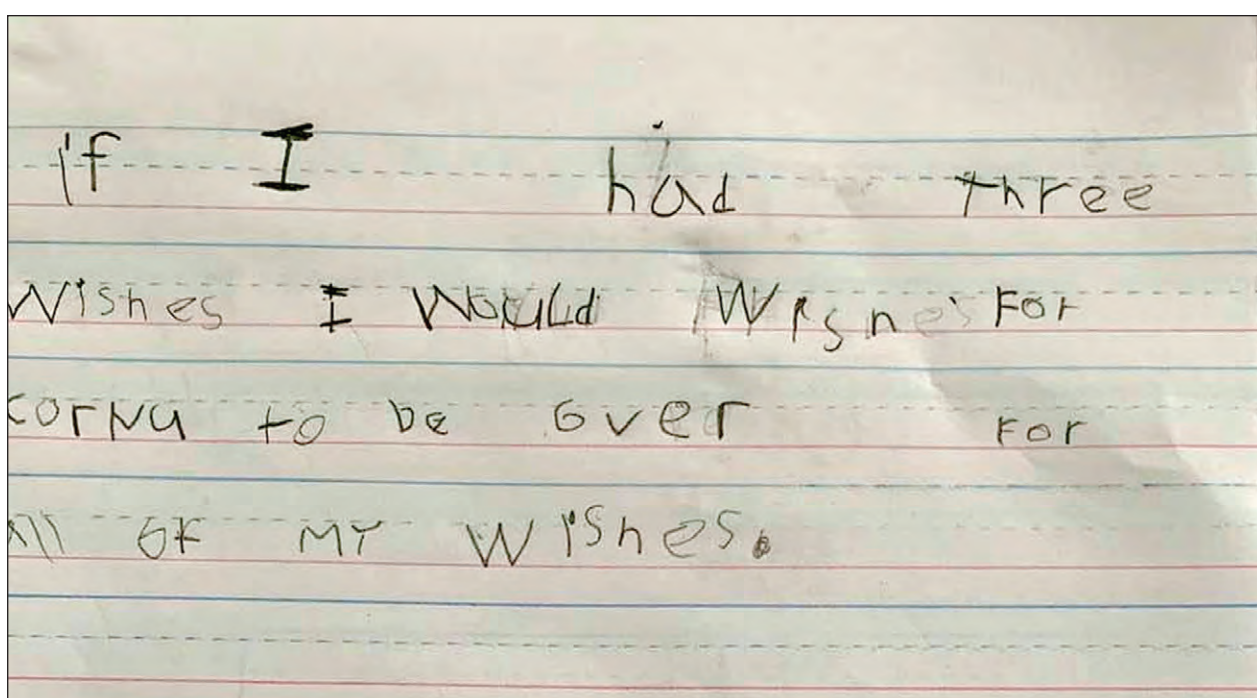
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Pure Grosse Pointe

Former Grosse Pointe News staff writer Kathy Ryan wrote to us: "My granddaughter Madeline is in kindergarten at Maire. Today's assignment was to complete, 'If I had three wishes...' and this is what she wrote. I just had to share, in case you needed a 'Pure Grosse Pointe.' Stay well." Thanks, Kathy, you too!

GUEST VIEW By Lisa McGraw, Michigan Press Association

MPA urges press protection

Newspaper columnist Rod Dreher wrote, "There are three kinds of people who run toward disaster not away: cops, firemen and reporters."

Watching the coverage of protests over the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis, the importance of journalism could not be more evident. The photography, videography and written accounts of journalists continue to shine a light on matters of public concern. Reporters in Michigan have run toward the chaos in Lansing, Grand Rapids and Detroit. They have done an outstanding job of informing citizens what is happening during the protests in those cities.

Unfortunately, several incidents in Detroit over the weekend have caused concern in our profession. Journalists covering the protest and civil unrest over the last few days have faced tear gas, rubber bullets and, in the case of one reporter, arrest.

The Michigan Press Association feels it is incumbent upon the leadership in the city of Detroit to

send a message to those officers who are disregarding press credentials and shooting tear gas and rubber bullets at members of the media that they are acting in a way that is not condoned by the administration.

Congress shall make no law prohibiting the free exercise thereof or abridging the freedom of the press. This is an important tenant of the First Amendment. We would ask that those in charge of the city of Detroit support this amendment to our nation's Constitution. Please understand that journalists are there as neutral observers to report on the actions of all.

We understand that law enforcement around the country is under extreme pressure. We appreciate their efforts to maintain calm during this storm. We do, however, insist that they allow members of the media to do their jobs without fear of injury or arrest.

Lisa McGraw, formerly of Grosse Pointe Park, is public affairs manager for the Michigan Press Association.

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.

Families of color need to know we care

Dear Grosse Pointe Public School System:

It is with a heavy heart that I write to you about another instance of violence inflicted on a person of color in our nation. The recent killing of George Floyd as well as other tragedies of violence against black citizens in our nation continues to drive communities to take action. All of these incidents are deeply disturbing and demoralizing.

These devastating incidents are not new; however, with the current landscape of our world as we navigate a pandemic, coupled with the injustices we continue to experience, they fill our hearts with grief, anger, frustration and sadness.

Over the years we have heard and listened to the racial challenges and hardships our students of color have faced within our schools and community. Actions are needed that go beyond celebrating diversity in our schools and/or developing diversity actions

within our strategic plan.

We don't want to diminish the progress we are making in the areas of equity and diversity in our school district; however, those actions are not enough to guarantee the social, emotional and physical safety of our students of color and their families in our schools and communities. We must continue to have courageous conversations about race and equity.

As a district we commit to sustaining the examination of our practices while implementing initiatives to sustain professional development for our staff in the area of restorative practice and implicit bias. Decisions we make should be through the lens of recognizing bias, eliminating systemic inequities while increasing inclusion for all students.

We have heard the voices of many — in our community and beyond — calling for an end to this widespread injustice and racial violence. We have heard the call for a more equitable, inclusive and peaceful future.

Through the anger, sadness and frustration, we have seen and felt the urgent need for justice, particularly for those who have been pushed to the margins. We, as a district, join those voices and demand justice, and we also recognize the problem exists in our own community.

Most importantly, we cannot remain silent. We, as a district, struggle to make sense of these tragedies and encourage you to show your support for students, colleagues or neighbors of color who are feeling the weight of these tragedies.

We feel justice comes in the form of action. We believe action can make meaningful change. We are committed to making our schools and the broader GPPSS community a space that is inclusive and safe for all.

Silence is acceptance and safety is essential in the midst of injustice. We need to continue to show compassion, empathy and support to all our families through good times and bad. We encourage you to reach out to the people you know who are hurting, and let them know they are not alone and you stand with them against hate and bias.

We understand that it is challenging to connect and provide emotional support in the same way during remote learning, but our counselors, social workers and psychologists continue to work hard to provide support to our students. Please contact your prin-

icipal if your child needs additional support.

In closing, our students, staff and families of color need to know that we care, you are important and you are not alone.

GARY C. NIEHAUS
Superintendent

A new welcome mat for Pointes

To the Editor:

In 1978, shortly after my honorable discharge from the United States Navy, I left Fraser and leased a cozy flat in Grosse Pointe Park.

Looking back, it's amazing the many wonderful improvements that bloomed over the past five decades.

Excitement in the Park continues in 2020. Developments are unfolding as I write, spearheaded by benevolent philanthropy, with an eye toward future Park generations within this great community.

On Mack and Wayburn, a state-of-the-art Department of Public Works building has been approved, a move that, coincidentally, takes place as the City of Grosse Pointe finishes its new Public Safety building, also on Mack. The Park's DPW facility, a prior auto dealership building, is over 50 years old and was never designed to meet the DPW's needs. An eyesore for years, it requires frequent repairs and maintenance.

On Jefferson and Maryland, plans are

See LETTERS, page 7A

I SAY By Laurel Kraus

Don't let language limit TV viewing options



picking up the most random activities to occupy my time, including old LEGO sets and a paint-by-number kit found in the back of my closet.

Among these and while looking for a mental escape from our current negative reality, I discovered the world of Korean dramas.

Of course I'd seen "Train to Busan" — a 2016 Korean thriller that features a dad and young daughter attempting to survive a zombie apocalypse on a train and which achieved international acclaim — and "Parasite," which famously earned the 2020 Oscar for best picture, but I'd never really

considered the existence of this genre of TV show.

As someone who watches TV when I'm stressed or bored, Korean dramas have turned out to be pretty much what I've been looking for all along.

The format is pretty similar to what would be considered a miniseries with most dramas consisting of 16 approximately hour-long episodes, which is significantly less of a time commitment than American network television.

As a writer, I love most that storytelling in Korean dramas seems to concentrate more on character depth and

development as opposed to the western focus on plot-driven storylines.

This brings romances to a Jane Austin level of intrigue and heart, yet in modern times.

But while Korean dramas seem to depict romance at a level exceeding their Western counterparts; it's certainly not the only genre, and shows rooted in action, horror or comedy easily can be found.

Also noteworthy is the fact that Korean broadcasting guidelines are far stricter than those in the U.S., which cuts out a lot of the overly sexualized storylines that quite honestly I'm sick of having to deal with all

the time in Western TV.

"Crash Landing on You," which can be found on Netflix and is one of the newest releases, easily is among the top five best made television shows I've seen and features a love story between a South Korean woman stranded in North Korea and a communist soldier. While it sounds far fetched, the story unfolds in an impressively organic way and makes a clear effort to stay close to reality with some creative license and comedy sprinkled in along the way.

Other notable mentions include "What's Wrong with Secretary

Kim," "Fight for My Way" and "Something in the Rain."

While some find it daunting to jump into a series you need subtitles to understand, don't let a language barrier stop you from finding another incredible entertainment option. Interestingly enough, I find that after just a few minutes of an episode, I forget I am even reading subtitles.

And it certainly doesn't hurt that while mindlessly enjoying a cinematic masterpiece, you can pick up words in another language and learn more about a culture on the other side of the world.

YESTERDAY'S HEADLINES

1945

75 years ago this week

POINTE HIGH WINS

STATE TENNIS TITLE: Carrying its unbeaten string of 52 straight matches into the State Class A tennis tournament, Grosse Pointe High continued to win and

became the proud possessors of the state tennis championship trophy by scoring 9 ¼ points. The Blue Devils won two out of three possible trophies, the team championship

and the doubles championship with Bob King winding up in the runner-up spot for the singles crown.

1970

50 years ago this week

Obituaries: Fred Saisslin, William H. Hinds, Irwin C. Johnson, John F. Staub Jr., Archie J. Chapp, Arminta Roberts, Edith L. Crosby, Louise F. Goodson, Henry Munroe Campbell, Ralph C. Wilson

1995

25 years ago this week

ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER:

The Grosse Pointe Farms Historical Advisory Commission placed four more sites on the National Register of Historic Places. Receiving plaques were Pere Gabriel Richard Elementary School, St. Paul Catholic Church, St. Paul Catholic School and Convent and Christ Church Grosse Pointe.

Obituaries: John R. Dykema, Yvonne Rashid, Grace E. Biddlingmeier, Raymond Conrad Smith, Edward J. Prozaki, Margarete Motte, John H. Close, Virginia J. Hoerner, Pauline Evelyn Jenks, Dorothy M. Spindler, Carl E. Dirkes, Joy S. Dickson, Geraldine N. Baker, David Allen Coolidge, Marjorie Wurzer Hill,

Marion Cadieux Skillman, David E. Hopp

2010

10 years ago this week

DUTIES DOUBLED FOR PS DIRECTOR: Al "Skip" Fincham was named acting city administrator in Grosse Pointe Woods, effective July 1. He will continue as the city's director of public safety. Fincham will take over administrative duties from Mark Wollenweber, who retires June 30.

Obituaries: Jean Tompkins, Grethe Timm Mumma, Florence S. Macdonald, Henry "Hank" Tavery

LETTERS:

Continued from page 6A

moving forward with the Schaap Center, a stunningly designed venue that will house a 400-plus-seat theatrical stage and an impressive art gallery.

Two Park residents are the major donors and will lead the way in fun-

draising that will raise the \$25 million needed to build the facility. Building operational costs will be covered through endowments, DDA tax recapture, fundraising and event tickets. The City will be providing in-kind services for snow removal, routine landscape maintenance, event site security ... and NO new taxes.

Together, as people enter our gateways of Mack and Jefferson, these developments will add considerably to the enrichment of the Park. A new "Welcome" mat for an impressive community.

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



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Keeping the beat

The challenges of teaching music virtually

By Mary Anne Brush
Staff Writer

Adapting to online instruction in the wake of COVID-19 is difficult for teachers in all disciplines, but vocal music presents a unique set of challenges. Exacerbating these difficulties was the quick transition to distance learning when school closures were announced mid-March.

"The thing that I've been most proud about is just how teachers have stepped in literally in a day," said Grosse Pointe South High School Choral Director Christopher Pratt. "They've gone from face-to-face instruction to virtual instruction and really tried their best to engage with students and fine-tune the computer interface to make it as meaningful as possible. I think that's been a challenge for everyone."

For music classes, this requires software and blending producing and recording instruction into "a whole different way of teaching music. ... We're learning how to become sound engineers and videographers in a lot of ways," Pratt said.

"Everything we do is based on teamwork,"

said Ben Henri, Grosse Pointe North High School director of choral activities. "Being in the room together. You can't do it virtually. ... We have to think really hard how to have authentic music-making experiences for students on their own."

While Pratt and Henri can't replicate the connections and sense of community created in a classroom setting, instruction must go on, they agreed. Online classes include book studies, discussion groups, ensemble work with students recording individual parts, instructional YouTube videos, sight-reading, music theory and music history.

These are "all interesting and may tie with other areas they're studying," Henri said, but they are of less interest to his students than an in-class environment of working together.

"Most students don't necessarily sign up for class for those things," he added. "They sign up to sing with their friends."

To interject a little fun at the end of the week, Henri has maintained a longtime North choir tradition — dancing to the Jacksons' "Blame it on the Boogie" on Fridays.

Rather than the live performances of the past, Henri sends students a Google Hangout invite.

"We get up. We boogie. I catch up with them. It's one way we can stay connected," he said.

Both Henri and Pratt are focused on creating meaningful end-of-year experiences for the students most impacted by the loss of performance opportunities — the seniors. This includes senior solo recordings and choir participation in North's and South's virtual graduation ceremonies June 3 and 4, respectively.

South included a pre-recorded version of the national anthem created prior to COVID-19, Pratt said, and focused on producing a senior song for the virtual ceremony. He set up a dropbox for seniors to upload their recordings and purchased software for syncing and blending the voices.

In a traditional graduation at North, the choir sings the national anthem and the school's alma mater, with several students performing solos.

Henri worked with accompanist Bob Foster to create a "click-track" for seniors to sing to and



A music video created a fun interlude during the spring semester stay-at-home order. "My Home" was a rendition of the Temptations' "My Girl," with elementary and secondary music teachers across the district singing adapted lyrics from their own homes to connect with their students. The collaboration was spearheaded by Parcels Middle School choir teacher Leslie Saroli. Pictured, clockwise from top left, are Saroli, Ben Henri, Heather Albrecht, Christopher Pratt, Mary Anne Magill, Carolyn Gross, Vickie Pascoe and Liz Moses.

submit recordings that were edited together and included in the virtual ceremony.

While not ideal, "we wanted to give them something," Henri said. "These seniors have given so much."

While the future of performances depends on what safety measures are put in place when schools reopen, Pratt emphasized "95 percent of what we do is instruction."

"What the audience sees is a glimpse of what instruction is happening," he said. "We have 10 days of performance in a year and we work 170 other days to try to work up to those performances. The instruction will still continue because that's the core piece of the class. But certainly the performance aspect we'll have to adjust and maybe be creative in how we deliver that."

Both teachers applauded their students for adapting and remaining engaged in spite of the losses they've experienced, from the cancellation of competition season and lack of end-of-year performances to missed bonding opportunities.

"My heart goes out to them," Henri said. "Choir is the place where they got a mental release and got to connect with their best friends. There's

something about making music together that's very, very unique. It's tough for us and it's tough for them, too."

"These kids were ready to go," Pratt said. "When I think of that level of loss, that's the piece that I really have struggled as an educator."

Pratt added he has tried to focus on what students will take with them from the experi-

ence beyond recordings and other tangible evidence of their work.

"In a couple of years, I think they're going to look back and ... it won't feel like so much of a loss," he said. "You'll be able to have both these tangible (things) and the feeling of success you came out of the biggest event that came out of our lifetimes and you came out stronger for it."

The beat goes on in middle school

Technology has played a key role in Carolyn Gross's ability to keep music alive with her students at Brownell Middle School. This includes a program called SmartMusic, which allows her to assign music to each student individually to practice and record. She also can monitor progress.

With Flipgrid, students video record themselves and share it with the class. The last few weeks of the school year students have concentrated on creating and sequencing music with Chromelab, Gross said.

Brownell's eighth-grade choir has recorded videos to create a virtual choir, which is still a work in progress on the production end, Gross said. The year-end also included the annual eighth-grade slideshow for students and their parents.

What technology or a Google Meet can't replace is connecting students and addressing their social and emotional needs or creating that community feeling of singing together.

"We can sing separately and assemble it to look like we are singing together, but you don't get the same community feeling," Gross said.

Bright spots are "the kids are really exploring some parts of music that we don't have the time to do under normal circumstances when we are preparing for performances. And I've had many students reach out to let me know that they are grateful for the work and activities provided."

Looking ahead, Gross is cautiously optimistic schools will reopen in the fall, with students singing together while maintaining social distance. Performances, she noted, may need to be live-streamed instead of held live in front of a large audience.

For now — and perhaps in the near future — Gross will continue giving her students engaging assignments, be available for questions and focus on a big project they can complete together, like the virtual choir.



PHOTO COURTESY OF AHMED ISMAIL

During what turned out to be its final performance, Grosse Pointe South's choirs swept the Bishop Luers regional show choir invitational March 7, with the South Singers named Class C division champions and the Tower Belles named grand champion women's show choir for the fifth consecutive year. The Pointe Singers, pictured here performing a "Let's Go Flying" medley, were named grand champions.

Defer students enjoy virtual author visit

By Mary Anne Brush
Staff Writer

Shelley Denison was hoping to find a balance in her virtual classroom for her third graders at Defer Elementary School.

Educational consultant and author Gary Abud was attempting to adapt science programming for elementary schools — typically presented in an assembly format — in this new educational world of distance learning.

The two came together to create a learning experience for all third graders

at Defer Friday, May 1.

The results eclipsed Denison's expectations. "When we had the Google Meet on Friday, I didn't know how it was going to be," Denison said. "I was taking a risk. It was absolutely amazing the way he presented to the kids."

On Facebook, Denison saw that Abud — formerly a physics teacher at Grosse Pointe North High School and 2014 Michigan Teacher of the Year — had hosted a virtual meeting with a large group of students. She contacted him

about a Google Meet with Defer third graders. The idea was to create a virtual version of an in-school assembly.

For Denison, the biggest challenge of online learning is keeping the students engaged. Abud's visit provided the perfect vehicle, she said. It also gave the week a focus, with Denison planning activities leading up to the visit to make it especially meaningful.

During Monday's Google Meet, Denison typically lets students know what to expect for the week. That Monday she outlined activities geared to increase their understanding and appre-

ciation for the book Abud would be presenting, "What Color Will It Be," the first in his "Science with Scarlett" series.

On Tuesday, Denison posted a video of Abud reading his book as a sneak preview, then integrated the book with her language arts and science assignments throughout the week, all accessed through the students' Google log-in.

Denison also encouraged the students to write and submit questions for a question-and-answer session with their visitor.

Abud said he modeled his visit from a University of Michigan—Dearborn program called ASK —

Authors, Specialists, Knowledge — designed to help students connect with the author and book at a deeper level.

"The students spend some time researching a certain topic," he said. "In non-remote times, students would have a book in their classroom they would read with activities they would do. They would research the topic further and interview the author via a video call."

A variety of Google Meet features allowed Abud to make his presentation interactive. He used slides to demonstrate the publication process and showed a simulation of how the eyes take on three different colors of light. Students employed the chat feature to type their predictions about the colors while Abud responded verbally. Denison served as mod-

erator for the Q&A session, inviting students to unmute themselves to ask their questions.

During a typical visit, Abud includes a book signing. For the virtual visit, he made auto-graphed copies available for parents to purchase and delivered them to the child's home.

"It just was a great week of learning," Denison said. "They had to do some reading and research first and at the end of the week, they had this virtual visit. It was comprehensive and it was pretty cool."

"If we were in the classroom it would have been even better," she added, "but it turned out really positive."

For more information on Abud's author visits, go to sciencewithscarlett.com.

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Trombly families say goodbye from a distance

By Mary Anne Brush
Staff Writer

The last week in May marked a milestone for Trombly Elementary School teachers. It was both their first time in the building since March 13, when they prepared for online learning in response to COVID-19, and their last time before Trombly closes its doors as an elementary school due to declining enrollment.

Beginning Monday, May 25, teachers returned to pack their supplies and materials and clean out their classrooms. While typically parent volunteers would have helped, teachers were on their own due to social distancing.

On Wednesday, families surprised the teachers while they ate lunch

on the lawn with a bike parade.

"We tried to brighten their days as much as possible," parent Lauren Nowicki said.

Grosse Pointe Park public safety officers helped with traffic control and Fairfax Market, located down the street from the school, supplied slushies for the children.

The event provided "a little slice of normal for a minute and did my kids some good," Nowicki said. "There is something to be said about face-to-face interaction. This week has been really hard for all of us, but especially our teachers who were tasked with cleaning out the building."

The PTO provided lunches, parent Sophan Buffa delivered treats from Wally's Frozen



PHOTO BY JACK RYAN/SKYVIEW AERIAL PRODUCTIONS

Kelly Konieczki created chalk art to welcome teachers as they arrived at Trombly to clean out their classrooms.

Custard and parent Kelly Konieczki, with help from her daughter, Matilda, created chalk art in the parking lot. The display included painted rocks in the shape of a heart and a

chalk heart in each parking space.

"Our teachers went back to the school this week to empty out their classrooms and say goodbye to a building many of them have

known for 20-plus years," Konieczki said. "Not being able to offer a hug, or lend a hand, made my heart ache. I wanted them to know we were thinking of them and how much they're

appreciated."

Matilda Konieczki insisted on drawing a chalk heart in each parking space.

"It's the little things, Mom," she said, according to her mother. "I felt like when people were pulling their cars in, it would make them feel happier."

Said Nowicki, "Everyone is trying to help in any way possible. It's a tough way to go out and the pandemic has made it so much harder. Our south-of-Jefferson community holds each other up and it's been really tough being socially isolated from that safety net."

An end-of-year picnic to provide staff and families additional closure has been postponed until restrictions are lifted, Nowicki said.

South grad takes cheer game to Alma

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

Grosse Pointe South senior Rachel Kostrzewa has used persistence to excel at one of the joys in her life: competitive cheer.

The 17-year-old Grosse Pointe Park resident is now taking that joy to the collegiate level after signing a letter of intent at Alma College.

"I was invited by the Alma cheer coach to come to a practice with their team and do a campus tour," Kostrzewa said. "They also informed me of the scholarships I received and when the day was over there was no doubt in my mind that Alma College was the right fit for me."

With that in mind, Kostrzewa is working out nearly every day, lifting weights, running and tumbling when the weather is nice. She will be ready for the college season when she sets foot on Alma's campus in the late summer.

She also considered

Purdue University and Michigan State University.

She chose competitive cheer after a friend encouraged her to try out for the South team with her.

"I also had done gymnastics previously and always loved to tumble, which is also a big part of cheer," Kostrzewa said. "I was born with CFD (congenital femoral deficiency). My hip socket was not fully formed, my left femur bone was significantly shorter than my right and (I have) an unstable knee from missing multiple ligaments. I am incredibly lucky that my parents were able to get me to one of the best surgeons in the world at The Paley Institute and I have had surgery there throughout my whole life."

"When I told my surgeon, Dr. Paley, that I was thinking of starting cheerleading, he said that he would not recommend it, because it is about as high impact as sports get and that my joints probably could not handle the strain,"

she continued. "For me, that was all the more reason to do it and motivation for me to work as hard as I possibly could to become great at it. During tryouts I fell in love with stunting and being a part of such a team-oriented sport and I've been all in ever since."

"Some of those stunts you do take incredible strength and balance. Stunting does take a lot of leg, arm and core strength, but really the best way to train is just trying new stunts and getting a lot of reps in."

Kostrzewa's head coach at Alma is Michelle Sabourin. Her assistants are Sarah Michalowski and Bre Ramos.

Kostrzewa, who has a 3.7 grade-point average, plans on majoring in integrative physiology and health sciences with a pre-PA track.

"The highlight of high school was my senior year competitive cheer season," she said. "Our team was very close and we all had the same mindset. We were deter-

mined to do well and everyone had a great work ethic. We won first place at multiple competitions and broke school records."

During the stay-at-home order, she has stayed in touch with friends, stayed close with her family and used the time to strengthen and perfect her cheerleading skills.

"I also like to try to make a new healthy recipe every day," she said. "Each day I wake up looking forward to being one day closer to returning to normalcy."



COURTESY PHOTO

Rachel Kostrzewa

CHARGED:

Continued from page 1A

County Prosecutor Kym Worthy has charged Smith with embezzling \$1,000 from a committee formed to support the GPPSS millage renewal. Smith served as treasurer for the committee between October 2019 and January 2020. After an audit of the organization's finances revealed unauthorized activity on the account, a report was filed with Woods police Feb. 27.

The charges against Smith are for embezzlement of funds of \$50,000 and less than \$100,000 and embezzlement of \$1,000 and less than \$20,000.

Monteith families were first notified of a potential financial irregularity in the Monteith PTO bank account via email Feb. 13. All accounts were frozen and the matter referred to Woods police. According to the police report, Smith admitted his wrongdoing,

took full responsibility and acknowledged it had been going on since the previous school year.

An arraignment

before Judge Theodore A. Metry in Grosse Pointe Woods Municipal Court was scheduled Wednesday, June 3, before press time.



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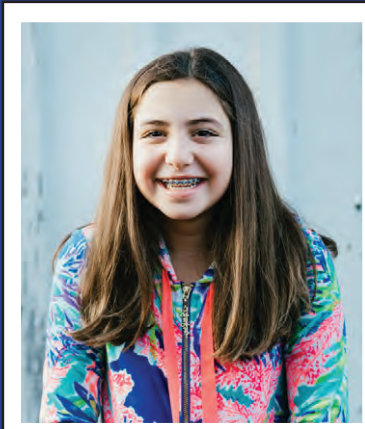


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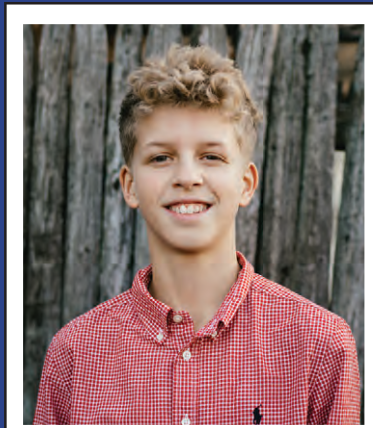
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Building restoration uncovers hints of history

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

When Aaron Whittaker purchased the building at the corner of Charlevoix and Wayburn just more than three years ago, he had no idea it had such a varied past.

The owner of GPH Services, a remodeling and renovation company, began to research the property and learned about its “beautiful” history.

Built in 1923, the building — designed by Building Service Bureau and architect Ernest C. Thulin — first housed Grosse Pointe Park Theatre. The theater closed in the late 1920s, then reopened in 1930 as a movie theater called The Aloma. In 1955, it was renovated and became the indoor ice skating rink, Ice Flair.

“It’s had a number of identities,” Whittaker said, noting a sail company, art gallery and the Park’s Department of Public Works facility all have been housed there. “When we bought it ... the front was rented by the Park to Thomas Hardware. We made some structural repairs to the warehouse. When Thomas moved out in December, we were going to re-rent it. We had always planned to gut it and move our offices up front, but maybe in a year or two. With all that’s going on, we decided to do it



PHOTO BY JACK RYAN

Aaron Whittaker points out some of the original plaster and paint he discovered renovating his building.

now.” While Whittaker’s research uncovered details about the building’s past tenants, his renovations have uncovered its structural history.

When work began just a few weeks ago, Whittaker and his team discovered original aspects of the building when its drop ceiling was removed.

“We found the original plaster ceiling, a barrel ceiling,” he said. “We found all this ornate plaster. In the front foyer we found plaster with turquoise paint still on it. And there are all these rose medallions where chandeliers hung.”

He also discovered that load-bearing walls

had been removed and not supported, causing damage.

“The plaster has dropped substantially, 3 or 4 inches,” he said. “We now have it jacked up, got it level and are reinforcing it. It’s going to look fantastic.”

To the best of his ability, Whittaker surmised a ticket booth and concessions area were located at the front of the building, though those have long been discarded. A grand hallway led down the full length of the building to the theater, which is now the company’s warehouse.

“We’re guessing what was there,” he said. “I’ve looked at the plumbing; I did the forensic research.”

Whittaker said he plans to restore the barrel ceiling entranceway, but he’d like to have a better idea of what the structure looked like in its early days.

“I’m unable to find any interior pictures of the building,” he said, noting he’s been in touch with the administrator of the Grosse Pointe Architecture Facebook page. “I can’t find anything showing the original theater in 1923. It would be fantas-

tic to find interior photos.”

Whittaker said he’s impressed by the architecture of that period, which he often sees in the homes of residential clients.

“When I’m working on homes in Grosse Pointe, I’m baffled by how much construction happened in the 1920s,” he said. “There must have been hundreds of homes under construction. It blows my mind the number of skilled craftsmen and trades people that were working.”

Incorporating history into each of his projects is important to Whittaker, so he makes sure to do the proper research, “so when I’m doing customers’ homes in the area, I incorporate that into the new design,” he said. “I want to keep the integrity of the design, but bring it into today’s usage.”

Whittaker, who originally hails from Australia, was working in law enforcement Down Under when he bought an old Federation home and fell in love with the art of renovation.

With his current project, he’s trying to showcase the building’s former glory, “in a way that will restore what’s existing and preserve it so it doesn’t further deteriorate,” he said. “Besides the beautiful characteristics of the ceiling, (the renovation) also lends to showcasing what we can do restoring this.”

“When we opened it up, we fell in love with it, with what we found.”

Whittaker originally anticipated the renovation wouldn’t take long.

“We’d pull down the drop ceiling, tidy up, put in a few new windows,” he said. “We found more damage than we anticipated. We’re looking at six months of work.

“We’re doing it in stages,” he added. “We’re starting with the front section, where our offices will be, a conference room and showroom. ... Next year, we’ll open up the next part of the barrel ceiling, but we’re re-supporting it all now.”

GPH Services is seeking information about the building and its occupants over the years. Anyone with information is asked to email awhittaker@gph-services.com or call (313) 757-1969.

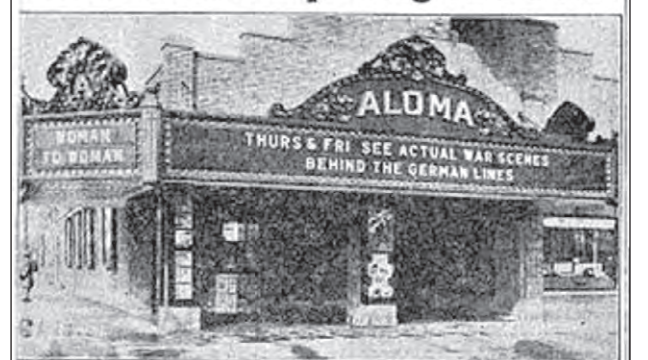
“I’d love input from anyone who has information on how this building was, layout information or usage information,” Whittaker

said. “I want to find blueprints, architectural drawings or renderings, newspaper articles, pictures of the interior. No one’s got any idea. I can see from plaster through the hallway how it was laid out. I can picture where the front concession was. But the theater, right now it’s all steel tresses, a concrete floor and a three-foot tower at the end. I have no concept or idea of how the layout was coming into the theater.”

Whittaker said his line of work often presents a challenge, but he enjoys the research and tracking down information.

“I love this stuff; it’s what I live for,” he said.

“a” at Gala Re-opening this week



Rebuilt and rededicated to bring it up to the highest standards of theater, the “Aloma,” the former Grosse Pointe Park theater at Wayburn and Charlevoix avenues, opens in a new era in the amusement district in Grosse Pointe Park. Under the capable management of Alvin Houser and pledged to a policy of better theater, the “Aloma,” equipped with the latest sound and talking devices promises the opportunity of many enjoyable evenings to residents in the Park and the Grosse Pointe district as a whole, for it is they who have made possible the improvements and modernization of the theater by their loyal patronage in the past.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CINEMATREASURES.ORG

This photo’s caption states that the Aloma is “... equipped with the latest sound and talking devices (and) promises the opportunity of many enjoyable evenings.”



PHOTO COURTESY OF GPH SERVICES

A Grosse Pointe News article from June 23, 1955, states that the summer season of the Ice Flair will open “with ceremonies on July 1 at 1 o’clock. Ted Forest, dance instructor at the Little Club, will be in charge of all activities for the summer season.”



PHOTO BY JACK RYAN

The GPH Services building at Charlevoix and Wayburn as it stands today.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF GPH SERVICES

Left, an Aloma advertisement from the Grosse Pointe Review, July 20, 1944, and right, an advertisement from the Oct. 16, 1947, issue of the Grosse Pointe News, stating that it’s “Grosse Pointe’s First Theatre.”



PHOTO BY JACK RYAN

A rose medallion where a chandelier once hung.

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2B | FEATURES

ASK THE EXPERTS By Carlyle Center

Identifying early signs of autism spectrum disorder

Q: I have noticed a few things about my toddler that concern me. What should I be looking for if I suspect autism spectrum disorder (ASD)?



...tive reinforcement and behavior analysts are ethically required to use reinforcement in treatment. ABA creates a positive and socially engaging environment for children to learn in.

A: As a parent you are always in tune with the beat of your children. Even amongst the many busy days of life, parents have a unique ability to identify when something about their child feels off or unusual. Here are a few early signs of a potential issue:

- ◆ Fleeting or no eye contact
- ◆ Not sharing interest or sharing items
- ◆ Not responding to sounds, voices or name
- ◆ Loss of skills at any time
- ◆ No vocal language by 18 months
- ◆ Fixation on unusual objects or one particular toy
- ◆ Lack of social engagement
- ◆ Repetitive motor behavior

If you think you've identified some of the above signs, it never hurts to explore further. The MCHAT, a resource provided to parents, is a screener that asks a series of 20 questions about your child's behavior. The results indicate if further evaluation may be needed. The MCHAT is a useful tool but does

have limitations, according to research (Yuen, 2018). Please keep in mind it is not a means for diagnosing your child and it is very important to further discuss your concerns with your child's primary healthcare provider.

Should your pediatrician suggest further testing after their own assessment, they will recommend you go to a diagnostic center. Professionals at the diagnostic center will determine if your child is diagnosed with ASD. From your own identification through a diagnosis with a center, it is understandable that you and your loved ones may feel a variety of emotions; this is normal. Know that there are professionals trained to support you and your child through ASD.

Those professionals are typically board-certified behavior analysts, practicing the science of Applied Behavior Analysis, or ABA, which is an empirically supported treatment for individuals diagnosed with ASD. One of its fundamental strategies is posi-

There are a handful of ABA centers throughout southeast Michigan, offering center-based and in-home services. It is important to keep effective and ethical treatment at the forefront of your center search.

Carlyle Center is an in-home ABA therapy provider. Carly Steiner, clinical director, has been working in the field of Applied Behavior Analysis since 2012, and with special needs children for nearly a decade. Carlyle Center is a member of The Family Center's Association of Professionals and can be reached at hello@carlylecenter.com or (313) 580-9716.

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.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ANDY SPEARMAN

Andy Spearman, left, delivers a box of lunches for Grosse Pointe Farms Public Safety Officer Mike Hodor and his co-workers.

Firm devotes funds to feeding first responders

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Team members at Grosse Pointe Financial, a wealth management company, are required to take four days off each year to devote time to community service. It's part of the company's culture to give back, said Andrew Spearman, a wealth advisor at the Grosse Pointe Farms firm.

"We're very into community service," Spearman said. "It's an important part of our culture. But because we can't really do much right now (because of stay-at-home orders), we talked about how we could direct some of the funds we have."

Discussions with co-workers led Spearman to contact his client Steve Zuccaro, owner of LunchBox Deli and Burrito Mundo. He also put a call in to Atwater Brewery, whose output during the pandemic has shifted from brewing beer to producing hand sanitizer.

"I arranged to have lunches delivered to the fire houses in Grosse

Pointe," Spearman said, "and also got hand sanitizer for them. ... Atwater donated hand sanitizer at the beginning of all this. We thought we'd re-up and make sure they have the supplies they needed going forward."

"We're excited to have this opportunity to support both our clients and first responders," he added. "When the pandemic first hit, my main concern was our community and how we could help. We've always been focused on safety and this emerged as a natural fit—a chance to help my clients while helping our community, a win-win."

Deliveries rolled out mid-May, with lunches from LunchBox Deli and hand sanitizer dropped off in the Farms and Woods May 12 and 13, then in the Park, City and Shores on May 14 and 15. Additionally, dinners were brought to employees on later shifts, Spearman said.

"We coordinated it so we hit all the shifts and covered every employee," he said.

Spearman said Grosse Pointe Financial planned to resume deliveries after

Memorial Week, with the same departments being fed the first week of June. He said the first responders to whom he's made deliveries have been very appreciative.

"They're rushed. They have busy jobs," he said. "It's nice to have lunch taken care of. And we're glad we're in the position we're in to help out. We'll continue to do so in the future, to see who needs help and help them out."

"It's in my DNA, to try to help out whenever I can," he added. "During these times — not only these times, but more importantly now — it's important to try to give back. It's important to support our clients and the community as well, to get creative and involve local business, as well as the first responders who are there to help us. ... It's our way of demonstrating our appreciation for the work they do every day, not just in the middle of a crisis. I'm grateful to also be able to support my wonderful clients in this challenging time. While this is an unprecedented emergency, it's encouraging to see people giving back."

Neighborhood Club Thrift Shop reopens by appointment

The Neighborhood Club Thrift Shop reopened by appointment only Tuesday, June 2, and is opening to all shoppers fully beginning Thursday, June 4.

Employees have been working to provide a clean environment for customers' comfort and safety. Those interested in visiting should call (313) 757-2234 during operating hours, 10

a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, to schedule a time. Everyone is required to wear a mask to enter.

Beginning Saturday, June 6, the shop will accept donations Saturdays by appointment only from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Customers are asked to limit their donations to three bagged or boxed clean items.

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Birthday blessings

Former Grosse Pointe Woods resident Sara Wooten was treated to a delightful surprise in honor of her 90th birthday.

While enjoying a day of peace and quiet Thursday, May 7, out of nowhere she heard the honking of car horns. The Harbor Place condos where she and her husband, Dr. John Wooten, live are usually quiet, so she went outside to look.

"There was a parade of cars," she said. "It was a very nice surprise."

The dozen or so decorated cars were mostly Harbor Place neighbors and friends, she said.

"It didn't make me feel old; it made me feel grateful I still have a lot of great friends," she added.

Wooten, who likes to stay active, enjoys playing cards and being



Birthday girl Sara Wooten was surprised that people came out to celebrate.

involved at her church. "I'm blessed with energy," she said. "And I'm enjoying life."
— Jody McVeigh



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CAROLYN BARTH

Signs adorned cars that were part of the parade celebrating Sara Wooten's 90th birthday.



Irene Korzeniewski, left, and Toni Vlahantones were among the friends celebrating.



Liberta Licata, right, and Lillian Licata drove by as part of the parade.



Sara Wooten, left, was surprised by her friends and neighbors, including Roma Thrasher.



PHOTOS BY JACK RYAN



Celebrating springtime

Residents at The Rivers recently spruced up the buildings' grounds with flowers that were donated to the senior complex by the Rochester

Hills Lowe's. "This is the second year for our garden club," said Sydney Bishop, of The Rivers staff. "The first year was phenomenal; they wanted to top themselves this year."

Flowers — which follow a red, white and blue theme this year — were planted late May. Among the donation were 30 hanging baskets, around a dozen flats of flowers, as well as dirt and some other gardening extras, Bishop said.

The Rivers' garden club consists of half a dozen members, some of whom were members of

local garden clubs and others whose personal gardens were part of past Grosse Pointe Garden Center tours.

They're not the only residents to get involved in this year's plantings.

"Last year, we had the smaller courtyard off the main activities room,"

Bishop said. "The garden was everyone's favorite spot to visit. This year, we're spreading out to around the café, around the gazebo. And the physical therapy department is doing their thing in the courtyard, too."

— Jody McVeigh



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Shores resident shares operatic gifts with community

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Mary Quick has an ear for talent.

It's one of the reasons the pianist joined the membership of Tuesday Musicales of Detroit. For more than six years, she's heard beautiful music as part of the concert club. But when she slipped an unmarked disc into her CD player a few months ago, she was shocked into place.

"I'm not a singer; I'm a musician," Quick said. "My heart sings best when I hear the best singing."

Quick, a Detroit resident, said she knew instantly whose delicate, endearing voice she was hearing.

Several years ago, Tuesday Musicales President Dina Winter had asked Quick to listen to some of her personal recordings. Winter, who, as Dina Soresi, was the

lead soloist in the first 20th century production of "Maria Stuarda" in Bergamo, Italy in 1958, had recorded a variety of art songs. When Quick heard Winter's lyric dramatic soprano voice, she knew she had to share it. "Everything was so beautiful," Quick said. "The voice is pure – absolutely, unbelievably."

Quick decided to put together a package with the CD for distribution. "Soprano Dina Soresi sings Songs of Sorrow & Joy" is a double-disc set.

"After twisting her arm, she agreed to let me have the recording reproduced and shared," Quick said. "I drew up plans and produced a booklet of her experience in the opera world."

"I put together the package – the artwork, the pictures, the story of her – simply because it's such a beautiful voice and I wanted to make her happy," she added. "This

is my gift to Dina and Tuesday Musicales. In my life, I've known a lot of people who've taken me one more step in my walk. It's something nobody would have ever heard. I'm just trying to help someone I love dearly."

The CD features a variety of art songs, as well as excerpts of Winter's 1958 "Maria Stuarda" performance. When Winter originally executed the role, an Italian radio station broadcasted it in its entirety; a recording of the opera was archived in the Library of Congress, which, upon request, provided a copy to Winter.

First, Quick passed out CDs to interested Tuesday Musicales members. One of the singers, she noted, told Quick she was "star struck" after listening to Winter sing. The CD has received excellent reviews from members of other music



organizations, too.

"There's something on it for everybody as far as language is concerned," Winter said. "Verdi, Schubert; songs in Italian, Spanish, French, English. Inside is a booklet with translations so you know what the songs are about."

"It's quite an array," she added. "It was my career before I left Europe and came to

America."

Though Winter "walked out on the opera world," Quick said, she hopes the CD will show what a talented singer Winter was. It was Winter's performance, after all, that brought "Maria Stuarda" into the mainstream, Quick said.

"A lot of people now have heard it, have heard her voice," Quick said. "Singers are the first to

say, 'Wow, what have we missed?' It's sad she never really got to rise to the top."

Winter said she'd like to see the music work for the good of people who are ailing – perhaps give the downtrodden something to lift their spirits.

"Music can make you feel better, change your mood," Winter said. "I would like to lift their souls with music they don't often hear, but wish to hear more often."

Around 50 CDs are available free of charge to anyone interested.

"For anybody who wishes to have it, they don't have to buy it," Winter said. "But if you wish, you could make a tax-deductible donation to a Tuesday Musicales of Detroit fund established to help aspiring young opera singers."

Requests for the free CD may be sent to Claudia Fontana at fontaneum@gmail.com.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF TRACY MAGEE

The Magee family, from left, Brady, Kevin, Tracy and Conor.

Birthday drive-by

The Magee family of the City of Grosse Pointe recently welcomed family and friends to Conor Magee's "Walk, Bike or Drive By Birthday Party," for one hour Wednesday, May 6. In all, approximately 30 people passed by their Rivard house, many of whom stayed and visited while social distancing.

Several guests got creative, Tracy Magee said, bringing homemade signs, as well as noisemakers, water guns, balloons, sparklers and candy to throw.

"In addition to friends and family, the Grosse Pointe City Public Safety team did a drive-by that included four police cars and a fire truck that



Conor Magee, left, watches the parade of public safety vehicles pass his house.

used their lights, sirens and a bullhorn to yell, 'Happy birthday,' Magee said. "Conor really enjoyed the walk/drive-by, especially since he has not seen his friends in person much

since the quarantine began. He was surprised and happy by the number of people that came and the police parade. In addition to the drive-by, we did a treasure hunt to find presents in

Village welcomes back shoppers with Bop & Shop Saturdays

The Village welcomes back shoppers with live music in the City of Grosse Pointe on Saturday, June 6. Bop & Shop musicians will perform Saturday afternoons in June.

Bop & Shop features small ensembles of musicians performing in free public performances at St. Clair and Kercheval, as well as Notre Dame and Kercheval, between noon and 2 p.m. beginning June 6. Patrons and members of the public are required to stand at least six feet from performers; there will be no seating.

The Bop & Shop series opens with performers from the Thrift Shop Cowboys. The series is

presently scheduled through June 27. Musicians will be announced on The Village Facebook page at facebook.com/thevillagegrossepointe.

"We are pleased that our stores can be open in accordance with the governor's most recent executive order. We want to celebrate our community and their support through the last several weeks," said Peter Dame, city manager. "Our merchants have worked diligently to provide services and maintain connections with their customers during the COVID-19 emergency. And now with proper safety precautions, they can welcome

them in their stores once again."

Stores and establishments have varied hours, so shoppers are encouraged to check ahead. Many independent stores are now open 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. Stores will have listed their protocol and requirements for entry. Stores are listed in the directory at thevillagegrossepointe.org/.

Bop & Shop Saturdays are produced by Main Street Grosse Pointe Village DDA. Among sponsors to date are Adlhoj & Associates, Charles Krasner and TCBY. Sponsorships are available by contacting villageevents@grossepointecity.org.

the morning and a Zoom birthday party with several of his friends. Overall, it was a unique celebration and Conor said that it was one of his best birthdays.

"As a parent," she added, "I am happy that we found ways to make the day special and could safely include family and friends. I also appreciate the efforts others went to to help Conor celebrate. Seeing all their smiling faces and getting to spend time together, even at a social distance, was good for all our spirits."



Daniel Utley, left, and Preston Vanderpool chose to pogo to the event, at which attendees practiced social distancing.

FOR SALE



39 RADNOR CIR.
Grosse Pointe Farms, 48236

\$629,000

4 BR | 3.5 BA | 2,806 SQ FT

Prime GP Farms location, half acre completely private yard, steps away from the Hill, Richard, and South. Updated kitchen, walk in pantry, breakfast nook and mudroom. Stunning dining room with bar top and built ins. Huge living room with new fireplace surround and recessed lighting. Spacious master with walk in closet and gorgeous en suite. Second floor laundry. Finished basement with full bath, rec room, gas fireplace, laundry, work room and storage galore. Aggregate patio, whole house generator, central vac system, sprinkler system, hardwood floors and plantation shutters throughout. Many more updates. Includes Parcel ID 38014020159002.

Includes Parcel ID 38014020159002.



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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

GROSSE POINTE PUBLIC LIBRARY
COUNTY OF WAYNE, MICHIGAN

ON THE ADOPTION OF THE BUDGET
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS IN THE LIBRARY DISTRICT OF THE GROSSE POINTE PUBLIC LIBRARY:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Trustees of the Grosse Pointe Public Library, County of Wayne, Michigan, will hold a public hearing on Thursday, the 25th day of June, 2020 at 6:30 p.m., virtually via Zoom, to consider the approval and adoption of the operating budget of the Grosse Pointe Public Library for the fiscal year 2020-2021.

A copy of the recommended budget and instructions to participate in the meeting is available on the Library's website, grossepointelibrary.org. For questions email the Library Director, jkeyser@grossepointelibrary.org. At the public hearing, all citizens, taxpayers, and property owners in the library district of the Grosse Pointe Public Library shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard.

This notice is pursuant to a resolution by the Board of Trustees of the Grosse Pointe Public Library, County of Wayne, Michigan.

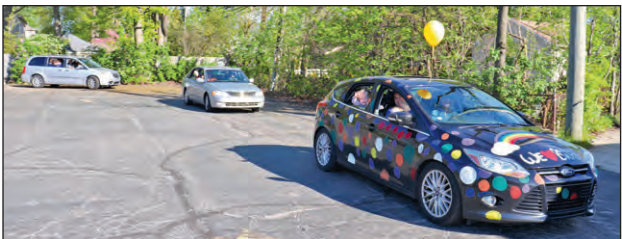
George Lapastora
Secretary, Board of Trustees
Grosse Pointe Public Library



PHOTOS BY JACK RYAN

Sunny waves

Sunny Days Co-Op Preschool in Grosse Pointe Woods hosted a “Wave Hello to Summer” parade in the school parking lot Wednesday, May 20. Preschool teacher Angela Biske said the parade took the place of Sunny Days’ graduation ceremony.



House candidate forum offered virtually

The League of Women Voters, as part of its commitment to an informed voting public, sponsors open voter forums.

Due to present COVID-19 restrictions on group activities, the Grosse Pointe and Detroit chapters of the League are sponsoring a virtual candidate forum via Zoom on Wednesday, June 17, for the August Michigan House of Representatives Primary Election—District 2, which encompasses northeast Detroit as well as the City of Grosse Pointe, Grosse Pointe Farms and Grosse Pointe Park.

Candidates invited to attend include Taylor Harrell (D), Mayra Rodriguez (R) and Joseph Tate (D).

Individuals may participate in the forum by emailing candidate questions in advance to the League at lwvgrossepointe@gmail.com before noon Tuesday, June 16. A recording of the forum will be available locally after June 18, via the LWV Grosse Pointe Facebook page, YouTube and the chapter webpage, lwvgrossepointe.org.

— Marge Freundl,
LWVGP publicity



Think spring

Grosse Pointer Diana Langlois snapped this photo at Vernier and Lakeshore in Grosse Pointe Shores, where she was “capturing the beauty of the season!”

Neighborhood Club offers virtual ‘summer break’

Children ages 5 to 12 are invited to participate in the Neighborhood Club’s “Virtual Summer Kids Camp,” offered Monday, June 15, to Friday, Aug. 14.

Campers work their brains by virtually learning, socializing with fellow campers, taking virtual weekly field trips and engaging in trivia, crafts and cooking. Weekly themes include LEGO Wars, Nature Nut and Into the Wild.

The program is run live from 10 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday

each week. Campers log onto a password-protected Zoom invitation and are let in through a waiting room. Only registered campers are allowed.

Cost to participate is \$50 for members, \$65 for non-members. Discounts are offered for families with multiple children. The fee includes a T-shirt, scheduled programming and assorted materials.

To register, email kara@neighborhoodclub.org. For information, call (313) 885-4600 or visit neighborhoodclub.org.

Summer Reading program kicks off with June 6 party

The Grosse Pointe Public Library’s Summer Reading program is back and, like most activities this year, has a different look. Children and adults alike are invited to stay engaged this summer with “Imagine Your Story,” a largely virtual reading program.

Summer Reading takes place June 1 to Aug. 14, with an official kickoff event planned at 1 p.m. Saturday, June 6, featuring Cirque Amongus.

A variety of virtual

events are scheduled throughout the summer, including Summer STEM with Cathy Foster of TechKnowKids, Mad Science of Detroit’s Up, Up and Away and Introduction to Parkour with Phoenix Freerunning Academy. Find a full schedule online at grossepointe.library.org/events.

Additionally, for every five days of reading 20 minutes or more, children are entered into a drawing for prizes such as LEGO kids, AirPods and iPads.

The program wraps up with a Drive-by Mystery Character Parade from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 15.

Adults are invited to participate in a bingo challenge by checking off boxes on their bingo cards that ask them to read aloud to someone, read a book they own but have never read or read a childhood favorite, among others. The challenge also includes the use of the digital resources available at grossepointelibrary.org — like watching a for-

eign film on Kanopy, finding a how-to book on Hoopla or checking out a new recipe using RBDigital, for example.

For every five bingo challenges completed, adults are entered into drawing for a \$50 gift card to a local restaurant.

Adults and children alike may sign up for Summer Reading online at gp.beanstack.org/.

For more information or help signing up, call (313) 640-4775.

— Jody McVeigh

Dining & ENTERTAINMENT

Dirty Dog Jazz Café

Open Now for Carryout/Curbside Pickup

OPEN: MONDAY • FRIDAY 11:30AM TO 5PM • PICKUP AT REAR ENTRANCE

DIRTY DOG'S FAVORITE MENU ITEMS



SANDWICHES

Steak Burger and Fries
with lettuce, tomato,
and onion \$12.50

Chicken Sandwich and Fries
with lettuce, tomato,
and onion \$13.50

Turkey Club Sandwich and Fries
with lettuce, tomato, bacon,
and mayonnaise \$11.50

SALAD SELECTION

Caesar Salad \$9
add chicken \$6
add salmon \$12
add shrimp \$9

Organic Garden Salad
with vinaigrette or choice of
creamy buttermilk dressing \$9
add chicken \$6
add salmon \$12
add shrimp \$9

ENTRÉES

Included soup or salad

Penne Pasta Red or White Sauce \$11.50
add chicken \$6 • add salmon \$12 • add shrimp \$9

Chicken Marsala
with mushrooms served with pasta \$20

Kobe Meatloaf
served with mashed potatoes, vegetables, and mushroom gravy \$17

Filet Mignon
served with mashed potatoes vegetables mushroom sauce \$28

Salmon Filet
served with mashed potatoes, vegetables and butter sauce \$28

Vegetable Stir Fry
served with rice, peppers, onions, broccoli, sweet stir fry sauce \$13
add chicken \$6 • add salmon \$12 • add shrimp \$9

**Please call ahead of time
if your order contains 10 or more entrée items.
Kind Regards: Andre Neimanis / Executive Chef**

Look for the Dirty Dog postcard in today's Grosse Pointe News

10% off Carryout/Curbside Pickup

MUST BRING COUPON TO REDEEM OFFER
Not Valid With Any Other Offer. Expires 6/30/20

313.882.5299

97 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms • DirtyDogJazz.com



OBITUARIES

Obituary notices are purchased and often prewritten by family or friends. While we try to run obituaries as submitted, we nevertheless reserve the right to edit for accuracy, style and length.

Larry J. Deck

Grosse Pointe Park resident Larry John Deck, 76, passed away peacefully Saturday, May 30, 2020, after a brief stay at Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe. He was born July 21, 1943, in Peru, Ind., to Mildred Lavon Odum and Lee Washington Deck.

He spent an idyllic childhood on the family farm with his parents, sister and maternal grandfather. His parents were teachers and also ran the farm.

Larry's schooling began in a small country schoolhouse across from their farm. He was valedictorian of his junior high class of seven and salutatorian of his high school class of 200 at Peru High School. An exceptional math student, Larry participated in many state mathematical competitions and placed among the top students. He also was active in speech contests, band and orchestra. A graduate of Purdue University, he earned undergraduate and master's degrees in math, physics and computer science.

Larry began his career after a summer internship in data processing with General Motors Co., in Anderson, Ind. He was transferred to GM headquarters in Detroit in 1976. In his position as a buyer, Larry traveled throughout much of Europe, Africa and the Middle East. He worked as a consultant after GM's acquisition of Electronic Data Systems.

At age 50, Larry began an entrepreneurial adventure with Supreme Products, manufacturer of the Pocket Chainsaw, and he eventually became the company's sole owner. Larry appeared numerous times on QVC to demonstrate and sell the chainsaw. One appearance included a late-night pajama party in which Larry was dressed in camouflage pajamas. He remained active with Supreme Products until his death.

Larry married the love of his life, Atje Pat Zwaagstra, in Lynden, Wash., in 1971. They met on a blind date arranged by dear friends and married less than a year later. Larry and Pat raised two children, Matthew Lee and Andrea Grace. He was a devoted and faithful family man who gave of himself generously to his wife and children.

Larry's interests included finance, travel, blackjack, musical theater, barbershop and a capella chorus. He traveled and cruised throughout the Caribbean, Europe, Africa and Asia. He had a keen financial acumen and closely followed the stock market.

A devout Christian, Larry was a 44-year member of Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church. He served on a number of church committees and headed the Endowment and Investment Committee many years. He also was an avid supporter of the Grosse Pointe South Choir Boosters and served as its treasurer.

Larry was known for

his great sense of humor, pleasant personality, words of wisdom and humorous outlook. He was a loyal, kind and generous companion and excellent listener to his friends. He kept in close contact with his high school graduates and even cruised with them. Despite the challenges of having type 1 diabetes since age 15 and subsequent heart and kidney disease, Larry faced each challenge with optimism and humor.

Larry was predeceased by his parents and sister, Carol Deck Weesner. He is survived by his wife, Pat; children, Matthew and Andrea; sisters and brothers-in-law; and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family is grateful to Larry's doctors, Abdul Effendi, Georges Ghafari and Regina Kurian, for their many years of excellent and compassionate care.

Funeral services take place Saturday, June 6, at Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church, 211 Moross, Grosse Pointe Farms. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the services will be held outdoors in the memorial garden with social distancing. Interment also will take place in the church memorial garden.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church, 211 Moross Rd, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236; Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, jdrf.org; or a nonprofit organization of the donor's choice.

Juha Oiva Merikoski

Longtime Grosse Pointe resident Juha Oiva Merikoski passed away Wednesday, May 13, 2020, in Evanston, Ill., after a courageous battle with complications from coronavirus. He was 78.

The son of Aili and Oiva Merikoski, Juha was born March 7, 1942, in Helsinki, Finland. His father was killed in action in World War II before Juha was born. Juha and his mother immigrated to the United States in 1950, where they built a new life as proud Americans.

Juha was predeceased by his beloved wife, Mary Ann (nee Drummy) Merikoski, in 2013. He is survived by his son, John Merikoski (Kim); daughters, Ingrid Gregg (Sam) and Mary Ann Merikoski (John Cashman); and grandchildren, John Edward, Kathryn, Peter, William, Thomas and Madeleine. He also is survived by brothers, sisters-in-law, nieces and nephews in the Drummy family, cousins by marriage in the Fisher family and cousins in the Merikoski and Sivunen families in Finland.

Juha was an alumnus of University of Detroit Jesuit High School. He earned bachelor's and master's degrees from Wayne State University and attended the University of Wisconsin, Madison. He retired from a long career as a U.S. intelligence officer, having served with Mary Ann and their family in

postings around the world.

An avid opera lover and traveler, Juha was a member of Detroit Athletic Club, Prismatic Club of Detroit and East India Club in London, United Kingdom. He treasured his friendships made and kept across continents, yet it was Grosse Pointe he ultimately called home.

Private burial will take place at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Detroit when coronavirus-related restrictions permit. The family looks forward to a celebration of Juha's life at a memorial reception in Detroit this summer; an announcement will follow.

Donations in Juha's memory may be made to the Association of Former Intelligence Officers, Central Office, 7700 Leesburg Pike, Suite 324, Falls Church, VA 22043, or online at afio.com.

Sue Krolikowski

Longtime Grosse Pointe Woods resident Sue Krolikowski (nee Farley), died Wednesday, May 27, 2020. She was born March 2, 1942, at Cottage Hospital, Grosse Pointe Farms, to Bruce and June Farley.

Sue grew up in the Mack-Dickerson area of Detroit's east side and, with the exception of her teen years, moved northward on Mack throughout her life.

Sue married her soulmate, Ted Krolikowski, June 29, 1963. Friends since 1960, Sue and Ted met at the Newman Club at Wayne State University. The couple first lived on Buckingham in Detroit, near Mack and Outer Drive. Sue and Ted later moved north on Mack to Grosse Pointe Woods, where they lived in the same house nearly 50 years.

Sue and Ted raised three children, Margaret, Matthew and Joseph; they also were blessed with nine grandchildren.

Sue taught school in Detroit most of her career. Her longest assignment was that of kindergarten teacher at Hutchinson Elementary. She also taught as an adjunct for several semesters at WSU. At 55, she retired and resumed her studies toward a Ph.D. degree.

Ever a teacher, Sue provided tours for school groups as a docent at the Holocaust Memorial Center in Farmington Hills more than 11 years. When she could no longer travel the distance to Farmington Hills, Sue was a docent for school groups from Detroit and Hamtramck at the Belle Isle Conservatory and Belle Isle Aquarium. She most enjoyed the immigrant children from Hamtramck who showed such eagerness to learn.

Always an avid reader, Sue requested her grave marker include the inscription, "Love is Eternal," which is the phrase engraved on the wedding ring given to Mary Todd by Abraham Lincoln.

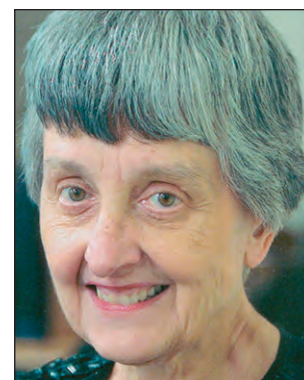
A funeral Mass took place May 29, at St. Joan



Larry J. Deck



Juha Oiva Merikoski



Sue Krolikowski

of Arc Catholic Church, with Msgr. Michael Bugarin officiating. She was interred at Mt. Elliott Cemetery in Detroit.

Memorial contributions may be made to Belle Isle Conservancy at belleisleconservancy.org.

Virginia Sargent

Former Grosse Pointe Shores resident Virginia "Ginny" Sargent died Tuesday, May 12, 2020. She was 94. Ginny was the firstborn child of Ed and Louise Radecky.

Ginny was on the go from the start and not a "girly girl." She preferred turtle hunting at Williams Lake and street games on Strathmoor in her west-side Detroit neighborhood. She created puppet shows on the block to earn spending money; it was the Great Depression and money was tight. When her younger brother, Tom, was big and foolish enough to vie with Ginny for power in sibling games, their mother let them settle differences with kick fights on the sofa.

An excellent student, Ginny graduated from Cooley High School and attended Michigan State University with her best friend, Rocky Edwards. She parlayed her love of water and swimming into residence at a sorority that needed someone willing to swim competitively. Her family recalls that what Ginny lacked in formal training, she made up in nerve. While she completed her bachelor's and master's of arts degrees in psychology, Ginny worked summers at Traverse City State Hospital, where she cultivated a lifelong love of the Leelanau Peninsula and the Great Lakes.

During her work as a psychologist, Ginny met a dashing young psychiatrist, Doug Sargent, through a mutual friend at the Child Guidance Clinic. Ginny and Doug married and embarked on a decades-long journey that included their three children, Lauren, Hal and Kate, and building Grosse Pointe Psychiatric Clinic.

Ginny and Doug were active members of Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church and in social justice work, notably in the civil rights and open housing movements. Ginny was a reliable volunteer for Democratic candidates and regularly attended the Democratic Women's Discussion Group hosted by her friend, Helen Graves. She instilled in her children a keen interest in politics, particularly her eldest child who accompanied her to meetings and canvassing.

Ginny was not to be outdone when her children went to college and Doug enrolled in law school, so she trained as a family therapist at the Family Institute of Southeast Michigan. A graduate of FISM, she rebranded herself as a family therapist and continued this work into her



Virginia Sargent



Louis E. Neuder

80s, even when Doug's work took them to Birmingham, Ala. She retired only when Doug's health required their return to Michigan, shortly before his death in 2009.

Ginny moved to Glacier Hills in Ann Arbor to care for Doug in his final months and to be closer to her daughters and grandchildren. She enjoyed book club, swimming at the Washtenaw County Recreation Center and Ann Arbor's abundant lectures, movies and plays. Ginny was a lover of animals, the natural world and justice for all.

In failing health since last summer, Ginny was ready for the next stage. She celebrated her 94th birthday surrounded by her children, Lauren (Brian Chambers), Hal (Anne Stavig) and Kate (David Fleig); and six grandchildren, Kaia and Emma Sargent, Miranda and Ben Chambers and Alix and Darby Fleig.

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

In lieu of flowers, donations in tribute to Ginny may be made to Sanaga-Yong Chimpanzee Rescue Center, sychimprescue.org; Best Friends Animal Society, bestfriends.org; The Orangutan Project, theorangutanproject.org; Food & Water Watch, foodandwaterwatch.org; or Center for Biological Diversity, biologicaldiversity.org.

Louis E. Neuder

Longtime Grosse Pointe resident Louis E. Neuder, 93, passed away Monday, May 25, 2020. He was born Aug. 5, 1926, in Detroit, to Louis and Edna Neuder.

Louis graduated from Denby High School in 1944. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served aboard the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Bennington in the Pacific during World War II.

Louis returned to Detroit after the war and was employed at a business started by his father in 1927, Arrow Trucks and Parts. He remained at Arrow more than 50 years and eventually co-owned the business with his brother, Bill. Louis served as president from his father's death in 1968, until the late 1990s.

Louis' beloved wife, Milly, was by his side more than 60 years. Together they raised their family and were active members in the community and their church, St. James Lutheran. A devoted member of the

Munderloh Ministerial Scholarship Foundation, Louis also held board positions at St. James.

Louis loved being known as "Grandpa Louie," not only to his nine cherished grandchildren and 11, soon to be 12, great-grandchildren, but also to the community at large. His greatest joy came in retirement as he pursued hobbies such as watercolor painting, making stained-glass objects, singing in the St. James choir, baking chocolate chip cookies and restoring antique tractors at the family farm. Grandpa Louie always was quick to lend a helping hand to family and friends. Assisting at the Ferry Elementary School clinic was his favorite role as a volunteer.

Proud of his military service as a member of "The Greatest Generation," Louis was recognizable to many in the community as he wore his U.S.S. Bennington cap everywhere. Grandpa Louie will be remembered for his generosity of spirit and love of God, family, friends, church and country.

Louis was the loving father of Sherry Bradow (Jim), Dr. Louis Neuder (Sue) and Carolyn Kurtz (Keith); cherished grandfather of Kristen Linley (Tim), Mike Bradow (Katie), Susan Holsapple (Tyler), Dr. Laura Ott (Chad), Brad Neuder (Allison), Julie Wasilewski (Tony), Lisa Kline (Evan), Jeffrey Kurtz and C.J. Kurtz; and doting great-grandfather to Emily, Will, Whitney, Abigail, Alyson, Lark, Mackenzie, Colin, Eleanor, Henry and Riley. He also is survived by his brother, Dr. Richard Neuder; sister-in-law, Marylyn Neuder; brothers-in-law, William Costello and Charles Hathaway; numerous cousins, nieces and nephews; and long-term caregiver, Colleen Doolin. Louis was predeceased by his precious wife, Milly Schiele Neuder, in 2012; parents, Louis and Edna Neuder; siblings, William Neuder and Julia Costello; and sisters-in-law, Mary Neuder and Irene Hathaway.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Louis' memory may be made to St. James Lutheran Church, 170 McMillan, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236; or American House Foundation, 1 Town Square, Suite 1600, Southfield, MI 48076.

See OBITS, page 7B

OBITS:

Continued from page 6B



Rita D. Haller

Rita D. Haller

Longtime Grosse Pointe Woods resident Rita D. Haller, 92, passed away Tuesday, April 14, 2020, at North Shore Health and Rehabilitation in Loveland, Colo. She was born March 5, 1928, in Philadelphia, Pa., to Louisa and Settimo Mosca.

A graduate of Little Flower High School in Philadelphia, Rita's career included positions at Fine Arts Silver, Sharpe & Dohme and The Budd Co. Rita worked in the marketing department at Budd when she met her future husband, Kurt Haller.

Rita and Kurt were married Nov. 26, 1960, in Philadelphia. The couple moved to Grosse Pointe Woods in 1961. Rita lived in Grosse Pointe Woods until 2012.

An active member of the Grosse Pointe community, Rita was a member of Ascension St. John Hospital's Fontbonne Auxiliary, worked in the gift shop at Bon Secours Hospital and served as president of the Blue Chip Stock Club. She also served as a lay minister and member of the Parent Teacher Organization at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church and School.

Rita was predeceased by her husband of nearly 53 years, Kurt. She is survived by her daughter, Marie, of Loveland, Colo.; son, Karl, of Land O' Lakes, Fla.; and grandchildren, Elinor and Edward.

A celebration of Rita's life will be held this fall.

Memorial contributions may be made to Capuchin Soup Kitchen, 1820 Mount Elliott, Detroit, MI 48207, or online at cskdetroit.org.

ASK JEFF AND DEBRA

Boundaries

Q: Our 28-year-old daughter is completing an inpatient treatment program and preparing to come home to live with us. Getting her to agree to treatment was difficult and she initially resisted the program, but she seems to be getting better. Now she wants to talk about boundaries, so we won't interfere with her life when she returns. She says we're codependent and controlling. After the hell we've been through with her addiction, we were dumbfounded.

A: Recovery is the answer, not boundaries. When love and trust break down, we may have to resort to boundaries, but that should never be our first choice. There are better ways to

rebuild trust.

Being "codependent" and unwittingly enabling an addict's behavior is largely a response to crisis and fear — fear of the addict and fear of ourselves. For example, we may be afraid our loved one will take dangerous risks while using drugs, so we allow them to use drugs at home, thinking we are providing a safer environment. But if we make drug use easier, we are encouraging more drug use. Is more drug use safer?

Or, we may try to stop them from leaving the house altogether. We know we're not being realistic, but we are afraid. We know we're losing control of our emotions and something has to change.

We're glad your daughter

is completing an inpatient treatment program. The real journey of recovery will begin when she comes home and begins attending 12-step meetings. You can make a home for recovery in your home by attending Al-Anon, the 12-step meeting group for family and friends of the alcoholic.

You also can take a more organized approach that will encourage recovery for your daughter and for both of you. There is a way to rebuild trust without controlling and a way to reduce fear without being codependent.

Structured Family Recovery, or SFR, is a way to bring both sides of the equation into balance — your daughter's recovery and your recovery. Boundaries are meant for keeping one another at a distance. Recovery is meant to bring us together. Working with a trained counselor, you

can go on the journey of recovery together — your daughter in AA and both of you in Al-Anon.

The reason we don't talk about setting up boundaries in SFR is because we want to learn to focus on ourselves and engage in our own program of recovery. We change as a result of working a program in Al-Anon, along with completing the program of Structured Family Recovery. When we start making our own changes and start working the steps with a sponsor, there is less reason for boundaries.

There are reasonable expectations any family might have when their loved one returns from treatment: 1) remaining abstinent, 2) working a program of recovery and 3) following aftercare recommendations. As family members, we need to follow a similar path: 1) letting go of the past,

2) working a program of recovery in Al-Anon and 3) keeping commitments in SFR. As family members, we can set a positive example of recovery by beginning SFR and Al-Anon before our loved one gets home from treatment. We can lead the way.

If a person refuses to do the work of the 12 Steps and refuses to participate in Structured Family Recovery, then boundaries are the default position. But boundaries are never the preferred option. We can do better. Recovery is the solution for all of everyone.

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

Park Market discontinued

In a recent email to Grosse Pointe Park residents, the city announced the permanent closure of Park Market.

The market, which typically ran the third Saturday of the month from mid-June through mid-September, featured vendors offering produce, cheeses, baked goods, art, candles, jewelry, crafts, plants, cut flowers and other items.

Located in the Kercheval business district between Maryland and Beaconsfield, the market also included music, children's crafts and food samplings, along with special weekly events.

"We did not come to this decision lightly and many were involved in the final decision to cancel the market," the email reads in part. "We would like

to take this time to thank everyone who helped make the market a success for so many years. This was a hard decision for all involved. We would like everyone to know we did our best to bring the community a fun and exciting market. Unfortunately, attendance has been significantly declining through the years. Due to the decline, vendors have found alternative markets in which to be involved. We would like everyone to know we will be implementing some new exciting ideas. We are inviting our vendors to participate in the After 6 on Kercheval, Charlevoix Street Parties and other events that will be added in the future. We apologize in advance to anyone this may affect."

Park Market representatives could not be reached for comment.

GPBR collecting for Samaritas

The Grosse Pointe Board of Realtors is spearheading a COVID-19 Care Kits Collection, on behalf of the nonprofit Samaritas, which provides affordable housing and social services to those in need throughout Michigan's Lower Peninsula.

The GPBR's Community Outreach Committee, chaired by Suzanne Goll, is collecting items for care kits, which will provide items for those struggling financially.

Among the items being collected are sanitation supplies such as Clorox wipes, hand soap, bleach, rubber gloves and face masks; educational learning

toys and art supplies; toilet paper; children's books; hand sanitizer; non-perishable food and bottled water; tissue, laundry detergent; diapers, wipes and ointment; and baby formula and food.

The campaign runs through Thursday, June 11.

There are two drop-off locations:

◆ Hadley Real Estate, 22100 Harper, St. Clair Shores. Drop-off hours are 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday and 1 to 3 p.m. Thursday; and

◆ 53012 Springhill Meadows, Macomb. Drop-off hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday.

The Village rolls out its new website

The Grosse Pointe Village Downtown Development Authority recently debuted a new website as part of its ongoing marketing strategy to position The Village as a destination for shopping, dining and family entertainment.

The Village, dubbed "The Heart of the Pointes," invites visitors to explore the shopping, dining and activities of the community's largest commercial district at thevillagegrossepointe.org.

The new Grosse Pointe Village website has many new features designed to help visitors engage with Village businesses, including a robust directory where one can order directly from favorite restaurants and stores. Additional features include a listing of available properties and

places to sign up to volunteer for future events and receive monthly newsletters. The event calendar details upcoming activities in The Village. Additionally, the new site is Americans with Disabilities Act-compatible.

The site was designed by Revize, a metro Detroit company that specializes in municipal websites. Revize also designed the new website for the City of Grosse Pointe, grossepointecity.org.

Those looking for additional updates on events and activities in The Village also may visit its Facebook page at facebook.com/thevillagegrossepointe or Instagram at instagram/TheVillageGrossePointe as well as through social media links on the website.

FIRST ENGLISH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
800 Vernier Road (Corner of Wedgewood)
(313) 884-5040

10:00 am - Drive-In service on Sunday mornings.

Service on youtube at FEELC-GPW and on our facebook page First English Lutheran Church.

Rev. Sean Motley, Senior Pastor
~ "Go Make Disciples" ~
www.feelc.org

Grosse Pointe Congregational Church
(United Church of Christ)
www.gpccong.org

Sunday 10AM services are on Zoom Meeting online and phone
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4105997963
415-762-9988, then enter 4105997963
AND with a Drive-in service in the parking lot

Grosse Pointe UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

An Official Welcoming Congregation

Worship online with us as we all respond responsibly to the Coronavirus

www.facebook.com/GrossePointeUMC

Rev. Dr. Ray McGee
Rev. Keith Lenard, Jr.
www.gpumc.org
313-886-2363

Worship Service



Crosspointe Christian Church

Join Our Virtual Campus Sundays LIVE on YouTube

www.YouTube.com/YourC3

Current Study

SERMON SERIES

1 PETER

Called • Living • Persevering

Saint Ambrose Catholic Church
15020 Hampton
Grosse Pointe Park,
Michigan 48230-1302

Masses
Saturday Vigil — 4:00 p.m.
Sunday — 8:30 and 11:15 a.m.

(313) 822-2814 • stambrose@comcast.net
• stambrosechurch.net • facebook.com/stambroseparish

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN

Sharing God's grace through Christ, we love, pray, rejoice and serve.
All are welcome!

Worship Online With Us!

Visit stpaulgp.org and scroll to Quick Links
Select Our Youtube Channel or Our Facebook Page

375 Lothrop at Chalfonte
Grosse Pointe Farms
313.881.6670
The Rev. Justin Dittrich

Christ the King Lutheran Church and Preschool

Mack at Lochmoor • 884-5090
www.christthekinggp.org

SUNDAY

8:15 & 10:45 a.m. - Worship Service
9:30 a.m. - Bible Study
10:45 a.m. - Sunday School

MONDAY

7 p.m. - Worship Service

2nd & 4th Monday of the Month

WEDNESDAY

10 a.m. - Bible Study

Randy S. Boelter, Pastor

Making New Disciples - Building Stronger Ones

