

Grosse Pointe News

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 GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes



Brett Smith

DPW director resigns after 33 years

By Laurel Kraus
 Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — Despite being far outside of his job description, Shores Public Works Director Brett Smith remembers instances throughout his career of driving elderly residents to doctor appointments or dropping by homes after work to help with a resident's project.

"The people of Grosse Pointe Shores have been my family," he said.

After 33 years working in the Shores, the public works director's last day will be Aug. 19.

"I'm going to keep my head high and I'm just going to say it is time for me to resign," Smith said. "It's just time. Grosse Pointe Shores has seen a lot of changes and it's just time for me to make a change."

Smith began in the Shores as its mechanic

See RESIGN, page 5A



PHOTO COURTESY OF EHRESMAN ARCHITECTS

A conceptual rendering of the proposed warming center at the Rotary Tot Lot.

Tot Lot warming center approved

By Mary Anne Brush
 Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — As the Grosse Pointe Rotary Club puts the finishing touches on its "reimagined" Tot Lot before its official ribbon-cutting ceremony Aug. 8, Rotarians already are preparing for their next fundraising campaign for a Tot Lot Warming Center.

The estimated cost of the building, which

includes restrooms and a gathering area for small parties, is approximately \$250,000.

Because the Tot Lot complex is located on Elworthy Field — owned by the Grosse Pointe Public School System — in the City of Grosse Pointe, approval was needed from the school district and the City of Grosse Pointe City Council before fundraising could begin.

Marc Chamberlin, senior architect and

partner with Ehresman Architects, and Tot Lot Rotary Club Committee members Michael Carmody and Bob Lucas presented the project to the GPPSS Board of Education facilities committee May 7, with committee chairwoman Kathy Abke and members Cindy Pangborn and Chris Lee voting in favor of the warming center pending approval by the full board.

The City of Grosse

Pointe City Council approved the warming center at its June 15 meeting.

Before the Board of Education voted unanimously to approve the project at its June 22 regular meeting, held virtually, Carmody provided "a quick history of how we got here."

"This desire to do a building came about due to interviews Bob Lucas and I conducted

See TOT LOT, page 2A

Retirees ask council to reconsider healthcare changes

By Laurel Kraus
 Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — Following the approval of retiree healthcare changes during the telephonic May council meeting, retirees gathered at the meeting held in the Osius Park pavilion Tuesday, June 16, to voice their disappointment in the city and plead for reconsideration.

"Only very few employees and retirees were informed of this agenda item just prior to last month's meeting," read a letter from Rhonda Ricketts, the city's finance officer/treasurer. "The effects of your decision will be financially devastating to some and is disturbing to all that I have spoken to. ... Most, I cannot speak for all, are upset promises that were made many years ago are not being honored. Employees are told frequently that their work is greatly appreciated, but

See RETIREES, page 3A

Village accepted into Michigan Main Street Program

By Laurel Kraus
 Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — After months of anticipation, the Michigan Economic Development Corp. announced its acceptance of The Village in the City of Grosse Pointe into the Michigan Main Street Program Tuesday, June 16.

For the next five years, The Village will receive intensive assistance from MEDC to revitalize the downtown area through focuses on attracting new residents, business investments, economic growth and job creation.

"We are so excited that The Village has been selected as a Main Street community," Mayor Sheila Tomkowiak said in a press release. "A lot of people worked very hard to win this designation. It really was a



FILE PHOTO

The Village has been selected to participate in the Michigan Main Street Program.

broad, community-based effort. Strengthening The Village and fostering economic growth in the district will be an enormous benefit to the larger community.

"I have great confidence in the Main Street Program and the quality of its consultants," she added. "Just working through the application process was

transformational. It required hundreds of hours of work and a great deal of communication. We learned a lot in the process and it stitched us together in ways we never would have imagined. We are eager to build on that experience as we move forward."

The historic North End neighborhood of Detroit also was selected to become part of the Michigan Main Street Program. Up to three cities can be chosen each year.

Following a presentation to the MEDC in Lansing in February, the city expected to receive word on the status of its acceptance approximately two weeks later, but the outbreak of COVID-19 caused it to be delayed until the stay-at-home order was lifted.

See VILLAGE, page 3A

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Pointer of INTEREST

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Amanda Amine

Home: Grosse Pointe Shores
 Recently moved into the head coaching position of the ULS girls field hockey varsity team.



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Flynn to swim at Albion

By Bob St. John
Spots Editor

It's time to amp up the workouts for Grosse Pointe North senior Katie Flynn.

The 17-year-old Grosse Pointe Woods resident signed a National Letter of Intent to swim for head coach Nick Stone at Albion College.

Flynn grew up in the Pointes, attending Monteith Elementary and Parcels Middle

schools before heading to North.

"My club coach, Kevin Hafner from Pointe Aquatics, has been keeping me in line during this time and making sure I stay in shape," Flynn said.

During the recruiting process, Alma, Albion and Hope were recruiting her.

"I picked Albion because I loved how it felt like a family," Flynn said. "I started swimming

when I was 5 years old just because my mom put me in swim lessons and I knew it was something I loved."

Flynn excelled in the pool, developing the athletic prowess to compete at the collegiate level. She will also get pushed in the classroom at Albion, but she has the solid academic background to shine.

Her grade-point average at North was 3.8, and she is majoring in psy-

chology.

"I am a little nervous because of the change in atmosphere, but I'm mostly excited," Flynn said.

She has the support from parents, Brian and Beth Flynn, and is a mentor to her younger sister, Scarlett Flynn.

Flynn will have a fall schedule in October and November, and the bulk of her collegiate swimming will occur January through March.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TERESA BENNETT

Grosse Pointe North's Katie Flynn is taking her swimming talents to Albion College.

North grad gets scholarship to Lawrence Tech

By Bob St. John
Spots Editor



Ethan Flannery

For several years, Grosse Pointe North senior Ethan Flannery has been honing his skills, preparing to launch a college sports career.

That time is coming soon as the 18-year-old Grosse Pointe Woods resident has accepted a scholarship to play men's lacrosse at Lawrence Technological University for head coach Paul Nemzek.

He ran cross country as a freshman, but then decided to focus on lacrosse.

He was recruited by Aquinas,

Lawrence Tech, University of Michigan Dearborn, Illinois Tech, Mount Vernon Nazarene and a few others.

"I chose Lawrence Tech because of their top-notch engineering school and small class sizes," Flannery said. "I'm currently doing chest and leg exercises, like bench press and squats, with dumbbells to maintain muscle. I also take bike rides for some cardio."

Since the stay-at-home order has left Flannery without a gym to visit, he has made the most of his workouts, knowing he has to come to the college program ready to go.

"I am looking forward to bonding with the team and living on my own for the first time," Flannery said.

His grade-point average is 3.97, and he will take that to Lawrence Tech where he plans to study mechanical engineering.

Flannery has been a standout for the Norsemen under head coach Mark Seppala, helping the program stay solid.

He now takes his talents to the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference where he will battle Madonna, Siena Heights, Cleary, Taylor,

Indiana Tech, U-M Dearborn, Concordia - Ann Arbor, Lourdes and Aquinas in conference play.

His college season will begin with fall workouts before taking a winter break. His official season starts in mid-February.

He grew up in the Pointes, attending Mason Elementary and Parcels Middle schools before North.

Flannery, the son of Robert and Jeanine Flannery, has a brother, Christian.

"My future goals are to one day live in Salt Lake City, Utah, to be able to snowboard every week," Flannery said.

ULS golfers take unofficial state title

The University Liggett School boys golf team had great expectations for the spring season.

The Knights finished second in the Division 4 state finals last year and returned four of the best players. They were excited to challenge last year's champ, Kalamazoo Hackett, which also returned its top four players.

And then came COVID-19 and the season was

canceled.

When it became clear the golf courses in Michigan would reopen, ULS head coach Dan Sullivan contacted Hackett's coach to see if an unofficial match could be arranged at a neutral site.

Details were being worked out when a group called Kensington Junior Golf announced it was hosting four team tournaments, including

one at The Fortress in Frankenmuth, which originally was scheduled to host the Division 4 state finals.

Both ULS and Hackett signed up for the tournament.

For the players on both teams it was an opportunity to refocus on the sport they love. ULS captains Colin Degnore and Tommy Gebeck took charge and arranged practice sessions, includ-

ing a trip to Frankenmuth to play a practice round.

When one of last year's best players, Jack Estes, had a schedule conflict, they invited Spencer Lukas, a recent graduate, to rejoin the team as the fifth man. Lukas dubbed the chance to play as the "Last Dance," ala Michael Jordan. Everyone loved the name.

The tournament was held in early June in dif-

ficult playing conditions. Winds were blowing 15 to 20 mph all day with gusts up to 30 mph. There were 80 players representing 12 schools.

ULS and Hackett were the only small schools represented and the tournament director agreed to pair the teams together in head-to-head competition. Sullivan had a trophy prepared in advance to be awarded the "unofficial state champ."

It was a back and forth battle all day with Hackett led by Will Verduzco and Ryan

Chafty, who shot 79 and 80. ULS finished well with Degnore posting 75, playing the back nine in one under par to take second in the field.

Gebeck shot 78 to tie for third overall, while Bennett French had 89 and Lukas an 88. Michael Sherman contributed as well.

The final score was ULS 330, Hackett 336.

"The true winner for the day was junior golf and high school sports camaraderie," Sullivan said.

— Dan Sullivan

TOT LOT:

Continued from page 1A

over three months with families at the Tot Lot and, in addition to that, input from city officials as to what people would like at the Tot Lot,"

Carmody said. "Our questions were: 'What do you like, what don't you like and what do you need?' Resoundingly, the answer was bathrooms. It was further suggested that a small community center would be very

nice and would make it possible to have tot birthday parties for up to 20 children. We at the Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe embraced the idea in its entirety and our club has pledged to raise the funds through another capital campaign community outreach fundraiser."

Carmody also announced a gift from Dr. Meredith Price of Grosse Pointe and the American Academy of Dermatology for a 20-by-20-foot permanent shade structure to be added to the existing complex — a suggestion that came from the facilities committee



PHOTO COURTESY OF EHRESMAN ARCHITECTS

An interior rendering of the proposed warming center.

meeting. This structure will provide shade for approximately two picnic tables and two benches, Carmody said.

Chamberlin presented the plans and renderings for the center, an 800-square-foot building with a small mechanical room and two restrooms accessible from both the inte-

rior and exterior of the building.

The building, which replaces the existing park pavilion, "fits in contextually with the Neighborhood Club and the surrounding homes in the neighborhood," Chamberlin said.

Materials include brick, simulated slate shingles, cedar siding, a

copper roof over the front entry overhang and asphalt shingles for the remainder of the roof.

The building also is 100 percent barrier-free and Americans with Disabilities Act accessible to the restrooms as well as the building itself, Chamberlin added. The interior includes a kitchenette, counter and cupboard space with an under-counter refrigerator and space for a microwave and coffee pot.

Once the Rotary Club secures funding, GPPSS will submit a request for proposals to construction companies, with construction tentatively scheduled for the summer of 2021. The RFP will be a public bid under the direction of the school district.

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Shores enhances resident alert system

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — For the past five or six years, the Shores department of public safety has worked with a free service through the community notification application Nixle to send email and text alerts to residents regarding Lakeshore closures, water main breaks and structure fires, but has found it too limiting with a requirement to keep messages under a specific number of characters.

“We could do short and sweet, but now we’re finding that, espe-

cially with the current environment we’re living in with the coronavirus, that we needed to have a greater platform for providing information to the community,” Public Safety Director John Schulte explained.

Now, by contracting with an enhanced program called Nixle Engage — the Farms department of public safety uses a similar system — the city will be able to send longer and more detailed messages, as well as provide photographs and other necessary data.

The department currently is in the training phase with the expanded

service, which should be fully implemented by the end of June. Residents can expect larger text messages when it is up and running.

“It just allows us to say more and it allows us to be more specific in the information we disseminate,” Schulte said.

Such information could include neighborhood watch information and area crime trends; public safety emergencies that require residents to stay in or away from their homes; missing children or seniors, in which case the alert can now include a photo of the person and map identifying the area they

were last seen; and snow, water or traffic alerts.

“For example, we (recently) had high water on Lakeshore and we had waves crashing over onto northbound Lakeshore Road and it was blowing all kinds of debris and rocks and tree limbs and everything up onto the road, so obviously we can barricade it off, but we wanted to give the residents information to be careful of this area,” Schulte said.

Other alert types could include voter information about changes in precinct location or masks needing to be

worn, community event information and COVID-19 alerts.

“At some point we’re going to open city hall here, so we’re going to want to give the residents some across-the-board information on how to enter the building (and) how to protect themselves,” Schulte said.

While in the past it was largely just public safety and public works sending updates via Nixle, the enhancement will allow other departments, such as potentially parks and recreation, to disseminate information as well.

“One of our primary

goals here at city hall is ... we want to keep our residents as informed as possible and this is a tremendous vehicle for doing so,” Schulte said.

Residents can sign up through nixle.com, which is linked to gpshoresmi.gov.

“We want people to know that this is a valuable information tool and if we need you to avoid a certain area, for example, or if we have crime information ... it gives us an opportunity,” Schulte said. “The more people we can reach, the better we feel we’re able to prepare our residents for whatever it might be.”

RESIGN:

Continued from page 1A

and worked 18 months before becoming director of public works in 1989.

“I have worked with Brett for 25-plus years and I will be sad to see him go,” interim City Manager Tom Krolczyk said via email. “Over the years, Brett has set the standard on how services in public works should be handled.”

Throughout his time, Smith oversaw major projects such as the sewer separation program in the early 2000s

and the installation of the decorative street lighting program in the mid-1990s.

“It set our community apart from all the other Grosse Pointes and it wasn’t long after that all the other Grosse Pointes had decorative street lights and street signs,” he said. “I thought that was a great thing.”

Both Lakeshore and Vernier roads have been paved twice since Smith began working in the Shores as well.

“Those are kind of rare feats,” he said. “Normally you have a pave job and it lasts a career, but I’ve

been over here so long, they’ve been done a couple times.

“As a matter of fact,” he added, “my first main project when I started as director in ’89 was water, sewer and roadway on Vernier Road and then we just did that a few years back for the second time.”

Obtaining grant money, such as well over \$1 million to pave Lakeshore Road, also goes down on Smith’s list of achievements.

“I remember a quote that has always been near and dear to my heart from one our mayors,” he said. “... ‘We’re a commu-

nity that is seldom equaled but never surpassed.’ And we’ve tried to run our DPW department with that philosophy.”

Smith also has sat on the board of the Public Service Institute, a training mechanism for public works employees throughout the state of Michigan, since 1996.

The accredited program through Central Michigan University currently has a waiting list and is used as a model for many other states’ programs.

“Getting in on the ground floor and seeing

it through all these years has probably been one of the most rewarding accomplishments, because I see the training put to practice throughout the state of Michigan,” he said.

Looking toward the future, Smith may consider employment elsewhere.

“I have about five years of good work left in me and I might take a little time off work and then go find something else,” he said. “My first plans are to just kind of take a breath and reevaluate where I am in my life and try to decide what’s next

in my future.

“I haven’t had to take a breath in a long time,” he added. “My phone rings day and night, seven days a week and I love it. I have no issue with that at all, but I need to take a breath and reevaluate.”

Smith also hopes to spend more time volunteering, both through Crosspointe Community Church and other opportunities.

“It’s been a blessing and a pleasure to serve the residents of Grosse Pointe Shores for the last 33 years and I consider them all my family,” he said.

Grosse Pointe Woods

Stolen vehicle

A black 2019 Jeep Compass with a 9 mm pistol inside was stolen from the 20000 block of Mack around 12:30 a.m. Saturday, June 20.

An extra key fob had been left in the vehicle while its driver left it unlocked upon entering a gas station.

Stolen vehicle

A silver 2019 Ford Explorer was discovered missing from a driveway in the 1700 block of Prestwick around 1 p.m. Sunday, June 21, after it had been parked and locked there around 5 p.m. Saturday, June 20.

— Eddie B. Allen Jr.

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

Grosse Pointe Farms

Driving while license suspended

After being pulled over on Moross Road at 8:20 p.m. Monday, June 15, for having an expired plate tab from last year, officers discovered a 28-year-old Detroit man had 13 suspensions for driving while license suspended and 15 bench warrants.

Serial soaker

While driving on Grosse Pointe Boulevard around 11 p.m. Wednesday, June 17, an 18-year-old Grosse Pointe woman was struck in the face with a water balloon, which was thrown from another vehicle.

The same vehicle has been involved in multiple recent incidents regarding water balloons being thrown at pedestrians.

Balancing the scales

A 27-year-old Detroit man walked out of a business at Mack and Moross with several beer cans and two bags of chips he hadn’t paid for at 11:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 17.

He returned to the business at 1 a.m. and said he stole the items because he hadn’t received all he paid for in a previous purchase and felt cheated. The business declined to press charges after the man paid \$9.98 for the stolen items.

Operating while intoxicated

After drifting across lane markers at 9:30 p.m. Saturday, June 20, a 55-year-old Warren woman was pulled over at Mack Avenue and Fisher Road.

The woman said she thought she was in Roseville and had slurred speech and glassy eyes. A preliminary breath test showed her blood alcohol content was .22 percent and she was arrested.

Operating under the influence of drugs

After his vehicle was seen weaving between lanes without using headlights or tail lights at 1 a.m. Sunday, June 21, a 36-year-old St. Clair Shores man was pulled over at Chandler Park and Moross Road.

His speech was slurred as he spoke rapidly and repeated himself. He was arrested after officers found drug paraphernalia in his pocket.

Flag thief

Ring Video footage captured a man stealing a Korean flag from the front porch of a Merriweather Road residence at 1:40 p.m. Sunday, June 21.

The flag was later found dropped in another yard on Merriweather Road.

— Laurel Kraus

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

Grosse Pointe Shores

No crimes to report per dispatch.

— Laurel Kraus

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

Grosse Pointe Park

Stabbing suspect stopped

A 30-year-old Warren man sought in connection with stabbing two family members Saturday, June 20, was

arrested at Patterson Park later in the day.

Grosse Pointe Park Public Safety officers investigated a suspicious person reported after the man jumped a fence into Patterson around 4:20 p.m. He was soon located and identified as the same suspect who’d fled City of Grosse Pointe officers in a stolen vehicle.

The man was arrested and was expected to face charges for the attempted murder of his brother and stepfather.

— Eddie B. Allen Jr.

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

City of Grosse Pointe

See Grosse Pointe Park report.

— Laurel Kraus

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

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A Company

Woods annual report shows crime decrease

By Eddie B. Allen Jr.
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — The community experienced a 7 percent reduction in crime between 2018 and 2019, according to the Grosse Pointe Woods Department of Public Safety.

First presented at city council's Monday, June 15 virtual session, the report reflected 11,411 incidents in 2018 compared with 9,828 in 2019.

"I think the most significant thing is we did experience an overall drop in crime," Director John Kosanke later said.

Major offenses like burglary were reduced from 41 in 2018 to just 10 in 2019, according to the report, while larceny statistics fell to

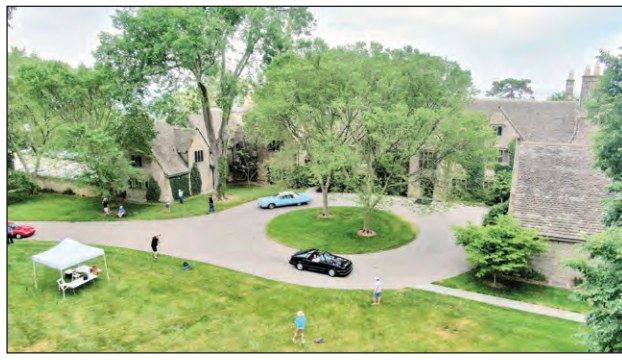
145, its lowest number since 2015.

Kosanke praised the combined work of patrol officers, detectives and dispatchers as "a group effort within the department."

Driving under the influence arrests increased by 18 percent from 2018 to 2019, while thefts from autos — a statistic the chief frequently asks residents to reduce by simply locking vehicles — reflected 64 incidents in 2018 compared with 66 in 2019. A more serious auto-related crime, vehicle theft, increased to a five-year high from 12 to 29, according to the report.

"What happened in some cases is the vehicle was left unlocked and the key fob was in

See CRIME, page 4A



DRONE PHOTO BY JACK RYAN/SKYVIEW AERIAL PRODUCTIONS

Cars pull into the Winner's Circle at Ford House.



PHOTOS BY JACK RYAN

Judges take a peek at this year's entries.



What a day

Hundreds of car owners and spectators gathered Sunday, June 21, to celebrate Father's Day with the EyesOn Design Sunday Drive — a departure from the organization's more than 30-year-old car show, which was canceled this year due to COVID-19 social distancing restrictions.

The Sunday Drive was a success, organizers said, drawing families to watch classic, collectible and modern vehicles drive along Lakeshore, from The War Memorial to Ford House.

"Car owners were so happy," said Kathy Lightbody, event chairwoman. "Spectators, even the Ford House couldn't believe how smoothly it went. I guess car folks really wanted to get out there."

"Our judges from Ford, GM, FCA and Magna loved the tweaked format," she continued. "Their Sweet 16 selections go into a voting bracket (Tuesday, June 23) on our Facebook page. We should know the audience favorite in a couple of weeks."

Community members may vote for their favorites on the EyesOn Design Facebook page; information also is posted on its Twitter and Instagram pages, as well as at eyesondesign.org.



RETIREES:

Continued from page 1A

maybe that really isn't true."

The changes consist of mirroring retiree health-care plans to those of active employees, which include a 20 percent premium cost share, and were deemed necessary by council because of the city's \$9.2 million in underfunding for health-care legacy liabilities.

Ricketts' letter noted the Shores has not yet been cited by the state for underfunded status.

"Many communities that have been cited by the state of Michigan for underfunded status in their pension fund... have submitted corrective action plans that do not include cost sharing and/or benefit reductions," she added.

The letter further explained that nearby communities, such as Wayne County and Flint, which have made similar cost sharing benefit changes in recent years, did so because they were in a state of financial crisis.

"They were not AAA-rated communities," the letter read, regarding the Shores, which is. "Is it the council's opinion that we

are equivalent to these communities?"

Many of those who retired from the public safety department noted having taken lower pay and minimal, if any, raises during their careers with the Shores, because the city wanted them to put into their healthcare fund.

"We thought that we were funding our health-care system for the rest of our lives and everything is implied that it's lifetime," said retired Lt. David Younk, who worked for the Shores just shy of 30 years, "and now they're taking it away from us."

Jeff Douprey, who ran the water and sewer department, commented he could have worked elsewhere for double the pay, but chose the Shores due to the benefits and retirement healthcare.

"It just seems like all we are is numbers," he said. "The loyalty we gave you for 30 years is like nothing."

An excerpt from the collective bargaining agreement between the Shores and the Police Officers Labor Council for Command Officers, which Younk's wife, Deanne, quoted, states, "All employees of this bargaining unit who shall retire shall be given the

option to elect to be provided the same hospitalization and dental benefits as those on active duty with the premium to be paid by the village. In the event current employees may be required to share in the premium cost of hospitalization insurance, retirees or widows would not be required to participate in any form of premium cost sharing."

Michael Way, water department supervisor who sits on the pension commission, implored council to sit down for negotiations over the contractual issue.

"I'm also the union vice president and steward, so any contractual issues usually go through me," he said. "I was kind of appalled to find out that there were changes to the contract without negotiations."

Although the vote passed Tuesday, May 19, retirees received notice via letter Friday, June 12, and were told they have to decide whether to opt in or out by July 1.

"We have to take it," David Younk explained. "Under protest, but we have to take it. We have a family. I have to have healthcare."

"This is the community that I bled over," he added, "whether it was fighting

fires or doing CPR on someone at their house or arresting someone who was breaking into a home or whatever you may dream in 30 years that we did and now (the commitment) is not being honored and that's hard."

With the total annual savings coming from the change at approximately \$139,000, the retirees also questioned how much that level of savings would actually help the city.

"It's the liability, it's not the savings," Mayor Ted Kedzierski said in response. "... Our liability was over \$11.2 million. (Mark Manquen, a partner with Manquen Vance, the city's health insurance plan provider) thinks this will drop it by more than \$2 million and if that's the case, then we're nowhere near being on the watch list with the Michigan Department of Treasury, which is overseeing this."

While the city's actuary has been asked to make the official calculation, it was not completed before the vote or the most recent June meeting.

When asked by Kedzierski what they would have the council do, the group of retirees remarked they simply want the city to honor its

commitment. A way to do so via raising taxes also was suggested.

"I've lived in Grosse Pointe Shores for 40 years and I would not mind seeing our taxes raised to cover this," said Gary Mitchell, formerly the Shores' director of public safety.

Councilman Doug Kucyk, the only councilperson to oppose the change, also remarked at the May meeting that it would be fairer to spread the burden across the community rather than place it on 35 people.

"What we did last month was very, very difficult to do," Kedzierski said. "I don't know what word I would use to describe it, but at the end of the day, the seven of us sitting here, we're fiduciaries. It'd be easy to say let's just continue, let's just do it, (but) it's not our money. We could raise taxes. We can raise taxes

and we're probably going to have to raise taxes to support (an upcoming) water and sewer improvement, which was a little bit of a surprise to us."

While a hardship exemption — any retiree who receives an annual pension of less than \$31,225 based on the 2020 federal poverty level is exempt from the 20 percent cost sharing — was built into the changes, only nine of the retirees are eligible.

Many of the 26 others, Deanne Younk said, are unable, due to age or disability, to go back to work to make up the difference of what they are now being expected to contribute.

"Mr. Mayor, a minute ago you spoke about ethics," David Younk said, referring to a council discussion about the creation of an ethics ordinance. "This is not ethical."

VILLAGE:

Continued from page 1A

"The four-point Main Street approach (organization, promotion, design and economic vitality) to revitalizing downtowns is needed even more now than when we applied last December, as businesses are struggling to survive the COVID-19 crisis," City Manager Pete Dame said.

The Grosse Pointe Village Downtown Development Authority, which formed in 2008, will now reorganize into the designated Main Street organization and look to hire a full-time director. The position will be funded through community donations, which will be matched up to \$50,000 by the City.

"Being selected as a Michigan Main Street community is a very

exciting next step for The Village and our DDA," said Andrew Martin, DDA chairman. "This program provides a proven framework and technical assistance needed to help us reenergize our downtown, so that it can continue to be a wonderful destination for shopping, dining and socializing. By design, the Main Street Program relies on a great deal of community participation and support, so anyone interested is encouraged to join the team."

The City began pursuing acceptance into the Main Street Program in mid-2019 and now joins 23 other Michigan communities, such as Howell and Lapeer, as part of the program. These communities saw more than \$19 million in private investment and 109 new businesses in the past year.



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4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

New ULS head coach begins next chapter

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

A new chapter is starting for the University Liggett School girls field hockey team and it has a familiar face as the lead: Amanda Amine.

The 28-year-old Grosse Pointe Shores resident spent the last couple of seasons learning the finer details of coaching from one of the best, Jayant Trewn.

He stepped down as head coach and is now the assistant coach.

"There really wasn't a major driving force or reason. ... Jay just felt it was time I had the label and the athletic department was very supportive," Amine said. "I am very thankful for Jayant Trewn, who has taught me so much about the game of field hockey and bringing me alongside to coach with him two years ago.

"Just because we have now reversed roles, he will still very much be an integral part of our Liggett field hockey program and I couldn't do it without him."

The Knights have been one of the top teams in Division 2 in the Michigan High School Field Hockey Association since Trewn took the helm several years ago.

"I am really looking forward to the upcoming season and I know the girls are as well, especially after the spring season was canceled," Amine said. "We have a lot of fun and can't wait to get out on the field all together.

"I am most excited about our team's depth this season," she added. "We have a very strong group of sophomores that, after having some varsity experience last year, are ready to contribute. Our junior and senior classes were both a part of our state championship-winning season in 2018, and I know they are very hungry and motivated to get back to the top after we fell in the state semifinals last year (to eventual champ Ann Arbor Skyline)."

"Coach Amanda is a 'players' coach,'" Trewn said. "She brings out the best in field hockey players through building trust with each one of them. Having played the game, she can easily pick up struggles that players encounter on and off the field. She leads through passion for her players' success, celebrating every achievement, small and big."

Amine said senior captains Ella Karolak



PHOTO COURTESY OF AMANDA AMINE

Grosse Pointe Shores resident Amanda Amine is the new head coach of the University Liggett School girls field hockey varsity team.

and Delaney Garvey are two of the strongest overall athletes she ever had the privilege of coaching and are true leaders both on and off the field. They both have the ability to take over a game.

"We need to continue to have the tightknit culture that we've had during each of the past few seasons," Amine said. "There's a lot more that goes into our program than just what happens on the field during practices and games and I think that has really paid off for us.

"We've adopted the program motto of 'Trust the Process,'" she continued. "To us, this means you have to put in a lot of hard work before you see the results and the encouragement that we show one another makes all of the difference. We have learned to enjoy and cherish both the ups and the downs that a season brings, as even the tough moments bond us closer together as a team."

She has the full support of the athletic staff at ULS. Amine also is the girls varsity basketball team assistant coach, which she has done the past two winters.

"Amanda has been a wonderful member of the ULS coaching community and we look forward to her taking on the head coaching role for the field hockey program," ULS Athletic Director Alan Parish said. "Amanda and Jayant work together as a great team."

Amine started her coaching career several years ago with the girls CYO basketball squad at Our Lady Star of the Sea and girls lacrosse team at St. Paul Catholic School.

After that, she had a stint at Grosse Pointe South as the varsity and junior varsity head coach from 2012 to 2015, but took the fall of 2016 off.

She was also the girls varsity lacrosse team's assistant coach from 2014 to 2016.

She currently has the same position for the Birmingham Unified team, which is a combination of girls from Seaholm and Groves high schools.

Last year the team made it to the Final Four in Division 1 before losing 20-6 to eventual state champ Rockford.

One of her mentors is Birmingham girls lacrosse head coach Jen Dunbar.

Amine is a graduate of Regina High School. She played four years of basketball and lacrosse.

The school started its field hockey program during her junior year; she played her final two years there, even scoring the first goal in the program's history.

She also played ice hockey her freshman year, varsity golf as a sophomore and was the quarterback on Regina's powderpuff team her senior year.

(Diane Laffey is the best and I learned so much from her," Amine said.

Through thick and thin, one thing Amine has helping her navigate life is an angel guiding her in the right direction. Her mother, Susan, died several years ago.

"I try to model my whole life after her," Amine said.

She also has the total support of her father, Anthony, as well as brothers, Andrew and Charlie.

Andrew lives in Los Angeles and tries to visit as much as possible, while Charlie is in college.

Anthony is always in the stands, cheering on the teams his only daughter coaches.

Practice begins for the ULS field hockey team Wednesday, Aug. 12, with official games starting at the end of August.

CRIME:

Continued from page 3A

the car," Kosanke said. "That's like winning the Lotto for a criminal."

Residents and business operators play a key role in supporting public safety officers by not making it "so easy for them to come into the city," the chief added.

He commended both patrol officers for making arrests and detectives whose work investigating incidents led to closed cases.

Along with crime prevention, the department's officers responded to 243 fires reported in 2019, an 11 percent increase from the previous year's incidents.

Kosanke is cautiously optimistic that next year's annual report also will reflect a reduction in offenses, largely due to uncharacteristic inactivity from health-related business closures and residential quarantine. The department received 1,014 fewer calls about incidents in mid-June 2020 than in mid-June 2019, but Kosanke clarified a previous comment that the early days of community shutdown resembled holiday work levels; even with fewer runs, officers reported for stressful shifts, responding to calls while trying to keep themselves safe, he said.

The 29-person staff of public safety officers and supervisors recently welcomed several furloughed employees back to the department, largely due to careful observation of COVID-19 prevention efforts that have kept officers safe from the virus, Kosanke added.

He noted that the annual report's reduced total crime numbers reflect a year when the department also opened a new jail and collaborated with the other Pointe public safety departments, including purchasing an updated self-contained breathing apparatus with the Farms and Shores.

"We all have the same goal," Kosanke said. "We love the Grosse Pointes and we're trying to keep the crime down to make them a good place to live, work and play."

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POLICE DEPARTMENT
WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN
NOTICE

AUCTION OF IMPOUNDED/ABANDONED VEHICLES

Pursuant to PA 104, an auction will be held on July 8, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. at Woods Towing, located at 22755 Lexington, Eastpointe, MI. The following impounded/abandoned vehicles will be auctioned:

2005 Chrysler Sebring	1C3EL46XX5N550359
2001 Chevy Silverado	1GCEC19V81Z327969
2006 Chevy Impala	2G1WB58K169103667
2009 Chevy Cobalt	1G1AT58H797250867
1999 Mercury Gr. Marquis	2MEFM75W4XX716513
2007 Ford Fusion	3FAHP08117R114021
2003 Mitsubishi Galant	4A3AA46G23E106578
2009 Chevy Traverse	1GNER23D89S112754
2002 Pontiac Grand Am	1G2NW12E42C153327
2002 VW Jetta	3VWSB69M22M120441
2003 Chevy Venture	1GNDX03E43D133658
2011 Subaru Legacy	4S3BMBC60B3218952
2009 Ford Fusion	3FAHP08129R184551
2001 Chevy S-10	1GCCS14561K145164

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

Sgt. Thomas Teatsorth
Traffic Safety Section

POSTED: June 22, 2020
PUBLISHED: June 25, 2020

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

Grosse Pointe News

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6A | OPINION

Grosse Pointe News

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JODY MCVEIGH: Editor

OUR VIEW

Go easy on fireworks

It's become a rite of late spring and early summer, from Memorial Day to the Fourth of July: the almost continuous booming, cracking and sometimes even thundering of fireworks after dusk.

Whether it gets worse each year remains an open question. But surely it seems more annoying in this time of pandemic, with more people home looking for amusement — and fewer people out and about to create other noises that might compete with the reverberations.

At least one media report has dealt with the question of whether birds are singing louder this year, and the conclusion was that they only sound louder because they've got less competition. They may in fact be singing more quietly, as towns and cities are less noisy than they've been probably in decades.

So it may be that this year, the firecrackers just sound louder. And even when they don't, they're still enough to wake up babies and toddlers who've just dozed off, to terrify dogs and to send cats streaking for their hidey-holes.

And all this is happening before what's known, in city ordinance speak, as “consumer fireworks” with visible effects are allowable.

Starting Monday, June 29, the in-air devices become legal for celebrations through the Fourth of July itself. The Pointes probably ain't heard nothing yet.

More to the point, city ordinances deal some with consumer fireworks, but have little to say about so-called low-impact fireworks — those used at ground level — even if they fracture the evening quiet.

If residents want relief, they may need to petition their councils to consider new rules or to try enforcing noise ordinances against particularly flagrant boom-makers. If cars need mufflers per city ordinances, how is it a thunder-like clap and successions of equally loud pops remain unaddressed?

Indeed, using the City of Grosse Pointe's noise ordinances as an example, half the annoying sounds in the universe got listed as nuisances at some point — although they appear not to have gotten much of an update since the time of phonographs. Notably, noises are regulated most strictly between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m., but can be cited at any time if they “annoy or disturb the quiet, comfort or repose ... of any persons in the vicinity.”

So don't try to shout, whistle or sing after 11 p.m. in the City of Grosse Pointe. On the other hand, come Monday, anyone can set off consumer fireworks until 11:45 p.m.

Note that most of the fireworks rules are based on what the Michigan Legislature decides; municipalities have very little maneuvering room.

But there are a few rules for the in-air devices. Most of the cities require staying off public property, as well as private property, without permission. At least one city demands the person setting off fireworks must not use alcohol or other substances. The fine for violations is \$1,000, not a small amount for teenagers blasting away in a school field.

According to one city manager, police officers generally try to resolve the problem if called about a nuisance violation, rather than reverting immediately to enforcement. And nuisance violations can be an erratic tool, wielded as a weapon against minorities and outcasts and not always applied even-handedly.

That shouldn't prevent residents from taking their concerns to their city councils. Perhaps there are ways to better keep to the dates that are permitted for consumer fireworks — even a simple reminder from City Hall might help.

But this year may be one to heed the birds. The quiet may exaggerate the nightly booms. More people are home to get annoyed. There's less to do, so setting off noisemakers rises in the ranks of fun. And, hopefully, come July 5, peace and quiet returns.



Pure Grosse Pointe

Grosse Pointe Farms resident Elizabeth Martin spotted this statue while walking her dog, Charley, on Madison in the Farms. The little guy caught her attention with the variety of colorful and themed masks it has been sporting since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. Being a University of Michigan alumna, she said this mask in particular was photo-worthy.

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.

Racism a public health crisis

To the Editor:

We are living through a period of collective grief and pain, and it will resonate in people's lives for years to come.

Recent killings, violent assaults, 40 million unemployed and over 115,000 dead in the United States from COVID-19 have heightened the mental health trauma that many in our Black community are experiencing. These experiences are not new and have a long history in our wider culture.

However, it is easy to understand the increasing frustration, isolation, anger, grief and despair given the current landscape of our beloved city. James Baldwin said it best in the “Fire Next Time,” “The most dangerous creation of any society is the man who has nothing to lose.”

The leadership team of Northeast Integrated Health doesn't pretend to understand or speculate what you are going through, including the racially motivated injustices that you face daily. NIH is here to listen with empathy, learn, advocate and help.

We are committed to being self-reflective and to having those difficult conversations that will bring about the changes needed within each of us.

The effects of racism and racial trauma on mental health are real and cannot be ignored. Racism is a public health crisis.

NIH is committed to helping eradicate the disparity issues head on as a moral imperative. We have a long history of social justice and community development activities that support inclusion, resilience and racial equity.

Change will take place with time. I believe it will

come quicker now that others are standing in solidarity with a commitment to eradicate systemic racism and with justice resolve all its toxic ills.

NIH has created an advisory Employee Resource Group to engage our employees in dialogue and ensure that everyone in our organization is represented.

Utilizing our best practices and inclusionary policies, we have and will continue to advocate for equality and social change. We will also ensure that the voices of employees at every level of the organization are heard.

SHERRY E. MCRILL
President and CEO
Northeast Integrated Health

Lauri Read responds

To the Editor:

The Grosse Pointe News editorial board decided to write an inaccurate and derogatory piece about me when its own reporter (among others) investigated and determined there was no story.

I can only assume that this was designed to tarnish my reputation and distract from the issues.

It is clear I have struck a nerve with a few voices in the community because I ask questions, demand process and, yes, transparency. I will continue to do so as long as I have the honor of serving the residents of Grosse Pointe Park.

LAURI READ
Grosse Pointe Park City Council Member

Editor's note: The letter writer is incorrect. The Grosse Pointe News did not determine there was no story regarding Ms. Read. We merely decided the revelations regarding Ms. Read were best handled by an editorial.

Disappointed

To the Editor:

I was disappointed to see the editorial board write a negative and distracting (editorial) titled “Transparency in the Park?”

The story discredits itself by its own words, stating that Mayor Denner and the city attorney reviewed and confirmed no conflict of interest.

Lauri Read has advocated for accountability, transparency and good governance. Ms. Read's steadfast, ethical leadership is desperately needed in Grosse Pointe Park, and gossip pieces, like the one you ran, only serve to further divide.

MICHELLE BUSUITO
Grosse Pointe Park

Sunshine needed

To the Editor:

Last week's “Our View: Transparency in the Park?” was a welcome report on the Park council's backroom intrigue. Thanks for digging into the facts.

What has seen little reporting is the billing cycle practice followed by Councilwoman Lauri Read's law firm. The twice-per-month billing — which came to light through documents obtained by FOIA requests — has avoided compliance with the practice of obtaining council approval of bills in excess of \$5,000. Bills of lesser amounts are routinely handled by the administration.

For example during February 2018, billing apparently would have exceeded that threshold, but bill splitting avoided review by council and kept the conflict of interest out of public view.

Surprisingly, Councilwoman Aimee Fluit scolded Councilman Dan Grano for raising the issue during the recorded May 18 council meeting after he called for posting all expenditures online for the public to see.

Although the matter had been privately reviewed by the administration and city attorney who concluded no further action was necessary, I commend Mr.

Grano for advocating for more “sunshine” as the best policy when these types of things arise.

JAY HACKLEMAN
Grosse Pointe Parks

Editor's note: Ms. Read maintains the twice-per-month billing was requested by the city administration.

Ms. Read a victim?

To the Editor:

The American legal system and vast numbers of those licensed are seldom examples of fairness, equity and integrity. The American legal system has become far too predatory and it is destructive to America.

Often it involves a frivolous claim to be a victim. (Lauri) Read claims she is victim of the city attorney. This reveals what is just the beginning of her tenure on the Grosse Pointe Park City Council.

JAMES BEDSWORTH
Grosse Pointe Park

Why Zoom?

To the Editor:

When will the local government meetings be required to hold open meetings for residents to attend in person?

Slowly but surely the state is opening up, including the fact that Gov. Whitmer attended a protest march; yet local government meetings are still utilizing Zoom to broadcast their meetings.

Not everyone has a computer. There are a number of citizens who are not familiar with computers. There are those who do not have anyone to teach them how to utilize Zoom.

I understand that a meeting on YouTube is easier to utilize than other programs such as Zoom. If correct, why did the city choose the harder of the two programs?

A week ago I contacted my state senator and have yet to hear from his office; maybe someone can provide an update when open meetings must be truly open again to the public.

MARGARET POTTER
Grosse Pointe Woods

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I SAY By John Minnis

Georgia on my mind



With the controversy surrounding Confederate statues and monuments in the news lately, I have had Georgia on my mind. More specifically, Stone Mountain, Ga.

Near the beginning of my journalism career,

Terry had a chance to take a per diem job with General Motors in Atlanta. Since I was only in my second year at my first newspaper job, I figured what the heck, I'll look for a reporter's position in Atlanta.

And I found one, quickly, with the Neighbor Newspapers based out of Marietta, north of Atlanta. I was first hired as a reporter in Rockdale County in the sticks west of Atlanta, one county away from where the "Dukes of Hazzard"

was shot.

The hardest part was conducting interviews, what with our accents and all. I was only there a short time before the editor was fired and I became "it." A few months after that, an opening for an associate editor in Marietta became available, and I jumped at the chance to get back to civilization.

As associate editor I was responsible for overseeing, editing and d u m m y i n g the Rockdale paper, as well as a handful of zoned weeklies in neighbor-

ing DeKalb County.

One of the DeKalb papers was the Stone Mountain Neighbor, and the newspaper's office sat in the shadow of — you guessed it — Stone Mountain.

Though technically called a "quartz monzonite dome monadnock" (my former geology professor Ken Van Dellen in Grosse Pointe Park would know all about this stuff), Stone Mountain is a huge rock sticking out of the ground — 825 feet, in fact, and more than five miles around at its

base. You can walk the trail to the top, which I have done, or take a cable car.

Owned and operated as a "memorial to the Confederacy" by the state of Georgia, Stone Mountain's signature feature is the largest bas-relief in the world, featuring Jefferson Davis, Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson on horseback. A school bus could hitch a ride behind the riders.

Stone Mountain is Georgia's top tourist attraction. We visited it several times and even took "Yankee" visitors from back home to see it and take in the nightly laser light show with Lee Greenwood's "God

Bless the USA" blasting into the night.

Even back then in the mid-1980s, I felt somewhat guilty going there and celebrating what is basically the legacy of slavery, sedition and Jim Crow. I mean, Stone Mountain park opened on the 100th anniversary of President Lincoln's assassination.

And, yes, we ran into a lot of racist talk about how Southern Blacks are different than Northern Blacks, etc.

We won't be going back to Stone Mountain, but I wonder: How does one tear down a Confederacy monument that is a mountain?

YESTERDAY'S HEADLINES

1945

75 years ago this week

WAR DECLARED ON SPEEDERS: There has been a noticeable step-up both in fast driving and in the number of cars on the streets in recent weeks. The increased speeding began to be noticed immediately after V-E Day. Many persons seemed to take it for granted the real war was over and started to lift the speed lid. When the increase in gas allowance on the A coupons came around last week this confirmed the view of many and the traffic problem went up several points.

COOPERATION ASKED TO HALT

THIEVERY: Chief Henry W. Piel of the Park village requests better cooperation on the part of the public in preventing the thievery that has been evident at the village beach lately. Many little groups going there with basket picnics take off their outer garments and lay them on the picnic ground tables with their bags containing their purses under the clothing. Certain light-fingered youngsters have learned of this practice and have been stealing the purses.

1970

50 years ago this weeks

SCHOOLS JOIN YOUTH SERVICE: The

Grosse Pointe Board of Education approved participation in the newly formed Youth Service Division by a vote of 5-1. With this approval, the Youth Service Division should be operational by Aug. 1. The purpose of the YSD is to prevent delinquency among Pointe youth through development of programs that will provide young people with a more positive attitude toward society and the law.

PAY HIKE RATIFIED: The Grosse Pointe Farms Police Officers Association and Farms city officials, with the able services of State Mediator Leon Cornfield, settled police wage negotiations. The Farms is the first Pointe to reach accord. The members of the asso-

ciation ratified a two-year contract, which becomes effective July 1. The contract calls for an annual wage of \$11,200 for the first year, \$12,000 for the second year.

Obituaries: Ray M. Stinnet, Dr. Watson Beach, Florence Cunningham, Arthur C. Phillips

1995

25 years ago this week

JUDGE FAVORS WOODS IN CONDO REZONE: After several city council and planning commission meetings and one hearing before a Wayne County circuit court judge, a condominium development at the corner of Vernier and Morningside can finally proceed. The development, which was

approved by the Woods city council in April, is not without its detractors. Opponents claim the 11-unit project will add to the area's density.

NO WATER WORRIES: While most of metro Detroit suffers from the heat and the resulting strain on water resources caused by the weather, the City of Grosse Pointe and Grosse Pointe Farms are all wet. Because the Farms has its own water processing center, it can supply all of its residents' water needs without resorting to rationing. The Farms also supplies water to the City of Grosse Pointe.

Obituaries: Olivia Mandel, Gerald Harry Emil Luedtke, Emidio DiBartolomeo, Frank A. Hilgendorf, Anna Fletcher Golding, Maureen Kent, Arvid Jouppi, Marilyn Ann Coticchio, Phyllis Rice Hecker, Joyce Martin,

Gretchen Kanter Murray

2010

10 years ago this week

REDBIRDS WIN STATE CROWN: The Grosse Pointe Redbirds 15s team won a state championship last month, beating the South Farmington Blue, 4-0. In the title game, University Liggett School's Connor Fannon earned the win, pitching the first five innings, while Grosse Pointe South's Jack Doyle pitched a perfect sixth and seventh innings to get the save and chipped in with a run-scoring single.

Obituaries: Justine Clarkin, Carol Hay Griffin, Richard T. Allor, Bernhard Stroh IV, Meredith Haddad Wells, Evelyn Ruth Wexstten

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School district prepares to reopen buildings

By Mary Anne Brush
Staff Writer

Like all school districts across the state, the Grosse Pointe Public School System is preparing to reopen school buildings for the 2020-21 school year, while awaiting Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's June 30 recommendations.

In a June 18 announcement, Whitmer indicated "she is fully prepared to open schools in the fall," Deputy Superintendent for Human Resources and Educational Services and Jon Dean said at the June 22 regular meeting of the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education.

Dean presented an update on a task force, composed of GPPSS staff, "brought together to thoughtfully plan for a safe and effective return to school for the fall of 2020."

The Reopening Task Force Committee will provide recommendations to be reviewed by the community and implemented as needed in August.

Members of the task force steering committee are Dean, who serves as chairman; Maureen Bur, director of secondary education; Moussa Hamka, Grosse Pointe South High School principal; Stefanie Hayes, director of student services; Keith Howell, director of pre-k through grade 4 instruction; Amanda Matheson, deputy superintendent of business operations;

School Buildings Not Open	Partial Open "Hybrid" (w/ safety precautions in place)	Fully Open "New Normal" (w/ safety precautions in place)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-person instruction is prohibited and/or delayed for the start of the 2020/21 school year Teaching and learning will begin remotely 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blend of in-person attendance and remote instruction Alternate part-time in person schedules to limit the number of students in a classroom/address social distancing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All students in attendance 180 days/1,098 hours Pivot to short-term closures if required

Kate Murray, Grosse Pointe North High School principal; and Nicole Pilgrim, director of human resources.

The plan, Dean said, is based on the understanding COVID-19 has created a high degree of uncertainty and anxiety; information changes daily, with new information challenging previously held beliefs and informing the committee's actions; and many decisions will be made for the school district by governmental agencies.

The plan includes three possible scenarios: ♦ School buildings do not open and in-person instruction is prohibited and/or delayed for the start of the 2020-21 school year, with teaching and learning taking place remotely.

♦ School buildings are fully open with safety precautions in place and all students in attendance for 180 days or 1,098 hours, with an option to pivot to short-term closures if needed.

♦ Schools are partially open with a blend of in-

person attendance and remote instruction, with alternate part-time person schedules to limit the number of students in a classroom and address social distancing.

Regardless of the learning scenario, "GPPSS will need to be nimble with the learning approach to best serve all students," Dean said.

The district also will need to be prepared to serve some students in a remote setting if permitted by the Michigan Department of Education.

A 22-person safety committee, co-chaired by Hamka and Pilgrim, has been formed to develop measures to mitigate safety risks for staff and students in accordance with governmental agencies; create social distancing guidelines for instructional spaces, offices and other areas; recommend changes to student and staff behaviors needed to mitigate safety risks; create a plan for enforcement of personal protection equipment use; identify

resources needed to keep people safe; create educational materials including signage, tutorials and posters; design daily, weekly and hourly plans for cleaning and disinfecting; and update, document and publish COVID-19 procedures.

An 18-person structure committee, co-chaired by Bur and Howell, will identify structures, by

level, that can be implemented if non-face-to-face schooling is needed; identify schedules and mechanics to provide schooling to students when not in school; identify technology needs; tackle typical school structures like schedules, passing periods, lunch and recess; account for students who are 100 percent remote in a hybrid or face-to-face environment; and identify a transition plan between school phases.

A 20-person learning committee, co-chaired by Murray and Hayes, will identify best practices for online instruction and assessment; recommend course/content delivery methods that account for the specific needs of students; identify methods to systematize and maximize student learning when

outside of a face-to-face environment; identify the best effective course structures, instructional methods and accompanying tech tools for Schoology, the district's learning management system; identify appropriate instructional methods for different potential learning structures; and create professional learning resources and recommendations.

The goal is for the task force to publish its preliminary recommendations for stakeholder feedback and conduct community and staff listening sessions in mid to late July. In late July to early August, it will present its recommendations to the Board of Education, to be finalized and shared with the community following board review.

Head Start seeks new location

By Mary Anne Brush
Staff Writer

The Head Start preschool program, operated at Poupard Elementary School in Harper Woods since 2012, is seeking to relocate to Ferry Elementary School in Grosse Pointe Woods or Trombly Elementary School in Grosse Pointe Park for the 2020-21 school year due to Poupard's closure.

The updated memorandum of understanding to relocate the Head Start program, in the fifth year of a five-year grant cycle, is between the Grosse Pointe Public School System and the Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency.

The agency's location preference, according to Deputy Superintendent of Business Operations Amanda Matheson, is Trombly, but classroom availability is pending a decision by the Board of Education whether to approve a one-year early childhood pilot program at Trombly for the 2020-21 school year. That vote was tabled until the special meeting of the board Monday, June 29, due to changes made to a proposed resolution.

"In the event that the board decides not to run the (early childhood center) at Trombly, then

they would ask that we approve the (memo of understanding) for them to operate one year at Ferry," Matheson said at the June 22 regular meeting of the board, held virtually. "What we are doing is simply fulfilling the fifth year of their five-year grant cycle so they have this one more year — the 2020-21 school year — remaining in their five-year grant cycle, at which time they have to reapply to continue to offer their Head Start programming and would talk to us again at that point in time as to what classrooms and locations they would like to offer within our district."

A motion to table approval of the program until the special meeting Monday, June 29 — coinciding with the vote on the Trombly early childhood center — passed 7-0.

Head Start is funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to provide preschool, socialization and family support services to low-income and disabled children and their families. It is a collaborative effort between Wayne Metro Community Action Agency and its grantee, Wayne County Health and Human Services.

Enrollment preference will be given to families with 4-year-old children

who reside in Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods school districts and who meet Wayne Metro Head Start federal program eligibility guidelines, according to the memo of agreement.

Wayne Metro will provide all educational materials and equipment for classroom use except for anything donated by the school, such as books, shelves, tables, etc. A room also will be available for parent and staff meetings. The school district must also provide "in-kind" services — utilities, water, custodial, etc.

GPPSS will provide classroom space, the school gym for an hour two days a week at a minimum and the kindergarten playground for daily use on a mutually agreeable schedule.

The agency will work with GPPSS to ensure the space provided meets state licensing regulations and Head Start health and safety performance standards, with any necessary modifications or improvements for licensing made by Wayne Metro and only after the school district's approval.

After rejecting the federally funded program 4-2 in June 2011, the school board voted 6-0 in favor of Head Start in March 2012, according to meeting minutes.

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2-3B OBITUARIES | 4B DINING & ENTERTAINMENT | 5-6B CLASSIFIEDS

Kerby Field facelift just in time for Little League season

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

The Grosse Pointe Farms-City Little League season kicked off this week at a newly refurbished Kerby Field.

A plan to renovate began to form at the end of last season.

“We as a league, when we’ve gone to district tournaments and state tournaments, we see other Little Leagues with these big, grand facilities where they can host tournaments and make the experience great for families,” said Jay Ricci, president of the Farms-City Little League. “We saw that opportunity at Kerby, with four fields that are different sizes, to get our community on the map and make our entire Little League experience better.”

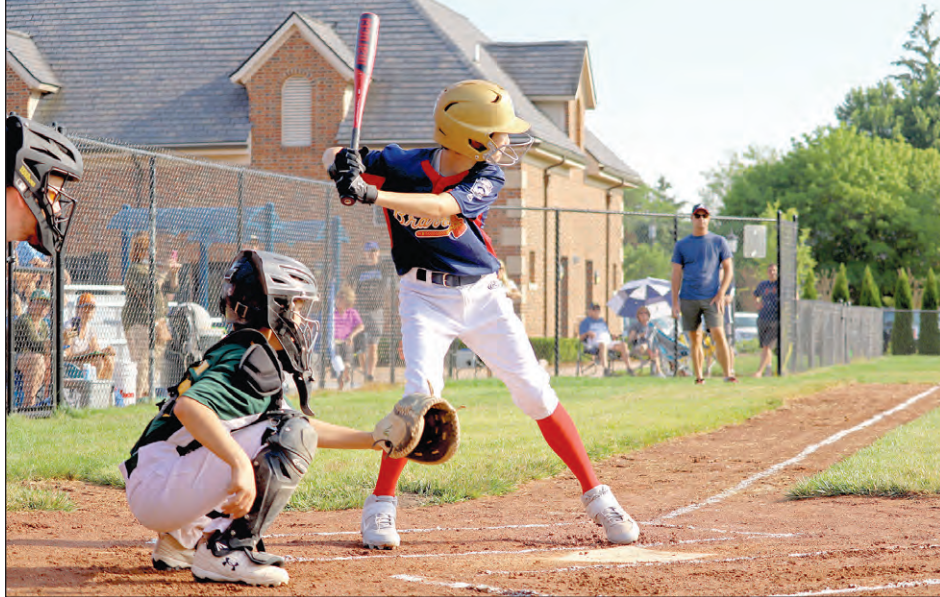


PHOTO BY JACK RYAN

The Braves and the Athletics kicked off the Majors Division season at Kerby Field Monday night.

With support from the city and its foundation, and after securing a single large donation, a cap-

ital campaign for the remainder of the project began.

The upgrades include new dugouts and press boxes, brick pavers in the common area with new picnic tables, improved infields on the baseball diamonds, cement walkways around the whole complex — “which makes it easier to maneuver between the fields,” Ricci said — and improved batting cages.

Backer Landscaping was the lead contractor. “We did everything from landscaping to the

parking lot to the fence down Kerby to the concessions grill, which we can’t use this season because of restrictions,” Ricci said.

“We were able to put together most of it by the start of the season,” he added, noting a punch list of remaining items likely will be completed after the shortened season.

Teams will play just 10 to 12 games this summer, with the season ending July 31, Ricci said.

While the amenities at Kerby were not in bad shape, the Little League



DRONE PHOTOS BY JACK RYAN/SKYVIEW AERIAL PRODUCTIONS

Bird’s eye views of the upgrades at Kerby Field.

board wanted to create an atmosphere where players and fans could better enjoy their experience at the fields.

“Our community is a big Little League community,” Ricci said. “In a lot of towns in Michigan, kids are getting away from Little League and doing more travel baseball. We’re one community that has maintained Little League, with not as many kids leaving to play travel ball. They want to play with their friends,

with the kids they go to school with, close to home. It’s a social event. ... If we can provide a better experience for those kids and families for decades to come, then we’ve done our jobs.”

The capital campaign still is active and different donation levels are accepted. For information or to make a donation, visit grossepointebaseball.com. Project organizers plan to create a “wall of fame” for those who donated.



Players and their families were able to enjoy the new amenities at Kerby Field Monday night.

Small but mighty Club relocates honeybees

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

The Three Mile Hives Club may only have three members, but the passion they have for their work speaks volumes.

Grosse Pointe Park residents Ray and Melissa Arondoski started the Three Mile Hives Club around five years ago. Neighbor Jody Corbett also is a member.

“At any given time, we have five hives in our backyard, depending on

how many swarms we catch,” Melissa Arondoski said. “We’re all about the conservation of honeybees.”

Recently, the Arondoskis put their skills to use relocating an active hive after storms and high winds felled the tree in which it was housed on Three Mile Drive.

The couple, with help from friend and Bees in the D founder Brian Peterson-Roest, extracted the hive from the tree and

relocated the bees to Core Orchards Detroit.

“We were driving home and saw that a tree was down,” Arondoski said. “I looked over and saw bees everywhere. ... There was a huge stump by the road with an active hive in it. We were geeked right away.”

Acting fast, the team went to work.

“The last thing I wanted was for the city to come by with insecticide and then have the stump chopped up,” Arondoski said. “It was a Sunday, so there was a rush of urgency.”

Arondoski said after inspecting the situation, they had to figure out how to get the queen out of the hive, because, “If you don’t get her, you don’t have the hive,” she said.

“We tried smoking them out, where you block one end of the stump and fill the stump with smoke,” she continued. “It worked; it got them out, but we didn’t know if we had seen the queen yet.”

After the majority of the bees were out of the



PHOTOS BY JACK RYAN

A hive of bees was relocated from this tree, which was knocked down in a recent storm.

hive, a chainsaw was used to open the stump so they could see how big of a hive they were dealing with. It wasn’t huge, Arondoski said, but the queen had laid eggs and there were different stages of honey in the hive. Soon after, Peterson-Roest “stumbled upon the queen,” she said. “He put her in a queen clip, which keeps her safe.”

The queen was slipped into the bottom of a nuc box, or temporary hive, which was left open overnight so the queen could lure in the bees by releasing pheromones. By morning, the new hive was full and the rescue

team was able to transport it to Core Orchards.

This wasn’t the first project in which the Three Mile Hives Club and Bees in the D have acted together. While they are separate organizations, they help each other when needed, Arondoski said, noting her husband is on the Bees in the D board.

Arondoski said she’s always been interested in beekeeping. Partly, she believes it is fate; “Melissa” in Greek means “honeybee.” But the interest also was fostered by friends, one of whom Arondoski assisted in a honey harvest.

“After that, I was hooked,” she said.

Additionally, a friend’s beekeeping father, Norm Herbert, helped mentor the couple.

“It was fun to learn from him,” Arondoski said. “He basically said, ‘I’m going to put hives in your backyard. ... He put one of his there and we got one of our own.’”

During the years, beekeeping has become a “full-time hobby” for the duo, who work on their hives at least once a week.

Their two daughters also have gotten accus-

See BEES, page 4B



Members of the Three Mile Hives Club left a note with the stump to warn passersby of the active hive while they hatched a plan to catch its inhabitants.

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OBITUARIES

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

Frank J. Moran

Grosse Pointe Shores resident Frank J. Moran, M.D., passed away peacefully Saturday, June 6, 2020, at home with his family by his side. He was born March 21, 1932, in Detroit, to Frank P. and Mary Clarice Moran.

Frank is survived by his beloved wife, Katherine; nieces and nephews, Dr. Henry G. Bryan (Holly), Dr. Mary Lynn Moran, Dr. Michael F. Moran (Diane), Christa M. Roy, U.S. Army Chief Warrant Officer 2 Troy P. Kosal (Dr. Linda), Linda E. Moran and Michelle Fierens (Louis); and several grand-nieces and grand-nephews. Frank was predeceased by his siblings, Joan J. Bryan and John S. Moran. Of a kind and generous nature to a fault, Frank will be greatly missed by family and friends.

Frank attended McFarlane Elementary School and Mackenzie High School. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Wayne State University College of Liberal Arts in 1953. A graduate of Wayne State University Medical School in 1964, Frank interned at Mount Carmel Mercy Hospital from 1956 to 1957; his residency was at Kresge Eye Institute and Detroit Receiving Hospital from 1959 to 1961. A board-certified ophthalmologist, Frank practiced in the Fisher Building and more than 30 years in the Livonia clinic he built. He was associated with St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia and Jennings Memorial and Hutzel Women's hospitals in Detroit. Frank volunteered his medical experience in Sierra Leone, Haiti, India and Africa before he retired.

Frank had a newspaper route in Detroit at age 10. He was an early entrepreneur several summers on the farm owned and operated by his family since 1840 in Maidstone, Ontario, Canada, where he harvested and sold vegetables grown on the farm. Frank's lifelong interest in classical music began about the same time; he took violin lessons at age 8. In high school, Frank played trombone in a band of fellow students and performed at proms and local musical events.

He and Katherine loved the arts; they supported the Detroit Institute of Arts, Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Michigan Opera Theatre and the Hilberry and Bonstelle theaters. They especially enjoyed drives to Ontario, Canada, where they attended theater productions in Stratford and Niagara-on-the-Lake. The couple's favorite destinations for art auctions and cultural events were New York City and London, England.

An avid and expert skier, Frank skied any slope — especially moguls — in Aspen, Colo., Boyne Mountain and the Alps in Italy and France. Frank also

indulged in gardening, golf and boating. He participated in several Detroit Free Press marathons in which he finished "he also ran."

Visitation takes place at 9:30 a.m. Monday, June 29, at VanLerberghe Funeral Home, 30600 Harper, St. Clair Shores, followed by a funeral Mass at 10:30 a.m. at St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church, 21201 13 Mile, St. Clair Shores.

Donations in Frank's memory may be made to Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society, 296 Chalfonte Ave., Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236.

Share memories with the family at vanfuneral.com.

Barbara A. Lock

Former longtime Grosse Pointe Woods resident Barbara "Bonnie" A. Lock passed away Thursday, June 18, 2020, at home in Traverse City. She was born May 7, 1941, in Kenosha, Wis., to Dr. C.G. "Brownie" and Harriet (nee French) Browne.

Bonnie had a bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan and earned a master's degree from Wayne State University while she taught school full time and raised two children.

An elementary school teacher in the Grosse Pointe Public School System nearly 25 years, Bonnie mostly taught at Maire Elementary School.

Bonnie and Carrol moved to Traverse City when given the opportunity of early retirement; for the past 25 years, they enjoyed hosting friends and family at their home, traveling around the U.S. and the world, the beauty of the greater Traverse City area and volunteering at the Old Mission Women's Club, First Congregational Church and Traverse City Visitor Center.

Bonnie always enjoyed getting to know a variety of people, learning about new places, playing bridge and exploring the world on travel adventures.

She is survived by her husband of 38 years, Carrol C. Lock; children, Tracy Thompson and Don Thompson (Angela); Carrol's surviving children, Sue Marcus (Jay), Pat Atkins (Fred), Christine Kageff (Jerry), Dave Lock (Maria), Tim Lock (Sara), Richard Lock (Mary Beth), Daniel Lock (Chellie) and Martha Lock; other family members and many friends.

Bonnie's children express their gratitude to nurses and aides at Advisacare and Hospice of Michigan for the compassionate care given to Bonnie, as well as the support given to the family.

A memorial service will be held this fall.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to First Congregational Church,

6105 Center Rd, Traverse City, MI 49686, or at fcctc.org.

Share thoughts and memories with the family on Bonnie's tribute page at reynolds-jonkhoff.com.

Arrangements were entrusted to Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Traverse City.

Ted Bidigare

Former Grosse Pointe Woods City Manager Ted Bidigare, 77, passed away Monday, June 8, 2020, at his home in St. Clair Shores. He was born Jan. 10, 1943, in Detroit, to Frank and Melva Bidigare.

A Purple Heart recipient for his selfless service to the United States, Ted proudly served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War. He attended high school at Austin Catholic Preparatory School in Detroit and earned a bachelor's degree from John Carroll University in Ohio. Ted formed and fostered relationships during high school, military service and college that he maintained throughout life.

Ted held many management positions before he proudly served as city manager of Grosse Pointe Woods. He is remembered as an asset to the city and surrounding communities.

In retirement, Ted enjoyed travel. He made many reunion trips to visit college and Army friends, flew to Florida to spend time with some of his closest friends and traveled to Warsaw, Poland, where he spent time with his brother, Fred. Ted looked forward to regular lunches with his Austin classmates, played poker — though not very well — with friends at The Helm and went to the movies with Jerry on Tuesdays to take advantage of the free popcorn.

Ted's post-retirement job as his grandchildren's "Nanny," a title he gave himself, was one of his favorites. Time spent with his grandchildren was important to Ted and he loved every minute.

Ted was the beloved husband of the late Georgie, who passed away in 2010 after 38 years united in love and marriage. He was the loving father to Ted Jr. (Kelley) and dear grandfather to Jack and Meghan. Ted also is survived by his siblings, Frederick and Tom (Kathy). His family said Ted touched many hearts and surely will be missed.

A commendation service took place Saturday, June 13, at First English Evangelical Lutheran Church, Grosse Pointe Woods. A committal service will take place at a later date at Arlington National Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Ted's family to offset costs of the committal service.

Share a thought or memory with the family at ahpeters.com.



Frank J. Moran



Barbara A. Lock



Ted Bidigare



Diana L. McMahon



Diana D. Marshall



Renee Kaleth Hughes

Diana Leonard McMahon

Former longtime Grosse Pointe Park resident Diana Leonard McMahon died Friday, June 12, 2020, in New Haven, Conn., with her family at her side. She was 81.

Diana was born Oct. 14, 1938, in Norwalk, Conn., to Elizabeth and Arthur Leonard Jr. She was raised in Bethel, Conn., with her twin sister, Pamela, and younger siblings, Arthur and Ann.

Diana attended Noroton Academy in Noroton, Conn., where she met her future husband, Brian James McMahon, of Danbury, Conn. She and Brian married in February 1959. Diana raised their first son, Christopher, while Brian attended Yale Law School. Diana and Brian moved to St. Clair Shores in 1962, and to Grosse Pointe Park shortly thereafter. Their daughter, Meghan, was born in 1965, and their son, Cullen, in 1975. Brian and Diana moved from their home on Whittier Road to Old Saybrook, Conn., in 1993.

A lifelong tennis fan, Diana taught herself to play at Lakeshore Village in St. Clair Shores and at Detroit's Indian Village Tennis Club. Some of her happiest days were spent competing with friends on the courts at Windmill Pointe Park, where she perfected her famed "windshield wiper" volleys and taught her children to play and love tennis.

Off the tennis court, Diana was a skilled collector and innovative restorer of 19th and 20th century wood furniture. From her beloved home workshop, she meticulously refurbished and repurposed countless pieces. A dull and dirty carpenter's workbench became a gleaming sideboard; a rusted cast iron highway stanchion emerged as a gloriously detailed dictionary stand base; an encrusted factory cart was transformed to a beautifully functional coffee table. Her vision and creativity astonished her family.

Diana also was a gifted and tireless photographer. From her acquisition of a Brownie Hawkeye camera as a young girl, a camera seemed an extension of her hand. She first printed her own black and white photos at home, moved on to medium format and finally adapted to digital

photography. Her ability to capture family and friends in candid, spontaneous moments created a collection of priceless images. It was one of her greatest joys in life to give these images to her many grateful subjects.

Diana will most be remembered for the dedication she showed to her children and grandchildren. She loved, celebrated and immersed herself in their passions of tennis, hockey, swimming, theater, travel, writing, basketball, motorcycle rides, Halloween parties, novels, dogs, movies, dancing, wood fires in winter and all things Yale. Her kindness and interest in her children will never be forgotten.

Diana is survived by her husband, Brian, of Old Saybrook, Conn.; sister, Ann Prout, of Deep River, Conn.; children, Christopher (Marsha Ladomer), of Dearborn; Meghan (David Swensen), of Madison, Conn.; and Cullen (Anne-Marie Peterson), of Greenwich, Conn.; and grandchildren, Eamonn and Galen Smith and Katherine, Julia and James McMahon.

A family memorial service will be held later this summer in Connecticut.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Dr. Roy Herbst Fund at giving.yale.edu/supportRoyHerbstFund.

Diana D. Marshall

Former Grosse Pointe Farms resident Diana D. Marshall, of Gurnee, Ill., died at home Saturday, June 20, 2020. She was 92. The fourth oldest of her five siblings, Anita, Abel, Idio, Silvio and Norma, she was born Sept. 6, 1927, to Frank and Assunta "Susie" (nee Tarsia) Tabacchini.

Diana was predeceased by her loving husband, Cyril K. Marshall, and daughter-in-law, Juli Wilson Marshall, the mother of four of her grandchildren. She is survived by her loving sons, James Marshall (Lisa) and Robert Marshall (Mary Frances Greene) and seven grandchildren.

Diana grew up on Detroit's east side and lived all but her last two years in Michigan. An athletic young woman, she was voted "Most Popular Girl Athlete" by her high school senior class and was a compet-

itive roller-skater.

Diana felt restless in mid-1950s Detroit, so she and a friend traveled to California. She informed her mother she would stay in California a week, but instead stayed a year. Diana worked at various administrative jobs to fund her travels; she lived in Pasadena, San Francisco and Seattle. She and her friend convinced a new acquaintance to drive them to Alaska, which was not a U.S. state at the time. She returned by air to California, her first plane flight, seated next to actor Pat O'Brien. Her other travels as a single woman included pre-embargo Cuba, Mexico and most of the U.S.

Diana returned to Michigan and married Cyril in 1957. Her wanderlust days past, she was a devoted wife and mother.

A private service will be held at a later date.

For information, contact Wenban Funeral Home, Lake Forest, Ill., at (847) 234-0022, or online at wenbanfh.com.

Renee Kaleth Hughes

Renee Kaleth Hughes, 94, died peacefully Tuesday, May 19, 2020. Born in Chicago, Renee graduated from Northwestern University and was a member of Zeta Tau Alpha sorority.

A teacher in Detroit Public Schools, Renee was a member of American Association of Women, Sorority Panhellenic Association and Northwestern Alumni Group. She also was a former Henry Ford Cottage Hospital volunteer.

Renee was the loving mother of Gary Hughes, Todd Hughes and Kimberly Miller (Fred); grandmother of eight; and great-grandmother of 12. She was predeceased by her brother, Robert Kaleth.

Funeral services will be held at noon Wednesday, July 1, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, Grosse Pointe Farms.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Solanus Casey Center, 1780 Mt. Elliott, Detroit, MI 48207; or donate online at solanuscenter.org.

OBITS:

Continued from page 2B

William Howard Griffith

Grosse Pointe Farms resident William Howard Griffith died Tuesday, June 16, 2020. Bill was born Feb. 5, 1924, in Saginaw, to Howard Dixon Griffith and Adelaide Griffith.

A 1942 graduate of Grosse Pointe High School, Bill enlisted in the U.S. Navy and was accepted to the Naval V-12 Officers' Training program at the University of Michigan, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering. Bill continued his education after discharge from the Navy and graduated from the University of Michigan Law School.

Bill met the love of his life, Connie Nester, in 1944, at the Ann Arbor train station. The couple was happily married more than 72 years.

Bill had a successful career as a patent attorney. He retired at age 83 from the intellectual property law firm of Reising Ethington. A 70-year member of the State Bar of Michigan, he also was a past president of the Michigan Patent Law Association.

Bill enjoyed many close friendships throughout life. He was a 50-year member of Country Club of Detroit and a member of Stuart Yacht and Country Club in Florida. He was athletic and a lifelong golf and tennis player.

Bill is survived by his beloved wife, Connie; loving children, Joan Drummy, Susan Royer (Chuck), Mary Fay Kattman (Michael) and Tom Griffith (Liz); and daughter-in-law, Debbie

Griffith. He was the proud grandfather of 10 and several great-grandchildren. Bill was predeceased by his son, Bill Griffith Jr. and son-in-law, Larry Drummy.

Bill was a kind, generous man with a wonderful sense of humor. He treasured his many friends and loved his family above all else. He will be deeply missed.

A celebration of his life will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Red Cross or a charity of the donor's choice.

Arrangements were entrusted to A.H. Peters Funeral Home, Grosse Pointe Woods. Share a memory at ahpeters.com.

Ignatios John Voudoukis, M.D.

Grosse Pointe Farms resident Ignatios John Voudoukis, M.D., passed away peacefully Wednesday, June 17, 2020, at home surrounded by love. He was born July 8, 1927, in Skalahori, Lesvos, Greece, to Hristonimfi (nee Hatzilia) and John Voudoukis.

Ignatios is survived by his daughter, Chris Ann Roncone (Nick); grandchildren, Olivia and Willow; sister, Angela Papamichalakis (Panagiotti); nieces, Christina Halkodemon (Yianni) and Zina Samaklis (George); nephew, Andreas Papamichalakis (Jenny); and great-nieces and great-nephews in Greece.

Ignatios grew up in Greece. He was well known for the high grades he earned in school as a child. A pre-medical school student in Mytilini, Ignatios attended 10 years of medical school in Athens,

where he also served in the Greek Army. He traveled to New York City as an exchange student in 1955.

Ignatios completed his internship at Memorial Hospital in Albany, N.Y., and his residency at Hahnemann Medical College in Philadelphia, Pa. In his last year of residency, he was a founding member of the Association of Hypertension and Cardiovascular Disease. A recipient of fellowships in cardiology and research at the University of Miami and Jackson Memorial Hospital in Florida, Ignatios conducted an original study on blood thinners as blood clot thinning agents and was first to use enzymes to dissolve blood clots; this premier study was published in the American Journal of Cardiology.

Serving as a research fellow in cardiology and renal physiology in Montreal, Canada, Ignatios attended the wedding of a Greek acquaintance where he met his future wife, Penny Christakos. After a whirlwind and spicy courtship conducted by post, Ignatios and Penny married in 1962. The couple adopted their daughter, Chris Ann, in 1967, the same year Ignatios opened his medical practice on Woodward in Detroit, joined Hutzell Hospital as chief of hypertension, Harper Hospital and Wayne State Medical School as a clinical professor.

Ignatios, Penny and Chris Ann moved to Grosse Pointe Park in 1971. The family was involved in the local Greek community and were forerunners in presenting Detroit Greek culture to local, national and world communities.



William H. Griffith



Dr. Ignatios J. Voudoukis



Valentine Temrowski Jr.

A founding member of the Hellenic Society of the Performing Arts, Ignatios also was an advisor, board member and financier of the organization. Together with their friend Mary Ball, Ignatios and Penny also were instrumental in establishing the first Detroit Riverfront Ethnic Festivals.

An active preservationist of his Hellenic heritage, Ignatios served as president of the Hellenic University Club and was among founding members of the Modern Greek Association at WSU, Hellenic Heritage Society and Hellenic Museum of Michigan. He also was a member of the American Hellenic Congress and a 45-year member and supporter of the Advisors Council of the International Institute. An active parishioner at Assumption Greek Orthodox Church, Ignatios led and supported events that benefited the parish and community at large.

While Ignatios will be remembered for his achievements, his family recalls him as the kindest father, Papou and friend. He was the bringer of balloons, baklava and grand entrances to each grandchild's birthday; peacemaker in arguments between couples and friends; and the man everyone knew was inca-

pable of saying a disparaging word of anyone. His family also recalls that Ignatios never used a bad word; literally could not hurt a fly; always had a smile; went out of his way to learn everything about everyone he spoke with; never missed a party; never turned down an invitation; loved everyone equally and made everyone he spoke with feel they had a meaningful conversation. He will be sorely missed.

Funeral services were held Monday, June 22, at Assumption Greek Orthodox Church, St. Clair Shores.

Memorial contributions in Ignatios' name may be made to Assumption Greek Orthodox Church, 21800 Marter Rd., St. Clair Shores, MI 48080.

Valentine J. Temrowski Jr.

Grosse Pointe Woods resident Valentine John Temrowski Jr., 62, died Tuesday, June 16, 2020. He was born May 31, 1958, in Highland Park, to Dr. Valentine J. and Marilyn Temrowski.

A graduate of Grosse Pointe South High School, Valentine earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan and a juris doctorate degree from Detroit College of Law.

A practicing attorney for more than 35 years, he was staff counsel and managing attorney for GEICO in St. Clair Shores.

Described by his family as the salt of the earth, Valentine had a quick wit and loved a good story, good drink and great company. He enjoyed history, horses, fishing and the water. Always sharply dressed, he also was well read. A man who embodied honor and integrity, he will be greatly missed and always remembered.

Valentine is survived by his wife, Elizabeth; daughter, Kathleen Sands Temrowski (Daniel Meyering); siblings, Elaine Eby (Terry), Elizabeth Kern (Edward) and Madeleine Temrowski; and dear friend, Linda Somers.

Visitation takes place noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, June 28, at Verheyden Funeral Home, 16300 Mack, Grosse Pointe Park. Valentine will lie in state Monday, June 29, from 9:30 a.m. until the funeral Mass at 10 a.m. at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, visitation is limited to 10 people at a time. For more information, call Verheyden Funeral Home at (313) 881-8500 or visit at verheyden.org.

Park man heads Henry Ford's Board of Directors

David J. Breen, a resident of Grosse Pointe Park and retired business leader, serves as chairman of the Henry Ford Health System Board of Directors, leading the 14-member board responsible for the fiduciary and governance oversight of



David J. Breen

the health system. This includes financial and management performance, strategic planning and community relations advocacy.

"David Breen is well-respected in the region and nationally for his business acumen and he has provided thought-

ful insight and leadership as we navigated our way through this pandemic from the start and we now look to position ourselves for the new normal moving forward," said Wright Lassiter III, Henry Ford's president and CEO.

Breen said he is "honored to serve as chair at this unprecedented time.

"The health system has

excelled in a remarkable way these past few months," he continued. "I look forward to working collaboratively with our board and Wright and his leadership team."

As board chairman, Breen succeeded Sandy Pierce, who served in that role from 2012-19. He assumed the leadership post in January, just three months before the pandemic took hold in Michigan.

Michael Rafferty and Barry Graham "BG" Porter also joined the board as new members at the time. Breen has been a member of Henry Ford's board of directors since 2015 and Henry Ford hospital boards since 2006.

In 2016, Breen retired from PricewaterhouseCoopers after a 42-year career serving in national and global management roles at the global firm widely known for its audit and assurance, tax and consulting services.

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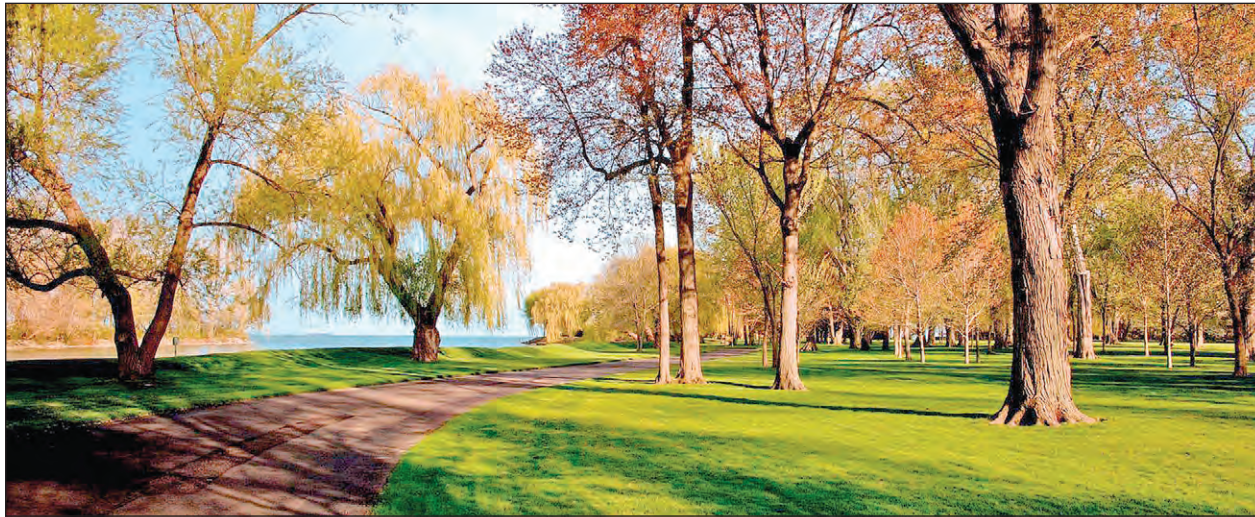
Ford House reopening in phases, now open to members

After being closed for months, Ford House, the historic estate of Edsel and Eleanor Ford, opened its gates June 16, to welcome back members to walk the lakeside grounds and gardens.

A wider reopening for the general public is anticipated in July, but an official date has not been set. Ford House closed its gates to visitors March 11, to help limit the spread of COVID-19, coinciding with Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's declaration of a state of emergency and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines.

The members-only reopening gets the ball rolling on the museum's phased approach toward reinstating regular visitation, tours and onsite events. Beginning with only members allows the estate to limit daily visitor capacity, part of a detailed plan to protect the health and safety of visitors and staff.

Members may now walk the grounds and gardens and picnic on the National Historic Landmark estate, but new health and safety guidelines aim to help limit the risk of a potential resurgence of COVID-19.



COURTESY PHOTO

The grounds at the Ford House are open to members.

All visitors must register in advance for a

timed entry ticket. Member admission is still free, but tickets are required for admittance. Visitors also are required to practice social distancing and keep a face mask with them at all times while on the estate. All historical buildings, the visitor center and museum store are closed and house tours are suspended at this time. Restrooms near the gate lodge are open for visitor use, but visitors must wear masks inside and wash their hands.

Ford House's hours of operation are temporarily altered to allow for rigorous cleaning and sanitization procedures. The estate is open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday. Visitors may

continue to walk the estate until 6 p.m.

"We have taken great care to make sure our visitors and staff are comfortable, safe and protected at the estate," Ford House President and CEO Mark Heppner said. "More than ever, we are pleased to open our gates and provide a place where our visitors can take some much-needed time to unwind, take a walk and enjoy the peaceful atmosphere at Ford House."

To accompany a visit to the estate — or to explore from home — Ford House has launched a new mobile app with stop-by-stop tours around the Ford House grounds and for a virtual look inside the Fords' main residence. The app is available at fordhouse.

org and through the App Store. Visitors also can download or print a map and guide to bring along.

Employees at Ford House also are supporting precautionary measures at the estate. All staff are required to follow strict social distancing guidelines, wear masks when near others and follow new rules regarding cleaning and disinfecting shared areas. A limited number of staff are permitted to work onsite each day and the remaining staff will continue to work remotely. The majority of Ford House staff have been working from home since mid-March.

Most of Ford House's onsite special events have been canceled or

See HOUSE, page 5B

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BEES:

Continued from page 1B

tomed to having bees around.

Two years ago, the couple bought bees from a Lansing apiary, Arondoski said. They were on their way home from vacation with the kids when they picked up the bees and drove home — with four nucs containing 40,000 bees — in the family car.

There also have been several bee swarms in the family's yard, of which the girls say, "Mom, the bees are at it again," Arondoski said.

"When bee hives swarm, it means there's no more room in the hive," she explained.

"The sky is filled with bees. It looks cartoonish." The bees slowly pick a safe spot, usually swarming where others have swarmed, she said.

"Within a half hour, there are bees everywhere in the sky. You can walk through them and they won't sting because they're not home, so there's nothing to protect."

Then they'll cluster, she continued, forming a sticky, viscous mass.

"It looks like a grape cluster; it moves and sways in the tree," she said. "You just shake them into boxes and transfer them to new hives."

Catching and transferring bees is just one of the aspects of the Three Mile Hives Club, which aims to educate people about bees.

"Everyone knows bees are important and that they do a lot, but they don't know what it is they do," Arondoski said. "We enjoy beekeeping, but we really like the aspect of showing kids the hives and educating people about the difference between bees and wasps, too."

The couple had trouble for a few years keeping their bees alive through harsh Michigan winters. This year, however, their luck changed.

"This is the first year all of our hives survived the winter," Arondoski said.

The Arondoskis will collect honey from their hives in a week or so, then again in early or mid-August. Last year, they harvested 180 pounds of honey.

"We usually post when we're doing a honey harvest," Arondoski said. "Come by and help extract honey. We want to make it so it's not such a secret thing anymore."

"If anybody wants to see the hives and learn about beekeeping, we're more than happy to help," she added, noting they like to pass along to others the same kind of mentorship they received. "Maybe someone wants to have bees but has no idea what to do. It can be daunting. But if they're curious, come over and learn."

"It's educational and it's a hobby for us. It's very fun and we're always learning. You can have five or 25 years of experience with beekeeping, but they'll keep you on your toes."

To learn more about the Three Mile Hives Club, visit its Facebook page or call (586) 899-9118. A video of their efforts on Three Mile Drive has been posted.

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Friends stage entertainment

Seven friends ranging in age from 7 to 11 — and who love to sing and dance — recently showcased their talents in front of family, friends and neighbors in Grosse Pointe Woods.

According to parent Jen Scicluna, the girls have put on past performances for family, but this summer decided to include the community.

Neighbors received invitations to the June 11 performance, which included singing, dancing and performances on violin and ukulele.

More than 40 people turned out for the hour-long show, which 10-year-old Maylin Parish decided should be a fundraiser for Gleaners Food Bank. She and 11-year-old Nora Scicluna pulled together songs and choreographed the show, which raised more than \$515 to assist Gleaners during the



PHOTOS BY JACK RYAN

From left, Gabrielle Moore, Lea Baugh, Elora Adams, Nora Scicluna, Maylin Parish, Paige Parish and Charlotte Torrento.

COVID-19 pandemic. Additional online donations were collected.

“We were all blown away,” Scicluna said. “They’ve been dancing all summer, whenever they could. ... For them to want to do the show and not think about making money — they were so excited to give it away.”

— Jody McVeigh



Charlotte Torrento and Paige Parish danced.



COURTESY PHOTO

Members have been welcomed back to walk the grounds at Ford House.

HOUSE:

Continued from page 4B

postponed through the end of July.

DSO at Ford House — an outdoor concert and fireworks featuring the Detroit Symphony Orchestra — has been canceled this year due to the state’s regulations on large gatherings. However, the DSO and Ford House are exploring possibilities for partnerships later this summer.

There are still plenty of opportunities to experience Ford House at home. The estate offers virtual public programs, workshops and lectures. Gardening workshops, Starry Nights lectures, book club-style discussions and a cocktail-mixing workshop are slated for the coming weeks using the Zoom platform. Kids can design their own bird feeders, create a Lake St. Clair alphabet book and more with free activities on fordhouse.org and enjoy a weekly virtual storytime from Josephine Ford’s kid-sized playhouse.

“We deeply appreciate the flexibility and cooperation of all our visitors

at this time and we’re so happy we can welcome back members,” Ford House Director of Visitor Experience Amanda Rutland said. “It won’t be too long until we’re all back on the estate and we can enjoy events and programs in person. We hope you’ll join us in the meantime for some of the great virtual events and programs our team has put together.”

The pandemic has caused some delays in the construction of Ford House’s new visitor center and administration building, which will boast a new restaurant, exhibits, classrooms, lake-view rental space and more. The buildings were projected to open in late fall 2020, but the timeline has shifted. Construction crews resumed work in May with measures in place to protect workers’ health and well-being. A new opening date has not yet been determined.

For any questions about Ford House’s reopening, health and safety guidelines, upcoming events and more, visit fordhouse.org or contact info@fordhouse.org.



Elora Adams plays the violin for her neighbors.



Nora Scicluna played ukulele and sang for attendees.



Lea Baugh danced during the show.

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