

COVID-19 CASES UPDATE - 11/10

	Cases	Deaths
All Pointes	1,066 (+169)	37 (+1)
Harper Woods	402 (+22)	36 (+0)

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NOVEMBER 12, 2020
GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

School board results are in

One incumbent, three newcomers, veteran elected

By Mary Anne Brush
Staff Writer

THE GROSSE POINTES — The winning candidates for the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education may not have agreed on all the issues while on the campaign trail, but now the election is over, they're committed to working together on the challenges facing the school district.

Results

Ahmed Ismail, returning to the board after having served from 2004 to 2009 and 2014 to 2018,

took the lead for the four-year term with 11,496 votes (10.94 percent). He was followed by newcomers Colleen Worden with 10,945 votes (10.41 percent), Lisa Papas with 9,972 (9.49 percent) and David Brumbaugh with 9,844 (9.36 percent).

Of the three incumbents in the race, only Joseph Herd was successful in his bid. He ran for the two-year seat to complete the term he was appointed to in January. He earned 11,132 votes (41.5 percent), beating challengers John Steininger, who earned 9,455 votes (35.24 percent) and Theresa Vogler with 6,066 votes (22.61 percent).

See **RESULTS**, page 8A

Clerk says ballot markers 'not your grandfather's Sharpies'

By Eddie B. Allen Jr.
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — Voters concerned about virally circulated rumors that Sharpie markings could

invalidate their ballots should have no fear, Woods Clerk Lisa Hathaway said.

The election official, who personally sat with about a half dozen Woods residents after

they demanded to see her due to concerns the ink they used Tuesday, Nov. 3 was inappropriate, issued an email bulletin Friday, Nov. 6.

"Grosse Pointe Woods voters have expressed

concerns regarding whether their votes counted if they used a Sharpie to mark the ballot," the bulletin reads.

"In response, Dominion,

See **SHARPIES**, page 4A



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Around 9,000 square feet of space is being developed for retail on Mack, near Hollywood in Grosse Pointe Woods.

Mack shopping center scheduled for 2021

By Eddie B. Allen Jr.
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — A retail development is scheduled to open to shoppers along Mack near Hollywood mid-next year.

Mack addresses from 20861 to 20879 include 9,000 square feet being leased by Verus Development Group, of which 5,101 square feet are still available. The site is slated to include 44 parking spaces and addi-

tional nearby public parking to support the retailers occupying the strip.

"Our vision is to bring complementary retailers that have a successful track record to a community that will continue to flourish with this new development," reads a statement from Verus Development Group. "Our site has a warm, neighborly feel and direct access to a nearby park."

The space being leased can accommodate as

many as five shops, two of which will include Starbucks and Estia Greek Streetfood, Verus announced. Estia Greek Streetfood is owned by a family of Woods residents who operate restaurants in Warren and Troy.

"We're super excited to be here because, first of all, this is our hometown," said Estia owner, Nina Bittas. "We're happy that there's a spot right here in our backyard."

The lure of an anchor tenant like Starbucks influenced Estia Greek Streetfood's decision to shift its Pointes-based operation from a food truck to the new strip, Bittas added.

"We do have a following, but some people still aren't familiar with us, so we thought that would be a good draw," she said.

The year-old truck became indispensable after Michigan restaura-

See **MACK**, page 2A

Presidential election records record highs

By Laurel Kraus and Eddie B. Allen Jr.
Staff Writers

THE GROSSE POINTES — One of the most unusual general elections in American history left a largely positive voter participation imprint on the Pointes.

As in much of the country, large numbers of absentee ballots were attributed to local residents, combined with same-day votes that were cast despite an ongoing worldwide health emergency.

"It was the experience of a lifetime and I mean that in a good way,"

Woods City Clerk Lisa Hathaway said.

The City and Farms set new records for highest voter turnout, with a 79 percent and 82 percent turnout rate, respectively. The next highest turnout in the City, at 78 percent, was in 1976.

However, the record number of 3,095 absentee ballots in the City not only did not cause a delay in results, but was completely processed by around 6 p.m., at which point inspectors simply waited for any additional ballots to come in

See **ELECTION**, page 3A

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Farms road millage passes

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — The repaving of Kerby from Mack to Kercheval is expected to begin next summer as the first major project using funds from a road millage approved on the Farms ballot Tuesday,

Nov. 3, and set to bring in \$8.6 million of additional road improvement funds.

The millage, which passed 3,896 votes to 3,013, is 2 mills for a five-year duration and will begin with the December 2020 tax bill.

"Requesting support for a road millage was

something that the city council and city administration did not take lightly, but was necessary to properly maintain our road infrastructure and maintain the high standards our community desires," City Manager Shane Reeside said. "We are grateful, particularly

during these challenging times, to see passage of the road millage."

With the city continuing to allocate approximately \$500,000 annually toward road improvements as well, the Farms PASER rating — the standard Michigan road rating system with 10 being the best condition and one being the worst — is anticipated to rise from 3.6 to 4.6 by

2025.

"It does take a lot of improvement to move this number, so this is significant," City Controller Debra Peck Lichtenberg said, prior to the millage passing.

While the average home with a taxable value of \$200,000 is estimated to pay \$400 annually toward the millage,

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Pointer of INTEREST

See story, page 4A

Jay Ritchie
Home: Grosse Pointe Park
Successful junior college women's basketball coach

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Retirees ask residents for support

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — Six months after city council voted during a telephonic meeting to make retirees cover 20 percent of their health insurance premiums with little to no advance notice, Grosse Pointe Shores retirees are showing no signs of backing down.

Committed to keeping the pressure on the council until, at the very least, constructive dialogue begins, retirees of the Shores public safety and public works departments now are ramping up their efforts to garner community support.

“We just don’t know where the community stands with us,” said Dan Pullen, retired 30-year Shores public safety officer. “If they back us. If they don’t back us. We had a few people at council meetings

stand up on our behalf, but it’s really hard to get a grasp on where we’re standing here.

“We hope the village backs us after everything we’ve done for (it). We worked for 30 years. All these guys that are retired now, we were very dedicated to these people.”

Shows of support retirees are counting on include speaking on their behalf at council meetings, comments of encouragement on the recently created Facebook page “Friends of Grosse Pointe Shores Retirees” and putting out yard signs supplied by the retirees.

The “We support Grosse Pointe Shores retirees” signage began appearing on lawns throughout the community early this week.

Spending almost \$300 on the first round of signage, the retirees are offering signs free



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Lawn signs like this have been popping up around Grosse Pointe Shores.

of charge and are prepared to purchase more depending on demand.

Residents can send a private Facebook message to the retirees’ page to get a sign.

“We had the support of the residents,” Pullen said. “We

always have. I just don’t know if it’s still there.”

Pooling together another \$700 for postage, envelopes and printing while already under financial strain due to the premium cost sharing — Pullen, for example, is now

paying close to \$400 more a month for healthcare than prior to the change — the retirees mailed letters explaining their situation to every home in the Shores early this week and just in time for the next council meeting Tuesday, Nov. 17, via Zoom. The letter, published in the Oct. 22 edition of the Grosse Pointe News, also includes information about the Facebook page and signage, as well as various articles that have been published surrounding the controversy.

“They didn’t even talk to the residents of Grosse Pointe Shores about getting a bond to cover retiree healthcare,” Pullen said. “I just don’t understand why they didn’t talk to the residents and see what the residents wanted to do, if the residents were OK to get a mill or if the residents wanted to fight this.”

Black Lives Matter supporters reject letter

By Eddie B. Allen Jr.
Staff Writer

THE GROSSE POINTES — Gretchen Archinal hadn’t paid much attention to the fairly non-descript envelope that arrived in her mail.

The typed, anonymous letter inside, regarding a sign on her Grosse Pointe Park lawn, nearly wound up in a neglected pile, but curiosity drew her.

“It had nothing else on the envelope other than the stamp and the bar code at the bottom,” she said. “I opened it because it was unusual.”

Identifying himself or herself as “a concerned neighbor and citizen of our beautiful community,” the letter’s writer recounted researching Black Lives Matter and finding disturbing information. Archinal was

one of an estimated 150 Pointes residents reported to have received the correspondence in recent weeks.

“Like you and 99.99 percent of Americans, I agree that Black lives certainly matter, as do the lives of all Americans,” it reads. “I see that you have a BLM sign on your yard and the question is: What exactly is the BLM organization and what are they trying to achieve?”

The single-page message largely misstates and contradicts purported goals of the campaign that has risen to national prominence through its slogan’s appearance on banners and clothing.

Despite the letter’s “friendly tone,” Archinal, who teaches at a Detroit school, was offended by it and unsettled that its

writer took such notice of her home, she said.

“It’s disconcerting that somebody is driving around and stopping to write addresses,” she added.

Her yard has displayed several Black Lives Matter signs, including some that were stolen and replaced. The most recent sign was posted after what Archinal called recent “Black lynchings,” including police-involved killings like that of George Floyd.

“As a secondary school teacher I’ve always taught Black and brown kids,” Archinal said. “As a human being this bothers me. As a Christian this bothers me, because it is so much against what Jesus taught.”

The letter makes no mention of Black Lives Matter’s mission to end violence toward people of color, or to support the disabled and LGBTQ communities, as discussed on the campaign’s website; it broadly alleges without citing any incidents that “BLM is personally responsible for much of the violence, destruction

and death of innocent children, bystanders, peaceful demonstrators, police and ex-police, most of who[m] are Black.”

Activists began Black Lives Matter in 2013 after George Zimmerman’s acquittal in the fatal Florida shooting of Trayvon Martin. In “When They Call You a Terrorist: A Black Lives Matter Memoir,” co-founder Patrisse Khan-Cullors attributes years of misrepresentation concerning the movement to a 2016 demonstration against police brutality where Black military veteran and sniper Micah Johnson shot several officers in Dallas.

“We will remember that most of the cops who are killed in this nation are killed by white men who are taken alive,” Khan-Cullors writes. “And we will experience all the ways the ghost of Micah Johnson will be weaponized against Black Lives Matter, will be weaponized against me, a tactic from way back that has continuously been used against people who chal-

lenge white supremacy. We will remember that Nelson Mandela remained on the FBI’s list of terrorists until 2008.”

One controversial point consistent with the Black Lives Matter movement that is criticized in the letter is support for defunding police departments.

“Could you imagine if we didn’t have a police force to protect us?” asks the anonymous writer.

But a blacklivesmatter.com video, “What Defunding the Police Really Means,” rejects notions that the campaign wants to close departments, arguing that a 5 percent trim of police budgets can fund some city programs.

Park resident Dan McGuire also received the letter.

“I’m very research-oriented,” he said. “So I knew that most of what they were writing was either grossly exaggerated or a misreading of the facts.”

Like Archinal’s, McGuire’s yard displays endorsements besides Black Lives Matter that

haven’t drawn objections.

“But you could tell they were saying, ‘We know where your house is and we don’t agree with the organization,’” he added.

“The fact that there is no return address, no signature, no way to get in touch with them tells you that they did not show up for reasoned debate,” he said.

Shannon Byrne, president of the diversity-focused WeGP, received one of the first copies of the letter in late October at her home in the Farms. Having distributed around 400 Black Lives Matter signs in the Pointes, Detroit, Harper Woods and St. Clair Shores during the summer, WeGP will order 150 new ones this month, she said. Requests for signs may be made online at we-gp.org.

WeGP also will seek testimonials from residents who support the campaign, Byrne added.

“I think most folks recognize that Black Lives Matter isn’t a moment, that it’s not a news flash,” Byrne said. “It’s real all the time.”

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MACK:

Continued from page 1A

rants were forced to temporarily shutdown in the spring, but the Mack location will replace it with a dining room and 10 to 20 employees, she

added.

Verus Development’s vision for the strip will complement the “aesthetics of Mack,” Bittas said.

Other shops and retail chains are eyeing the site for potential occupancy, Verus Development

Group’s statement reported: “Additionally, interest in the remaining available spaces contin-

ues to be highly sought after from local and national businesses.”

— Eddie B. Allen Jr.

MILLAGE:

Continued from page 1A

the Farms has retained its title of lowest millage rate in the Pointes. Even with the increase from 14.95 mills to 16.95 mills, the city remains slightly below neighboring communities, which are around the 17-mill range.

“The budget and audit committee met several times this last spring

and summer,” said Lev Wood, councilman and chairman of the budget committee. “We talked a great deal about what we could do in terms of our roads and it became very evident that we needed to put a ballot question out there to the residents.”

“... I think it’s a critical infrastructure improvement that our residents are going to really, really benefit from over the next number of years.”

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COVID cases rise in the Grosse Pointes; Beaumont reinstates visitor restrictions

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

THE GROSSE POINTES — The number of positive COVID-19 cases are on the rise in the Grosse Pointes and surrounding metro Detroit communities. In the past week, the Farms' count has risen to approximately seven new cases a day, according to Mayor Louis Theros.

"We, unfortunately, have hit the state average," he said. "We might be a little bit above it per our population."

As of Tuesday, Nov. 10, there were 157 cases and three deaths in the City of Grosse Pointe; 241 cases and five deaths in Grosse Pointe Farms; 224 cases and seven deaths in Grosse Pointe Park; 345 cases and 19 deaths in Grosse Pointe Woods; and 71 cases and three deaths in

Grosse Pointe Shores.

"Farms residents are not defined by their views on COVID-19 or the signs on their lawns," Theros said in a letter to residents Monday, Nov. 2. "We are defined by our actions and the grace with which we treat each other. Someone may strongly disagree with someone else's views, which candidates they support or the actual COVID-19 rules being promulgated by the state or county; but, if they abide by the rules that merchants must follow to keep their doors open for business, or those governing our everyday activities, then we are on the same team. Actions not opinions define us, and I trust all of you in this fight."

In the City, local leadership at Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe has responded to the

significant increases by reinstating visitor safety restrictions, also reinstated at Beaumont's Royal Oak and Troy campuses, effective Tuesday, Nov. 10.

Visitors are only allowed in the rooms of patients with pending or positive COVID-19 tests if the patients are approaching end of life, younger than 21 years old or women in labor.

For patients who do not have COVID-19, one family member or friend may be present if the patient is in critical condition or hospice care; an adult with a cognitive, physical or mental disability requiring help; undergoing a surgical procedure; receiving care in the emergency center; a mother in labor or with pregnancy complications; or younger than 21

years old.

Two people are permitted at the bedside for such patients approaching end of life, while two parents are permitted for such patients younger than 21 years old.

In addition, patients must immediately leave the hospital after a visit, rather than remaining in waiting areas, public areas or cafeterias.

"We've had a notable rise in COVID-19 cases in metro Detroit," said Dr. Nick Gilpin, medical director of infection prevention and epidemiology for Beaumont Health, in a press release. "Community positivity rates have jumped to 8 to 11 percent in the area. Last spring, we took care of the most COVID-19 patients in the state and we know that taking difficult steps like restricting visi-

tors will help us keep our patients and our staff safe."

Beaumont leadership also strongly encourages community members to wear masks when in public and continue following the CDC's recommended precautions.

"I remind my two sons that my parents, their grandparents, grew up and attended school while living in Nazi-occupied Greece for six years," Theros said in the letter to residents. "They sacrificed a lot during those years, so I tell my boys that one year of wearing a mask, consistently washing and sanitizing their hands, and being a bit more careful in what they do is not too much to ask. So, as we go about our daily routines and patronize our local stores, continue to be mindful of one another."



COURTESY PHOTOS

Promoted

City of Grosse Pointe Sgt. Thomas Martindale was promoted to lieutenant Monday, Oct. 5. He served as sergeant three years after joining Grosse Pointe from the Pontiac Police Department.



Martindale's daughter, Brenna, pins on his badge.



Martindale and his family, from left, wife, Jacqueline; father, Charles; daughter, Brenna; Martindale and mother, Ronnie.

ELECTION:

Continued from page 1A

prior to 8 p.m.

In the Park, Deputy Clerk Donna Costa reported similar success.

"Election Day was very busy, but in the end all precincts balanced," she said. "Our counting board did a great job getting in close to 6,000 ballots by 10 p.m."

While no delay was caused in the Farms by the absentee voter influx of 5,083 ballots, double the absentee votes in the 2016 presidential election, the city did face a hiccup when one tabulator at Grosse Pointe South and another in the absentee voter counting board needed to be replaced. The equipment was tested prior to Election Day, so issues could have been created during transportation, Farms Assistant City Manager and City Clerk Derrick Kozicki explained.

"(There was) no delay to the voter at the precinct because they could place their ballot in the auxiliary bin, which is what the state of Michigan prescribes," he added. "And then there was plenty of time to run the ballots through the tabulator in the absentee voter counting board, where the tabulator had to be replaced."

Not even COVID-19's immediate presence was enough to deter Hathaway and her team from securing ballots from recently diagnosed or hospitalized residents in the Woods.

"They were caring enough to say, 'I want to cast my vote, but I don't

want to expose anybody,'" which was "so appreciated," Hathaway said.

She personally arranged to accommodate some of the Woods voters by traveling to their locations and issuing absentee ballots, she said. Hathaway's office also visited locations like the Sunrise of Grosse Pointe Woods assisted living facility to ensure residents' "voices were heard," she added.

Modern transmittal issues experienced on the county's end for the past couple elections were successfully resolved, with the exception of two machines in the Farms, following a reduction of the file size.

Hathaway praised Michigan Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson and the Wayne County Bureau of Elections for their responsiveness to issues she and other city clerks discussed.

"It was just fabulous," she said.

The unique election illuminated opportunities for improvement in future elections for Pointe clerks as well.

Although the Shores was unable to submit its results to the county until 1 a.m. because of the inundation of 1,410 absentee ballots, which set a new record in the city, it came in near the middle of the pack with other county communities, according to Shores interim City Manager Tom Krolczyk. Still, plans to ensure results come in earlier in the future already are in the works, including the creation of a second AV counting board to be used during larger elections and purchasing more equipment.

"Just for the average election inspector, it's going to be a 14-hour minimum day," Krolczyk said. "So now if you throw any problems into that or something happens in the mix, now you're just extending that out further and further and further. It's not easy. It may look easy from the outside when you just walk into the poll and hand them your ID and grab your ballot and go, but there's a lot more to it than that."

'I think we need to really look at how we handle the absentee voter process, because in some ways, it's portrayed as early voting and it's not really early voting.'

JULIE ARTHURS
City of Grosse Pointe clerk

Another concern is voter education, Grosse Pointe City Clerk Julie Arthurs reported, such as better explaining the spoiled ballot process for when voters make a mistake on their ballots or change their minds about absentee ballots and show up to vote in person. Shining a light on the difference between absentee ballot voting and early voting also is needed.

"I think we need to really look at how we handle the absentee voter process, because in some ways, it's portrayed as early voting and it's not really early voting," she explained. "It's early absent voter ballot voting. Meaning you're still voting an absent voter ballot that's tabulated on Election Day and there was a lot of voter confusion about

the label of early voting. They had an understanding that they would be able to come into the clerk's office and actually feed their ballot into a tabulator."

Hathaway and her staff addressed similar challenges with widespread misinformation about the certainty of onsite voting versus ballots submitted before Nov. 3.

"Unfortunately, because of a lot of the public scare tactics that

city staff people, many from different departments who help prepare for the election, answer countless voter questions and assist voters prior to Election Day," Arthurs said. "I cannot do it without them."

Final tabulations

The presidential election race between President Donald Trump and former vice president Joe Biden saw somewhat split votes in the Pointes.

In the City, there were 1,755 votes for Trump and 2,289 for Biden; the Farms, 3,714 for Trump and 3,704 for Biden; the Park, 2,848 for Trump and 5,171 for Biden; the Woods, 5,533 for Trump and 6,206 for Biden; and the Shores, 1,384 for Trump and 736 for Biden.

Incumbent Democrats swept the board in Wayne County with Prosecutor Kym Worthy, Wayne County Clerk Cathy Garrett, Wayne County Register of

Deeds Bernard Youngblood and Wayne County Treasurer Eric Sabree all achieving reelection. Wayne County Sheriff Benny Napoleon also retained his position in an uncontested race.

The trend continued statewide with victorious incumbent Democrats Brenda Lawrence, U.S. representative 14th district; Tenisha Yancey, state representative 1st district; and Joe Tate, state representative 2nd district.

Elizabeth Welch and Bridget Mary McCormack were voted into the Michigan Supreme Court, while Mary Beth Kelly and Nicholas John Hathaway picked up six-year terms in Third Circuit Court non-incumbent seats.

All three proposals, concerning two constitutional amendments and the intermediate school district regional enhancement millage renewal, passed.

The Week Ahead

MONDAY, NOV. 16

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods City Council meeting, 7 p.m. via Zoom.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores Improvement Foundation meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ City of Grosse Pointe City Council meeting, 7 p.m. via Zoom.

TUESDAY, NOV. 17

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Senior Citizens Commission meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores City Council meeting, 7 p.m. via Zoom.

THURSDAY, NOV. 19

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Library Board of Trustees meeting, 6:30 p.m. at Ewald Branch, 15175 E. Jefferson, Grosse Pointe Woods.

4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

Ritchie one of JUCO's best coaches

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

Grosse Pointe Park's Jay Ritchie has found his niche, coaching college basketball.

The St. Clair Shores native coaches the Macomb Community College women's team and has left his mark as one of the top coaches in the nation.

His record is 218-77, a .739 winning percentage.

"I thought it would be a great opportunity to be able to recruit and coach players that fit into the type of program you wanted to build," Ritchie said. "In college, every team plays under the same recruiting guidelines, as opposed to high school 'recruiting.' Your college staff must be outstanding talent evaluators and have a passion for recruiting.

"I have four assistant coaches that are tireless workers regarding recruiting, led by Associate Head Coach Steve Lemm. As we have improved our program, our recruiting has extended about 200 miles (Ohio, Indiana, Northern Michigan). We have been able to recruit some great players locally such as Alicia Norman from St. Clare Montefalco/Martin Luther King. She was Miss PSL in basketball and led us to two championships and two national tournament appearances. She is not for the University of Detroit

Mercy women's team.

"We have had two outstanding players from Toronto, Canada, plus some Macomb, Oakland, and St. Clair county standouts. We currently have two players from Ohio and two players from the Flint area.

"As a college coach, you and your staff are responsible for all facets of your team including recruiting, scheduling, academics, travel logistics, scouting and game planning. Every coach has a primary role that they excel at. It has been a great experience coaching at Macomb.

"I teach at De La Salle Collegiate, which is just a half mile from Macomb's South campus, so those logistical puzzle pieces fit. Plus, I can get to Macomb within 20 minutes from Grosse Pointe Park."

Ritchie played high school basketball at Lakeview High School for Hall of Fame head coach Dick Black, and at Macomb for another Hall of Famer, John Switchilus.

He transferred to Detroit Mercy, but while at Macomb he tore his ACL.

He earned a degree in business administration and planning from UDM, and earned a teaching degree in social studies from Saginaw Valley State University.

He began his coaching career at the high school level, coaching boys basketball at the junior var-



PHOTO COURTESY OF HOLLY RITCHIE

Jay Ritchie and his twin daughters Ruthie, left, and Lillian.

sity and varsity levels at Harper Woods, Lakeview, Center Line, South Lake and Grosse Pointe South.

He coached girls hoops at Lakeview and South Lake.

Ritchie's college coaching career started at St. Mary's for its men's program and has been at Macomb for a decade.

He also coached high school baseball at the lower levels under Dan Griesbaum at Grosse Pointe South, as well as L'Anse Creuse.

He was an assistant coach under another legend, John Burke, at South Lake and Warren DeLaSalle.

When Ritchie began coaching in high school, he coached under Jack Wachter, who was a good player for St. Paul in Grosse Pointe during its dynasty in the 1960s.

Ritchie met his wife, Holly, during his coaching stint at Center Line High School. She was coaching girls basketball at Warren Cousino.

"I have never looked at coaching as work, so the past 35 years have been amazing," Ritchie said. "My years at Macomb have been filled with outstanding assistant coaches who are dedicated to make the program and giving players a great opportunity to not only experience success at the JUCO level, but to move on to become scholarship players at the four-year level.

"Holly was a college volleyball player and coach, so she understands that when I have to be on the road either recruiting or scouting. When we travel to New York, Chicago or Arkansas, my family also makes the trip. If I had to travel and my family could not make the trip, I don't see myself continuing to coach at the college level. My twin girls, Ruthie and L.J. (Lillian), are 7 and I try to spend as much time as possible with them."

Last year, Ritchie and his Macomb team were one week away from playing in the national championship junior college tournament before the COVID-19 pandemic canceled it.

"I believe that our returning players are over the emotional let-down of having our season canceled the week prior to the national championship," Ritchie said. "I am confident that we would have made the Final Four and at that

point every team is loaded.

"The new girls are fitting in well and adapting to our frenetic style of play. We press 100 percent of the time, including off of missed shots. We also play up-tempo on offense and led the country in many offensive categories, including points per game with 99.5.

"Our talent level is at least as good as we had last year and our expectations are to win another league title (six in the last seven years), win the regional tournament and to challenge for a national title."

This year's team is comprised of sophomores Rizarria Franklin from Walled Lake Western, Emily Swiercz from Carleton Airport, Maryam Hashim from Bloomfield Hills, Jessica Adams from Royal Oak, Demi Rodriguez from Dearborn Heights Crestwood, Olivia Russell from Auburn Hills, Britta Romisch from Bloomfield Hills; and freshmen Jakeira Wash from Flint Kearsley, Aajah Hendrix from Swartz Creek, Amy Jackson from Flat Rock, Rayonna Armstrong from Notre Dame Academy in Toledo and Lauren Perry from Southview High School in Sylvania, OH.

His current staff is composed of Lemm and assistant coaches, Al Poynter, who played for Ritchie at Harper Woods and coached at Valparaiso University under Homer Drew, Shannon Valivevic and Keith Paris.

SHARPIES:

Continued from page 1A

Wayne County's voting equipment vendor, has

provided the information below. Rest assured, all Grosse Pointe Woods voters' votes counted that were received on time."

Among the points listed in the equipment vendor's response to the rumor that Sharpie ink could not be properly processed is the

statement: "Ballot targets are offset, so any bleeding ink will not impact a person's vote. Any over voted contests are automatically sent to adjudication for bipartisan teams to review for any possible voter intent issues."

Due to the rumor, dozens of calls have been fielded by Hathaway's office, in addition to voters who showed up at city hall after being provided Sharpies in Woods precincts, Hathaway said.

"First of all, these are not your grandfather's thick Sharpies that have the heavy ink you can smell in the air three hours later," Hathaway said. "Secondly, the ovals on the front and back of the ballots are positioned so they don't overlap when they're filled in."

The bulletin she issued adds that "fine-tipped Sharpies have been found to provide the fastest-drying ink, which helps to prevent any smearing or stray marks on ballots."

Attorney General Dana Nessel also took to social media to dispel the Sharpie rumor, tweeting a post-election plea to those who

expressed anger.

"Dear members of the public: Please stop making harassing & threatening calls to my staff," Nessel tweeted. "They are kind, hardworking public servants just doing their job. Asking them to shove Sharpies in uncomfortable places is never appropriate & is a sad commentary on the state of our nation."

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City of Grosse Pointe

Mask threats

After a young man was informed he needed to wear a mask while inside an area bank, the man began swearing and threatened an employee at 9:04 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 4.

Four-figure fraud

A 64-year-old Grosse Pointe woman discovered \$4,839 had been fraudulently charged from her bank account to Wayfair Friday, Nov. 6.

Unguarded belongings

A 38-year-old Detroit man registered as a patient at an area hospital stole all the cards from another patient's purse while she underwent a

procedure, then promptly left the building at 2:46 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 7.

Sliced cable

Video footage captured a man using shears to cut the internet cable at a University Place residence at 2:38 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 7. The homeowner has a personal protection order against the suspected culprit due to other past incidents.

Gross indecency

A 49-year-old Detroit man was arrested for gross indecency at a children's playground after he was seen suspiciously moving his hand back and forth under his pants at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 8. The man told officers he

See REPORTS, page 5A

REPORTS:

Continued from page 4A

was adjusting his shirt, but was advised he would be charged with trespassing if he returned to the park.

A 57-year-old Detroit man accompanying him also was arrested due to an illegal entry warrant out of Farmington. Neither of the men had brought children with them to the park.

More mask threats

A 22-year-old Detroit man threatened to shoot up an area hospital at 8:46 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 7, after being told he needed to properly keep his mask over both his mouth and nose.

— *Laurel Kraus*

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

Grosse Pointe Farms

Black Lives Matter letter

A Moran Road resident received an anonymous letter Saturday, Oct. 31, regarding the Black Lives Matter organization due to a sign in her yard.

Confusing credentials

After pulling over a 47-year-old Detroit man for a prohibited U-turn on Mack Avenue at 5:54 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 3, officers observed what appeared to be a badge and a police and fire chaplain ID.

The ID was not department specific and the

man denied being affiliated with any police agency. The badge was confiscated and he was released without citation.

Stolen rental car

An area car rental service reported a vehicle stolen when the 35-year-old Detroit woman who rented it failed to return it Wednesday, Oct. 21.

Stolen bike

A 2017 Trek Marlin 5 bike with a silver frame and black Trek logo was stolen from the 300 block of Cloverly Road Wednesday, Nov. 4

Determined burglar foiled

An unknown suspect unsuccessfully attempted to gain entry into a Barclay Road residence at 12:37 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 5, creating damage to the front door, exterior sunroom door and sliding door.

The couple planned to leave for vacation that day and public safety will now place special attention to the residence for the duration.

Child endangerment

A 32-year-old Detroit woman, with three children who were not restrained properly in the backseat and who believed she was near Highland Park, was pulled over at 4:09 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 7, for speeding along Lakeshore Road and nearly striking the curb.

A preliminary breath test showed her blood alcohol content to be .21 percent and she was arrested for operating

under the influence, child endangerment and driving while license suspended.

No good deed goes unpunished

While skateboarding at an area high school at 10:28 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 7, a 13-year-old Park boy's tennis shoes were stolen by two unknown teenage boys, to whom he had first given permission to borrow and ride his skateboard.

Handgun recovered during traffic stop

During a traffic stop at Mack Avenue and Bournemouth Circle due to tinted windows and no expiration tab on the vehicle's license plate, officers discovered a handgun and rounds at 4:26 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 8.

The weapon had been stolen from a relative who was a valid CPL holder and the two 17-year-old Detroit men were arrested.

— *Laurel Kraus*

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

Grosse Pointe Shores

Suspended/revoked license

When a vehicle failed to come to a complete stop while turning off Hawthorne Road at 9:20 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 3, officers ran the plate to find the 29-year-old Detroit man had no insurance and a suspended/revoked driving status, for which

he was arrested.

Play by play

A witness called dispatch at 2:58 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 4, to report a vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed on Lakeshore Road. A second call by the same person then reported the vehicle had crashed, sustaining heavy front-end damage.

The 31-year-old Northville driver was confused when officers arrived and subsequently arrested for driving under the influence. A preliminary breath test found his blood alcohol content to be .14 percent.

Excuses, excuses

A 19-year-old Roseville man delivering groceries in a vehicle with no license plate told officers he was unable to get plates due to COVID-19 when he was pulled over at Shelden Road and Stonehurst Road at 2:26 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 5.

The man was arrested when officers found he had no insurance.

No insurance

After LEIN showed he had no insurance, a 20-year-old Hamtramck man was pulled over at Lakeshore and Provencal roads and arrested at 3:07 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 7.

Driving while license suspended

When a plate ran through LEIN came back to a different vehicle, a 29-year-old Detroit man was pulled over at

Lakeshore Road and Woodland Shore and arrested for driving while license suspended, not having insurance and an improper plate at 11:48 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 8.

Wear your seatbelt

A 57-year-old St. Clair Shores man was pulled over at Lakeshore and Deeplands roads for not wearing a seatbelt. When LEIN showed he did not have insurance, he was arrested at 11:52 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 8.

— *Laurel Kraus*

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

Grosse Pointe Woods

Retail theft

A suspect escaped after shoplifting assorted meat and bags of Tide laundry pods from a supermarket in the 20400 block of Mack around 10 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 8.

The man fled the store after pushing a grocery cart out of the building without paying. He fled north on Mack in a white panel van.

— *Eddie B. Allen Jr.*

Report information about this and other

crimes to Grosse Pointe Woods Public Safety, (313) 343-2400.

Grosse Pointe Park

Inside job

A 30-year-old Eastpointe man was arrested after stealing jewelry from a home in the 1000 block of Three Mile sometime between Thursday, Oct. 29 and Tuesday, Nov. 3.

The suspect admitted to having taken the valuables while working as a contractor at the residence. The items were returned.

Stealing spree

A 54-year-old Clinton Township man was arrested after stealing firewood from outside a store in the 15000 block of Charlevoix around 4:30 a.m. Friday, Nov. 6.

The same suspect also was spotted on home surveillance stealing a leaf blower from an open garage in the 1000 block of Audubon later in the day.

The man was identified and arrested at his home.

— *Eddie B. Allen Jr.*

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



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6A | OPINION

Grosse Pointe News

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OUR VIEW

3 of 5 Pointes go Democratic

Grosse Pointe voters proved themselves a lot like the rest of Michigan when they went to the polls Nov. 3: They gave a majority of their votes, in the unofficial tally, to Democratic candidate Joe Biden over incumbent Republican President Donald Trump.

Similar also to the unofficial statewide results, the incumbent Democrat in a contested U.S. Senate seat, Gary Peters, won here — and also by a far narrower margin than that in the presidential race. He barely edged Republican John James in his second run for the Senate.

Stereotypes may persist about the Pointes, but it's obvious they no longer plunk predictably for Republicans. Perhaps little noted at the time, Democrat Gretchen Whitmer also carried the Pointes, 14,297 to 13,227, in the 2018 gubernatorial race.

Both this year and two years ago, the local patterns were similar: the City and the Park have become reliably Democratic, and the Woods has shown a slight Democratic preference: Gov. Whitmer and President-elect Biden won there, but Mr. James prevailed this year in the Senate race, for example. The Shores and the Farms — although by a mere 10 votes in this year's presidential vote in the Farms — remain majority Republican.

And there's a new majority: The number of local voters who jumped at the chance to use an absentee ballot. Nov. 3 marked the first presidential contest in which no-reason absentee ballots were available in Michigan. Across the area, 71 percent of presidential votes came in absentee; the pace-setters were in the City of Grosse Pointe, where three-quarters of voters used absentee ballots.

Local voters also followed the trend of Democrats using absentee ballots in greater proportion than Republicans. Area-wide, 80 percent of Democrats' presidential votes came in absentee, compared to 60 percent of Republicans'.

Turnout was strong everywhere, with the champs being the residents of Grosse Pointe Shores who live in the small section that lies in Macomb County. There, 63 of 67 registered voters cast ballots, for a 94 percent turnout.

Part of the interest in voting this year also may have been local nonpartisan issues.

For example, voters chose four new Board of Education members for the Grosse Pointe Public School System and kept just one of three incumbents. Between two rather different "slates" of candidates — as reflected in yard sign groupings, among other signals — neither scored a complete victory.

That suggests the board will probably not revisit the decision to close two elementary schools and move fifth graders to the middle schools, a plan that took effect this fall. But dissent remains and unhappiness is ongoing about how to handle lessons as the COVID-19 pandemic spikes.

Further flummoxing the issue, the two defeated incumbents also represented opposite sides of the reconfiguration vote. Do district residents remain just as divided? Or are they mostly seeking new approaches, new eyes on district problems and new ears turned to the community? It's worth noting that Joseph Herd, the one incumbent who kept his seat, has advocated for better airing of views at meetings; new members may want to emphasize wide-ranging discussion, too.

On other local issues, fortunately, residents sent a clearer message. A countywide millage renewal for school enhancement funding passed tidily here and across Wayne County. Renewals generally succeed, so perhaps the nearly 2-to-1 approval rate locally isn't surprising. But the Pointes remain a donor district for these relied-upon dollars and nothing seems certain during the pandemic.

That makes it also an accomplishment for Grosse Pointe Farms to get approval from 56 percent of voters for a new road millage. Its streets need the boost and the Farms joins other Pointes and many communities statewide that successfully took the issue to voters.

Now, thank heavens, there's finally some post-election relief — the ads are gone and a few issues actually did get settled.

2020 General Election Results table with columns for City, Farms, Park, Shores, Woods, H.W., All Pointes/CPPSS, Race Total. Rows include President/Vice President, U.S. Senate, U.S. Rep. 14th District, State Representative 1st District, State Representative 2nd District, Wayne County Prosecutor, Wayne County Clerk, Wayne County Treasurer, Wayne County Registrar of Deeds, Michigan Supreme Court, Third Circuit Court, Grosse Pointe Board of Education, and various proposals.

GUEST OPINION By Jay M. Bonnel, Grosse Pointe Park

A tribute to the Ahee Family

I'm having a very mortal moment. I was just remembering an evening out with friends in 1991, when we dashed from Ann Arbor back to Grosse Pointe and spent the evening bar hopping with John Ahee as he chauffeured us in his white BMW.

With John's passing this week, I'm the only one of those five happy-go-lucky revelers to still be here on Earth. And I'm having my moments. It's sobering, for sure.

The Ahee family suffered the loss of their matriarch, Bettejean, followed shortly by John in the last two weeks. I'm not close with the family, but I imagine they must be reeling and my heart goes out to them in sympathy and prayer. The family is well known for its faith in God and the Catholic Church, to which I know they can turn for solace now.

I first met Mr. and Mrs. Ahee when I worked as dining manager at the Lochmoor Club in the early '90s. Gradually, I met most of the rest of the immediate family while I worked there. While already very prominent in the community, the family was known as warm and full of kindness for everyone regardless of station.

Since then, the Ahees have continued to expand their recognition nationwide and I'm like many Grosse Pointers in that I consider Ahee's as the No. 1 best place for fine jewelry and timepieces. Lord knows I've invested some fair coin there over the years!

What impresses me most, though, is the generous ways in which the family gives back to this community. The Capuchin Souper Summer Celebration has become one of the most successful annual charitable endeavors in our community over the years, created and underwritten by the Ahees.

When I was working at Beaumont Grosse Pointe in 2011, I was selected as site coordinator for JDRF fundraising at the annual JDRF One Walk. I had a big goal to reach! I emailed my old acquaintance

John Ahee and received an extremely generous donation just a few days later.

I'm realizing how important it is to give significantly and lastingly of myself in order to feel whole in this short time on Earth. It's not about money in large amounts. It's about choosing to do the next right thing, sow good wherever possible without recognition and leave each person I encounter better, happier, lighter, calmer than I found them. I don't have children, so that's gotta be the extent of my legacy.

If just one person remembers me when I'm gone with the warm, happy feeling I feel when I think of John, I'll know I've succeeded. The Ahees have always stood as an excellent example for me to emulate and many others in this community come to mind in the same way. The VanElslanders, the Bolls, the Glancys, the Fords, the Cottons — Grosse Pointe is blessed. Yet I also think of the many others who operate on a much smaller scale ... but with tremendous impact. I strive to be one of those and I hope to do more before my time here is finished.

"From those to whom much is given, much is required."

We've all read or heard that, but it can be a struggle to know how to apply it in the best ways. I guess I'm now understanding that everything done with a pure heart and caring intent is almost always better than doing nothing at all.

I had my breath momentarily snatched today as I confronted my mortality in perhaps the most raw way I've ever done it. People die young. People suffer. Material pursuits get increasingly hollow the more I realize that only endeavors of the heart to put love in the world can make me immortal. I don't want to live forever, but I'd like to touch the world as though I had.

Again, my thoughts and sympathy are with the Ahee family this week as they absorb great loss.

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.

Grosse Pointe goes blue

To the Editor: I had to rewrite this piece three times. While writing it, more states kept flipping to Joe Biden as votes continued to trickle in.

Then, finally, mid-day on Saturday, Nov. 7, CNN called the presidency for Biden as Pennsylvania was given

to him after his lead over Donald Trump increased to over 40,000 votes.

While results are yet to be certified, at the time of writing this it looks like Biden will pull off a narrow electoral college victory and become our next president.

Still, the closeness of the outcomes of our elections underscores how divided this country is. When results are final, at

least 15 states are likely to have presidential election results showing the two candidates within only 10 percentage points of each other or less. It appears that in most parts of the country, voters are becoming more and more divided as time goes on. What was red or blue could now be considered purple.

The Grosse Pointes, on the other hand, have been trending blue for some years now. What was once a reliably red and very conservative area, our community is changing. This is evidenced by the final tally in this year's presidential contest across the Pointes — 18,106 votes for Biden (54.3 percent), 15,234 votes for Trump (45.7 percent). This is a remarkable development for the Pointes and some-

thing local politicians and activists should take note of.

Yesterday, Grosse Pointe may have been red, but today, Grosse Pointe is blue. Or at least purple!

COLTON DALE
Grosse Pointe Woods
2nd Vice President,
Grosse Pointe
Democratic Club

'Something fishy in Grosse Pointe'

To the Editor: I have just finished reading the three-part series on JoAnn Matouk Roman.

To misquote Shakespeare, "There's something fishy in Grosse Pointe."

Thank you for having the courage to print the entire story.

JOANNE DENNIS
Grosse Pointe Woods

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

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I SAY By Eddie B. Allen Jr.

Victory brings new challenges



The guy I picked won on Nov. 3, but the victory feels hollow.

Only a few hours after learning the presidential election's outcome, my sense of relief morphed into a cautious dread.

All in a flurried mixture I observed ecstatic gratitude, dancing in the streets and car horns blown by joyous drivers, along with bitterness, charges of voter fraud

and threats of legal retribution.

Among the worst signs of conflict was the report I heard from a Pennsylvania elections official, citing "calls to our offices reminding us that, 'This is what the Second Amendment is for'" — a clear threat and ridiculous misinterpretation of what the Constitution's right to bear arms actually means.

In the days to come I will hope for the best, but I'll be aware of my surroundings.

A few months ago I wrote about my amazing goddaughter, Kate, and how she prayed for my safety in the midst of

racial injustice for which she personally apologized. My heart was touched that, of all the things that might have been on a talented, smart, runway-model-beautiful, white teenager's mind, concern for my well-being was near the top of her list.

I remember telling her dad, my friend of almost 30 years, how sweet Kate had been to reach out to me; sweet, that's all I really thought about it.

But now, in the time that has passed that includes hostile protests, skirmishes in the street and a plot to kidnap Michigan's governor, I realize she was in

tune with the world around her.

The exploding chasm of politics has further widened to include not just race, but daily rhetoric that hints at violence and opposing policies on even the most critical health issue in 100 years.

We witness it all in living color, not through faded black and white images, but the tense mood throughout much of 2020 resembles scenes from the '60s. Marvin Gaye said it best when he sang, "Panic is spreading, God knows where we're heading" and "Makes me wanna holler, throw up both my hands."

As simmering resentment and lingering discontent follow the election, I realize one thing even more clearly than it's come to me in the past: My life is never impacted as directly by who occupies the offices of government as by the people I live, work and play with.

I haven't asked them all, but it's a safe bet that I've been in the company of people I view fondly who voted differently than I did this year. I'd guess that includes even colleagues at the Grosse Pointe News.

Regardless, my plan is to continue thinking of them as the generally decent, considerate,

supportive group I've come to know.

The same applies to folks I come across while moving about and covering the community: I'll smile when I see them and be happy to hear their voices when we chat on the phone, just like I did before Nov. 3.

But the world beyond my personal and professional circles feels a lot less certain, and the prospect of peaceful co-existence doesn't appear guaranteed. That's my strange reality, the one that leaves me without a clear plan.

I sure hope Kate is still praying, and not just for me.

YESTERDAY'S HEADLINES

1945

75 years ago this week

MEMORIAL PLAN GAINING HEADWAY: While many cities throughout the country are announcing definite decisions on war memorials to honor the men and women who served, and especially those who gave their lives in World War II, plans for a Pointe memorial are being formulated under the leadership of the Grosse Pointe Honor Roll Association.

Obituaries: John A. Bartemeier, Lt. Edward Hickey Murphy

1970

50 years ago this week

STUDENT CARTOON STIRS FUSS: A recent cartoon in the South High newspaper, *The Tower*, set off a flurry of discussion, a resolution, an amendment and an amendment to the amendment. The cartoon, which ran on the editorial page of *The Tower* Oct. 27, pertained to Proposal C and depicted a clergyman labeled "State" administering communion with communion wafers marked with dollar signs with a caption reading, "A m e n ."

Superintendent Theos Anderson and several school board members said they received numerous calls objecting to the cartoon.

Obituaries: Bertha Kolbe Kiesel, Marie R. Hill, Roberta Bolin Peters, Julia J. Dodge, Mary P. Gregoric, Henry A. Waldeck, Harriet Suttel

1995

25 years ago this week

DANAHER NAMED FARMS MAYOR: John Danaher can now take the "pro tem" off his title after the Grosse Pointe Farms

City Council voted 4-3 that he succeed departing Mayor Gregg Berendt. Edward Gaffney was selected as the new mayor pro tem.

WOODS PARK TO GET RETRACTABLE BRIDGE: Efforts to improve Lake Front Park continued last week when the Grosse Pointe Woods City Council approved spending \$165,000 to build a retractable bridge across Milk River. The bridge is the last of three proposed improvements to the park to be approved; the city already built a new boardwalk and a new Playscape in the park.

Obituaries: Edward P. Mabarak, William H. McGraw Jr., Eleanor R. Lamb, Margaret Lewis Bornhauser, Donald R.

McNew, Helen Josephine Kaiser, Dorothy Davidson, Emmet E. Tracy, Alger William Lodewyk, David Edward McCarron

2010

10 years ago this week

HEATING UNITS BREAK DOWN: Cold weather exposed a problem with heating units at public safety headquarters on Maumee. Three broken units on the building's roof were inspected Nov. 5, in response to a complaint of lack of heat in the public safety building. Contractors investigating the problem discovered all three heat exchangers in roof-mounted HVAC units

were cracked and rotting. **FG LIFTS SOUTH TO REGIONAL TITLE:** Junior Jon Parker etched his name in Grosse Pointe South's record books last weekend. His 28-yard field goal as time expired lifted the visiting Blue Devils to a come-from-behind 44-42 win over unbeaten Temperance Bedford, capturing the football team's regional championship.

Obituaries: George Batcha, Marie L. Gould, Robert Grosscup, Robert Paul Hurley, Louis Marick, Janice Pinchak, Stephen Joseph Pleva, Margo Jane Reed, Margaret Louise Collins, John F. Strehler, Mary Catherine Temrowski, Josephine Lamparski Murawski, Frank R. Weir

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8A | SCHOOLS

RESULTS:

Continued from page 1A

Revisiting the past

Ismail and Papas campaigned together on a platform of reopening Poupard and Trombly elementary schools and returning fifth graders to elementary school. The closures and fifth-grade move to middle school were part of a reconfiguration of the school district approved by the board in June 2019.

Fulfilling this promise will be more difficult, they acknowledge, without the support of Lauren Nowicki, Cindy Pangborn and John Steininger, who ran with them as part of a slate.

"There are so many unknown factors as to what we're going to do with those buildings right now," Papas said. "My wish is to reopen them and put fifth graders back where they belong. I campaigned on that. ... Yes, we have to look at fiscally responsible budgets, but in the end we had to cut those neighborhoods completely out of the equation. ... It can end up snowballing on us."

Ismail is not optimistic reversing these decisions will be possible without the support of the rest of the board.

"I think they will both die, which is unfortunate for those kids and for their parents and their property values," he said.

He added he plans to bring these ideas forward as motions, along with other items he called his "fix it" list during his campaign.

"To the extent we can see support, I'd like to see them implemented," he said. "All of them were important. To the extent we can't, we can't. You have to respect the board and move on."

Worden said while the topic of reconfiguration came up when she canvassed neighborhoods, residents mainly sought clarification.

"A few people asked me ... why they did it," she said. "What I said was nobody wanted to close schools, but more importantly, they didn't want teacher pay or resources to be cut. ... When I had a more lengthy conversation with people, they understood that."

Brumbaugh and Herd both said they heard concerns about moving fifth grade to the middle schools.

"The district needs to sell the community on fifth to middle because a lot of people are anxious about it," Brumbaugh said. "And it's not just people who have fifth graders this year or next year. A lot of people in the community have concerns about how this is going to happen and is it suitable."

He added the district was "operating at a disadvantage" without a full implementation of the plan due to the pandemic.

Whether concerns are insurmountable depends on whether they're addressed, he said.

Herd pointed out with only remote and hybrid learning in place this fall due to COVID-19, community members didn't have the opportunity to see plans come to fruition,

GPPSS BOE ELECTION RESULTS				
4-YEAR TERM / 2-YEAR TERM				
Candidate	Election Day	AV Counting Board	Total	
AHMED ISMAIL	3,608	7,888	11,496	10.94%
COLLEEN WORDEN	2,190	8,755	10,945	10.41%
LISA PAPAS	3,265	6,707	9,972	9.49%
DAVID BRUMBAUGH	2,223	7,621	9,844	9.36%
Lauren Nowicki	3,088	6,464	9,552	9.09%
Kathleen M. M. Abke (I)	1,866	7,604	9,470	9.01%
Cindy Pangborn (I)	2,868	6,369	9,237	8.79%
Cynthia M. Douglas	1,634	6,967	8,601	8.18%
George Bailey	1,553	7,604	6,334	6.03%
Shareef Simaika	1,215	3,503	4,718	4.49%
Christopher D'Angelo	1,176	3,097	4,273	4.06%
James Paul Joseph	1,395	2,823	4,218	4.01%
Jennifer Goossen	727	1,905	2,632	2.50%
Keersten Colleen Kassab	589	1,475	2,064	1.96%
Sherry Betcher *	486	952	1,438	1.37%
Total Votes	28,075	77,046	105,121	
JOSEPH HERD (I)	2,317	8,815	11,132	41.50%
John W. Steininger	3,197	6,258	9,455	35.24%
Theresa Vogler	1,831	4,235	6,066	22.61%
Total Votes	7,446	19,381	26,827	

*Withdrew from race

tion, such as keeping fifth graders in a home-room environment separate from the older students.

The campaign trail

The top concern on the campaign trail, candidates agree, was

returning students to the school buildings for in-person learning.

"I campaigned and canvassed in every single city and that was the No. 1 thing people asked me," Worden said. "I said I could relate to them because I have a fifth grader in middle school and I understood how difficult it was to have a child who was not seeing her teacher, was not seeing her peers and has to learn on the computer."

"Nothing can replace face-to-face learning," she added. "The first day (my daughter) came home from the first day of hybrid learning, she said that was the best first day ever. She was just a different kid when she went back."

Worden's focus is on a comprehensive in-person learning plan that will make students, staff and parents feel comfortable. Teacher input is critical, she added.

Papas also saw face-to-face learning as a top priority.

"Parents are at their breaking point. Kids have regressed," she said. "... My hat's off to anybody that is trying to deal with young kids (learning) virtually and work at the same time."

She added she was especially concerned about parents of elementary and middle school students and students with special needs who didn't receive therapies or services during the shutdown.

Herd said he heard comments from parents who wanted students back in school right away and those who believed "there really was no way to set up appropriate safety measures."

Top priorities

Hiring a new superintendent and declining enrollment are other top issues the new board members agree they will need to address when they take their oath of office in January.

A focus on enrollment begins with bringing back students lost due to the lack of face-to-face learning.

"We have to do a hard-core prep on bringing back those students," Ismail said. "That has to be almost job No. 1."

For the future, he suggested setting up an exit interview process to collect data on why families left the school district.

"I think we can win a lot of those folks back," Brumbaugh agreed. "I think a lot of the folks I have talked to who have left would be interested in coming back if we could do that work."

Coming together

Newly elected trustees said they are looking forward to working together as one board, bringing together a range of skills to the table. Ismail has a business background, Worden offers financial and legal expertise as an attorney, Papas is an educator, Brumbaugh is a career data analyst and Herd is a retired U.S. probation deputy chief.

"This was a hard-fought campaign and everybody that is on the board now worked hard to get on there," Worden said. "I am very optimistic now that we will be able to work together and get some business done. Everyone worked really hard on getting solutions to the problems that face our district. I'm really optimistic we're going to be able to do this civilly and do this respectfully. ... I see no reason we can't come up with great solutions for our district."

"One of the reasons I'm looking forward to working with the new members, at least two of them — Lisa Papas and Ahmed Ismail — (is) they were two people who seemed to see some of the things that needed improvement with the system," Herd said. "Maybe having them there can mean more

compromise. We can work on those things together and see if they're really possible. And they can add those ideas and we can talk about it as opposed to ... talking from other sides of the room and not really having an opportunity to collaborate."

"The job before January is to learn to understand the new board members and what their hot buttons are and what they plan to accomplish," Ismail said. "I plan on sitting down with every one of them and asking what (their) goals are and how do we go about getting them done. That's the first job."

Brumbaugh said he has had many constructive conversations with community members he hopes will lead to productive work in January.

"I want everybody who works for the district to know that the board and district is 100 percent around them," he said. "This is still a safe school system you want to be a part of so we can keep and retain the very best staff that makes our schools so great."

"I think everyone wants to go in there and get the job done," he added. "Hopefully we can put some of the campaign stuff in the rear-view mirror and move on."

Papas, too, is looking forward to working with her fellow board members, in spite of some of the rancor of the election.

"I think we have a good group," she said. "I want to work collaboratively and positively and work toward solutions. I think we have new faces and there are really great people who care about kids."

As a music teacher, she joked she may need to come up with a theme song for the board.

"The sun will come up tomorrow," she said. "I may get all seven up there singing and dancing."

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PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

University Liggett School celebrates 50 years during the 2020-21 academic year.

ULS marks 50-year milestone

University Liggett School is celebrating its golden anniversary this year.

The 2020-21 academic session marks 50 years since students first graduated under the united University Liggett School identity in spring 1971.

ULS has operated as University Liggett School since the merger of Grosse Pointe University School and The Liggett School in the 1969-70 school year. ULS celebrated its first official graduating class in spring 1971. Students in the Class of 1970 were given the opportunity to graduate as either a GPUS student or a Liggett School student. All students officially graduated under a united ULS identity beginning with the 1970-71 school year.

The school plans to mark this historic milestone with a commemorative gold shield logo and social media campaigns highlighting events and notable faculty and staff from its 50-year his-

tory.

“It is an honor to steward an institution that has for 50 years dedicated itself to preparing young people to meet and solve the challenges of the modern world,” said Head of School Bart Bronk in a news release. “As we continue to encounter obstacles unimaginable until last spring, we are bolstered by the knowledge that we can overcome the most significant of challenges and continue providing an educational experience rich with meaning while doing it. Adaptability and resilience are traits that we owe to our predecessor schools that paved the way.”

The school’s legacy goes back much further than 50 years. The first of the predecessor schools, Detroit Home and Day School, was founded in 1878 by the Rev. James Liggett and changed

See MILESTONE, page 10A

BOE election results by city

By Mary Anne Brush
Staff Writer

Election results by city for the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education race tell a similar story as the overall results.

For the four-year term, top vote-getter Ahmed Ismail, who led second-place winner Colleen Worden by 551 total votes, placed in the top three in all five Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods. He was first in Grosse Pointe Farms and Grosse Pointe Shores, second in the City of Grosse Pointe, Grosse Pointe Woods and Harper Woods and third in Grosse Pointe Park.

Ismail trailed Worden by only 79 votes in the City and 188 in the Woods, where both are residents. In Harper Woods, he fell behind Woods resident Cynthia Douglas by 107 votes.

Worden, who led third-place winner Lisa Papas by 997 votes — the biggest gap between any of the four winning candidates — placed first or second in four of the six cities. In addition to winning the City and Woods, she came in second in the Farms and Park, trailing Ismail by 355 votes in the former and David Brumbaugh by 576 in the latter.

Slow and steady won third place for City of Grosse Pointe resident Papas, who didn’t emerge at the top in any city, even her own, but managed solid ranking in each, including No. 2 in the Shores — behind Ismail by 97 votes — No. 3 in the Farms and Harper Woods and No. 4 in the Woods.

Only 128 votes separated Papas from Brumbaugh, who secured the fourth and final seat on the board, edging out Park resident Lauren Nowicki by 292 votes. Brumbaugh was the clear winner in the Park by the widest margin between first and second place. He also placed third in the City and fourth in the Farms.

Incumbent Joseph Herd, a Woods resident, won the two-year term as the frontrunner in the City, Park and Woods, with John Steininger coming in second overall and winning the Farms, his city of residence, and the Shores. In third place was Park resident Theresa Vogler, who earned top billing in Harper Woods.

Herd led Steininger by 555 votes in the Woods, 551 in the Park and 162 in the City. Steininger’s edge over Herd by 128 votes in the Farms and 198 in the Shores was not enough to make up the difference and Herd claimed the seat with a lead over Steininger of 1,187 votes.

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Wayne County enhancement millage renewal passes

By Mary Anne Brush
Staff Writer

Sixty-eight percent of voters approved renewing the Wayne County regional enhancement millage on the ballot in the general election Nov. 3, with 495,282 voting for it and 232,908 opposing it.

“It passed overwhelmingly,” said Randy Liepa, superintendent of Wayne Regional Educational Service Agencies. “Obviously we’re very grateful to the voters of Wayne County to want to continue this funding for local schools.”

The victory, in his view, was a testament to school districts who won the confidence of their local communities.

“One of the themes we had with the millage was ‘promises made, promises kept.’” Liepa said. “I think after years of the community seeing how these funds support local schools, they looked at this as a

valuable investment and wanted to continue it.”

The proven track record for school districts throughout Wayne County, the fact it was a renewal and not a new tax and an awareness of the importance of funding in the midst of a pandemic contributed to its widespread support, Liepa said.

“If you look at school millages across the area since the pandemic started, going back to May elections, people are looking at schools and understanding they need resources right now.

That potentially was an impact also. People have been by and large supporting their local communities with investments in local education. This follows that trend also.”

Voters first approved the six-year enhancement millage in 2016. The proposal, for 2 mills levied for six years beginning in 2016, passed countywide with

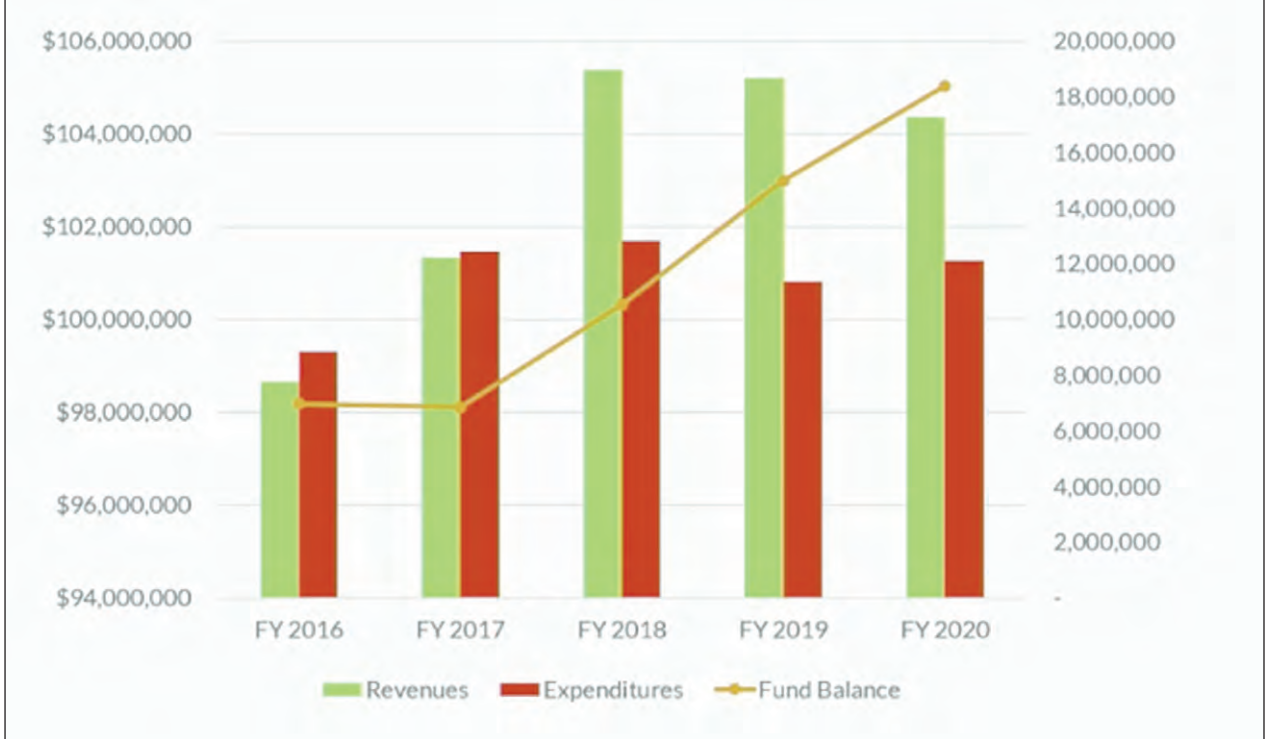


CHART COURTESY OF PLANTE MORAN

The growth in fund balance the last several years mirrors the school district’s receipt of funds from the Wayne County enhancement millage.

MILESTONE:

Continued from page 9A

its name to The Liggett School in 1912.

Detroit University School, the second predecessor school, was founded in 1899 by Frederick Leroy Bliss and Henry Gray Sherrard.

Legend has it that an epidemic of typhoid prompted the founding of the third predecessor

school, Grosse Pointe Country Day School, in 1915. As a wartime measure to pool financial oversight, in 1941 CDS and DUS merged boards. The two schools comprehensively merged in 1954 to form Grosse Pointe University School, or GPUS.

Finally, GPUS and The Liggett School joined in 1969 to become University Liggett School.

— Mary Anne Brush

368,799 votes in favor and 313,692 opposed.

Although the millage wasn’t set to expire until 2022, by state law the proposal only can be placed on the ballot in even years, Liepa said. Waiting until 2021 to renew it would have meant school districts wouldn’t have known if these resources were available to them when approving 2022 budgets.

The six-year renewal begins in 2022 and will generate approximately \$80 million a year, or \$300 per student annually, with “every single dime” going into local school systems, according to Liepa.

In 2016, voters in Grosse Pointe and

Harper Woods opposed the enhancement millage, with 12,421 voting in favor and 14,604 against. The millage generated the most support in Grosse Pointe Park, failing by only 32 votes.

The contrast in 2020 is stark, with all five Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods approving the renewal of the enhancement millage. The ballot issue garnered a total of 24,605 votes in favor and 12,461 against.

The millage received the most support in Harper Woods, with 75 percent of voters approving it, followed by 70 percent in Grosse Pointe Park, 68 percent in the City of Grosse

Pointe, 65 percent in Grosse Pointe Woods, 57 percent in Grosse Pointe Farms and 51 percent in Grosse Pointe Shores, where residents favored it by only 35 votes.

Renewed at its current rate, the millage costs the average Wayne County homeowner less than \$8 a month, with 100 percent of funds going to Wayne County public schools and public school academies. The addition of public school academies, or charter schools, is new in 2022.

To date, the Grosse Pointe Public School System has received nearly \$12 million from the enhancement mill-

age, using those funds primarily to grow the fund balance to 18.2 percent of expenditures. The district has conservatively estimated \$2.7 million in revenue for this fiscal year’s budget, according to Deputy Superintendent for Business Operations Amanda Matheson.

“We’re just thrilled that people see this as a valuable asset to their schools,” Liepa said. “I think it’s a testament to the local school boards and a testament to the taxpayers and residents in Wayne County that they value education and think now is an important time to continue that investment. So we’re just grateful.”



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Protecting those who serve

St. John Guild secures bulletproof vests for hospital guards

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Since 1948, the St. John Guild has raised more than \$18 million to assist innumerable patients at Ascension St. John Hospital by providing much-needed medical

equipment, technology and services.

Most of its funds are raised through its annual dinner. The 2020 event, which was canceled due to COVID-19, would have been its 60th.

However, good still is coming from proceeds



From left, Ascension St. John Security Police Officers Todd Duncan and J-Michael Jeffries, with K-9 Dice, and Sgt. David Cleveland wear their new bulletproof vests, with Operations Manager Robert Haddad.

raised at the 2019 dinner. While a majority of last year's dinner proceeds were earmarked for the

hospital's surgical and pediatric services expansion project, another chunk — \$10,000 — was used for a different venture.

"I wanted to do something for the security team," said Sean Lane, vice president of the Guild. "Every year the Guild does something at the hospital — it could be in the NICU or the ER or somewhere else. But we haven't done security yet."

Lane reached out to then-security director Harold Jones and asked if the department had a wish list.

"He said yes, they need bulletproof vests," Lane said.

In response, the Guild purchased 15 bulletproof vests for the Security Police Department at St.

John.

"Their certification is through the Detroit Police Department," Lane said. "They follow DPD protocol; these are the same vests the DPD uses."

Of the 15 vests, two have yet to be delivered. Manager of Operations Robert Haddad, in charge of the security police team, said the 50-member department is appreciative of the acknowledgement.

"If we put them in harm's way, we should give them all the tools they need to protect themselves," Haddad said, noting his team is "very involved" with active shooter training and the vests will be a beneficial addition during drills as well.

"It's a great investment in the officers," he added,

noting the Guild "has always valued us and this is an indication that they do."

Lane said he thinks the need to protect security officers is important for several reasons, including the fact his wife works at the hospital. But it's also a matter of common sense, he said.

"That's a big complex," he said. "If something goes awry, I want to make sure these people who are protecting our patients and loved ones are protected, too."

Added Haddad, "We want to make sure at the time they need them the most, they have them. We're always prepared. I believe preparedness is the key to prevention. Still, I pray to God we never have to use any of this stuff."



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

From left, Past President Dan Roma, Vice President Sean Lane and President Greg DeMars at a previous Guild event.

Officer Collin Rose Memorial Foundation seeks families for Operation Blue Santa

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Residents may notice a few new collection boxes around Grosse Pointe this month, as the Officer Collin Rose Memorial Foundation hosts its first Operation Blue Santa campaign.

Recognizing that Christmas this year may be more difficult for some, the organization is collecting funds, as well as toy donations for local families. They're enlisting the help of public safety officers to identify families who could use the extra help.

All of these efforts are being done in the name of Collin Rose, a Wayne State University police officer who was killed in

the line of duty in November 2016.

"Collin had a soft spot for kids," said Chris Powell, a Grosse Pointe Woods resident and foundation president. "We figured this was something good we could do this year. A lot of families are in a position they wouldn't have been in last year because of COVID. ... We thought this was a natural fit given everything that's going on. And we thought (Rose) would love it; his parents are totally on board with the idea."

The project's scope reaches a broad area: "We grabbed everywhere Collin had a footprint or where our board members work," Powell said.

To be eligible, families with children ages 2 to 12



COURTESY PHOTO

Operation Blue Santa honors the life of Officer Collin Rose, who was killed in the line of duty in November 2016.

should reside in Battle Creek, Clinton Township, Dearborn, Detroit, Grosse Pointe Woods, Muskegon, New Baltimore, Richland, Royal Oak, St. Clair Shores or Traverse City.

And while the foundation is looking for nominations through law enforcement referrals, people can nominate a family or apply for assistance on the foundation website.

"Part of the vetting process is from the officers," Powell said. "They're the ones who've seen the worst of the worst."

Initially, the foundation budgeted support for 10 families; however, incoming donations have expanded that support. Foundation members hope to continue to gain

the support and goodwill of residents, businesses and civic groups who may opt to adopt more families.

"We're going to hear from citizens who want to adopt families, too," Powell added, noting donations are welcome. "We're not running any other campaigns right now. Any donations will be earmarked for Blue Santa."

"For us, if we can help parents have one less thing to worry about and brighten Christmas morning for these children ... that's our hope," Powell said. "With luck, we can help 20 families."

Those interested in supporting Operation Blue

See SANTA, page 2B

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AREA ACTIVITIES

Library

The Grosse Pointe Public Library hosts the following virtual programs:

- ◆ MUSH! Meet Noggin and Karen, 4 to 5 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 12. Karen Land is a three-time participant in the Iditarod Sled Dog Race; Noggin is her Alaskan husky.
- ◆ Tween Writers Group, 6:30 to 7:45 p.m.

- Monday, Nov. 16.
 - ◆ Ladies Virtual Dance Dance Party Party, 8 to 9 p.m. Monday, Nov. 16.
 - ◆ Read, Rhyme & Play on Zoom, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 17.
 - ◆ FAFSA Family Workshop, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 17, with financial aid advisor Carrie Gilchrist.
 - ◆ Women on Opposite Sides of the Law, 7 to 8

- p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 17, with authors D. M. Testa and Shayne Davidson.
 - ◆ Let's Play: Among Us, 4 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 18.
 - ◆ Lincoln and Thanksgiving, 7 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 18.
 - ◆ Nonfiction Book Club, 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 19. The group will discuss

"Bad Blood" by John Carreyrou.

Register at grossepointelibrary.org or call (313) 640-4775.

Gilda's Club Lake House

Gilda's Club's Lake House location, 23500 Pare, St. Clair Shores, hosts the following virtual programs:

- ◆ 6 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 12, Bereavement: Finding Your Way.
 - ◆ 6 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 12, Pancreatic Cancer Support Group.
 - ◆ 1:30 to 3 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 18, Gynecological Cancers Support Group.
 - ◆ 6 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 19, Bereavement: Finding Your Way.
- Register at gildasclubdetroit.org/events/calendar.

Rotary

The Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe hosts its next meeting virtually at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 18. Ashley Holmer of the Red Sweater Project speaks. Visit grossepointerotary.org for information.

Toastmasters

Northeastern Toastmasters meets via Zoom at 7 p.m. the second and fourth Monday of each month. Call (313) 720-8444 for the link and password.

Blood drives

- ◆ 1 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 18, St. Lucy Catholic Church, 23401 Jefferson, St. Clair Shores.
 - ◆ 9 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. Friday, Nov. 20, McCann Ice Arena, 1044 Cook, Grosse Pointe Woods.
 - ◆ 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 22, St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 21620 Greater Mack, St. Clair Shores.
 - ◆ 7:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Friday, Nov. 27, Ascension St. John Hospital, 22101 Moross, Detroit.
 - ◆ 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday, Nov. 30, Pier Park, 350 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.
- Register at redcrossblood.org.

The Helm

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

- ◆ Strength & Balance, 1 to 2 p.m. Tuesdays, Nov. 17 to Dec. 22. Cost is \$30 for members, \$40 for nonmembers.
- ◆ Grooves Trifecta: A Cardio Workout, 1 to 2 p.m. Thursdays, Nov. 19 to Jan. 7. Cost is \$25 for members, \$30 for non-

members. Note: Class is not held Thursdays, Nov. 26, Dec. 24 or Dec. 31.

◆ The movie "Judy" is shown 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 20. Members pay \$2 for snacks and the movie; nonmembers pay \$3.

◆ Medicare Counseling, free to members and nonmembers. Call Molly French at (313) 649-2110 to schedule an appointment.

◆ Yoga, 9 to 10 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

◆ Chair yoga, 10:15 to 11:15 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. A new class was added 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays.

◆ Tai Chi Beginner Class, 9 to 10 a.m. Thursdays.

◆ Continuing Tai Chi, 9 to 10 a.m. Tuesdays.

◆ Active Fit, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Mondays and Wednesdays.

◆ Grief Work support group, 2 to 4 p.m. Thursdays.

NAMI

The National Alliance on Mental Illness Metro Peer-Led Recovery Support Group, for people living with mental health issues, meets virtually at 7 p.m. every Monday. There is no cost to participate. Call Lisa at (805) 450-1994 or email lisajonesmentalhealth@gmail.com.

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 <p>SPRINGLE 5 month old male Brown Tabby with White To Adopt this Cat Call GPAAS (313) 884-1551 SPONSORED BY:  JEFFERY TORRICE (313) 881-0200</p>	 <p>WEBSTER 2 year old male Shorthair Orange Tabby To Adopt this Cat Call GPAAS (313) 884-1551 SPONSORED BY:  ROY O'BRIEN SUZANNE STERR CLEM (586) 601-1401</p>	 <p>ELSA 2 year old female Shorthair Calico Tabby To Adopt this Cat Call GPAAS (313) 884-1551 SPONSORED BY:  JEFFERY TORRICE (313) 881-0200</p>

SANTA:

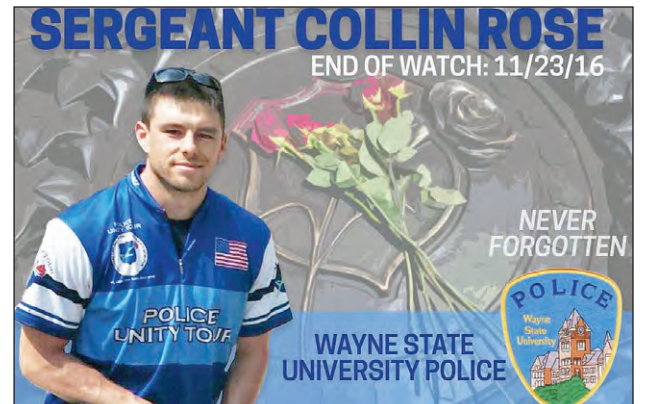
Continued from page 1B

Santa may donate on the foundation's website or its Facebook page; checks also may be mailed to 18640 Mack Ave., Unit 361307, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236.

"We're not looking to turn anyone down, but we're a small organization," Powell added. "We'll do what we can with what we have. It's our first time tackling something like this. ... We're looking forward to helping out as best we can and keeping Collin's name out there."

While Operation Blue Santa started as a financial campaign, "People started asking us where they could drop off toys," said Mark Laquere, a Farms public safety officer and foundation treasurer. "People jumped on board so quick, it morphed into a toy drive."

Collection boxes should appear soon in some area businesses, as well as at the Grosse Pointe Farms Public Safety building,



Laquere said.

"Finding these families that we deal with daily and helping them for Christmas, helping the communities we serve, is important to us," he added. "It's something so we can remember Collin in a positive light. He loved kids. He loved interacting with people. That's part of what made him a great officer."

The foundation has been able to help a lot of families this year, Powell said, noting the financial support it regularly provides to Line of Duty Death survivors, among other support it offers.

"It's been nice to be able to have our name

attached and do good and be part of assisting families," he added. "We're finding ways to keep Collin's name live."

Laquere agreed. "We've done really well," he said. "And I can't say enough for the local businesses we deal with. There have been very few residents and even fewer businesses I've approached (for help) who have said no. Everybody's stepped up."

For more information about the campaign or to apply, visit collinrosememorial.org/bluesanta. Paperwork must be received by 5 p.m. Friday, Nov. 27.

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Resiliency Hub offers programs, resources in one place

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Following its vision “to be the first source for building resilient families to ensure a thriving community,” The Family Center of Grosse Pointe & Harper Woods has developed its Resiliency Hub, “a one-stop shop for this year’s programs and resources,” said Jennifer Bingaman, communications and program coordinator for The Family Center.

“In looking at the needs of our community, specifically during the pandemic, the board felt resiliency as the unifying theme of our programming this year was a way to help families cope with uncertainty and give parents tools for navigating this time with grace and optimism,” Bingaman said. “Putting these resources in one place on our website is our way of helping families quickly find the information they need, be it programs, articles or referrals to our Association of Professionals.”

The hub includes local programs and resources to help people cope with the realities of today’s world, as well as learn tools that increase one’s ability to deal with life’s stresses. The programs are virtual, recorded and available to view on The Family Center website and YouTube channel after they’ve first streamed.

“We, like so many organizations, are sad to not be able to provide in-person events because personal connection is so important to what we do,” Bingaman said. “But we recognized not everyone was able to attend

our programs due to scheduling or personal comfort level. Recorded content allows us to be more accessible, to meet people where they are — on their own timetable and in the comfort of their own homes. Several of our videos have well over 100 views. We are grateful to be able to provide online content that resonates with families and will continue to record our presentations in the future.”

And there is something for everyone, Bingaman added.

parents are feeling at home and in their workplaces, we are also featuring a webinar on conducting a job search and a fireside chat on building resilience in your marriage.”

In addition to its Resiliency Hub, The Family Center has added a wellness component to its programming, Bingaman said.

“We partnered with The Corner Studio and The War Memorial to provide free Community Meditation and Family Yoga in The War Memorial’s giant

‘... the board felt resiliency as the unifying theme of our programming this year was a way to help families cope with uncertainty and give parents tools for navigating this time with grace and optimism.’

JENNIFER BINGAMAN
Communications & Program Coordinator,
The Family Center

“There’s this great quote from Neil Gaiman: ‘Google can bring you back 100,000 answers. A librarian can bring you back the right one,’” she said. “Anyone can Google a topic or a problem and find answers, but The Family Center offers local, vetted resources.”

“Currently all the programs listed are sponsored by The Family Center,” she added. “This fall we are supporting parents with programs about understanding adolescent brain development, helping children navigate this unique school year and strategies for managing the physical and mental stress of prolonged uncertainty. In response to the tremendous stress many

100-by-40-foot tent overlooking the lake,” she said. “We had hoped to continue the classes indoors, but we are complying with county recommendations and therefore may not be able to gather for additional classes until the spring.”

“In the meantime, we hope people who specialize in complementary care such as occupational therapists, nutritionists, life coaches and fitness instructors will join our Association of Professionals so we can continue to highlight wellness and have a base to refer clients to.”

For more information, check out the Resiliency Hub online at familycenterweb.org or call (313) 447-1374.



PHOTO BY JACK RYAN

Food donated

Grosse Pointe Farms businessman Sean Lane recently dropped off trays of food for the public safety departments in all five Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods. Using leftover funds raised this summer through “Back the Blue,” a GoFundMe effort to bring a lunchtime food truck to feed Pointes first responders, Lane was able to feed day-shift officers in Grosse Pointe Woods, Shores, City and Park and Harper Woods, as well as afternoon-shift officers in Grosse Pointe Farms. Pictured, from left, are Farms Public Safety Officer Keith Colombo, Lane and Farms Public Safety Officer Jonathan Ross.

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4B | FEATURES

OBITUARIES

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

John J. Ahee

John Jude Ahee, Grosse Pointe Shores resident and co-owner of Edmund T. AHEE jewelers in Grosse Pointe Woods, passed away Thursday, Nov. 5, 2020. He was 56.

The youngest of Edmund and Bettejean Ahee's seven children, John worked with his siblings to continue his parents' legacy, both within the walls of the jewelry store and out into the community with an unwavering commitment to philanthropy.

John was born in Detroit on July 5, 1964, at St. John Hospital and Medical Center (now Ascension Michigan) and grew up in Grosse Pointe. He attended Our Lady Star of the Sea elementary and middle schools, then graduated from Grosse Pointe North High School in 1982. John earned a BA in Economics and Management in 1986 from Albion College, where he also served as Union Board President. A natural and skilled leader from an early age, John also served as president of his Middle School and High School classes. In 2012, he received the Grosse Pointe North Distinguished Alumni award for his outstanding individual achievements and contributions after high school. John was very proud and humbled by this recognition.

Upon graduating from Albion, John returned to Grosse Pointe to work for Edmund T. AHEE jewelers, where he had already begun learning the inner workings of the jewelry trade since the age of 8. Working alongside his father and mother, he saw firsthand the importance of "giving customers more than they expect" — a value and family legacy John strived to carry on throughout his career. During the course of his 45 years at AHEE Jewelers, John served in a variety of positions.

Whether he was assisting customers, purchasing merchandise, appraising or collaborating with designers and industry partners, John knew every aspect of the business. He became an integral part of the business succession after Edmund T. Ahee passed away in 1999, drawing him into more of a behind-the-scenes leadership role. John loved all parts of the business, but he especially loved seeing clients and families at the store and always took the time to visit with them. There was no question that his work was his passion.

Some of John's favorite efforts for the company included maintaining the trusted business and philanthropic AHEE brand through advertising and special events. In addition to his busy professional career he was a lifelong member of the St. John Men's Guild, St. John Hospital McQuade Society and was the cofounder of the Capuchin Souper Summer Celebration.

John credited his spirit of giving to his parents, who practiced gratefulness and lived by the adage that it is better to give than to receive. In 1981, the Ahee Family (Edmund, Bettejean, John and his siblings) co-founded the annual Capuchin Souper Summer Celebration to benefit the Capuchin Soup Kitchen in Detroit. John was an integral part of the vision of the event and its eventual transition to Comerica Park. In the 39 years since its inception, the fundraiser has contributed over \$6 million to the Capuchins.

Dedicated to continuing his parents' legacy of philanthropy, John was a generous supporter of education. In addition to supporting his alma maters Albion College and Our Lady Star of the Sea, his generosity touched The Grosse Pointe Academy and University Liggett School. Though compas-

sionate in all his community involvement, the Capuchin Soup Kitchen held the most special place in John's heart.

Devoted to his Catholic faith, John was a member of Our Lady Star of the Sea and also enjoyed attending St. Bonaventure Capuchin Monastery with his family. He was exceedingly proud when AHEE Jewelers was given the rare privilege of creating jewelry for the Church in 1987, and one of his most memorable and profound life experiences was his 1994 visit with Pope St. John Paul II at the Vatican.

In 1993, John married Connie Zacks, whom he had met while attending Albion. They were married 27 years, an experience Connie calls "an amazing adventure." Three years into their marriage, at the age of 32, John was diagnosed with a rare cancerous brain tumor, which was followed by surgery, extensive treatment and many years of recovery. John was committed to beating cancer — not just for himself, but for anyone he could help. He became a cheerleader and resource to so many who suffered similar issues. Always there to encourage friends, friends-of-friends and even strangers, he made time for anyone needing support or assistance.

John cherished being a father to the couple's two children, Zachary, 18, and Anna, 15. A true kid at heart, he brought his lighthearted character and the ability to laugh at himself and put on a silly face to the core of his family. Always positive, he parented with love, even in moments of discipline. His appreciation of laughter and playfulness, as well as his deep commitment to faith, are values he made sure to pass on to his children.

John's love of fun and taking care of people went hand in hand with his love of planning parties for family, friends



John J. Ahee



Milton Henkel



Frank Cairns

and even clients. He was masterful at organizing extravagant events and prided himself on being able to coordinate intricately detailed affairs. A favorite was their theatrical mystery "Titanic Party," complete with detectives, stolen property and even an arrest of one of the guests as the culprit.

John also loved food, with chocolate chip cookies being his weakness. Other favorites were Lebanese dishes, lamb chops and Caesar salad. Committed to good health, he made sure everything was healthy and organic — even in his last days he did his daily exercises and physical therapy.

John Jude Ahee treated every day as a gift. He never counted the days, but rather he made the days count. In the spirit of Blessed Solanus Casey, John "thanked God ahead of time." Whatever the setback, he never complained — he simply pursued, never looking back, only looking forward. John will be remembered for his deep love of faith, family and community and his kind heart and immense generosity. He will be remembered for considering his customers as his friends and his friends as his family. He was loved by all who knew him.

John was the beloved husband of Connie Ahee; loving father of Zachary and Anna; dearest son of the late Edmund T. and Bettejean Ahee (nee Joseph); dear brother of Lowell (Gina), Pamela (Chuck Thomas), Peter (Lisa), Gregory (Beth), Christopher (Julie) and the late Edmund T. Jr. (Eoanna); dearest son-in-law of Ken and Mary Zacks; brother-in-law of Goudy Zacks; and dearest uncle of Lowell Jr., Erica (Scott Thomas), Jennifer (Matthew Savage), Brielle, Alexis, Charles Thomas (January), Alex Thomas, Jonathan Thomas, Edmund III (Kari), Nicholas (Megan), Stefan, Andre, Adrianna (Max Birnbaum), Anthony (Megan), Alexander (Nicole), Gregory, William, Christopher (Theresa) and Lauren (Mark Aliahmad). He also was great-uncle to 23 great-nieces and nephews.

Due to COVID-19 precautions, no public visitation or public funeral will be held. A private funeral Mass of Resurrection was held Wednesday, Nov. 11, at St. Bonaventure Chapel at the Solanus Casey Center in Detroit. For the livestream recording of the service, please visit the Solanus Casey website at solanuscenter.org.

Arrangements were entrusted to Wujek-Calcaterra & Sons, Inc.

In keeping with the lifelong efforts of John and his parents to feed the hungry and clothe the poor, memorial contributions in his honor

may be made to The Capuchins, 1820 Mt. Elliott St., Detroit, MI, 48207, thecapuchins.org/ministries/detroit.

Milton Henkel

Milton Henkel, a lifelong resident of the Grosse Pointes, died Sunday, Nov. 1, 2020, at home with his devoted wife, Martha, at his side. The son of Edward and Ruth Henkel, he was 93.

Milt and his brother, Eddie, followed in their father's footsteps and made their careers in commercial real estate at the firm their father founded. The brothers remained close, shared a partners' desk and enjoyed their daily ritual lunch for decades at the Sign of the Beefcarver restaurant.

Milt graduated high school from the Detroit University School in 1945. He attended Kenyon College and graduated from Michigan State University. He also served in the U.S. Navy.

Milt was president of the American Institute of Real Estate Appraisers. He was a Lifetime member of the Country Club of Detroit, where he played paddle tennis and golf; he also rode horses at the Grosse Pointe Hunt Club around the corner.

Milt married Julienne Chapman in 1955. They enjoyed 39 years together and raised three children. During annual vacations to Amelia Island, Milt and Julie pursued their shared passion for golf. They also traveled with their children to Hilton Head Island each year.

After Julie's death, Milt was blessed to find love and companionship in his remaining years with his marriage to Martha Sattley, also an avid golfer. He and Martha were fortunate to spend 26 years together.

Milt and Martha loved their annual vacations at Vero Beach, Fla. They often stopped in Charlottesville, Va., for more rounds of golf at the Farmington Country Club on their way back to Grosse Pointe. One of Milt's favorite traditions was an annual trip to Pointe Aux Barques with a group of golfing buddies. The group formed a tournament, The Thumb Cup, that was a fun-filled competitive romp of 16 "boys."

Martha was totally committed to Milt throughout their marriage. They shared a delightful balance of humor and kindness. When Milt experienced health issues in his 90s, Martha organized and accompanied him on daily walks, pushing the small cart one lap around the Kroger store on Marter Road. As Milt's health declined, he and Martha took daily drives past the horses at the Hunt Club, where they counted the horses, and to Windmill Pointe, where they counted the

freighters.

Milt's family and many friends will miss this gentle man and are comforted by shared memories.

Milt was predeceased by his parents and siblings, Edward Henkel, Jeanette DeHayes and Ruth Sherman. He is survived by his wife, Martha; children, Taylor Henkel (Terry), Kathleen Tweed (Scott) and Steven Henkel (Joan); six grandchildren; one great-grandchild; several nieces and nephews; and an abundance of friends.

A private family service will take place at Elmwood Cemetery in Detroit.

Memorial contributions may be made to The Cradle, 2049 Ridge Ave., Evanston, IL 60201; or the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 22478, Oklahoma City, OK 73123.

Frank Cairns

Grosse Pointe Woods resident Frank Cairns, 92, died Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2020. He was born Nov. 11, 1927, in Sandwich, Ontario, Canada, the son of John and Sarah (nee O'Connor) Cairns.

Frank served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II from 1944 to 1945, and as a 1st Lt. during the Korean War from 1951 to 1953.

He began his studies toward a Bachelor of Science degree in marketing at the University of Illinois in 1945, and completed his degree at the University of Detroit in 1950. Frank also earned an MBA from U of D in 1960.

He was personnel director at Chrysler Co., from 1964 to 1988.

Frank and Therese Jaglois were married May 9, 1953, and together raised five children, Robert, Terry (Anne), Mary Pat, Michael (Rosemary) and Catherine (Aaron).

Widowed in 2002, Frank thereafter met Geraldine Coughlin. Frank and Geri were married in 2005, in Florida. Together they enjoyed traveling and spending time with friends.

Frank is survived by his wife, Geraldine; four children; 12 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his son, Michael, in September; and siblings, John, Thomas, Patricia and JoAnne.

A celebration of life gathering takes place at 11 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 21, followed by the funeral Mass at noon at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church, 467 Fairford, Grosse Pointe Woods.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Capuchin Soup Kitchen, cskdetroit.org.

Share a memory at ahpeters.com.

See OBITS, page 5B

Fred Kappaz

It is with a heavy heart we announce the passing of Fred Kappaz, our loving brother, uncle, cousin, and friend on November 4, 2020. He had just turned 93.

He left us while sleeping peacefully at his home of 57 years in Harper Woods, Michigan that he shared with his loving wife Esther (deceased). Dream a little dream . . . hold her tight!

Born in Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan to the late Nicholas and Mary Kappaz. His illustrious career began in Kappaz Market until his enlistment in the Armed Forces where he served honorably during the Korean conflict. Upon returning he became the quintessential sales person for Chevrolet and later Peterson Publishing where he enjoyed stellar performance.

Fred was an avid golfer and life-long member of Lochmoor Country Club, his home away from home. Those who knew him know he loved cards in the men's grill, a good cigar and CC on the rocks. He was even known to sport some of the more stylish golf couture. His infectious laugh will be missed by all!

His claim to fame, his impeccable yard, with grass resembling that of a



golf green, even requiring a special mower to manure it perfectly. To say he was a perfectionist is putting it mildly! From his exuberant voice to the cigar clenched in his teeth he had such a great presence.

He was preceded in death by brother, George A. Kappaz (Helen); sister, Irene Green (Harry P. Green deceased); and sister, Gloria

Kappaz.

He will be dearly missed by brother, Edward N. Kappaz, Sr. (Carol deceased); Nieces Colleen Reed (John deceased), Chrissy Acey (Joe Acey), Julie Kappaz (Terry Ledford) Suzy Kappaz, and Kay Johnson; Nephews, Ed Kappaz, Jr. (Claudine), Michael Kappaz (Jessica) Paul Kappaz (Rosalie), George Kappaz (Linda), and Nicholas Kappaz; plus cousins, and great nieces and nephews. All of whom he loved and touched deeply. Over the years, his many friends, both past and present, also came to mean so much to him.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Gleaners Community Food Bank located at 2131 Beaufait, Detroit MI 48207 or may be made through their website at gcfb.org.

OBITS:

Continued from page 4B

Grant Wilson Kurtz

Grant Wilson Kurtz, 78, passed away Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2020, in Naples, Fla.

Born Jan. 19, 1942, in Lancaster, Ohio, Grant's father, Harry C. Kurtz, was a physician anesthesiologist and his mother, Margaret Kurtz, was a registered nurse.

Grant graduated from Grosse Pointe High School in 1960. He attended Ohio Wesleyan University in Delaware, Ohio, where he met his wife of 55 years, Christine Anderson Kurtz. After his graduation in 1964, he taught junior high school math and science classes and coached three sports teams.

Grant and Chris were married in 1965, and moved to Marion, Ohio, where Grant was a stockbroker. To advance Grant's career, the couple moved to Columbus. In 1986, Grant and Chris moved to Hartford, Conn., where Grant joined the Advest Group management team and rose to the position of chairman and CEO. When Grant retired in 2004, he and Chris became full-time residents of Bonita Springs, Fla. They moved to Moorings Park at Grey Oaks, in Naples, in 2017.

Grant enjoyed many accomplishments, including roles on the Business Conduct Committee and district committees for the National Association of Securities Dealers, Regional Firms Committee. He also won the Securities Industry Association's Chairman's Award. Grant was on the board of directors at Ohio Wesleyan University, Boys and Girls Clubs of Hartford and Connecticut Council on Economic Education. He raised \$27 million as chairman of campaign fundraising for the United Way and served as president of the Connecticut Rivers Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

Grant was an avid



Grant Wilson Kurtz



Mary Hoagland

Mary Tiedeman Hoagland

Mary Tiedeman Hoagland of Denver, Colo., died peacefully Saturday, Oct. 31, 2020, at home surrounded by family. Born Aug. 19, 1924, in Savannah, Ga., she lived in Grosse Pointe for most of her childhood.

Mary was a beloved wife, mother and grandmother, an inspiring role model, a path-breaking attorney and a diehard Colorado Rockies fan. She left a powerful legacy — a life full of love and deep friendships and an unwavering commitment to the causes to which she devoted her formidable energy, talents, courage and wisdom.

Mary was happily married to Donald Wright Hoagland more than 60 years, until his death in 2012. She was the mother of Peter McLean Hoagland, Mary Hoagland-Scher, Sara "Suki" Hodges Hoagland and Ann Wright Hoagland Simonds; and grandmother of 12 grandchildren.

An economics major, Mary graduated from Smith College in 1946. She and Don married in 1949; they lived in Manhattan, where Mary worked at the Museum of Modern Art. In 1951, the young couple moved to Denver and built a life enriched by family and a dedication to furthering the ideals they shared for educational opportunity, civil rights and access to legal representation. They also developed an abiding attachment to Colorado.

In the 1970s, Mary became increasingly involved in the women's rights movement. A founding member of the National Organization for Women and the Women's Forum, she was an active supporter

of female candidates for political office. Determined to have the impact she wanted, at 51, Mary earned a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Denver Law School in 1975.

A family law attorney, Mary championed the rights of women facing discrimination, divorce, custody battles and abuse. She led a class action lawsuit to secure equal pay for Colorado nurses. She was a leader in the Colorado Bar Association, Colorado Women's Bar and Women's Lobby. She chaired the Governor's Commission on the Status of Women and served on the boards of many organizations, including SafeHouse. Always ready to ask tough questions or challenge injustices, Mary was recognized by the University of Denver as a Law Star in 1996. Together Mary and Don were honored with the Korbel Humanitarian Award in 2001.

Mary enjoyed river rafting and annual gatherings with friends from the Women's Forum. She also was devoted to her Zodiac book club.

A Rockies season ticket holder from day one, she delighted in following the team, memorizing statistics, evaluating trades and attending spring training to scout each year's rookies. Mary also had a keen eye for design, a green thumb and a lifelong appreciation for the visual arts.

She took delight in her grandchildren and kept up with them on Facebook.

Mary inspired her children and grandchildren with her deep commitments, especially her dedication to advancing women's rights and establishing women's rightful place in politics and government.

In her later years, Mary's interests expanded and she was president of the Colorado Hemlock Society, later known as Compassion in Choices, and served on its national board. She fervently believed people deserve the ultimate civil right — the right to die with dignity — which she herself did.

A celebration of life gathering will take place

at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to SafeHouse Denver, safehouse-denver.org.

Joseph Crowley Keys

Grosse Pointe Shores resident Joseph Crowley Keys, 79, passed away Monday, Nov. 2, 2020, at his home. He was born Dec. 24, 1940, in Grosse Pointe Farms, to John and Marjorie Keys.

Joe began his education at the Vernier School in Grosse Pointe Shores and graduated from Grosse Pointe High School in 1959. He attended the Hatch Preparatory School in Newport, R.I., and Babson College in Wellesley, Mass.

His business career began at Crowley's, the department store co-founded by his grandfather, Joseph J. Crowley. Joe held various executive merchandising positions and became a board director in 1981. He retired in 1999, with more than 35 years of service to his family's company.

Joe possessed a passion for history that was instilled in him by his father, a member of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

An avid reader with a quick wit, Joe was a world traveler, baseball fan and movie lover. He was happiest spending time with his family and friends, some of whom were from his elementary school days.

Joe is survived by his wife, Cheryl (nee Polizzi); daughter, Dr. Michele Keys; grandchildren, David and Carolyn Charbonier; and older brother, Richard.

A private funeral service was held Nov. 9.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Joe's memory may be made to St. Joseph Shrine, 1828 Jay

St., Detroit, MI 48207.

Judith Marie Majeski

Longtime Grosse Pointe Farms resident Judith Marie Majeski, 70, passed away peacefully Sunday, Nov. 8, 2020, after a lengthy battle with ovarian cancer.

She was deeply loved for her kindness, humor, devotion and love of nature.

Judy was predeceased by her parents, Dan and Lorena McNamara. She is survived by her husband of 39 years, Bob Majeski; sons, David and Danny (Ashley); siblings, Sandra Elsey, Peggy Portwine and Tim McNamara (Terri); and sister-in-law, Judy Messner (John). Judy was blessed with two adorable grandchildren, Lorena, 4, and Henry, 2, who proved to be the loves of her life.

A graduate of Kimball High School in Royal Oak, Judy earned a degree in medical technology at the Carnegie Institute. She worked at Martin Place Hospital in Madison Heights, as well as Ascension St. John Hospital.

Judy was a staunch and faithful member of St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church.

Her family said she will be truly missed by all who knew her.

Judy's family extends special thanks to Judy's exercise group, which held classes three times a week at Pier Park.

A funeral Mass will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, Nov. 13, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Memorial contributions may be made to the support group that offered invaluable information and support to Judy during her illness, One To One Ovarian Cancer Support Group, c/o Marilyn Brozovic, 4793 Alton Dr., Troy, MI 48085.



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9:30 a.m. - Bible Study
10:45 a.m. - Sunday School

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

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10 a.m. - Bible Study

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Service on youtube at FEELC-GPW and on our facebook page First English Lutheran Church.
Rev. Sean Motley, Senior Pastor
"Go Make Disciples" ~ www.feelc.org

Grosse Pointe Congregational Church

(United Church of Christ)
www.gpccong.org

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



COURTESY PHOTO

Christ Church remembers Michiganders lost to COVID-19

Christ Church Grosse Pointe in Grosse Pointe Farms honored those in the metro Detroit community who lost their lives to COVID-19 with a display of 7,000 white flags that covered the front lawn of the church through All Saints' Sunday, Nov. 8.

"Each year we honor those who have died by offering our All Souls' Requiem," said Fr. Drew Van Culin, rector at Christ Church. "This year, as we're in the middle of this continuing tragedy of COVID-19,

we're also honoring those lost to this disease with a visual reminder on our lawn — placing one flag for one life that has been lost to COVID-19."

Church members were invited to place the flags on the lawn while pray-

ing for the families of the more than 7,000 in Michigan who have died from this disease in 2020. Neighbors also stopped while walking by the church and joined in the effort to cover the front lawn in a somber sea of white flags.

More opportunities for 'Soul Searching'

Those looking for an outlet to escape COVID-19-induced isolation are invited to check out the Grosse Pointe Artists Association's "Soul Searching" exhibition at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Visitors are invited to join a dialogue with 35 artists as they fight to keep their inspiration alive, sometimes reverting to memories and other times going deep into their core to better understand themselves. "Soul Searching" is open 2 to 7 p.m. Thursdays, through Dec. 17, except for Thanksgiving Day.



"Respite" by Margaret Reese

Additionally, new days and times have been added. Visitors are welcome noon to 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 15, and noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 28. To ensure social distancing, there is timed entry to the

show. To register, visit grossepointeartcenter.org/exhibitions or call (313) 881-3454.

Following, some of the artists share descriptions of their work:

◆ "Poppy" by Taurus Burns

"I remember telling a speech class 20 years ago that I would say goodbye to my loved ones and spend the day painting outdoors, in answer to the question: 'What would you do if you found out it was your last day on earth?' I thought about that a lot when we were six

weeks into quarantine and I set up an easel in my backyard to paint this scene with our dog, Poppy."

◆ "School Trip to Williamsburg" by Kathryn Poremski

"This painting is from a snapshot taken during my sixth-grade trip to Williamsburg, Va. It was my first trip away from home without my family. In it I explore the brevity of time, showing a snapshot or a split second of time that passes without notice."

◆ "Respite" by Margaret Reese

"Respite" is about my beautiful backyard haven, which brings me peace."

ASK JEFF AND DEBRA By Jeff Jay

Gratitude

Every fall I feel a renewed sense of gratitude for the people who helped me get sober. I wasn't looking for help, so their job wasn't easy. Fortunately, my resistance didn't stop them from taking action — repeatedly. And for that, I am deeply grateful.

I had hit bottom more than once and had seemingly come to the absolute end of the road, but that fact didn't have the miraculous effect people hoped for.

"Hitting bottom" is a fuzzy term when it comes to alcoholism. In my experience, most people bounce along the bottom for years and somehow manage to keep going. Most alcoholics have a well-meaning group of enablers who help them keep going — either emotionally or financially. The enablers are terrified of taking action, because they might do something wrong and the situation might get worse. Or, they just give up. I'm grateful my family took action. And took action repeatedly. I don't think I would've survived otherwise.

I'm grateful for the medical and clinical staff who initially took care of me, especially Dr. William Keating of Hurley Hospital. He had been working with alcoholics for decades and he was wise to the ways of the addicted mind. When I first met him, I was in detox and sitting on the edge of my hospital bed. He was a no-nonsense doctor and had a message to deliver. He pulled up a chair, looked me in the eye and called to me like I was a hundred feet away.

"Boy, you've got a disease," he said

He was so direct, it startled me. Dr. Keating sounded like the voice of God.

"You're not responsible for what you've done," he said.

"Great," I replied.

"But you're responsible for what you do now."

"Shoot," I said.

"Your disease is incurable," he said. "The most we're going to be able to do is put it in remission. We're going to give you a program to follow — 12 Steps. You follow that program and the disease will stay in remission. You stop following that program and the disease will kick you in the butt

again."

And he stood up and walked out of the room. I had no idea what he was talking about. I didn't know anything about anonymous programs or 12 steps or a disease or anything. But as I reflect back on it now, 39 years later, I realize that Dr. Keating gave me a perfect nugget of information. His compact homily told me everything I needed to know and everything I needed to do to get sober.

I'm grateful to Dr. Keating and all the other clinical staff who worked with me over the next six weeks. It wasn't easy to get through to me. I was obstinate, but they were patient. I was argumentative, but they were kind. I was doubtful, but they were hopeful. Ultimately, their goodness began to seep in. And for that, I'm very grateful.

When I came home from treatment and started attending various meetings of recovering people, I was amazed at their openness. They were frank about what they had faced and how far down their illness had taken them. Even though they had overcome great odds to recover, they didn't brag about it. Quite the opposite. They had a quiet sense of humility and credited others — and a power greater than themselves — for their success. They offered to help me, too, and never asked for anything in return. I'll be forever grateful to the many people who accompanied me through those early days, months and years.

In my experience, God works through people. I can't begin to list all the folks who have been instruments of his healing touch. It's customary for people to say "congratulations" on a sober anniversary, but the congratulations really have to go to the long list of people who took the time to help save a life. You did for me what I could not do for myself.

Thank you.

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

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Merger approved for Northeast Integrated Health, CNS Healthcare

Collaboration to expand, enhance service delivery

The Board of Directors for Northeast Integrated Health and CNS Healthcare approved a merger of the two community mental health providers at their recent respective board meetings. CNS President and CEO Michael Garrett will remain in this position. NIH President and CEO Sherry McRill will become chief visionary officer of CNS.

"NIH and CNS Healthcare serve similar target populations," Garrett said. "In addition, we have a shared vision and set of values around person-centered integrated healthcare delivered in neighborhoods throughout the tri-county area. This merger allows us to share resources and expand services and expertise to our person-served base. We are excited about the possibilities."

The merger also extends Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics services to the city of Detroit where this programming had not previously been present.

"Our work continues, but now in a more robust capacity to meet growing needs," McRill said. "This merger allows us to deliver enhanced services in a more efficient and effective capacity to our target population."

Combined, the organization will employ 40-plus people and help an increased person-served population of more than 10,000 per year. Both organizations are financially stable and in full compliance with all certification agencies. The merger represents a mutual desire to be more efficient and effective all around. There are no anticipated disruptions to person-served services during the transition and no positions are being immediately eliminated.

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Volleyball

NORTH & SOUTH

South beats North, claims title

By Bob St. John
 Sports Editor

Grosse Pointe South came into its Division 1 girls volleyball district championship match against host and rival Grosse Pointe North as the favorite.

The Blue Devils beat the Norsemen twice during the regular season, but head coach Janell DiVita knew the opponent would be well-rested and ready to play under long-time head coach Chelsea Brozo.

The Blue Devils made it 3-for-3 this season, beating the Norsemen 25-20, 25-9, 25-8.

“We played well, but we had to because we knew Chelsea would have her team ready,” DiVita said. “They were well-rested, and we played two district matches to get here. I’m proud of our girls.”

Brozo’s youthful squad, limited to only a handful of matches, improved throughout the season. However, the lack of matches made this difficult to mesh everyone.

A full off-season will pay dividends next fall as things hopefully should be back to normal.

The first game was the most competitive as senior Lindsey Brewer, juniors Bre Watts and Sabrina Shaw and freshman Shailee Simon had service points, including a few aces.

The Norsemen had the Blue Devils on their heels.

However, the visitors prevailed as juniors Jada DiVita and Ellen Martin were unstoppable at the net. They had several kills to help them win. In addition, seniors Emily Cranes and Keely Conlan on the backrow were solid.

Games two and three were one-sided as the Blue Devils’ depth was too much for the Norsemen.

For the home team, sophomore Annabelle



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

It’s all good for coaches and players of the Grosse Pointe South girls volleyball team after winning another Division 1 district championship.

Julien had several kills and junior Paige Prezepiora was solid in the backrow, but it wasn’t enough.

In game two, Conlan served the final seven points for the win, while in the third game sophomore Kamryn Richards served the final five points for the victory.

There was only one true semifinal as host Grosse Pointe North earned a spot in the finals when Detroit East English Village Prep forfeited, and Grosse Pointe South defeated St. Clair Shores Lakeview 25-12, 24-26, 25-11, 25-13.

“We knew Lakeview would be ready to play,” Janell DiVita said. “They are scrappy and they play hard. We needed to play well to win this, and I think we did raise the level our play tonight.”

It was all Blue Devils in games one, three and four. Led by hitters DiVita (21 kills) and Marin (5 kills), and the backrow of Conlan and Crane, the Blue Devils put their game into high gear and cruised.

In game one, the Blue Devils trailed early, but took off with the serving of Martin, DiVita and Richards.

Richards served the final five points to win it for the Blue Devils.

Game two went to the Huskies, who used the nine straight service points, including five aces, of Abigail Mazaway. The Blue Devils just couldn’t return her serves.

With the match at a game apiece, coach DiVita and her assistant coach Holly Ritchie, regrouped and sailed to

the victory by winning games three and four.

In game three, Jada DiVita’s five straight service points, Crane’s three straight service points and Conlan’s four service points helped the Blue Devils win.

In game four, the Blue Devils held a slim 14-10 lead before Conlan served four straight points and Martin ended the match by serving the final six points.

At the net, Ashley Price, DiVita and Crane led the way. Others chipping in with digs and serving points were Grace Pappas, Mary Fannon, Kaitlyn Stafford and Peyton Grieser.

In the quarterfinals, South beat Harper Woods 25-12, 25-13, 25-22 behind a plethora of serving aces and a strong offense.

The Blue Devils had nine aces in the three games, and leading the way in kills were Jada DiVita with eight and Martin with six.

Others with kills were Conlan and Pappas.

Games one and two were easy for the favored Blue Devils. However, the Pioneers presented a better challenge and nearly took the match to a fourth game.

Game three was neck-and-neck throughout and it wasn’t until Conlan served points Nos. 23, 24 and 25 did the Blue Devils let out a sigh of relief.

Conlan served 22 points to lead the team.

Grosse Pointe South improved to 10-6 overall; Grosse Pointe North finished its season 2-12.

Brozo loses only Brewer to graduation,

leaving Simon, Watts, Shaw, Shannon Kane, Elizabeth Wozniak, Mary Schaden, Lauren Lefebvre, Lily Perker, Elizabeth Rheaume, Jessica Alway, Julien, Sara Weiermiller, Prezepiora, Emily Ban and Brynn Spicher returning.

Liggett results

University Liggett School lost its Division 3 district quarterfinal match 25-8, 25-11, 25-5 to host Royal Oak Shrine.

It was a lost season for the Knights, playing only half of the games on their schedule due to COVID-19 problems.

Some teams originally on their schedule decided not to bother playing fall sports, leaving the Knights with holes in the schedule.

Cross country

NORTH, SOUTH & LIGGETT

North’s Navarre makes All-State

By Bob St. John
 Sports Editor

The boys and girls cross country season wrapped up last weekend with the state championship meets at Michigan International Speedway.

Divisions 1 and 2 ran their meets Friday, Nov. 6, while Divisions 3 and 4 went the following day to limit the number competitors at MIS.

In the Division 1 championship meet held Friday, Nov. 6, Grosse Pointe North senior Preston Navarre finished 21st with a time of 15:51.22, which earned



PHOTO COURTESY OF DIANE MONTGOMERY
Preston Navarre

him All-State honors.

“Although we are really proud of the tactical race he executed, it is probable that Preston would’ve placed higher had all competitors been in the

same race,” said North boys head coach Diane Montgomery. “He would’ve had a few more runners familiar to him to compete against. However, in these strange times, we were just happy to be able to have a post-season and Preston was ecstatic to be able to compete at the state finals for a third straight year.

“He is only the third Norseman in history to earn All-State honors in cross country three times. Joe Schmidt did it in 1980-1982 and Betsy (Graney) Watson did it in 2004-2006. His time is

the second fastest time run by a Norseman at the state finals since the 1980s.

“Preston Navarre had a stellar career in cross country. He has earned All-Conference, All-Region and All-State for three years. He was MAC champion and the region champion in his junior year. He is currently No. 3 on the all-time 5k times for North with his region-winning time of 15:22 in 2019. He intends to run in college, but his plans are still to be determined.”

Grosse Pointe South senior Abraham

Abouljoud was 88th with a time of 16:36.39, while teammate Logan Detweiler, a sophomore, ran a 16:37.28 to place 93rd.

Hartland junior Riley Hough won the meet with a time of 14:49.62, and one other runner had a sub 15-minute and that was Ann Arbor Skyline senior Hobbs Kessler, who ran a 14:51.79.

For University Liggett School, junior Evan Provenzano finished 235th with a time of 20:00.18. Sophomore Hunter Jones of Benzie Central won the title with a time of 15:28.96.

In the girls meet, sophomore Penelope Griffioen was 83rd with a time of 21:13.82 to lead the Knights.

ULS senior Ariana Herman placed 96th at 21:28.73, while senior Sophia Ma was 100th with a time of 21:31.25. Junior Abby Vanderkool of Muskegon Western Michigan High School won the meet with a time of 17:12.47.

Freshman Kelsey Beckett was 191st with a time of 23:07.40 to round out the Knights’ competitors.

It was the first year for head coach Joe Smith.

Swimming

NORTH & SOUTH

South rules the pool, wins MAC Red

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

The Grosse Pointe South girls swimming and diving team convincingly won another Macomb Area Conference Red Division championship meet last weekend.

The host Blue Devils ran away with the title, earning 424 points. Runner-up Utica Eisenhower had 270 points, followed by Macomb Dakota with 220 and Grosse Pointe North with 194.

Head coach John Fodell and his Blue Devils won only four events, but their superior depth made up the difference as they nearly doubled Eisenhower.

Below are the North and South finishers who competed in the finals of each event.

South's 200-yard medley relay won the opening event as Elizabeth Klepp, Phoebe Handwork, Sophie Schuetze and Ella Pazuchowski had a time of 1:49.93.

North's Leah Salisbury, Ava Macgillis, Diana Muccioli and Kelly Heywood took third with a time of 1:55.51.

In the 200-yard freestyle, South's Hayden Barry was second with a time of 1:58.35, while North's Muccioli was third at 1:59.98. North's Ava DeCoste finished fifth with a time of 2:02.99, followed by South's Elizabeth Ottaway and Jilliana Pilutti taking sixth and seventh with times of 2:03.37 and 2:04.06.

South's Audrey Smihal was 10th at 2:07.19, while North's Victoria Treder and Rylee Nugent placed 12th and 13th



PHOTO COURTESY OF COLLEEN JOGAN

The Grosse Pointe South girls swimming and diving team earned another MAC Red Division championship meet title.

with times of 2:08.00 and 2:09.81.

The Blue Devils' Schuetze placed runner-up in the 200-yard individual medley with a time of 2:10.94, and teammates Sophia Kapla, Sienna Clark and Brooke Lezotte took fourth, fifth and sixth with times of 2:12.08, 2:13.03 and 2:14.22. North's Macgillis finished eighth at 2:18.30.

In event No. 4, the 50-yard freestyle, Phoebe Bedsworth of South was second with a time of 25.50, and teammates Lily Petz and Handwork was fourth and fifth with times of 25.82 and 25.85.

Other Blue Devils to compete in the 50-free-style were Pazuchowski, seventh at 26.48; Bedsworth, 10th; Keira Collins, 13th; Lindsey

Caldwell, 14th; and Jacquelyn Wang, 16th.

Norsemen who competed were Shayla Andrews, sixth at 25.90; Sophia Vitale, ninth with a time of 26.64; Elise Ciaravino, 11th at 26.93; Niya Kendell, 20th at 29.55.

Tatum Bastien finished 21st, while Akasha Teel was 24th and Katerina Pirkler was 25th.

South's Ava Rogowski and Alayna Okonowski placed third and fourth in diving, earning 272.25 and 222.85 points, respectively.

Eisenhower had the top two finishers.

Schuetze won the 100-yard butterfly with a time of 58.19, while teammates Bedsworth, Klepp and Ottaway placed fifth, sixth and seventh with times of 1:03.48, 1:03.89 and 1:04.08.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

John Fodell guided his Grosse Pointe South girls swimming and diving team to a convincing win in the league meet.

For the Norsemen, Caldwell for the Blue Macgillis was second at 1:00.61, and Heywood, Jaden Payne and Bastien finished 11th, 12th and 16th with times of 1:08.95, 1:09.18 and 1:18.24.

In the 100-yard freestyle, North's Andrews edged South's Pilutti and Bedsworth as the trio placed second, third and fourth with times of 56.54, 56.58 and 56.65.

Other placers from North and South were Vitale, Ciaravino, Salisbury, Kendell, Pirkler, Emily Francis and Anna Barr for the Norsemen, and Petz, Pazuchowski, Dailey Jogan, Mille Gates and

Caldwell for the Blue Devils.

It was the Blue Devils sweeping the 500-yard freestyle with Isabella Gelle, Barry and Sophia Kapla, who posted times of 5:07.56, 5:09.33 and 5:10.22.

South's Smihal was ninth with a time of 5:36.14, and North's group of Muccioli, Nugent and Treder placed fourth, 11th and 12th with times of 5:23.54, 5:45.94 and 5:46.65.

South and North finished second and fourth in the 200-yard freestyle relay. For the Blue Devils, Bedsworth, Gelle, Pazuchowski and

Handwork had a time of 1:40.31, and for the Norsemen, Andrews, Heywood, Vitale and Macgillis had a time of 1:45.71.

Clark and Klepp took first and second in the 100-yard backstroke to help the Blue Devils increase their lead. Clark had a time of 59.49 and Klepp was at 59.52.

Lezotte and Gelle placed fourth and fifth with times of 1:00.95 and 1:01.79 for the Blue Devils, while Norsemen Salisbury, Maggie McSkimming, Teel and Francis placed eighth, ninth, 15th and 16th with times of 1:08.42, 1:09.67, 1:19.87 and 1:21.52.

South's Handwork and Wang finished second and fourth in the 100-yard breaststroke with times of 1:08.97 and 1:13.95, while Jogan was 12th at 1:20.83.

For North, Elizabeth McMahaon finished eighth with a time of 1:17.86, while Payne, Heywood and Tina Kirck finished 10th, 11th and 13th with times of 1:19.35, 1:19.49 and 1:22.14 in the 100-breaststroke.

In the final event, the 400-yard freestyle relay, Pilutti, Schuetze, Gelle and Barry finished second with a time of 3:40.41 for the Blue Devils, and for the Norsemen, Muccioli, DeCoste, Vitale and Andrews finished third at 3:53.64.

GROSSE POINTE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM ADVERTISEMENT

The Board of Education of the Grosse Pointe Public School System ("Owner" or "School District") will receive sealed Bid Proposals for:

PROJECT - SUMMER 2021 WORK PROGRAM - BROWNELL MIDDLE SCHOOL RENOVATION

Bid Proposals will be received by Amanda Matheson, Deputy Superintendent of the Grosse Pointe Public School System, at 389 St. Clair Avenue, Grosse Pointe, Michigan 48230, on or before 2:00 p.m. (local time) on December 1, 2020 ("Due Date"). The Board of Education will not consider or accept a Bid Proposal received after the Due Date, the date and time specified for Bid Proposal submission. Bid Proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud immediately following the Due Date at the same location. Due to COVID restrictions attendance is not required for the opening and will be restricted to (1) representative from each company. Additionally, for those who wish to attend the opening virtually, please utilize the following link immediately following the Due Date listed above Click here to join the meeting or dial-in using 636.373.8636, Conference ID 494 087 889#

A Pre-Bid Proposal meeting will be held on the following date:

November 12th, 2020 @ 4:00 p.m. at Brownell Middle School located at 260 Chalfonte Ave., Grosse Pointe Farms 48236. All persons attending the Pre-Bid will be required to meet at the main parking lot located behind the school. This is an active school so face masks will be mandatory and temperature scans will be required in order to enter the building.

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

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

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

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

Bid documents, including Bidders Information Manual, scopes of work, Drawing and Specifications will be made available Monday, November 02, 2020 at the following website:

<https://app.buildingconnected.com/public/54f0e584a238df0800778ee6/> (Search for Grosse Pointe Summer 2021 Work Program Brownell Middle School Renovation)

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Nick Kuelske at (313) 596-0520 or email at nkuelske@tcco.com, and Luke Augspurger at (313) 402-7014 or email at LAugspurger@tcco.com.

GROSSE POINTE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

Published: GPN, November 12, 2020

CITY OF HARPER WOODS POLICE DEPARTMENT WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN NOTICE

AUCTION OF IMPOUNDED/ABANDONED VEHICLES

Pursuant to PA 104, an auction will be held on November 18, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. at Woods Towing, located at 22755 Lexington, Eastpointe, MI. The following impounded/abandoned vehicles will be auctioned:

2020 Dodge Challenger	2C3CDZFJXLH177908
2010 Ford Focus	1FAHP3HN0AW234269
1999 Honda Accord	1HGCG3146XA024949
2003 Ford Mustang	1FAPP40434F100604
2001 Nissan Sentra	3N1CB51D61L463371
1999 Honda Civic	2HGEJ6613XH520755

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: November 5, 2020
PUBLISHED: November 12, 2020

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

Softball

TEAM MICHIGAN



PHOTO BY ANN MARIE SMIHAL

Champs

The Team Michigan 16U softball squad is the champions of the recent "Chaos in the Clem" fastpitch tournament. A first-year team comprised of players from Grosse Pointe North, University Liggett School, Grosse Pointe South, Chippewa Valley, Dakota, and Lutheran North, finished 3-0-1 in the tournament, defeating X-treme Diamonds in the finals 5-4. The girls won and tied games Saturday 20-0, 6-6. They went into finals on Sunday as the second seed, winning the first game 14-7 and then the championship game by taking the lead in the top of the 7th and then holding them. Players above are Ellie Smith, Sasha Deimel, Emily Peacock, Audrey Smihal, Tessa Klein, Shannon Dame, Olivia Livingstone, Peyton Grieser, Cameron Beers, Sophia Borowski, Julia Joseph, Meredith Kramer, coach Carly Reno and Coach Amamda Carpenter.

MHSAA

WINTER SPORTS

MHSAA says yes to winter sports

The Representative Council of the Michigan High School Athletic Association confirmed during its meeting Thursday, Oct. 22, that 2020-21 winter sports will begin on time, and also approved a series of guidelines for those sports that schools must follow as they continue to work toward limiting the spread of COVID-19 while still providing opportunities for athletes to compete.

Most high school sports traditionally begin practice during the first three weeks of November, with competition starting during mid-November and the first weeks of December. The starts of middle school winter sports seasons are determined by local leagues and conferences; many are slated to begin during the next few weeks.

Sport-specific guidelines for all winter sports will be posted to their respective sport pages on the MHSAA website at mhsaa.com/sports.

A number of precautions have been put in place addressing competition limits, numbers of spectators allowed and wearing of face coverings, among a variety of topics.

The guidance also specifically addresses equip-

ment and facilities for each sport.

"The Council believes it is safer to begin winter practices on time, and keep athletes in school programs where safety precautions are always in effect," MHSAA Executive Director Mark Uyl said. "With the vastly different circumstances faced by schools in different regions all over the state, an on-time start still allows schools to decide when they feel most comfortable beginning activity - and allows all of them to slowly ramp up their frequency of activity and numbers of spectators attending competitions. "But let's be clear: Our statewide COVID-19 numbers have to get better. In order for our schools to continue playing sports this winter, and in order for fans to be there to cheer them on, we must continue working to slow down this virus."

As with fall sports, scrimmages will not be allowed for winter sports to limit mixing of communities outside of official competitions. The numbers of teams at regular-season competitions also will be limited, like during fall, with a maximum of four schools/teams allowed in compet-

itive cheer, gymnastics, swimming & diving and wrestling.

There are no school/team limits for basketball and ice hockey, as only two teams are able to play each other at one time and those sports may play only one game per day - with fans leaving after their game is complete.

Host sites must strictly enforce spectator capacity limits on a game-by-game basis. The Council approved as part of these guidelines an allowance of two spectators per participant at all contests to begin the regular season.

This guideline could be reconsidered by the Council later in the winter season, with a possibility of allowing more spectators later while still staying within possible Emergency Orders from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS).

As per MDHHS requirements, face coverings must be worn by athletes practicing and competing in basketball, competitive cheer, ice hockey and wrestling.

They are not required for athletes practicing and competing in bowling, gymnastics, skiing and swimming & diving.

—By Geoff Kimmerly, MHSAA

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