

**COVID-19 CASES UPDATE - 12/15**

|              | Cases        | Deaths  |
|--------------|--------------|---------|
| All Pointes  | 1,822 (+117) | 43 (+3) |
| Harper Woods | 560 (+34)    | 39 (+2) |

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GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

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## Shores faces lawsuit

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE SHORES** — After receiving a citation for a Black Lives Matter sign in his front yard that the Grosse Pointe Shores Public Safety Department said violated the city's signage ordinance, attorney and Shores resident Todd Perkins filed a lawsuit with the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan against the city of Grosse Pointe Shores, its public safety department and two officers, Tuesday, Dec. 8.

A Nov. 20 complaint about the 16-square-foot sign, Perkins said, led to officers placing a report in his mailbox instructing him to take the sign down

See LAWSUIT, page 9A

## Pointer of the Year

The Grosse Pointe News is excited to announce a new offering to our readers and to the community at large: Our inaugural Pointer of the Year selection to be honored annually in the final issue of the calendar year.

So you won't want to miss our Dec. 31 issue, when we reveal our first annual Pointer of the Year in this space.

— John Minnis, Publisher



ILLUSTRATION @SEPS LICENSED BY CURTIS LICENSING, INDIANAPOLIS, IN.

## Holiday hustle and bustle

Artist John Falter's "Falls City, Nebraska at Christmas" first appeared in the "Saturday Evening Post" Dec. 21, 1946. The small-town holiday scene is reminiscent of The Village and The Hill this time of year.

## Woods PSD to get body cameras

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE WOODS** — The last of the Grosse Pointe departments to do so, the Grosse Pointe Woods Public Safety Department will purchase 33 body cameras for its officers, following unanimous approval by city council during the meeting Monday, Dec. 7.

Implementation is expected early next year, Director of Public Safety John Kosanke reported, adding the body cameras are critical for the department because of what is going on with law enforcement around the country.

"We live in a world now that if people don't see it on a camera, they don't believe it," he said. "I want my officers to feel

safe. I want them to have their protection. I'm trying to protect the liability for the city and I think this is a real good time to, for lack of a better term, get with the times."

Officers will be required to wear body cameras during any citizen encounter, including those in the positions of code enforcement, park-

See CAMERAS, page 3A

## Political sign ordinance to be revisited

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE FARMS** — Debate brought about by the November election seems far from over as yard sign ordinances are now being called into question.

The public comment portion of the Farms council meeting Monday night was dominated by residents' concerns over the city's Sign Ordinance No. 193, which regulates political signs are not to exceed 6 square feet and

must be removed from yards no later than five days following an election.

After recently receiving a letter from the American Civil Liberties Union, Mayor Louis Theros said, the city has agreed to work with the organization and plans to have the Farms ordinance committee revisit the language. A public work session on the topic may be held as well.

"The amendments that

See SIGNS, page 9A

## Bridge construction to begin in Woods

**GROSSE POINTE WOODS** — Grosse Pointe Woods has contracted EC Korneffel Co., to replace the vehicular bridge over the marina at Lake Front Park.

According to Woods Director of Public Safety Frank Schulte, the project has yet to start.

"We're still waiting to get the project signed," he said. "We're hoping by sometime early next week, we'll be up and running."

Schulte is eager to get the project rolling.

"We're looking to replace the old wooden bridge," he said. "The new bridge will be concrete, which can handle any street vehicle and truck, and it will have a little walking path on the side of it. It's a much-needed

project and it will be a nice improvement."

Bridge access will be closed to the public while construction is underway. Residents should temporarily use the service entrance, accessible from Lakeshore Road adjacent to Milk River, to access the south side of the park.

The bridge is expected to reopen by the 2021 Memorial Day holiday.

The activities building, currently closed due to COVID-19, will not be accessible via the main park entrance when the bridge reopens.

The main entrance walking path will remain open during the vehicular bridge's construction. The pedestrian bridge will be available for use until April 1, 2021.

— Kate Vanderstelt

## Distinguished volunteers honored

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**THE GROSSE POINTES** — Out of four volunteers in all of southeast Michigan honored this year on National Philanthropy Day by the Association of Fundraising Professionals Greater Detroit Chapter

as distinguished volunteers for their efforts for Ascension hospitals, two are residents of the Grosse Pointes.

"When it comes to the distinguished volunteers, it's not so much monetary donations, but it's the donation from their heart, their gift of time and energy," said Lorraine

Owczarek, chief development officer/interim director of operations for the Ascension St. John Foundation. "That really says a lot about our volunteers and what they do and we just want them to know how much we appreciate them."

See HONORED, page 3A



Walter Cytacki



Katie McSkimming

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## Pointer of INTEREST

See story, page 4A



### Mark Van Sile

Home: Grosse Pointe Farms  
Recreates childhood Christmases  
with spectacular light display



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# Shop local for gifts, food this holiday season

By Kate Vanderstelt  
Staff Writer

Looking for a special gift for a special someone? Specialty shops in The Village, on The Hill, along Mack Avenue and beyond are likely to yield the results you're looking for.

Here are a few of the ways to shop local this holiday season:

## edmund t. AHEE jewelers

AHEE Jewelers, 20139 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods, has extended hours and stepped-up customer service for the holiday season.

The family-owned business is committed to giving the best service during the holidays. Additionally, the shop features a musician playing piano every day, instead of just Saturdays when the player is typically in.

Due to COVID-19, AHEE cannot offer the champagne usually served to guests as they shop the jeweler during the holidays. Staff is asking shoppers to wear a mask as they peruse the store.

This season, Stefan Ahee says shoppers are most drawn to classic, timeless pieces.

"People don't know when they can dress up again," he said. "Jewelry lasts forever."

AHEE has extended its hours for the holiday sea-



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Lou's Pet Shop is offering a "12 Days of Christmas" promotion for the holidays.

The store is open 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday. The store also will be open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Christmas Eve and closed Christmas day. Normal hours will resume after the Christmas holiday.

### Lou's Pet Shop

Lou's Pet Shop, 20779 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods, has geared up for the holiday season with its "12 Days of Christmas" special aimed at getting its customers excited for Christmas, as well as helping out a local charity.

"12 Days of Christmas" kicked off Saturday, Dec. 12, with a donation contest to the Old Newsboys Goodfellow Fund in Detroit. The fund promotes gift-giving during the holiday season by

providing children ages 4 to 13 in the Detroit area with gift boxes. For every donation to the fund, big or small, participants will earn an entry to win free dog treats for a year through Lou's.

Every day during the promotion, Lou's is posting a daily contest on its Facebook and Instagram pages. The first few days consisted of tagging Lou's in a photo of hot chocolate with a pet for the chance to win a \$20 gift card; answering a trivia question for the chance to win a free beta fish and kit; and commenting on a photo of a rescue pet to have \$50 donated in the winner's name to a rescue group.

Aside from "12 Days," Lou's in-store shop is still up and running for the holiday season.

Manager Josias Yglesias said that throughout the pandemic, the community has been very supportive.

"A lot of people are spending time at home and spending time with their animals," he said. "(Even) when our doors were closed, we still had a lot of customers helping us out. We're really blessed."

Lou's Pet Shop offers normal holiday hours, though it will close early Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. Customers are asked to wear a mask in the store.

### Whistle Stop Hobby and Toy

Celebrating its 50th year in business, Whistle Stop Hobby and Toy, 21714 Harper, St. Clair Shores, is decked out for Christmas and

ready to bring the joy of toys to all ages.

From stocking stuffers to last-minute gifts, Whistle Stop has been prepping for a big season of buying and placed an expansive order to ensure its shelves continue to fill up leading into the holiday season.

Co-owner Julie Everitt thanked customers for supporting local business.

"We feel very blessed and grateful," she said, adding that customers should, "Come on in and ask for Julie. I will always take the customer by the hand and show them what's new and exciting for different age groups."

Everitt said popular among 10- to 20-year-olds this year is the Pindaloo and Shashibo cube, both of which are in stock at Whistle Stop.

Along with Everitt's guided shopping, shoppers can head to the store's website for a downloadable wish list. Print it, fill it out and drop it off at the register. Any shopper may then go to the register and

ask for a specific child's wish list from which to buy.

The store is promoting free gift wrapping for all reasonably sized gifts bought at Whistle Stop — a deal perfect for the last-minute shopper.

As COVID-19 has made the holiday season look different this year, Whistle Stop's traditional Santa has been replaced by Ricky, the Elf on the Shelf. Each day Ricky hides in a different spot in the store. If shoppers find Ricky, they can get a free piece of candy at checkout.

The store also has a Santa letter mailbox in place.

To make shopping safe, Whistle Stop asks its customers to wear a mask as they do their best to frequently disinfect the store. Lines are busier during lunchtime and customers are also offered the option of curbside pickup, orders for which can be done over the phone or on Whistle Stop's website, whistle-stop.com.

### Don't forget the groceries

For shoppers who are still nailing down their holiday menus, there are plenty of local markets who are ready to assist. Don't forget to check them out:

◆ Alexander & Polen Market, 19337 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods — 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. Call (313) 881-2760.

◆ Blue Bay Fish & Seafood Market, 19531 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods — 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday through

Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday. Visit bluebayfishgp.com or call (313) 824-FISH (3474). Gift cards are available.

◆ Cornwall Bakery, 15215 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Park — 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday and Monday. Visit cornwallbakery.com or call (313) 264-1938.

◆ Fairfax Market, 899 Beaconsfield, Grosse Pointe Park — 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily. Visit fairfaxmarket.business.site/#details or call (313) 822-7074.

◆ Farm Field Table, 15124 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Park — 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday through Saturday; closed Sunday and Monday. Visit farmfieldtable.com or call (248) 509-8555, Opt. 2.

◆ Fresh Farms Market, 355 Fisher, City of Grosse Pointe — 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday. Visit freshfarmsmarket.com or call (313) 882-5100.

◆ Hillside Hearth, 19487 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods — 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday; closed Sunday and Monday. Call (313) 880-4900.

◆ Kroger, 16919 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe — 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily. Visit kroger.com or call (313) 884-6035.

◆ Kroger, 20422 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods — 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily. Visit kroger.com or call (313) 308-1035.

◆ Trader Joe's, 17028 Kercheval, City of Grosse Pointe — 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday; 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesday and Sunday. Visit traderjoes.com or call (313) 640-7794.

◆ Village Market, 18330 Mack, Grosse Pointe Farms — 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday. Email info@villagemarket.net or call (313) 882-2530. Deadline to pre-order holiday catering is Monday, Dec. 21. Visit villagemarket.net.

— Editor Jody McVeigh contributed to this report.

## City services pause for holidays

While city buildings in all five Pointes have closed their doors following another surge of COVID-19, staff continue to offer services to residents.

During normal business hours, residents may call the staff in their respective cities, or conduct their business on the cities' websites.

**GROSSE POINTE WOODS** — Visit gpwmi.org or call (313) 343-2440.

Grosse Pointe Farms — Visit grossepointefarms.org or call (313) 885-6600.

**CITY OF GROSSE POINTE** — Visit grossepointecity.org or call (313)

885-5800.

**GROSSE POINTE SHORES** — Visit gpshoresmi.gov or call (313) 881-6565.

**GROSSE POINTE PARK** — Visit grossepointepark.org or call (313) 822-6200.

During this special time of year, however, all five municipalities will be closed for upcoming holidays — Christmas Eve, Thursday, Dec. 24; Christmas Day, Friday, Dec. 25; New Year's Eve, Thursday, Dec. 31; and New Year's Day, Friday, Jan. 1.

Services online, via telephone or email will resume in each city Monday, Jan. 4.



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# Credit card scam ran out of Mack Wendy's

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE FARMS** — After evidence was found that he allegedly had been stealing identities and credit card information while scanning customers' cards as they paid for food at the Wendy's on Mack Avenue the past few months, 22-year-old Warren man, Derick Lancaster, was arrested by the Grosse Pointe/Harper Woods Emergency Response Team Wednesday, Dec. 2.

A search of his home, vehicle and a rental vehi-



COURTESY PHOTO

**Derick Lancaster**

cle he fraudulently used a credit card to rent turned up a card scanner; credit card blanks, from which the suspect made his own credit

cards with stolen information; 45 receipts of purchases with different credit card numbers on them; and some of the purchased items.

"Through an investigation, he said he'd done it to 100 to 200 people up here at the Wendy's and that's only since August," said Roger Wierszewski, Farms detective and the investigating officer in charge of the case, adding the ERT was required for the officers' safety due to the amount of people who reside in the suspect's home.

Lancaster currently is charged with stealing or

retaining without consent of a financial transaction device; possession of a financial transaction device; and illegal sale or use of a financial transaction device.

The crime was discovered thanks to a diligent Wendy's customer who took notice when his credit card was swiped through two different machines at the drive-thru and tracked down security footage from a gas station where his card numbers were then used a few days later.

A photo of Lancaster, on file with the department from when he was

suspected of a crime at the business two months prior, was shown to the victim who positively identified him as the person to whom he handed his credit card.

Lancaster has been in trouble for similar crimes in both Harper Woods and Sterling Heights.

"We also found paperwork for fraudulent unemployment out of California as well as Pennsylvania and it sounds like he's attempted to do employment fraud in multiple different states," Wierszewski said.

However, the charges are not Lancaster's first time in the public spotlight. The 22-year-old went viral on Twitter and across news sites in July when he quit his job as an Amazon driver by abandoning a package-filled van with the keys in the ignition at a gas station in Lathrup Village, citing the long hours' impact on his mental health.

Arraigned Saturday, Dec. 5, Lancaster's probable cause conference before Farms Judge Matthew Rumora was scheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 16.

## Santa stops by Pier Park



Grosse Pointe Farms hosted a socially distanced Santa drive-thru at Pier Park Dec. 12. Despite rain and wind, more than 100 cars drove through so children could say hello to Santa; some youngsters had lists and letters to share as well. Each child received a candy cane and the Casali dancers entertained as cars waited to see St. Nick. John Christian and his siblings, Addy and Ben, hand Santa their letters while Dad, Chris Christian, looks on.

PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT



Cass Lupu climbed over his brother, Cole, to hand Santa his list of what he would like to see under the tree this year.



Frankie Sroka looks at Santa as he greets her and asks her name and what she would like for Christmas while her father, Neil Sroka, listens.

Dominika Diakonov visited Santa wearing antlers and had her list at the ready while her sister, Lucia, watched.



Santa reads the list he received from 3-year-old Liam Lyndon.

## Fairfax wins radio contest

**GROSSE POINTE PARK** — WRCJ 90.9 FM, a Detroit classical and jazz radio station, conducted a tribute to small businesses this December by asking its listeners to nominate a favorite locally owned business for the chance to receive an advertising package with the station valued at \$2,500. Fairfax Quality Market in Grosse Pointe Park was nominated by listeners and randomly selected as a winner.

Mike Swanson, owner of Fairfax Quality Market, was overwhelmed with gratitude. "It's awesome," he said. "I didn't even know (the contest) was happening. All our customers did it for us. I had a

lady come all the way out from Livonia today to shop with us. It's our customers — they really take care of us."

Fairfax Quality Market is located at 899 Beaconsfield, Grosse Pointe Park.

Other Grosse Pointe businesses nominated for the contest were: Burrito Mundo in Grosse Pointe Woods, City Kitchen in the City of Grosse Pointe, D a E d u o a r d o ' s Restaurant in the Woods, Faircourt Dental Smile Studio in the City, Hot Yoga Grosse Pointe in the Park and Mama Rose's Pizzeria in the Park.

— Kate Vanderstelt

## The Week Ahead

**MONDAY, DEC. 21**

◆ Grosse Pointe Woods City Council meeting, 7 p.m. via Zoom.

**THURSDAY, DEC. 24 - Christmas Eve**

◆ Municipal offices closed

**FRIDAY, DEC. 25 - Christmas Day**

◆ Municipal offices closed

## CAMERAS:

Continued from page 1A

ing enforcement and animal control.

The cameras will help the department capture valuable evidence for court cases and prosecution, Kosanke said, as well as clarify any situation that comes into question.

"We get complaints that come in throughout the years on officers and

employees and we have to pull them aside and start doing some of the interviews and try to find out exactly what's going on," he explained prior to the vote, "but with these body cameras, we would have these complaints cut down in minutes."

The vote also approved the purchase of eight new in-car cameras for the department's patrol vehicles, since the current equipment is more than 10 years old and at

the end of its life.

With the in-car cameras costing approximately \$45,000 and the body cameras around \$135,000, the purchases will cost the city \$181,195.16. Much of the cost for the body cameras can be attributed to five years of cloud storage, where the footage will be retained on a rolling one-year basis and which also offers backup storage and redaction software.

After the five-year cloud storage term, the city would need to pay \$20,380 annually to continue the same service.

"I think this could in fact be a money saver," said Todd McConaghy, councilman and attorney, regarding the body cameras. "And I'm not saying we're going to have a situation, but all we need is one situation and this certainly could be our best defense and could be a huge savings for us."

## HONORED:

Continued from page 1A

Walter Cytacki of Grosse Pointe Farms has been a member of the St. John Guild, a fundraising organization for Ascension St. John Hospital, more than 25 years. Noted for having a huge heart, he took extra efforts to raise funds to assist hospital caregivers when COVID-19 cases first surged in March, engaging many of his friends to match his monetary donation.

"Walt understands what philanthropy is all about, so when you find somebody like him that gets it, it's so awesome to have them share their

enthusiasm and promote all the good things we do at our hospital, because they believe in us," Owczarek said. "He just goes that extra mile and says, 'Alright, come on everybody. We're all going to do this together.'"

Cytacki's son is active with the Guild as well.

Katie McSkimming of Grosse Pointe Woods has chaired the Lochmoor Fights Cancer annual golf outing planning committee since 2019, and was involved with the committee for a few years prior to that. The committee raises funds for the Needy Patient Fund at the Ascension St. John Hospital Van Elslander Cancer Center to help cancer patients

pay for basic living needs during treatment.

"For her to be taking the time out of her personal life with her children to handle an event like this and then donate the money back to us, we're so appreciative," Owczarek said, "and we wanted to make sure that we acknowledged her this year."

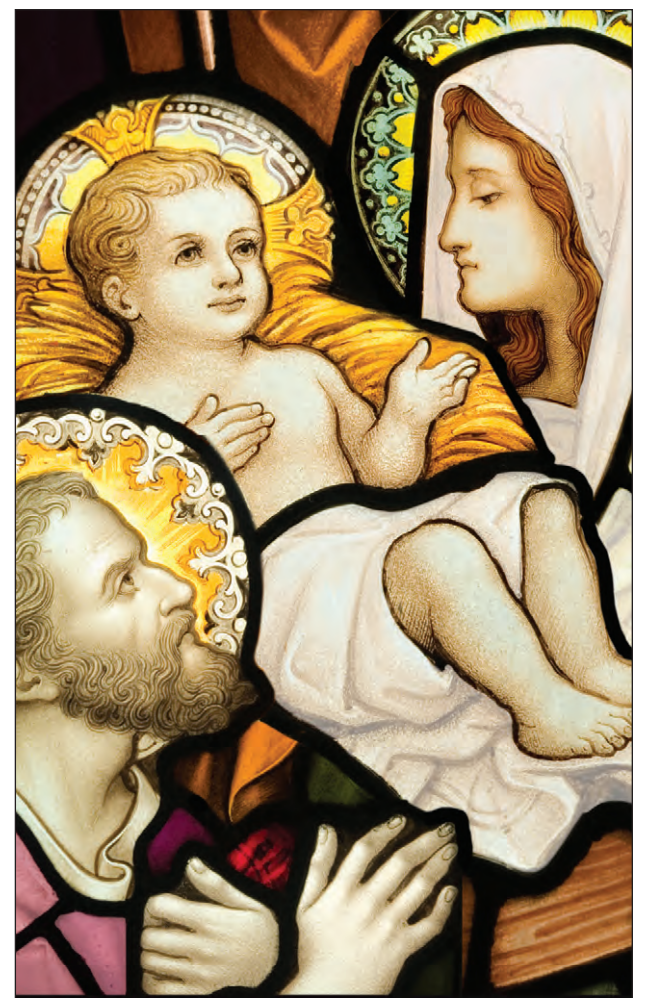
In 2019, the fundraiser was transitioned from a club event to include corporate sponsorships, which allowed the committee to raise far more money.

"We found a charity in the Needy Patient Fund that literally has no administrative costs because it's run by Ascension St. John and

all of the money that we donate to them goes directly into the hands of the cancer patients and their families," McSkimming explained, "and I just feel a great sense of pride in that, because ... the money doesn't always end up where you expect it to, but in this case, 100 percent of the money raised goes directly into the hands of the recipients."

"It's a great charity to donate to in our community if people are looking for a place to make a donation."

Also recognized this year for their efforts were Thomas Hall, M.D., of Milford and Jim Nokielski of Shelby Township.



Have a blessed Christmas from our family to yours

*The Ahee Family*



4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

# Farms man's light display a reflection on childhood

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

One cannot drive down Lakeshore Road this time of year without noticing the glow coming from a certain house in Grosse Pointe Farms.

For 25 years, Mark Van Sile has gone above and beyond decorating his home at the corner of Lakeshore and Moross for all to see.

"I had a fantastic childhood growing up in Grosse Pointe," Van Sile said. "It was an idyllic childhood. ... Holidays were very special. I was lucky to have all four grandparents alive for a big portion of my childhood. It was a time I wish I could go back to for the holidays."

That's what the third-generation Grosse Pointer tries to do, spending around 100 hours each year decorating the outdoors with lights, filling the air with cheerful music. He uses a lift, with assistance from his brothers, to do the high-up work, then finishes the decorating himself on



The Van Siles welcome guests to stroll through their decorated yard at Lakeshore and Moross.

the ground.

The display is timed to turn on each night at 5 p.m. and shut off at 11 p.m. — leaving plenty of time for passersby to stop and take a stroll through the yard.

"It's not a display," Van Sile said. "It's a wonderland. It's like a little event."

Those who've lived near Van Sile, who grew up in the Park and then lived in the Woods before moving to the Farms in 1996, when he married Denise, know he's no stranger to celebrating holidays in a big way.

And it's not just Christmas that gets the royal treatment. He has decorations for Fourth of July, Easter, Halloween and every holiday in between. Christmas, however, lights up the night like no other.

"This takes me back to the time when my parents were alive, I was young, I didn't

have the problems I have now," he added. "It was a simpler time. I want to recapture something of the past, when it was a pleasant memory: Peace on Earth and good will toward men. Let's all get along and enjoy the holidays."

Four years ago, the couple added to their display a mailbox for letters to Santa, encouraging children to write to the jolly old elf — and guaranteeing a response.

Each letter writer receives a personalized missive from St. Nick himself. Denise Van Sile keeps a database of who's written before to make sure they don't receive a repeat; there are 17 variations of letters sent in return. Letters from Santa — on fancy stationery and envelopes, with stickers and Santa stamps — are mailed to every child who drops one off.

"Can you imagine the thrill of getting a letter from Santa Claus?" Van Sile said. "That's the most important thing going on when you're a kid."

The popularity of the mailbox has grown over the years, from 35 letters in 2017, to more than 100 last year. So far this year,



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Denise and Mark Van Sile invite guests to see their display, which takes Mark 100 hours to set up.

60 letters have been dropped off, but there's still plenty of time to mail them before Christmas, Van Sile said.

Van Sile, who attended St. Ambrose School and Austin Catholic Academy before earning bachelor's and master's degrees from the

University of Detroit, said he does it all for the nostalgia of his own childhood.

"It's a splendid time — the magic of the holidays, the anticipation of the children," he said. "What's more innocent than childhood? Seeing the smiles and the excite-

ment of children? It takes me back to when I used to be a child."

The Christmas cheer spreads through the interior of Van Sile's house as well. The businessman — he owns a real estate and construction firm — incorporates seven themed, spinning Christmas trees throughout the home, including a 15-foot giant in his foyer.

"My wife decorates them," he said. "She enjoys that."

The couple extends their excitement for the holidays beyond their home as well, as volunteers for The Parade Company. Each year, they work on floats and walk in America's Thanksgiving Parade downtown.

"This was the first year in 12 years we were not able to march," Van Sile said.

Thankfully, all he has to do to get in the Christmas spirit is step into his yard, or peek out his window to watch the childlike wonder in his guests' eyes.

"This is just something we like doing," Van Sile said. "We don't take money for donations."

Added Denise Van Sile, "We're happy we can share the Christmas spirit with the rest of the community and anyone who comes by."

Guests are invited to park in the overflow lot in front of the Farms pumping station a block north of the residence, then walk through the lighted yard.

"It's good the Christmas spirit is alive and well in Grosse Pointe," Van Siles said. "It's a great community."

The display will remain lit evenings until Jan. 8, the other King's birthday.

"My wife is a fan of Elvis and that's when he took his lights down," Van Sile said.



Children may drop letters to Santa in the mailbox at the Van Sile residence — and get a reply.

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**City of Grosse Pointe**

**Monster-in-law in reverse**

A 66-year-old Grosse Pointe woman reported her daughter's husband — the couple is currently going through a divorce — has been sending her harassing text messages and emails for more than a year, but recently the situation has gotten out of hand.

**Grosse Pointe News**

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## PUBLIC SAFETY

The 31-year-old Harper Woods man was advised by officers to cease all communication, to which he agreed.

**Gone, but not far**

A 2016 white Dodge Durango was stolen from the street in the 900 block of University Place at 3:03 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 8, as captured on a neighbor's video doorbell.

Thanks to the vehicle's UCONNECT location service, it was located

and retrieved near Whittier and Harper avenues in Detroit.

The driver's side rear door was damaged, rear window broken out and the headliner was cut to remove the GPS. The vehicle's plate was found on one of the suspect's other vehicles.

**Extreme yielding**

A 32-year-old Eastpointe man was discovered asleep at the

wheel at 4:13 a.m. Friday, Dec. 11, with his vehicle stopped on westbound Jefferson Avenue at Lakeland Street at a blinking yellow light.

Unable to awaken him by knocking, officers gained entry to the vehicle with a lockout tool.

An open bottle of alcohol was found inside, but once awake, the man refused to take a preliminary breath test.

He was arrested for

See REPORTS, page 5A

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**REPORTS:**

*Continued from page 4A*

operating while intoxicated and cited for driving while license suspended, impeding traffic and having open intoxicants in a vehicle.

— Laurel Kraus

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

**Grosse Pointe Woods**

**Nothing left behind**

At 5:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, a pharmacist at a business in the 20000 block of Mack reported prescription fraud.

A 35-year-old man wearing a navy blue hat and shirt dropped off two prescriptions in the name of a woman, attempting to verify her identity by showing her driver's license.

The pharmacist called the doctor and together verified the scripts were fraudulent. She withheld the scripts from the man, at which point he stated he "was not involved in this in any way" and left the store, making sure not to leave behind the driver's license.

**Two flat tires**

An officer observed a Chevy Trailblazer traveling west on Vernier with both passenger side tires flat at 3:24 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 12.

The officer stopped the vehicle and encountered a 33-year-old Detroit woman who believed she was in Warren. She failed to pass several field

sobriety tests.

She was arrested and her vehicle was taken.

— Kate Vanderstelt

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

**Grosse Pointe Park**

**Stolen presents**

Between 7:30 and 9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, a package was stolen from a woman's front porch in the 1300 block of Harvard.

The victim reports that the package was valued at \$390, containing a GoPro-7 and a child's dollhouse.

**55 in a 30**

A 38-year-old Detroit man was stopped on Mack and Maryland for speeding, reportedly going 55 mph in a 30 mph zone at 1 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 13.

He was arrested for driving with a suspended license and operating while intoxicated.

**Parking anger**

A 30-year-old Detroit man was arguing with another customer over parking at 3:20 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, outside a business on the 15000 block of Jefferson.

The man proceeded to kick out the glass door of the business after the altercation. The incident was caught on the store's surveillance video.

**Double hit**

At 2:50 a.m. Monday, Dec. 14, a 30-year-old Chesterfield Township

man was stopped on Mack and Three Mile for speeding and running a red light.

The man was found to be intoxicated with a blood-alcohol level of 0.10 or higher, resulting in his arrest for operating while intoxicated.

He was in possession of a weapon with a valid concealed-carry license, but his alleged intoxication incriminated him for having the weapon as well.

**Off easy**

A 28-year-old Detroit woman was stopped on St. Paul and Buckingham for speeding at 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12.

She was found to be driving with a suspended license. Police also confiscated a taser/stun gun.

She was issued a citation and released from the scene.

— Kate Vanderstelt

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

**Grosse Pointe Shores**

**Dazzled by lights**

A 50-year-old Warren man parked on Lakeshore Road with his vehicle's hazards on at 9:48 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 8, told officers he was admiring the Christmas lights on a house.

A no-parking sign was directly behind his vehicle and he admitted to not having a license but having multiple warrants for his arrest.

He was arrested for driving while license suspended and not having insurance.

**Keeping the traffic infraction trend**

A 22-year-old Mount Clemens woman was arrested at Lakeshore and Vernier roads at 10:27 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, for driving while license suspended and not having insurance.

— Laurel Kraus

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

**Grosse Pointe Farms**

**Jeep vendetta**

At 8:45 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 8, a resident in the 200 block of McMillan Road discovered the driver's side rear window was broken out of his Jeep, which was parked in the street. Contents were scattered around the inside of the vehicle, but nothing was missing.

That same night, the driver's side rear window was broken out of a Jeep parked in the 350 block of McKinley Avenue. The vehicle didn't appear to have been searched through.

**Return of the hyper thief**

A male in his 40s returned to a business in the 19000 block of Mack Avenue at 12:15 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 9, to steal a case of Red Bull.

Surveillance footage captured a good image of his face and confirmed him as the same suspect who stole approximately six cases of Red Bull from the business three days prior.

**Drawing attention to warrant**

Officers were called to a business in the 18000 block of Mack Avenue at 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, due to reports of a customer, who was mad about the service, screaming at employees. The business did not

want to press charges, but the 40-year-old Detroit man was arrested when it was discovered he had a felony warrant out of the Macomb County Sheriff's Office.

— Laurel Kraus

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



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

**Mailed it!**

Santa Claus has strategically placed a few mailboxes throughout the Pointes so good girls and boys can drop off their wish lists just in time for Christmas. During a recent visit to the corner of Buckingham and Kercheval in Grosse Pointe Park, 2-year-old Peyton Eldred mailed his letter to Santa while his 6-month-old brother, Connor, waited for him in a nearby sleigh.

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We hear it from trainers all the time: "Engage your core!" What does that mean, really? Anatomically speaking, "core" refers to the major muscles—including the rectus abdominis, transverse abdominis, erector spinae, and obliques—that move, support, and stabilize your spine. The glutes are also considered a part of the core, or "trunk" because they connect to the pelvis, back, and abdominal muscles.

It makes sense then that it takes more than basic crunches to fully engage these muscles and effect physical—and visible—change in our bodies. Instead, exercises like planks, mountain climbers, and reverse crunches activate these muscles on a deeper level—and faster. That, we like!

"Your core is your body's entire support system, so a core-targeted workout is going to benefit your entire body and the rest of your fitness routine," says trainer Jo Kutchev, who introduced CoreStrong earlier this fall. She and fellow trainer Ally Ranville teach a 45-minute semi-private session that mixes core-targeted exercises with full-body-focused cardio intervals. Expect to recruit the lower and upper body in exercises

like leg lifts and plank variations, weighted bicycles and pushups. "These movements bring hyperawareness to your core, keeping it activated at all times," says Jo.

Adding balance to the equation is a fool-proof way to wake up those abs. Trainer Lindsay Perrigan's BOSU Pilates Core weaves Pilates-inspired moves with strength and cardio exercises, all using the BOSU dome. "Engaging stabilizer muscles forces you to work your core that much more," says Lindsay. And it'll show!

Vanity aside, we really want strong abs to protect and support our lower back. Considering that lower back pain is one of the most common musculoskeletal ailments, strengthening the muscles that support it should be a focus in everyone's fitness routine. A strong core will better enable us to carry our body weight and help to prevent aches and discomfort. Now, that's a worthy Christmas wish.

Sign up for booking options on The Corner Studio app. Mix up your fitness routine and try something new this week—your abs will thank you!

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6A | OPINION

Grosse Pointe News

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OUR VIEW

Grosse Pointers making the best of holiday season

What a brilliant sight! The Grosse Pointes have taken on an even greater glow this holiday season as the COVID-19 pandemic keeps most everyone close to home and seems to have brought the deck-the-halls sentiment to a new peak. A few warm days in late November and early December made it all a bit easier, too.

An evening tour of the Pointes shows off all kinds of lights — tiny white lights, muted colors, LEDs with their clarity. Some displays are nearly blinding; others are elegantly modest. There are more than the usual blow-ups, too, and nicely lit trees peek through many a front window. The urge for trees has run so high they appear to be in short supply, with prices rising to meet the new demand.

Daytime allows passersby to see all the wreaths on doors and other, less illuminated decor. (There are even a few lingering pumpkins. Do tell: What's the secret to fending off the squirrels for so long?)

It's truly a joy to see the sparkle here, where an evening drive becomes a source of cheer. It's a nice family activity; sometimes (dare it be said out loud?), it's a chance for a bit of alone time.

And visual celebrations have spread even wider. Santa, for example, has gone mobile — spotted here and there on a bicycle, taking a day to ride a fire truck through neighborhoods. Sometimes, he's at a city park and then families go mobile to greet him. He has mailboxes around town, too.

There are spots that make for good photos. Even without Santa, the holiday float in The Village looks cheery and inviting, for example. The gingerbread displays in various store windows, entries in a Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce contest, inspire a different variety of oohs and aahs.

The allure of leaving the house, be it for after-dark tours of the lights or anytime browsing of shop windows, has probably never been greater. That doesn't make it any easier to endure a holiday period when gatherings have to be limited, when restaurants and bars can only do carry-out service, when Zoom has become a synonym for group meet-ups. You can raise a glass to one another, just not around the same eggnog bowl.

That leaves everyone talking about Christmas in July, a suddenly realistic goal as the first COVID-19 vaccine shipments went out this week.

Michigan pride, in particular, got a boost with the coverage of vaccines leaving from Pfizer facilities in west Michigan. That proximity held no particular advantage locally, though, as the two hospitals serving the Grosse Pointes, for example, remained initially uncertain about access for their staffs.

The new Pfizer vaccine — with others possibly coming on line in the next few months — is historic and truly awesome; some are calling it this generation's moon shot. Yet it will take weeks, presumably, to get medical personnel vaccinated and months to get a shot into every American who wants one.

So it remains crucial all winter to follow the steps for minimizing the contagion. (You know them: masks, social distancing, regular hand-washing.)

And, yes, controversy will remain over what gets shut down during the months of waiting. But at least during the current round of restrictions, Michiganders paid attention. Statewide, so far, case numbers have dropped and the Pointes have followed the trend.

It's not easy to endure the seasons of waiting and especially to give up festivities with family and friends. No wonder the entire community has taken on more expressions of cheer, wishing so deeply to send and receive tidings of comfort and joy. It's gratifying to witness and to live among such good neighbors.

May all of you find peace during this singular holiday season.



COURTESY OF THE ROYCROFT COLLECTION

Pure Grosse Pointe

In keeping with the Christmas spirit and to complement The Saturday Evening Post image on the front of this week's edition, Grosse Pointe News owner Sean Cotton sent along this image. It is Norman Rockwell's "Christmas Homecoming." It appeared on the cover of the Dec. 25, 1948, issue of The Saturday Evening Post. The image is the only one in which all five members of Rockwell's immediate family appear and are portrayed as themselves. Rockwell's wife, Mary, embraces their eldest son, Jarvis, as he arrives home for the holidays with Christmas presents in hand. In the background, right, the artist appears with a pipe while the middle son, Tom (in a plaid shirt), and the youngest son, Peter (wearing glasses at the far left) look on. Grandma Moses, the artist, and Mead Schaeffer, the illustrator, also are there.

LETTERS

Why are G.P. libraries closed?

To the Editor:

I have been asking myself this question for some time. I finally decided to ask it, Why are Grosse Pointe libraries closed?

There is not much, if any, difference between a grocery store design than a library. Both are in larger buildings, customers walk up and down aisles, customers remove a product from the shelf to look at it, read labels. Sometimes the product is placed back on the shelf and sometimes the customer takes the product home.

This question leads me to other questions: Are employees laid off? Are a few of them laid off? Are taxpayers providing full pay during the (COVID) virus? Is the heating system turned back to save energy costs?

Back to my question, why are GP libraries closed?

MARGARET POTTER  
Grosse Pointe Woods

Library director responds

To the Community:

As 2020 comes to a close, we want to thank the Grosse Pointe community for your ongoing support of the library.

When we closed our doors on March 13, we had no idea how long the coronavirus pandemic would last. At

the writing of this letter, we are in the "curbside" phase of our re-opening plan.

I know many members of the community have questions about when they will be able to come into the buildings again. From the start, staff and patron safety has been our top priority. We have done our best to strike a balance between safety and access.

We are following the CDC protocols for cleaning, disinfecting and social distancing, as well as the need to quarantine individuals who have tested positive or had exposure to someone who has tested positive. We are also obligated to follow the workplace rules set by MIOSHA.

For information on local trends, we review the Wayne County and Michigan coronavirus dashboards. We are following the guidelines for handling materials provided by the REALM Study, including a four-day quarantine period for all items returned to the library.

The challenges of serving the community in the pandemic have led to innovations that will result in improved services long after the health crisis is over.

For example, we have perfected curbside delivery of library materials; we launched an online library card

See LETTERS, page 7A

Congratulations!

To the Editor:

We have subscribed to the Grosse Pointe News for years and hope to continue for many more. I write after reading Sean Cotton's letter in this week's edition.

I am not on social media and do not have knowledge of comments that have been made about the new ownership, other than how Mr. Cotton described them. I just want to say how sorry I am that people have to be so terribly mean and canceling and negative and usually without any knowledge about the issues.

Forgive the crudeness, but my husband's boss used to say, "Opinions are like a\*\*\*\*\*s; everyone has one," which fits the scenario here and around the country on so many topics and issues.

The anonymity and lack of repercussions of the internet just breed this stuff. It is all so tiring and tiresome and just plain wrong.

In any event, thank you for getting involved in this important part of

the GP community. As a longtime subscriber, I will stand by to offer constructive, knowledgeable input and suggestions and perhaps constructive criticism going forward.

In the meantime, congratulations and best wishes for this new endeavor!

MARY CATHERINE RENTZ  
Grosse Pointe Farms

Thanks, Sean

To the Editor:

I read Sean's open letter and want to express my gratitude for him saving the paper.

In August, my wife and I moved to Grosse Pointe Park from Corktown. Our Grosse Pointe News subscription has helped us get an understanding for what was going on in the Pointes, particularly around the school board, and helped us acclimate. I am very glad that the News is going to continue as a going concern and I look forward to reading it each week.

RICKY ATKINS  
Grosse Pointe Park

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I SAY By Jody McVeigh

# Here's to new beginnings



‘T here’s no way we’ll be working from home.’

That was my first thought back in late February — or was it early March? — when

our publisher, John Minnis, told us to prepare to work remotely as word spread about the novel coronavirus.

I naively thought it wouldn’t come close to us. At the time, just a few cases had reached the U.S.; there were none in Michigan. I thought the country would take measures to stop it in its tracks.

Too little, too late, apparently.

And so the newspaper

staff, like many others, began working from home. As an “essential” employee, I came to the office once a week to design pages, but otherwise set up shop at home — first in my living room, then at the dining room table and currently at my home office.

It took me a few months to get here — my home office — because I thought, “Why set up and settle in when

we’ll be back to work in a couple of weeks?”

Once again, I couldn’t have been more wrong.

My hopeless optimism had me convinced we’d be back to “normal” by April. Then May. Then maybe around Labor Day.

But here we are, 2020 coming to a close, and I am, like many others, still working remotely. COVID-19 numbers reach new heights each day. As expressed in last

week’s “From the Publisher” column, how does one prepare for a pandemic? I certainly didn’t see this coming.

I also couldn’t have predicted the recent change in ownership of the Grosse Pointe News. It was the dream of John and Terry Minnis to carry on and build upon the 80-year legacy of this newspaper.

They’ve done an outstanding job and I for one am grateful they’ll

be staying on while we adjust to the shift.

It’s said the only constant in this world is change. For someone like me, a creature of habit, change is tough. And kind of scary.

But it also can be exciting.

And so as 2021 draws near, I’m believing in new beginnings, good health and enough optimism — no matter how hopeless it may seem — for all.

## LETTERS:

Continued from page 6A

for immediate, 24/7 access to our digital resources;

we launched online chat reference for access to a GPPL librarian from anywhere via our website. We have continued to invest in the expansion of our databases and e-book and audiobook collections.

Our staff have become Zoom experts and have continued to host our very popular book discussion groups, Story Times and many other programs online. Our Youth Services librarians launched a “Book Bundles” service, where they hand-select several age-appropriate books on a topic or theme of your choice.

The Adult Services librarians started the “Book Buds” program,

that pairs you with a librarian who will hand-select titles based on your reading preferences. Think of it as “Stitch Fix” for books!

I encourage you to visit our website, [grossepointelibrary.org](http://grossepointelibrary.org), to take advantage of all the wonderful resources available.

With all of these positive innovations, we know things aren’t the same and our patrons are longing to get back into the buildings. We are very mindful of the important role the library plays in the community as a place of gathering, discovery and sanctuary for many.

We are very eager to get back to normal as soon as it is safe to do so. We appreciate your continued patience and support through this difficult time.

JESSICA KEYSER  
Library Director

## YESTERDAY’S HEADLINES

# 1945 1970

75 years ago this week

50 years ago this week

### HIGH SCHOOL RIOT COMES TO QUIET END:

Defendants in the high school riot that occurred on Fisher last September were finally taken before the Juvenile Division of Wayne County Probate Court. Five defendants were taken before Referee Fred C. Baxter and everything appears to have been settled amicably for all concerned, excepting probably the victims of the stupid outburst. Passing motorists were the victims, a number of cars having been swarmed over by the obstreperous youngsters. Several of the cars were nearly overturned and two women were among the passengers who were badly frightened.

### SCHOOL MEETING SORRY JOKE:

Monday evening while thousands were watching the Lions defeat the Rams in one of the most exciting games of the year, those of us who were required to, and a few brave long sufferers, attended the regular meeting of the Board of Education. Treasurer Lee Allen was absent (He is in the hospital recovering from major surgery). If you found a 4-3 vote monotonous, how does a 3-3 vote grab you? If our students in the school system accomplished as little during school hours as school board members did during Monday night’s meeting, we’d have to declare our school system a disaster

area.

Obituaries: Nicholas Londes, Gregory E. Palmer, Ruth L. Knorr, Carrol N. Traxler, Marie Horlacher, Rozella Nerlinger, Veronica G. Carey, Martha Ahland, Burnetia Sommers Hayes, Anthony H. Japes, Ann G. Raudabaugh, Suzanne M. Ver Cruysse

hoping that with the increased use of cellular phones, people will report dangerous drivers immediately.

Obituaries: Robert William Price, Marie C. Ortwein, John R. Hyland M.D., Richard Bartholomew Campau, Anna Margaret Slattery, Frances H. Parcels, Howard Halpin, Elsie Erley Scherer, Jeanie B. Patterson, Herbert L. Duncan, Paul J. Johnides

# 1995

25 years ago this week

### CALL 911 TO REPORT DRUNK DRIVERS:

The next time you encounter an intoxicated driver on the road, don’t just swerve out of the way. Call 911. The campaign initiated by Mothers Against Drunk Driving encourages motorists to be alert for intoxicated drivers and report them to police. Sponsors are

# 2010

10 years ago this week

Obituaries: William L. Babcock, John Francis Bracken, Michael James Comerford, Sarah Delphine Darbe, Lewis Rowady, Betty Flanders Spencer, Jill L. Capps, Spero Theros, Rachel H. Webers

*All For*

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# The JoAnn Matouk Romain Mystery

The crazy, but true story of a Grosse Pointe family's search for answers in a suicide that most likely wasn't

By Scott M. Burnstein

Special to the Grosse Pointe News

For the first time, Tim Matouk spoke publicly on a recent "Unsolved Mysteries" about the January 2010 disappearance of his cousin JoAnn Matouk Romain. We recap it here.

Tim Matouk has finally broken his silence on his cousin JoAnn Matouk Romain's suspicious death more than a decade ago.

The 63-year old Wayne County Prosecutor's Office investigator provided a 20-minute interview to Netflix's "Unsolved Mysteries" that recently was added to the streaming service as companion material to the episode titled, "Lady In The Lake," which premiered in October. The interview, conducted via Zoom video chat, was done by the show's co-creator and executive producer Terry Dunn Meurer, the woman responsible for rebooting the true-crime television staple of the 1980s and '90s that she herself was part of originally conceiving and bringing to life at NBC.

Matouk Romain, a 55-year old Grosse Pointe Woods housemaker, was in a tiff with her cousin Tim Matouk in the months leading up to her vanishing and then popping up dead in 2010. She told more than 10 people that Tim Matouk threatened to make her "disappear." The exact reason for the reported disagreement between the pair is unknown.

Besides a short-written statement denying any wrongdoing, Tim Matouk had not spoken publicly about his cousin's passing, a death many in his family deem him culpable for, until Dunn Meurer convinced him to finally go on-record. Meurer teamed with Netflix to bring "Unsolved Mysteries" back this past summer.

In the fallout from JoAnn Matouk Romain's death, officially ruled a suicide by drowning, Tim Matouk has seen his

character assailed by multiple members of his family in both the court of law and the media.

"It's been 10 years of screaming 'Tim Matouk, Tim Matouk (is guilty),' but there hasn't been a single motive or a single shred of real evidence presented that backs that up," Matouk told Dunn Meurer. "They keep pointing the finger at me and it's utterly ridiculous. It's just not right."

After a decade of being told to keep his mouth shut and turn the other cheek by his attorneys, Matouk felt the recent news rush on the case caused by the "Unsolved Mysteries" episode has provided the right time for him to speak up for himself in the press.

"I have to protect my reputation. It's been a decade of no pushback and people need to hear from me to know the truth," he said in the interview. "I didn't want it to be 20 years from now and the only side of the story out there for people to hear was their story. I had absolutely nothing to do with her death and it bothers me to no end that they keep pushing this lie."

The Grosse Pointe News ran a three-part investigative series on the Matouk Romain case back in the fall. WDIV Channel 4 TV's Karen Drew of the award-winning Defenders news team anchored a five-part series focused on the case in October.

JoAnn Matouk Romain disappeared after leaving an evening church service at St. Paul Catholic Church off Lakeshore Road in Grosse Pointe Farms on Jan. 12, 2010.



COURTESY PHOTO

## JoAnn Matouk Romain

Grosse Pointe Farms Police immediately ruled it a suicide — claiming Matouk Romain, who had no history of mental illness and was showing no signs of suicidal tendencies — killed herself by walking across Lakeshore and jumping into half-frozen Lake St. Clair to drown. Her body was found 2 ½ months later floating in the Detroit River in Amherstburg, Ontario, by two fishermen on the Canadian side of Boblo Island.

The official autopsy performed by the Macomb County Coroner's Office stated the cause of death was suicide, "most likely by drowning" due to lack of trauma to the body. A privately funded autopsy paid for by the Matouk Romain family and done

by a pathologist at the University of Michigan ruled the death a "dry drowning," meaning that she had no water in her lungs and may have been dead before she entered the lake.

Matouk Romain's daughters claim their mother was murdered and the Grosse Pointe Farms and Woods police joined forces with Tim Matouk to cover up the crime. The Matouk Romain estate filed an \$1 million wrongful death lawsuit in federal court against Tim Matouk and both police departments, including 15 individual officers, for being complicit in the alleged conspiracy.

U.S. District Judge Linda Parker dismissed the lawsuit in 2018 and the U.S. Court of Appeals affirmed the dismissal

last year. Parker acknowledged in her ruling that the disputed facts in the case were "very disturbing."

At some point in late 2009, Matouk Romain had a contentious phone call with Tim Matouk in which, according to what she told her children and several friends, he threatened her. Tim Matouk denies ever issuing any threats, but admits to a heated conversation on the phone.

Tim Matouk told "Unsolved Mysteries" that he and his cousin JoAnn Matouk Romain were never at odds and that the phone call was to merely clear the air regarding Matouk Romain's gossiping that her brother John Matouk's financial problems were all his fault.

"I never knew we were estranged, though, until I heard JoAnn's kids say it after she died," he said. "Believe me, John didn't need any help getting into trouble, and it was a way out of line for JoAnn to place that blame on me. Why wouldn't I let her know how I feel? I never threatened her. She didn't want to talk to me about it and hung up."

John Matouk, a millionaire in the 1990s by way of an environmental cleanup firm he founded, had fallen on tough times in the late 2000s. He was in substantial financial debt at the time of his sister's death.

Despite the fact Matouk Romain told 11 different people of what she perceived as a threat, Tim Matouk doesn't believe it.

"I don't believe she ever said that, they made it up to fit a narrative," he said.

"This is all about the money. They fit me into a narrative so they could sue the police for \$1 million."

When Dunn Meurer asked Tim Matouk about his alibi, he said it was airtight.

"I was working surveillance that night of an active target in Warren (as part of a narcotics task force) and it's corroborated by my own cell phone records," he said. "JoAnn's family's own private investigator, a retired FBI agent, said my denial was credible and that I had nothing to do with this."

Retired FBI agent Bill Randall, hired by the family as one of their private investigators, told "Unsolved Mysteries" he believed Tim Matouk's alibi. Members of the surveillance unit he was on that night admit to radio contact with him, however, didn't have eyes on him at the time JoAnn went missing, per deposition testimony.

Tim Matouk doesn't believe his cousin was murdered.

"I trust the police. Maybe she slipped and fell and went into the water unintentionally. I don't know. I just know the police have no reason to lie."

Scott M. Burnstein is an author, investigative reporter and historian who has published six books on the subject of organized crime. He has his law degree from University of Illinois-Chicago and does frequent talks and national media appearances related to mob activity in North America. His work can be read at gangsterreport.com and in The Oakland Press-Macomb Daily.

Tips on the Matouk Romain case may be sent to burnsteinscott@gmail.com.

This investigative story was made possible by a Journalism Emergency Relief Fund grant from Google News Initiative.

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PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Display builders, from left, are Cathy Hunt, Steve Hunt, Jodie Adams and Lindsey Hunt, holding her daughter, Kinnear Hunt. Not pictured are Maribeth and Dave Saylor.

## Going retro for the holidays

Lindsey Hunt found a 1960s Santa pattern on eBay, so she bought it, cut it out and glued it on wood, then coated it with varnish to create a retro Santa display. Other display items were community-sourced donations, including the trees, pallets, paint, lights and mailbox. The sled was borrowed from a neighbor. It took nearly three weeks to build.



Fifteen-month-old Henry Stackpoole sits on a sleigh with a letter to Santa on his lap and points to Santa

## LAWSUIT:

Continued from page 1A

within two business days, or Nov. 24, in accordance with the 7-square-foot maximum for political candidate or ballot issue signage as laid out in city ordinance Sec. 40-331.—Signs.

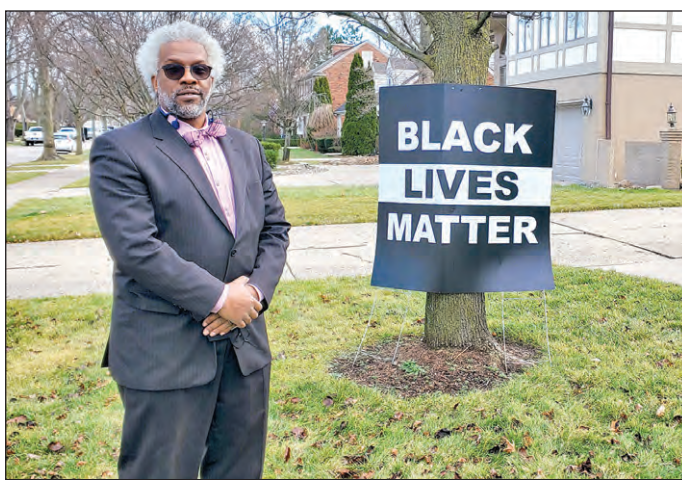
Perkins, who states the sign is not political in nature, did not find the report in his mailbox until Nov. 28, and later discovered he had been ticketed Nov. 24.

Stating the ordinance is a violation of a person's 1st and 14th Amendment rights, even with regard to signs that are unarguably political, Perkins is seeking its repeal, calling it "unconstitutional" and a "restriction of people's freedom of speech."

"Through this difficult experience, the good part about it is that we're at least having a conversation about something that needs to be discussed," he said.

While the Shores public safety department requested to withdraw the citation, according to Director John Schulte, an official decision on the dismissal by Shores and Farms Municipal Judge Matthew Rumora was scheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 15.

"We don't hold court every day, nor every week, so the memo is on the judge's desk and will be reviewed this Wednesday, because we haven't had any need to bring



Shores resident Todd Perkins put up the four foot by four foot yard sign in late October.

PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

him in prior to that date," Farms Court Administrator Susan Thomas explained. "It's been withdrawn by the police department, but the judge has to affix whatever decision he's going to make on it."

A court date before Rumora, scheduled for Jan. 13, is on hold pending the judge's decision.

Even with the citation withdrawn, Perkins fully intends to continue with the lawsuit.

"It doesn't mean that I haven't been injured," he said. "It doesn't mean that there wasn't a violation of my rights. It doesn't mean that without fully correcting what I believe to be an unconstitutional law, that it couldn't happen to someone else or it couldn't happen to me again if somebody so chose."

"The bad law still exists until something is done about it," he continued, "which is the reason why

we filed a federal lawsuit against the city of Grosse Pointe Shores."

While he could understand some balance with regulation if it were to come to a 30-foot sign or similar issue, Perkins said, the city should not be able to place such restrictions, as it does now, on a person's private property.

"Around the time of the election, we did investigate a lawn sign that did not meet the size limitation contained within our sign ordinance," Schulte said via email. "We attempted several times unsuccessfully to make contact with the resident and after a week or more, issued a violation. The violation was challenged by the resident, which has drawn a complete review of the ordinance by the city attorney."

The review of the ordinance was ongoing as of press time.

## SIGNS:

Continued from page 1A

were put in place four years ago, from a timing standpoint, occurred after the 2016 presidential election," City Attorney William Burgess said. "There was a significant motivation when those amendments were adopted by city council to address 1st Amendment issues, but the point of emphasis is that the 2020 presidential election is

the first (presidential) cycle that we've experienced after those amendments were adopted."

Much of the noted concern is aimed toward the five-day stipulation, especially its impact on free speech when political signs are singled out among other types of yard signs.

"The Nov. 3 election was disputed by Donald Trump and some of his supporters and a resident could legitimately maintain a sign to communi-

cate a political message beyond simple support for a candidate," resident Renee McKinney said, as an example. "So that's political speech maintaining that sign and I don't think that a resident should have to respond to a notice warning them, threatening them with a fine, to explain the reason they have the sign up for the sign to be considered political speech."

Also disputed is the complaint-driven nature of receiving notices,

wherein neighbors are reporting neighbors.

"During the Civil War, people who supported the Union and President Lincoln put bunting on the side of their house to signal their support for the cause and signal their support for their president and it created a lot of lively debate and it let people in the community know that they were not alone," resident Peter Smith said, "and my issue with the unequal enforcement of the sign ordi-

nance is that it stops the robust debate that we need in this county."

"We are at our best when we disagree with one another, but we do so in a civil manner," he continued, "and limiting the speech and limiting the interaction that we have because it's inconvenient or because it goes against some type of city beautification is just not the way to do things."

Theros reported that while notices have been sent out, no resident has

been ticketed for having a political sign up past five days after the election.

Prior to the election, he added, only two tickets were given out for signs exceeding size limitations. One supported the left and one the right.

"I just want everybody to understand please, we will look at this in earnest like we did four years ago and hopefully we can find an answer that suits everyone's requests," Theros said.

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# Christmas wishes

## OneGP Virtual students share their letters to Santa

These letters have been gently edited for clarity.

From Erin Rillema's OneGP Virtual second grade class:

Hi! You can call me L. Some of my favorite holiday traditions are putting up the Christmas Tree and decorating it, looking for my elf on December 1st, hanging stockings, putting up Christmas lights, hanging the mistletoe, putting up wreaths, gazing up at my elf, and listening to Christmas music! I also like watching Christmas movies and shows. The only tradition I do late at night when I'm in my bed is sometimes I look out my window and watch the snow fall to the blanket of snow on the ground. I like that tradition because it is peaceful watching the snow fall and the glow of the street lamps make all of the snow sparkle. My favorite tradition is hosting Christmas at my house. I hope you like my favorite traditions! What is your favorite holiday tradition?

Lillian

Dear Santa, Here are a few things I would love to see under my Christmas tree or get.

1. For Covid to go away
2. For all the A-Z misteries in a boxed set which are books
3. For covid to go away

so I can get my ears peaired

4. FOR MORE BOOKS
5. For a amarican girl cheep backpack set

Thanks.  
Love, Adrienne C.

From Molly Collins' OneGP Virtual third-grade class:

Dear Santa, How are you? Do you know if Mrs. Claus is okay too? I think I've been good enough this year. I hope you can give these things. I want a puzzle, a drone and a green or yellow light-saber. I hope the reindeers don't work so hard. I can't wait for Christmas!

Sincerely,  
Jonathan R.

Dear Santa, Things are going good. I hope you have a good Christmas and new year! You are a very nice person and I have been good this year!

Sincerely, Amina

Dear Santa, How are you? I hope you are doing great. I am so happy that Christmas is right around the corner. I really hope I get everything I want for Christmas. This is a list of stuff that I want:

- Reborn baby doll
- Lol dolls
- I want some more slime
- Play makeup
- Some chapter books

Stroller for my baby-doll

- A roblox figure
- Gymnastics stuff

Santa, I hope you get this letter and I want you to know that I have been a good girl and I have been nice and I have been doing good in school. Please make sure I get everything I want for Christmas. And I will have cookies and milk waiting for you.

Have a good ride Santa.  
From,  
Mikiley

Dear Santa, Thank you for the presents I got last year! For Christmas I would like a prairie outfit for Halloween and to play with. I hope you like the cookies we have! My dad might leave one of his homemade bagels. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Many thanks,  
Amelia K.

Dear Santa, I wish you a merry merry Christmas. I think kids should be more grateful for what they have now. Christmas isn't about getting presents, it's about being with your family, being with the people you love. You shouldn't fight with the person that got the thing on your list. You can ask nicely, Can we play with the gift together? And if they let you see it, you return it back to the person. Santa, always teach children to be nice and respectful to what they get on Christmas.

From Chinaza

Dear Santa, You have given us toys for years, so I will give you a gift. It will come very soon. I hope I get on the nice list this year. The gift may not be perfect.

I hope you like it.  
Love, Julia

I hope I have been good this year!

For Christmas this year I would like for covid 19 to be over. I would like for my whole family to be here for christmas. I would also like a bunch of pusheens!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Sincerely, Edith



Virginia "Ginny" W. drew a picture for Santa.

Dear Santa, Hi! How are you? I am doing great! I really want this toy. The toy is called O.M.G. REMIX super surprise. How is Mrs Claus and the elves?

Sincerely,  
Violet  
P.S. Christmas is my favorite holiday.

From Mary O'Meara's OneGP Virtual second-grade class:

Dear Santa, How is covid 19 at your house? How is the toys doing?

I been good. I will tell you why I been working hard (for) miss o'Meara. And last year our dog died. We are getting a new puppy. Don't worry. That dog is nice. This is what I want for Christmas.

- A stuff gingerbred man
- A superman doll
- A lego batman set
- More transformers
- Lego fire truk with fire man and lego chef

From, Chloe L.

Dear Santa, I hope you have a Merry Christmas. Santa I might not get every thing on my list but its ok because I have food and a roof over my head. A lot of kids don't have that. I thank you for all the joy you spread all over the globe. I know it is a lot of work making a lot of toys in

time for Christmas. How do you do it? At the end of the year you need a trip, you deserve it. It must be a lot to do in one night. Right? But when you come to my house you will get a present! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year Santa!

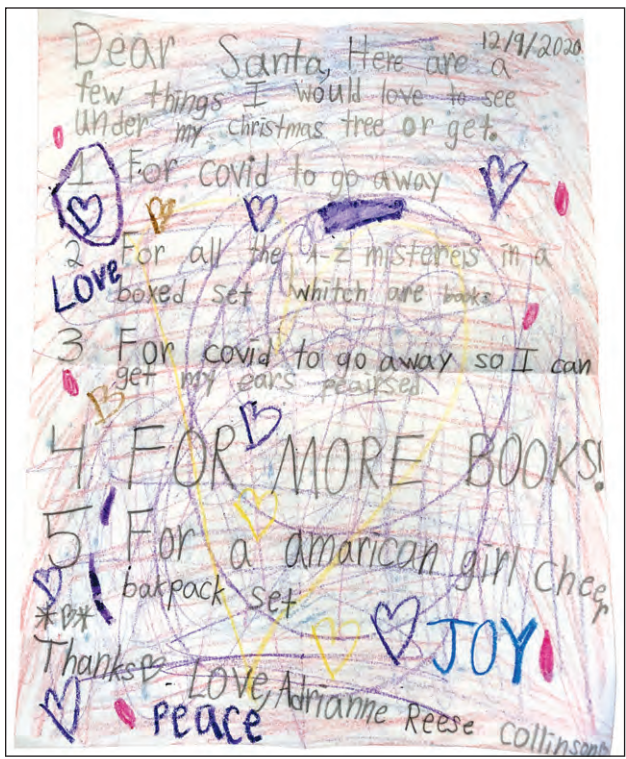
From,  
Ella B.

From Michele Maison's OneGP Virtual third-grade class:

Dear Santa Claus, I've been very helpful

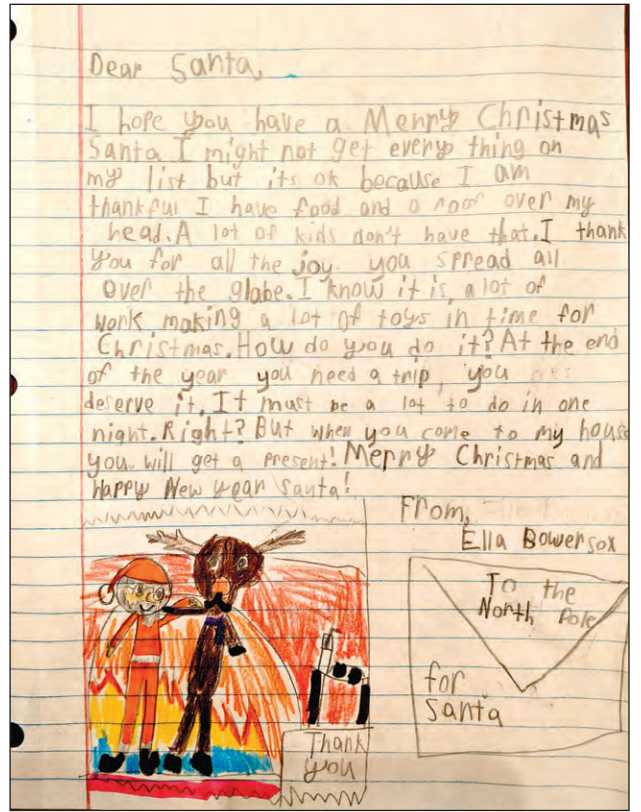
this year. I have been cleaning up the house, helping mom, helping my brother wash his hands and feeding and taking care of my hamster Marshmello. I have also been wearing my mask so I won't get people sick, working hard at school and eating healthy food. What I want for Christmas this year is a tamagotchi and a puppy stuff animal. I hope everyone stays safe and I hope their families don't get sick.

Yours truly,  
Ginny



COURTESY PHOTOS

Adrienne C.'s letter to Santa.



Ella B.'s letter to Santa.

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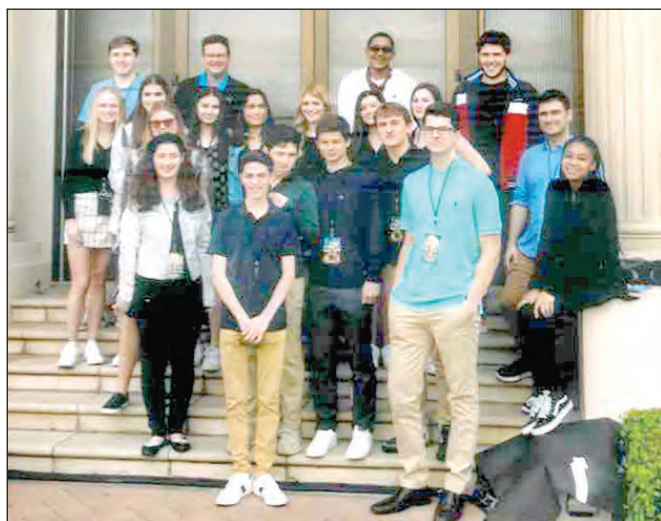
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Grosse Pointe North High School students visited Sony Studios in March with their teacher, Brian Stackpoole, and trip coordinator, Linda Lloyd.

COURTESY PHOTO

## Students just make the cut

Grosse Pointe North High School TV productions students likely were among the last students to take a field trip toward the end of last school year, before COVID-19 restricted travel.

Each year, the group goes to New York City or Los Angeles to study film production in a professional setting. On March 10, they set off to Los

Angeles and by March 13, they were called back to Grosse Pointe due to the coronavirus. Fortunately, they all returned safely and in good health.

They did get a chance to visit Sony Studios; mOcean, a private film production company; and a taping of "America's Got Talent," as well as tour the Studio School.



# Superintendent's evaluation passes unanimously

By Kate Vanderstelt  
Staff Writer

At its meeting Monday, Dec. 14, the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education approved the superintendent's evaluation.

The board met twice over the last month to evaluate of Dr. Gary C. Niehaus' role as superintendent.

During Monday's meeting, Vice President Kathleen Abke announced the board's collaborative score averaged

92 percent. The motion to approve the score was moved by Trustee Christopher Lee and supported by Trustee Joseph Herd.

It passed 5-0.

Before approval, Lee thanked Niehaus over the Zoom meeting for his hard work.

"I would really like to thank Dr. Niehaus for his leadership his past six years," he said. "I've been very impressed with all that he's done for the community ...

the leadership, his experience through the declining enrollment and guiding us. ... We've been very lucky to have him there. I'm really grateful that he's been around for all this."

## More COVID woes

During the public comment portion of the meeting, parents voiced their concerns via written submissions regarding how district administration has been handling the COVID-19 pan-

demic.

"The slow and lackluster response by the GPPSS administration is embarrassing," one parent wrote.

Another parent called the reconfiguration plans "devastating." The parent is hopeful, looking forward to the new board, but wrote, "For the time being, we're stuck on this path of destruction. ... Our kids have been falling behind. My kids are falling behind. ... How do you plan to make up for a lost year of

school?"

Niehaus responded at the end of the meeting to their concerns.

"I think the one area that we would change ... is if we had an outbreak in any particular school, we would close that school or quarantine that school versus shutting down the district as we did," he said. "I think we learned a lesson from that. ... That'll be kind of our new rule and new way of doing business for that."

# GPFPE awards more than \$30,000 to school district

The Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education announced \$30,270 in grants to the Grosse Pointe Public School System at the live-streamed meeting of the GPPSS Board of Education Monday, Dec. 14. The following 10 grants were awarded:

1. Dramatic Play Equipment for kindergarten at Monteith (\$3,731)

This grant purchases wooden play equipment replacements for three kindergarten classes. Dramatic play is a mandatory part of early childhood learning goals, as the students learn about collaboration, compassion and diversity, while using the new kitchen equipment. GPFPE is fortunate to be able to fund this grant through the Lois J. Warden Fund that has been established for important elementary programs within the school system. Submitted by Natalie Bruveris, Theresa Comilla and Diane Richards

2. All Hands on Deck for third grade at Mason (\$406)

Math manipulatives will be purchased for this classroom

to make mathematic instruction more interactive and engaging, in a workshop environment. This instructor will use the purchased games to build math proficiency and fluency, while also encouraging different learning styles. This grant will also be funded by the Lois J. Warden Fund. Submitted by Caitlin Haigh

3. Integrating Literacy into the Maire Makerspace for grades K-4 at Maire (\$750)

This is another literacy grant that will be funded through the generosity of the Lois J. Warden Fund. Maire Elementary wishes to expand a literacy library that will complement the hands-on learning and critical thinking skills in their STEAM/Makerspace area, by offering many new leveled books about engineering design, creation and the importance of collaboration for students to choose. Submitted by Michelle Kramer

4. Instrumental Music PPE for grades 5-12 at Parcels, Brownell, Pierce, North and South (\$2,400)

Air purifiers will be pur-

chased for every instrumental music practice room in the district's middle and high schools through this grant. Twelve air purifiers will protect the entire band and orchestra musicians during indoor practice sessions. Submitted by Tom Torrento

5. iPads to Interact with New Smart Board Software for grades 5-8 at Parcels, Brownell and Pierce (\$6,808)

The math departments at the three middle schools requested iPads and accessories for teachers to connect with new SMART Board technology. This will allow better social distancing within the classroom during in-person instruction, as well as accommodate virtual sharing of the SMART Board, through a Screen Mirroring feature. Submitted by Ashley Golitko

6. Hands on Art for grades 5-8 at Parcels (\$403)

This grant will purchase wire and equipment to allow instruction in 3D manipulation in art class, offering another medium in which to create. The classroom teacher wants her students to see that

art is not just drawing and painting and hopes that this hands-on opportunity will allow her students to learn more about spatial skills. Submitted by Courtney Hughes

7. Chromebooks for Everyday Lessons and Growth for post-high school students in Community School (\$3,179)

This is a partial grant to fund the purchase of 10 Chromebooks and a cart for use in the GPPSS Community School. Developmentally disabled students will use the technology to engage in exploring and researching potential jobs and careers, practice data entry and learn e-commerce as a microbusiness. Submitted by Ann Marie Bokatzian

8. Bring Out the Bass for grades 5-12 at Brownell, Parcels and North (\$8,000)

Another partial grant will fund the purchase of two saxes for two middle schools and North High School. Replacing instruments purchased in 1968, this acquisition will be especially beneficial for the marching

band. Submitted by Tom Torrento

9. New Vibraphone for grades 9-12 at South (\$3,993)

This grant purchases a new vibraphone for the South band and orchestra program. This instrument replaces a currently unrepairable vibraphone that is central to festival preparation and performances. Submitted by Christopher Takis

10. Impairment Goggles for grades 9-12 at North (\$600)

GPFPE will fund this innovative grant, submitted by a North counselor, which buys six impairment goggles that he intends to use to help students learn valuable life experiences. The students will experience, virtually, the effect of drugs and alcohol on their systems, while being instructed in possible legal ramifications from their use. This will be part of a new American legal systems class. Submitted by Sean McCarroll

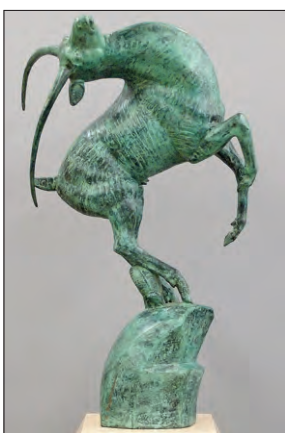
For more information about the GPFPE, visit [gpfpe.org](http://gpfpe.org) or contact Karen Lawrence at [lawrenk@gpschools.org](mailto:lawrenk@gpschools.org) or (313) 432-3058.

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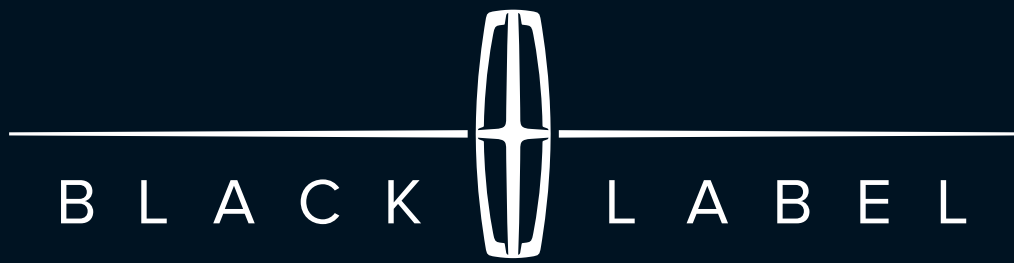
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## HART has new mission in Haiti St. Paul team spearheads orphan prevention program

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

The Haiti and Africa Relief Team, or HART, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church in Grosse Pointe Farms has been traveling to Haiti regularly to provide medical relief since a hurricane ravaged the country in 2010.

As part of its medical outreach, team members began visiting orphanages to provide those services. It wasn't long before St. Paul missionaries realized how in need those children are.



A smiling participant of HART's HOPE for Haiti.

"The longer we were there, the more we realized they also need food," said Dr. Cheryl Mazzara, a HART missionary since 2016. "To have a future, they need education. We wanted to dig deeper, make a lasting difference and get to the root of the problem."

"We considered building our own orphanage in Haiti," she continued. "Of the kids in the orphanages, two-thirds are not orphans. They're kids whose parents have given them up because they have no money to provide food or lodging."

When plans to erect such a building fell through, Mazzara and other HART members worked with a Haitian priest and nun, Father Louis Merosne and Sister Natalie, to figure out a way to let children stay with their parents and make sure their needs are met.

From their efforts, HART's newest program, HOPE for Haiti, was born.

HOPE, or Haiti Orphan Prevention Effort, focuses on feeding, educating and socializing children. Since the fall, 50 children ages 5 to 12 have benefited from the program.

"Sister Natalie is the administrator of the program," Mazzara said. "She picked from the area 50 kids who are the most needy; they need help with just basic things like feeding their families. They meet after school in the area for a couple hours, Monday through Saturday."

HOPE for Haiti addresses



PHOTOS COURTESY OF DR. CHERYL MAZZARA

Dr. Cheryl Mazzara said her heart was stolen the first time she visited Haiti, as evidenced by this photo of her first day there.

four key areas, the first of which is medical and nutritional needs. The children get physicals and medical care, as well as one hearty meal every day, Mazzara said.

Secondly, their intellectual needs are addressed. There is one mentor for every five students, helping the youngsters with their homework and, "taking a vested interest in their success, even when they're not in the program anymore," Mazzara said.

Socialization is a third focus of the program, she added.

"Parents don't have time," she said. "They spend all of their time scrounging to find food and make money to survive. Parents aren't able to pass on the social, emotional things kids need."

During supervised play time, mentors teach students etiquette and self-care. They also focus on the fourth key of HOPE for Haiti: spirituality.

"There are a lot of superstitions practiced in Haiti," Mazzara said. "HART is centered on Jesus, helping them know the love of Jesus, so they can spread it to the rest of their family, then the country and hopefully, the world."

"The kids are very excited and enthusiastic about it."

Even before COVID-19 restricted travel, political instability in Haiti prevented visits to the country, Mazzara said. HART missionaries have not been to Haiti in more than a year.

"Being here, it's hard to know what's going on in Haiti," she said, noting spotty



A healthy meal is part of each day in the HOPE for Haiti program.

internet and phone coverage. "You have to have people you trust on the ground. We have people with amazing, good hearts. We feel fortunate to have them."

"The mentors are Haitians chosen by Sister Natalie and Father Louis," she continued. "They helped find people in the community that they felt would be able to guide the kids."

The program currently is limited to 50 participants, "but we're hoping if we can expand and gain more resources, we can increase the number of kids and the age," Mazzara said. "This is not a short-term thing."

Next year, she said, they'd like to see 100 children being mentored; 150 the year after

that.

"Sister Natalie was saying how more needy people are begging her to take their children into the program," she added. "There really is a great need."

Currently, students age out of HOPE for Haiti at 12, but Mazzara said she also hopes to increase the age limit into adolescence and beyond.

"We hope eventually mentors accompany children through trade school or universities or whatever they choose to do," she said. "Parents often don't have the education themselves, or they're so burdened by poverty they can't help the students. We hope with this model we can set up similar programs in other communities. And when they get through the program, they can become mentors themselves to other children."

Mazzara, a psychiatrist, joined HART because she wanted a way to give back; she stayed because she saw love in the hearts of everyone in the group: "Love for God, love for the people we treat," she said. "The heart of the people in HART is so beautiful. It's something I want to continue to be a part of."

"I've grown to know a lot of people over there," she added. "When we go to Haiti, the people have nothing. They're poor, but they're so joyful. They love music, they love dancing."



Mazzara said children in the HOPE for Haiti program are enthusiastic and excited to learn.



Children at the orphanage love to sing and dance, Mazzara said.

See HOPE, page 9B

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2B | FEATURES

# Registration open for Kevin's Song fifth annual Conference on Suicide

## Three-day event features full virtual conference platform

Kevin's Song, a non-profit organization dedicated to suicide awareness and prevention, has opened registration for its fifth annual "Conference on Suicide: Equity and Equality in Suicide Prevention." The entire event, produced by Detroit Public Television, will feature a full virtual conference platform taking place live and streamed Jan. 21 to 23, said Kevin's Song co-founders John and Gail Urso.

"Like most nonprofit organizations during the COVID-19 pandemic, Kevin's Song has pivoted to offer its annual conference on suicide in a virtual format," said Gail Urso, Kevin's Song vice president. "Despite these challenges, we will continue to provide meaningful programming with access to a prestigious roster of leading mental health professionals, educators and experts in the

field of suicide. We encourage anyone who has been touched by suicide to join us for our event as we collectively work to achieve a world without suicide."

The fifth annual conference is more accessible than ever to larger and more diverse audiences. This year, the conference can accommodate up to 1,000 participants from across Michigan, the U.S. and internationally, as compared to last year's in-person event that was sold out with approximately 450 registrants.

This year's conference theme, "Equity and Equality in Suicide Prevention," will tackle suicide through a social justice lens and challenge existing bias and belief systems. The conference will share information about suicide, suicidal persons and the repercussions of suicide at both the personal and community level. It will

emphasize prevention in all demographics, with a focus on high-risk and underserved communities. Additionally, it will address fairness to all regardless of one's race, ethnicity, gender, ability, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation or geographical location.

"As the state has been faced with an economic downturn because of the impact of COVID-19 — coupled with the ongoing societal issues surrounding the social justice movement — mental health issues and suicide prevention initiatives have been brought to the forefront," said Leo Nouhan, Kevin's Song board member and conference coordinator. "We are greatly encouraged that elected officials are finally addressing suicide at the statewide level, which includes policy recommendations to be

revealed in March by the Michigan Suicide Prevention Commission. Further, we are hopeful these officials and other community leaders will join us for our virtual event, which is the largest suicide prevention conference of its kind in Michigan."

The first two days of the three-day conference will offer both general and breakout sessions that focus on how communities can address suicide prevention through unified, collaborative coalitions of community resources using the best available research and evidence-based practices. Researchers, clinicians and suicide prevention advocates will cover the topic from both the personal and community level.

A School Summit will run concurrently the first day, bringing together

educators to share best practices in suicide awareness and prevention. Attendees will learn about innovative programs available to students, teachers and parents. School personnel are encouraged to attend. Continuing education credits for school psychologists, social workers, counsellors, teachers and human resource professionals will be available for approved conference sessions.

The last day of the conference is a journey of hope and healing dedicated for survivors of suicide loss and attempt survivors, and includes three keynote speakers who will share their personal stories of suicide loss, grief and hope. A portion of the Saturday program will be open to the public and free of charge.

This year's conference also features a virtual resource gallery, a bookstore courtesy of the Self Esteem Shop, a Memorial Forest honoring those who have died by suicide and a special presentation Saturday morning of the 2021 Kevin's Song "Save a Life" Award to Sojourner Jones, community liaison for law enforcement with Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network.

Cost to attend the conference is \$150 prior to Jan. 1. After Jan. 1, cost is \$175. The cost for the Thursday School Summit program is \$75 for early registrants, \$100 after Jan. 1. If purchased separately, the Saturday morning program is \$25. Student rates are available. There also are group rates available for the School Summit.

Visit [kevinssong.org](http://kevinssong.org) for more information.

# AREA ACTIVITIES

## Library

The Grosse Pointe Public Library hosts the following virtual programs:

◆ Read, Rhyme & Play on Zoom, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Tuesdays.

◆ Grosse Pointe Library Board of Trustees meeting, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17, at the Ewald branch.

◆ Nonfiction Book Club, 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17. The group discusses "Crisis

in the Red Zone" by Richard Preston.

◆ 5th & 6th Grade Book Group, 7 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 22.

Register on [grossepointelibrary.org](http://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, Dec. 17, Bereavement: Finding Your Way.

◆ 6 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 24, Bereavement: Finding Your Way.

◆ 5:30 to 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 28, Family Bereavement.

◆ 6 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31, Pancreatic Cancer Support Group.

Register at [gildasclubdetroit.org/events/calendar](http://gildasclubdetroit.org/events/calendar).

## Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

◆ 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 23, Jefferson Masonic Lodge No. 553, 22000 E. 11 Mile Road, St. Clair Shores.

◆ 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 29, Henry Ford Medical Center—Cottage, 159 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ 1 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 29, Kaul Funeral Home, 28433 Jefferson, St. Clair Shores.

◆ 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 30, Pointe Fitness, 19556 Harper, Harper Woods.

See EVENTS, page 9B



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- Traditional service with orchestra, choir, music, readings, liturgy and candle lighting

To view all online services, visit [gpmchurch.org](http://gpmchurch.org) or <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCseUvbTflZpBVHuIrnHliag>



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|  <p><b>the Art of Cooking &amp; Entertaining</b></p> <p><i>the Holiday Wishlist</i></p>  <p>17133 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe<br/>(313) 264-1996</p>                                    |  <p>17045 Kercheval Avenue<br/>(313) 885-0384</p> <p><b>Get a FREE \$5 Treat Card with every \$25 in Gift Card Purchases</b></p>  |
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# Efforts add meals to Park residents' tables

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

The Adopt-a-Family program has long been a fixture in the Grosse Pointe Public School System, spreading holiday cheer and a sense of community throughout the Pointes. A partnership between the student associations at Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South high schools, the initiative aims to support more than 60 families this holiday season.

"We have been doing Adopt-a-Family for over 40 years in the district," said South social studies teacher Mike Rennell, who organizes the effort for the student associations. "It originated at Grosse Pointe North and South joined in about 10 years ago.

"We will be helping 65 Grosse Pointe families this year," he added. "Normally we have individual classes adopt a family, but this year North and South are working together as a whole to raise money for the program."

While in past years students collected funds and then shopped for gifts on children's wish lists, this year's gifts will be presented to families as Visa gift cards, in keeping with COVID-19 health and safety recommendations.

Additionally, for 31



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

The Bricks Pizzeria is one of the restaurants participating in the gift card program.

families in Grosse Pointe Park, the program will add meals to their tables. This new area of support — the Food for the Holidays initiative — was the result of brainstorming among community leaders whose goal is to stimulate work for restaurants while feeding families in the Park.

Karen Pope, president of the Grosse Pointe Artists Association, brought the idea to members of Park city council, who immediately supported the project.

"Karen reached out to council and asked how we could support local restaurants and those in need," Park Councilwoman Darci

McConnell said, adding she then contacted several restaurants to secure their participation. The city also agreed to help publicize the program.

"My hope is that this will be a pilot for an initiative that extends beyond the holidays to help those in need and help the restaurants," she said. "The numbers are spiking with COVID and we don't know what the future holds."

Participation is simple. Those interested are asked to contact partici-

pating restaurants by phone, in person or online and indicate they'd like to purchase a \$40 gift card for the Food for the Holidays program.

Participating restaurants include:

Atwater in the Park, (313) 344-5104

The Bricks Pizzeria, (313) 925-3430

Buscemi's, (313) 458-8552

Cabbage Patch Café, (313) 823-8425

The Charlevoix, (313) 458-8448

Marge's Bar, (313) 881-

8895

Mimi's Bistro, (313) 922-4085

Park Grill Mediterranean, (313) 264-1997

Red Crown, (313) 822-3700

The restaurant will then set aside those gift cards. On Monday, Dec. 21, they'll be distributed to families who have been identified by the Adopt-A-Family program, "so people need to complete their purchases by Dec. 20," McConnell said, adding she'd love to get more restaurants involved.

Park Councilwoman Lauri Read said the program evolved on a tight time schedule, but with full support from city leaders, she expects to see great results.

"What COVID has demonstrated is how much we need each other, how much we need to work together and be creative to get through tough times," she added. "I really give Karen (Pope) so much credit. She's always thinking. She just wants to make the community better."

Read said there are no specific plans to expand the program, but she hopes to see it continue well past the holidays.

"I think we're looking at a good six months of hunkering down because of COVID," she said. "I want to keep supporting our businesses. We've lost some of them to COVID, but I want to help what we have and find ways to support them. ... I think the pandemic has really illustrated how much we need each other. I hope this program and any program like it in the future bears that out."

McConnell agreed. "My hope is to create an ongoing program beyond the holidays," she said. "I think residents are always looking for ways to help. We've been fortunate that a lot of restaurants have been able to survive, but we understand it's challenging times. We hope to continue to support them."

Added Rennell, "I think the addition of the Park adding restaurant gift cards is an awesome addition. Any help we can provide these struggling families is a blessing."



Buscemi's in the Park is participating in the gift card program.



Cabbage Patch Cafe gift certificates are available to purchase for the Adopt-a-Family program.

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- 2) **Tomato Basil Penne or Alfredo Penne:** Served with green beans. **\$35**
- 3) **Classic Meatloaf Dinner:** Mashed potatoes, green beans, gravy. **\$60**
- 4) **Salmon Entree Dinner:** Oven roasted served with organic rice blend, green beans, tomato lemon butter sauce. **\$90**
- 5) **Meatballs al Forno Penne Bake:** House made meatballs with parmesan, baked with penne pasta and tomato basil sauce. **\$40**
- 6) **Chicken Mushroom Penne:** A Grosse Pointe Classic. Sautéed chicken breast, with garlic cream, mushroom duxelles, penne pasta, Parmesan. **\$55**
- 7) **Turkey Club Wrap:** Oven roasted turkey breast, lettuce, tomato, smoked honey bacon, lavash wrap. Served with house favorite smoked tomato soup. **\$45**

All dinners come with house bread, large garden salad with vinaigrette dressing, tomato, cucumber, red onion, blue cheese crumbles.

-Big Salads for Dinner- Feeds 8-10

- 1) **Chopped Salad** - Garbanzo beans, smoked bacon, red onion, hard cooked egg, tomato, blue cheese. Dressed with classic Hudson dressing. **\$30**
- 2) **Vegetable Grain Salad** - Mixed greens, grains, tomato, parsley, roasted cauliflower, garbanzo beans, baby kale, goat cheese, balsamic dressing. **\$30**
- 3) **Caesar Salad** - Romain greens, house Caesar dressing, parmesan, roasted red peppers, croutons. **\$25**

Add chicken to any large salad **\$20**

Add Beef Tips to any large salad **\$40** Add Shrimp to any large salad **\$50**

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Chop Salad - \$13.00

Garbanzo beans, smoked bacon, red onion, cucumber, egg, tomato, bleu cheese, tear drop peppers, Hudson dressing

Add Protein to Any Salad

Add Prime Sirloin - \$10.00 Add Chicken - \$6.00

Add Salmon - \$12.00 Add Shrimp - \$9.00

**Sandwiches**

Steak Burger - \$12.50

Served on a brioche bun with lettuce, tomato, onion & French fries

Southern Chicken Sandwich - \$13.50

Marinated breast, crispy fried, seasoned mayonnaise, lettuce, tomato, house sweet and spicy pickles, served on a brioche bun with French fries

Turkey Club Sandwich - \$11.50

Served with lettuce, tomato, bacon, mayonnaise & French fries

Grilled Cheese Sandwich - \$9.50

Served on white toast with a cup of tomato soup

Reuben Sandwich - \$12.00

Served on rye toast with swiss cheese, grandmas sauerkraut & French fries

**Entrees**

All entrees are served with a choice of soup or salad

Salmon Filet - \$22.00

Served with mixed grains, vegetables & butter sauce

Filet Mignon - \$24.00

Served with mashed potatoes, vegetables & mushroom gravy

Chicken Marsala - \$22.00

Served with mashed potatoes, vegetables & marsala mushroom sauce

Penne Pasta - \$11.50

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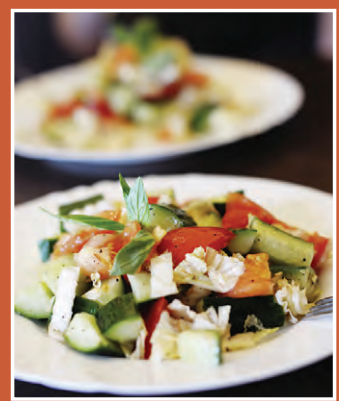
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# Streaming through the holidays

Nowadays while home for the holidays, you don't have to jump into the car to get a rental movie. Instead, you can stream it easily via a smart TV and good internet connection.

Streaming services like Netflix, Prime Video, Hulu, iTunes and many others offer the standard holiday classics — at a price. If you are a card-carrying member of the Grosse Pointe Public Library, you can stream your favorites for free.

On the library's website, patrons may access the streaming services Hoopla and Kanopy to search for their next favorite movie.

On Hoopla, card members may instantly borrow digital movies, as well as music, eBooks and other items. On Kanopy, more than 26,000 films are available from the Criterion Collection, PBS collections and hard-to-find indie and foreign films from award-winning filmmakers.

From classics to newer holiday hits, there are plenty of options.

◆ "It's a Wonderful Life" — Ruined by a miser on Christmas Eve, a suicidal family man sees life anew thanks to his guardian angel. Run time 2 hours, 10 minutes.

◆ "Miracle on 34th Street" — An adwoman's lawyer boyfriend tries to prove that Macy's Santa Claus is the real thing. Run time 1 hour, 36 minutes.

◆ "Home Alone" — Accidentally left by his Paris-bound family, an 8-year-old makes mincemeat of two burglars.

Run time 1 hour, 43 minutes.

◆ "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation" — The Griswolds spend the holiday in a garish way, especially when a country cousin pulls up in an RV. Run time 1 hour, 37 minutes.

◆ "Elf" — Adopted as a baby by one of Santa's elves, a man leaves the workshop in search of his family in New York. Run time 1 hour, 37 minutes.

◆ "Die Hard" — A New York policeman outwits foreign thugs holding his wife and others in a Los Angeles high-rise. Run time 2 hours, 11 minutes.

For those not sold on the classics or who maybe are looking for a new family favorite may opt for a non-holiday movie. Plenty currently are available on streaming services, including:

◆ "The Crown" — The life and reign of Queen Elizabeth II and the events that helped shape the 20th century. Four seasons, available on Netflix.

◆ "Cobra Kai" — Johnny Lawrence and Daniel LaRusso reignite their rivalry 34 years after a fateful karate tournament. Two seasons, available on Netflix.

◆ "The Queen's Gambit" — An orphan struggles with addiction in a quest to become the greatest chess player in the world. One season, available on Netflix.

To find a streaming service, visit [grossepointelibrary.org](http://grossepointelibrary.org). To sign up for a library card, visit [grossepointelibrary.org/get-a-card](http://grossepointelibrary.org/get-a-card).

— Jody McVeigh

# Creative cocktail designed by Traverse City Whiskey Co.

For those planning to imbibe during festive holiday gatherings — or those just looking to try a new cocktail — this recipe recently was designed for our readers by the Traverse City Whiskey Co.

## Cinnamon Honey Old Fashioned

By Traverse City Whiskey Co.

In a mixing glass, add the following:

2 oz. Traverse City American Cherry Whiskey

½ oz. Honey cinnamon syrup \*\*

4 dashes Angostura Bitters

Add ice and stir until chilled and diluted, approximately 30 seconds.

Strain into a rocks glass over fresh ice.

Garnish with an expressed lemon peel and cinnamon stick.



COURTESY PHOTO

## Cinnamon Honey Old Fashioned

\*\* Honey cinnamon syrup:

16 oz. honey

8 oz. water

Three cinnamon sticks

Heat all ingredients together, whisking occasionally. Do not boil.

Once hot and the

honey is incorporated, take off heat and let cool.

Bottle and store it in the fridge.

Cinnamon sticks can stay in the syrup the whole time. They syrup has a shelf life of two weeks. Adjust amounts

as needed.

*Pro Tip: You can always stir right in the glass you intend to serve the cocktail in if you don't have a mixing glass. Also, the bigger the ice, the better the drink!*

# Community Foundation, Shinola Detroit announce grants to area health systems

The Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan, in partnership with Shinola Detroit, recently announced three grants from its COVID-19 Health Relief Fund to support the needs of area healthcare workers during the pandemic.

Grants totaling \$187,500 were made to three healthcare systems in metro Detroit: Ascension St. John Foundation, Beaumont Health Foundation and Henry Ford Health System.

Funding for the grants, which are being used to support unexpected expenses for healthcare

workers due to COVID-19, was made possible by Shinola Detroit.

In June, the Detroit-based brand released a limited-edition watch dubbed "The Champ," originally designed to commemorate the 2020 Summer Olympics. In lieu of the games, Shinola dedicated all proceeds of the now-sold-out watch to the Community Foundation and its COVID-19 Health Relief Fund.

"We are grateful for

honor to support the

this partnership with Shinola and its ability to make a direct and immediate impact in the lives of healthcare workers in our community," said Mariam C. Noland, president of the Community Foundation. "As we work to meet the challenges of this pandemic together, it is vital that we continue to support the needs of essential workers who are fighting for all of us on the frontlines."

"We at Shinola are honored to support the

real champs continuing

to fight the most unprecedented pandemic of our lifetime — all over the country and in our hard-hit hometown of Detroit," said Shannon Washburn, president and CEO of Shinola. "We salute the amazing work of the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan — specifically to their efforts supporting the healthcare workers who are giving it their all on the frontlines of the COVID-19 crisis."

**Happy Holidays!**

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# OBITUARIES

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

## Victoria D. Wiercinski

Harper Woods resident Victoria Wiercinski passed away Sunday, Dec. 6, 2020. She was 103. Victoria was born Sept. 5, 1917, in Detroit, to Stanley and Alexandra Wiercinski.

A loyal and fun-loving daughter, aunt and friend, Vicky dedicated her life in support of her mother, father, nieces and nephews. Selfless and witty, she cared more for others than herself.

Vicky loved to travel, play cards and trade stocks. Her family loved her famous Christmas cookies.

Vicky is survived by her nieces and nephews, Thomas, Michael, Duane, Charles, Mark, Judi, Deborah, Ann Marie and Michelle and their families.

She was predeceased by her sisters, Sally and Sophie; brother, Stanley; nephew, Gerald Christ Jr.; and great-nephew, Gregory Ventura.

A funeral Mass was celebrated Dec. 12, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church in Grosse Pointe Farms. Interment took place at Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Detroit.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, stjude.org.

Share a memory at [ahpeters.com](http://ahpeters.com).

## Edmund Anthony Raubolt

St. Clair Shores resident Edmund Anthony "Tony" Raubolt passed away Monday, Dec. 7, 2020. Born April 22, 1950, he was 70.

He is survived by his wife of 32 years, Kathleen Clancey; son, Edmund John "Jay" Raubolt II; siblings, cousins, nieces and nephews; and countless friends and colleagues from around the world.

Tony graduated from Eastern Michigan University and was a member of Delta Sigma Phi fraternity.

An avid sailor, Tony successfully competed in Lake St. Clair regattas and the Port Huron-to-Mackinac and Chicago-to-Mackinac races on the sail yacht Cygnus, which was owned by a good friend at Bayview Yacht Club. He was a life active member at the Detroit Yacht Club and a sponsor of the NYC Foundation.

Tony also was a solid supporter of the Grosse Pointe Academy, De La Salle High School and Albion College — all schools his son attended.

Tony was employed at KLA Laboratories Inc., at its headquarters in Dearborn. A technology development and manufacturing industry veteran with more than four decades of experience, he worked with small start-ups to multibillion-dollar global organizations. He helped KLA navigate the continuous evolution in technology and was involved with local projects at Ford Field, Comerica Park and Little Caesars Arena, as well as other sporting and entertainment arenas, large-scale manufacturing plants and business facil-

ities throughout the U.S., Canada and Mexico. He was most proud of mentoring others and reveled in their success. He considered his customers and coworkers as friends first and business associates second.

Tony had a big personality and lived life to the fullest on his own terms, his family said. He also was a kind and generous man.

Monetary donations in Tony's memory may be made to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society of Michigan, [donate.lls.org](http://donate.lls.org); or the De La Salle High School Lasallian Fund, [delasallehs.com](http://delasallehs.com); or the Detroit Yacht Club Foundation, [dycfoundation.com](http://dycfoundation.com).

Additional details are available at [verheyden.org](http://verheyden.org).

## Glenn George Schuster

Glenn George "Chuck" Schuster, 97, died Thursday, Dec. 10, 2020, in Clinton Township. He was born July 24, 1923, in Grosse Pointe Park, to George V. and Alma (nee Measel) Schuster, both now deceased.

Raised in Grosse Pointe Park and Detroit, he was a proud 1941 graduate of De La Salle Collegiate High School.

Chuck served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II. Among his many medals, he earned the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal. In 2017, he was bestowed the French Legion of Honor for his flight crew's action during the war.

After he selflessly served his country, Chuck returned home to his wife, Constance. He began his studies toward a bachelor's degree at the Detroit Institute of Technology while also working at DTE Energy Co., and helping raise their five children. An electrical engineer at DTE for 40 years, he retired in 1985.

In retirement, Chuck and Connie traveled locally and to Nassau in The Bahamas, Europe and Hawaii. He loved spending time with his family and grandchildren. He also was an active parishioner at St. Matthew Catholic Church.

Chuck was extremely proud of his service as president of the Dad's Clubs at St. Matthew grade school, Dominican High School and Bishop Gallagher High School. He also enjoyed coaching softball. Although Chuck enjoyed walking in his free time, his main interest was reading.

Chuck and Connie together had many friends with whom they frequently dined out and had good times. The only thing Chuck needed was a cigar, a Manhattan and warm place to sit, his family said.

Chuck was the loving husband of the late Connie; dear father of Christine Khalifah (Bland), Mary Jo Szlaga (Daniel), Robert P. Schuster (Debbie), Alan Schuster (Cathy), Steven Schuster (Maria) and late infant son, Robert Glenn;

cherished grandfather of Jennifer Khalifah (Mark), Susan Khalifah, Joseph Khalifah (Dara), Karen Khalifah (Josh), Mark Szlaga (Jennifer), Matthew Szlaga, Paul Szlaga (Rachel), Patrick Schuster (Amy), Megan McCormick (Kevin), Rose Belchner (Andrew), Lisa Schuster, Angela Schuster, Laura Lin (Jeffrey), Rachel Foster (Nick) and Juliana Schuster; and beloved great-grandfather to many great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his five siblings.

Chuck will lie in state from 9 a.m. until the funeral Mass at 10 a.m. Friday, Dec. 18, at St. Matthew Catholic Church, 6021 Whittier, Detroit.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. Matthew Catholic Church, 6021 Whittier St., Detroit, MI 48224.

## Elida Ribaldo

Grosse Pointe Woods resident Elida Ribaldo passed away Tuesday, July 23, 2019, surrounded by her loving family.

She was a beloved wife, mother, grandmother, friend, woman of faith and entrepreneur who lived a loving, productive, creative and rewarding life.

Born July 31, 1926, in Windsor, Ontario, Canada, to Italian immigrant parents, Elida did not speak English until she attended school; she quickly learned the language and was a great athlete, winning several track medals in high school.

Her career began at age 16 when she opened her own beauty shop to help support her parents and siblings. At 19, she moved to the U.S. and worked at a beauty shop. The fact that she, as a single Italian Catholic woman of that era, moved alone to another country was a great example of Elida's bravery. Her family noted that she always had the courage to make bold moves to bring about a better life. Elida's move to the U.S. also brought her closer to the love of her life, Lorenzo "Larry" Ribaldo.

Elida and Larry were introduced by Larry's sister, Santa Pizzimenti; the couple married six months later at 11 a.m. Nov. 11, 1950. Upon her marriage to Lorenzo, Elida became a very creative homemaker. In addition to lovingly mothering five children, Elida also kept a meticulous house, prepared gourmet meals, made curtains and silk flower arrangements, created her children's clothing from scratch and was the best wife imaginable. Elida's children and grandchildren were the apple of her eye and she had a special relationship with each.

Elida managed a Catholic bookstore, ushered at Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts and cared full-time for several of her grandchildren in later years. She



Victoria D. Wiercinski



Edmund A. Raubolt



Glenn G. Schuster



Elida Ribaldo



Carol H. Fitzgerald



Bob Waldeck

also loved dancing. Elida and Larry impressed all who watched them swing around a dance floor.

Elida battled the debilitating disease of multiple system atrophy several years before she passed. Nevertheless, she approached each day with bravery, gratitude, kindness and joy. The disease took much from her, but never her spirit. Elida's family described her as a true champion.

She also was known for her generosity of spirit and helping others. Through the years, she and Lorenzo happily took in family members until they had the ability to move out and live on their own. A devout Catholic, Elida frequently took local clergy to medical appointments and often drove individuals with limited mobility to church. She frequently cooked for neighbors, friends and family.

Her family recalls that Elida most importantly lived a life of love, kindness and service and that everything she did came from that place. They noted that though the world will miss her light and love, they take solace knowing it will live on in them and all the lives she touched. Her legacy is carried on by leading with love, keeping a sparkling clean home, employing creativity wherever possible, being brave and helping others every time the chance arises.

Elida was predeceased by her beloved husband of 62 years, Lorenzo. She is survived by her children, Jo Ann LoGrasso (Mike), Anthony Ribaldo (Mary Ann), Donna Walton (the late Robert), Karen Pruess and Lou Ribaldo (Julie). She was the proud grandmother of Bryan Pruess, Christina Pruess, Lauren LoGrasso, Kevin Pruess, Christopher Ribaldo and Robert Walton Jr.; dear sister of Mary Bringas, Aurora Riss (the late Ben) and Noranda Gelardi (Tom); sister-in-law of Santa Pizzimenti (the late Joseph), Grace Ribaldo and the late Santo Ribaldo (the late Beverly); dear cousin of Louise Infanti (the late Nello); dear mother-in-law of Larry Pruess; beloved aunt to wonderful nieces and nephews; and a friend to all.

A funeral Mass celebrating Elida's life was held at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, St. Clair Shores.

Memorial contributions may be made to Defeat MSA Alliance, [defeatmsa.org](http://defeatmsa.org).

## Carol Helen Fitzgerald

Grosse Pointe Farms resident Carol Helen Fitzgerald (nee Eveslage), 81, passed away Sunday, Dec. 13, 2020.

She was the beloved wife of the late Gerald "Buzzy" Fitzgerald; loving mother of Jerry Fitzgerald, Julie Martinbianco (Dino) and the late Patrick Fitzgerald; dearest grandmother of Emily, Madelene and Owen; and dear sister of David and Dean Eveslage and Janet Winston.

A memorial Mass for Carol will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 19, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Inurnment will take place at the church's columbarium.

Share a memory with the family at [guestbook.wujekcalcaterra.com](http://guestbook.wujekcalcaterra.com).

## Bob Waldeck

Former Grosse Pointe resident Bob Waldeck, 78, of Lancaster, Pa., died peacefully Friday, Nov. 27, 2020, at home surrounded by his loving family.

When Bob's cancer returned and it was obvious death was imminent, Bob's family held a celebration of life and love that included bedside family dinners with calls, texts and well-wishes from his friends throughout the world. In his final days, Bob was thoroughly entertained by his grandchildren and a new puppy as he enjoyed many humorous stories and beautiful prayers in preparation for his journey to God.

With the love and help of hospice and his wife, Cheryl; daughters, Lindsay Myers (Donald), Lissa Dochat (Christopher) and Jamie Burgess (Donald); grandchildren, DJ and Hannah Myers and Lily and Patrick Dochat; and many wonderful friends, Bob's last days were an enthusiastic tribute to a life exceptionally well-lived.

Bob was the son of Frank and Margaret Waldeck and brother to Judy Gebauer and Bill Waldeck. Born in Detroit, he lived most of his life in Grosse Pointe.

A graduate of Grosse Pointe High School, Bob earned a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration from Ferris State University.

He and Cheryl married in 1966; they lived in Grosse Pointe as they raised their daughters.

A scratch golfer many years, Bob was a longtime member of Gowanie Golf

Club. He also was a long-time parishioner at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church.

Bob had the good fortune to combine his passion for golf with his business acumen when he became owner and president of Great Greens of America, which allowed him to work and play on some of the best golf courses in the country.

Bob and Cheryl lived in Grosse Pointe and New Smyrna Beach, Fla., until Bob retired in 2005, at which time they moved to Lancaster. Their children had just settled in Pennsylvania and, having enjoyed the city of Lancaster on their visits, they decided to join them. The couple never regretted that decision.

Bob's retirement years afforded him time to continue his hobbies of golf and walking, and added more time for reading; he always had a book in hand and another on the table. Bob walked four miles nearly every day and was known around Lancaster as the "dog treat man," because he always had a bag of dog treats with him to share on his walks.

His favorite hobby, however, was time spent with his daughters and their families. His daughters spoiled him and he loved it. Bob's family said he was an easy man to love because of his gentle, loving spirit. He was kind and generous to everyone and a nonjudgmental person in the truest sense of the word, they said.

Bob's calm demeanor often hid the fact he had a wicked sense of humor. With a keen fondness for a good time, Bob was a connoisseur of inexpensive vodka—"Boomerang, because it keeps coming back!" — being his favorite. In Bob and Cheryl's travels, people on three continents knew him by his nickname, "Dr. Vodka."

Bob's family said in addition to his being a wonderful husband and father, Bob also was a tremendous person and known for being lots of fun. He will be greatly missed, but certainly never forgotten.

Bob's family expresses their thanks to everyone for the extraordinary kindness extended to them the past several weeks and for generous donations made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. They ask those who still wish to make a gesture to do a kindness for someone and think of Bob.



## OBITS:

Continued from page 6B

## M. Jeffrey Huetter

Lifelong Grosse Pointe resident M. Jeffrey Huetter, 86, passed away Tuesday, Dec. 8, 2020.

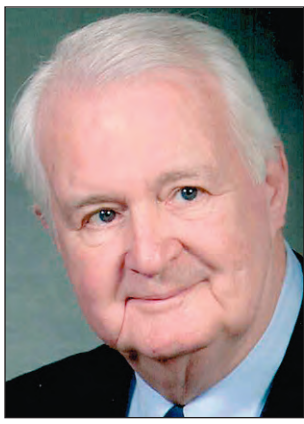
He was the devoted husband of Elizabeth Ann Delaney and dedicated father of Katherine Martini (Mike), Julie Goodwin (Scott) and Jane Leonardi (Jim).

Jeff attended St. Paul on the Lake Catholic School, Marmion Military Academy and the University of Detroit. Thereafter, he served in the U.S. Army in the Territory of Alaska.

Jeff married the love of his life, Elizabeth, in 1958, and the couple settled in Grosse Pointe.

Jeff parlayed his keen eye for detail into a long career as a lithographer and photo engraver.

Quick with a joke, he had a smile for everyone he met. He enjoyed the camaraderie of friends, time with family, good food, good beer and a game of pool. Jeff spent his golden years with family, traveling, garden-



M. Jeffrey Huetter

ing, watching old movies and hanging out at the VFW post. An ever-hopeful Lions fan, he also enjoyed watching sports.

A man of true integrity and kindness, he will be sorely missed, his family said.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Memorial donations in Jeff's honor may be made to Feeding America, feedingamerica.org.

## Charles Myslinski

Grosse Pointe Woods resident Charles "Charlie" Myslinski, 72, passed away peacefully Friday, Dec. 11, 2020, at home, with his family at

his side.

Charlie was born Oct. 12, 1948, in Highland Park, to Bernard and Virginia Myslinski. He grew up in Harper Woods, where he enjoyed playing sports — especially baseball and hockey.

A U.S. Army veteran, Charlie had a 30-year career with the Detroit Police Department. He retired in 1998.

Charlie had a passion for fishing, hunting, boating, gardening and most of all, playing with his granddaughter, Olivia.

Charlie was predeceased by his parents. He is survived by his wife, Annette; sons, Chuck and Mick (Nicole); granddaughter, Olivia; brothers, Kenneth (Sue) and Robert Bordeaux; nieces and nephews, Lynn, Greg, Debbie, Kevin, Kim, Todd and Eric; and many cousins and friends.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, no services will be held at this time.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Charlie's memory may be made to an organization of the donor's choice.

# How to support the grieving in 2020

By Asha Shajahan, M.D., MHSA  
Guest Writer

My patient's husband was admitted to the hospital with COVID-19 and passed away three days later, alone, on a ventilator. She was too sick to mourn the devastation; she also had contracted COVID-19 and so did her son. It wasn't until months later that she had the strength to begin to grieve her husband's death. Staying isolated and distanced at home made the reality all that much harder.

Another patient felt severe fatigue and didn't get tested for COVID because she assumed her symptoms were due to the stress of losing her mother. She lost her mom after a long struggle with dementia. My patient ended up having COVID-19, which complicated her ability to attend her mother's funeral.

These heartbreaking stories are far too frequent in my practice. Although each unique, they share the common thread of tragedy that makes every loss heavy to bear.

COVID-19 definitely has complicated the grieving process. Whether mourning the loss of a loved one or the simple loss of normalcy, everyone is grieving in 2020. No hugs at funerals, religious rituals delayed, travel restrictions and gathering restrictions make it difficult to have peace and say goodbye.

We are robbed of the feasibility of the normal coping strategies of traditions, families, routines and community connectedness. Grieving is hard work under normal circumstances and this global pandemic has made bereavement very challenging.

Families have been unable to spend time with their loved one up to and after he or she passes, making the reality of the death more difficult to process. The bereaved may feel increased isolation and a lack of social support due to continued community restrictions.

Ignoring grief can have downstream consequences. It's onerous for the grieving to articulate what they need because of the complexity of the overwhelming emotions they are experiencing. I coax my patients to try their best to say what they need when people ask. I encourage them to spend a little time doing something they enjoy without feeling guilty. Receiving proper rest, eating a balanced diet and making time to exercise seem irrelevant, but are very important to heal by boosting much-needed nutrients and endorphins in a time of high stress. Also, seeking the support of a spiritual advisor or counselor can be easier and more accessible with telehealth options. It's a great way to digest one's feelings and heal from the comfort of home.

All the barriers imposed by this pandemic cause an increased risk of com-

plicated grief. To help our loved ones through bereavement, giving support is critical for finding hope again. Until you are front row at a funeral, you may not know how to support someone. It's completely normal not to know your place when supporting someone, especially during COVID-19. Here are some ways that can help.

1. Know your place. It's hard to know whether or not you are "close" family or friends, especially with gathering restrictions. Expressing your desire to be present but articulating respect for restrictions can open the door for a deeper conversation. In a time like this, let your heart guide you. You may not be needed right away, but checking back in a week or a month can be helpful.

2. Don't ask, just do. Asking if there's anything you can do is a rhetorical question; you will never get an answer. Rather, think about what you can do and just do it — dropping off food, making a donation in a loved one's name, sending a memory package or just calling and leaving a message to check in. Actions can speak louder than words.

3. Find ways to celebrate and honor the life of a loved one. Find a charity to support or organize an online memorial page. Create a virtual word cloud of the admirable character traits of the person who passed. Fight for a cause he or she believed in.

4. Keep memories alive. As we move through life, these memories can become more integral to defining us. Don't avoid talking about the person who passed away; bringing up memories is a great way to keep the person alive with us. Ask friends to record video messages of memories and send a collaborative video montage. Keep a physical memory to carry like a photo or an object that reminds you of that person who passed. Also, incorporating the person who passed in family traditions is a way to keep them close.

5. Check in often, at one month, three months, six months and especially on holidays. Even as the years go by, continue to support them. Send an email, video chat, text — keep the messages coming. It doesn't matter how many years go by, the pain is still there. It doesn't diminish with time. So remembering every birthday and death anniversary is meaningful.

6. Encourage a loved one to move forward with their deceased, not move on without them. A common misconception is that a grieving person needs to move on. There is no moving on from death. When your loved one talks about loss, even several years later, resist the urge to change the subject. It may be easier to pretend it didn't happen or avoid speaking about the loss. Grief is not something to ignore or avoid. There should be no

See GRIEF, page 8B

## GPPL named a 2020 Opie Award recipient

OrangeBoy, Inc., a leading consultancy for public libraries and provider of Savannah, a community engagement platform built exclusively for libraries, recently announced the Grosse Pointe Public Library was selected as one of eight public libraries across the United States to receive the 2020 Opie Award.

Winners were selected by an independent board of library leaders who evaluated proposals submitted by applicants outlining inspiring or innovative ideas designed to further support the communities served by each library.

"This award from Orange Boy will help us achieve one of our strategic plan goals of get-

ting a library card in the hands of at least 70 percent of the community we serve," said Jessica Keyser, library director. "In this challenging time, our patrons need the library's resources more than ever."

OrangeBoy announced in October a \$10,000 pool for award grants would be available in 2020, but increased this amount after receiving a high number of innovative proposals. Grants awarded this cycle more than doubled the original pool, totaling \$22,500.

"The evaluation committee was very impressed by the Grosse Pointe Public Library proposal," OrangeBoy founder Clark Swanson said.

"We are excited to support the library's goal of growing its cardholder community through direct outreach efforts with this year's Opie Award and grant, and look forward to continued positive impact the library will make in the community."

Other 2020 Opie Award recipients are the Cedar Park Public Library, Cedar Park, Texas; Elkhart Public Library, Elkhart, Ind.; Glendale Library, Arts & Culture, Glendale, Calif.; Missouri River Regional Library, Jefferson City, Mo.; Pioneer Library System, Norman, Okla.; Saint Joseph County Public Library, South Bend, Ind.; and Whitefish Bay Public Library, Whitefish Bay, Wis.

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8B | FEATURES

ASK THE EXPERTS By Marla K. Ruhana

# Building a resilient marriage

**Q:** Everything my husband does annoys me. The way he jams his fork into his salad, his hair, the messes he leaves around the house. I feel like his phone is his mistress. I feel so mean, but I am overwhelmed and want a day to myself. Got any advice?

**A:** The old adage, "Absence makes the heart grow fonder," is hitting home. The pandemic abruptly brought on life transitions, new responsibilities and too much togetherness. This time is an opportunity to resolve differences.

◆ Ask for what you need, be realistic and specific. Maybe it's as simple as a half hour daily of solitude.

◆ Be mindful; we're not processing this pandemic in exactly the same way. Uncertainty is anxiety provoking. Focus on what is within your control. Play nice and try to reframe situations with humor.

◆ Do less talking and more listening. Designate a time each week to share what increased responsibilities need his attention.

◆ Simmer down on assumptions, judgment and finger pointing. Notice your reactions. Speak in a loving tone. Initiate dialogue on personal space for both of you.

**The Family Center**  
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◆ Praise him for the things he IS doing and share them with him daily. Make time to enjoy each other as a couple.

◆ Do the best you can under these circumstances. Be good to one another.

*Marla K. Ruhana, LSMW, is a clinical social worker in private practice. She's currently offering telehealth sessions only. For more information, visit [marlaruhana.com](http://marlaruhana.com) or [beachglassescapes.com](http://beachglassescapes.com).*

*The Family Center is a nonprofit organization that provides resources and preventive education to empower families to successfully navigate life's social, emotional and physical challenges. The Family Center is completely supported by community donations. To learn more, visit [familycenterweb.org](http://familycenterweb.org) or email [info@familycenterweb.org](mailto:info@familycenterweb.org).*

## GRIEF:

Continued from page 7B

assumption that as time goes on the person should be over it. Listening and engaging can really help your loved one feel supported.

Grief is very personal and the way one experiences it may differ from another. All of these sug-

gestions can apply to people who are mourning different things, whether it is a divorce, loss of health or loss of a loved one. So this holiday season, in the midst of buying presents and staying safe at home, consider reaching out to all the people you know who may have lost someone this year and in all the years passed.

Because as each year goes, the pain doesn't diminish; you just learn to live with it.

*Healthy Grosse Pointe & Harper Woods is a Beaumont Health initiative. For more information, connect with the group on Facebook at [Healthy Grosse Pointe & Harper Woods](https://www.facebook.com/HealthyGrossePointeHarperWoods) or visit [healthygphw.org](http://healthygphw.org).*



Soroptimist members assembled baskets for the women of Positive Images.

COURTESY PHOTOS

# Soroptimist performs service work, seeks scholarship nominees

Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe, a global volunteer organization that provides women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment, has not let COVID-19 stop it from giving service and staying in contact with others via Zoom.

Members wore masks and worked in a garage as they assembled 50 gift baskets for the women of Positive Images, a therapeutic residential center in Detroit for women recovering from substance dependency. Members also donated clothing and a gift for the children of Positive Images women.

A Zoom holiday party was complete with a charcuterie plate created by Chef Freeman Gunnell III of Cornwall Bakery, a challenging holiday trivia quiz, an in-your-house scavenger hunt, an ornament decorating kit and a sing-a-long with guitarist Julie Beutel.

As 2021 approaches, Soroptimist is looking for applicants for the Virginia Wagner Educational Award of \$3,000. Applications are due Jan. 15.

To qualify, applicants must:

- ◆ be enrolled full time in a bachelor's, master's or doctorate degree program;
- ◆ have overcome obstacles to get her



Soroptimists members also donated clothing and gifts for children.

education;

- ◆ have given back to the community in some way; and
- ◆ submit a current complete transcript.

Applications may be made online at [grossepointesoroptimist.org](http://grossepointesoroptimist.org) or [simwr.org](http://simwr.org).

For more information, email Maddy Colavito at [mcolavito48@gmail.com](mailto:mcolavito48@gmail.com).

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| <p>Meet <b>"Byron"</b><br/>Pug<br/>Curious &amp; Friendly<br/>Sponsored by: Anonymous<br/>gpaas.org • 313-884-1551</p>                 | <p>Meet <b>"Belle"</b><br/>Grey Senior<br/>Active and Affectionate<br/>Sponsored by: Marc Oros<br/>gpaas.org • 313-884-1551</p>          | <p>Meet <b>"Mutt"</b><br/>Choc Lab<br/>Playful &amp; Friendly<br/>Sponsored by: Tina &amp; Matt Prescott<br/>gpaas.org • 313-884-1551</p> |
| <p>Meet <b>"Silky"</b><br/>DSH - 10 yrs<br/>Little Princess, Very Sweet<br/>Sponsored by: Bob Smythe<br/>gpaas.org • 313-884-1551</p>  | <p>Meet <b>"Chelsea"</b><br/>Tabby<br/>Huggable &amp; Affectionate<br/>Sponsored by: The Markson Family<br/>gpaas.org • 313-884-1551</p> | <p>Meet <b>"Dingo"</b><br/>Boxer Pug<br/>Happy &amp; Laid Back<br/>Sponsored by: Debra Louis Jefferson<br/>gpaas.org • 313-884-1551</p>   |



**EVENTS:**

Continued from page 2B

◆ 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31, Pointe Fitness, 19556 Harper, Harper Woods. Register at redcrossblood.org.

**GPA**

The deadline for the Grosse Pointe Artists Association's next exhibition, "The Challenge: Try Something New," is Monday, Jan. 11. Artists are asked to find new inspiration or work in a new medium for this

show, featuring juror Chuck Duquet.

**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.

**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.

**Rotary**

The Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe hosts its next meeting virtually at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 13. Rabea Nunley of Just the Beginning Health & Wellness presents "Healthy New Beginnings." Visit [grossepointerotary.org](http://grossepointerotary.org) for information. Those who wish to join the meeting via Zoom should email [grossepointerotary@gmail.com](mailto:grossepointerotary@gmail.com).



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

**Awaiting with excitement**

The last day of Singin' in the Streets, Nov. 8, Grosse Pointe Theatre members posed by the A. Paul and Carol C. Schaap Center for the Performing Arts and the Richard and Jane Manoogian Art Gallery sign in anticipation of their new home. Pictured front row from left, Jackie Pfaff, Ellen Taber, Doug Clark, Stephanie Butler and Chris Kaiser; and back row from left, Ellen Skinner Bowen, F. Scott Davis, Ann McReynolds, Peter DiSante and Patricia Ellis. Not pictured are Singin' in the Streets members Christine Campbell-Cormier and Dennis Penney.



PHOTO COURTESY OF DR. CHERYL MAZZARA

**A HOPE for Haiti mentor works with students in the program.**

**HOPE:**

Continued from page 1B

They're so welcoming, so appreciative of everything you do for them. My heart just gets so filled with loving these people."

Mazzara said HART will continue to "find a way to make the most impact in the biggest way

possible." Since medical trips are not possible at the moment, HART started a medical clinic and hired a Haitian physician "to do some of the work when we're not there," she said.

The team also would like to establish a sponsorship program, where donors can sponsor a child and get updates on how they're progressing

through the program.

While HART missionaries hope to return to Haiti as soon as possible, there are ways local families can meet the immediate needs of the program. First and foremost, "definitely prayer," Mazzara said. "And financially we can use help."

To learn more or make a donation to HOPE for Haiti, visit [hartfund.org](http://hartfund.org).

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| <p><b>Announcements</b></p> <p>101 PRAYERS</p> <p>THANK you St. Jude, St. Rita and St. Joseph for prayers answered for Diane.</p>   | <p><b>Help Wanted</b></p> <p>200 HELP WANTED GENERAL</p> <p><b>CAREGIVERS WANTED!</b><br/>Seeking caregivers for immediate work in Grosse Pointe and the surrounding areas. Full and Part time positions available. Please call (313)881-3390 or email your resume to: <a href="mailto:Jackie@comfortcarehomecare.com">Jackie@comfortcarehomecare.com</a>.</p>   | <p>305 HOUSE CLEANING</p> <p><b>EXCELLENT</b> house cleaning by Filipina Cathy. \$20/ hour. References. (313)802-1953</p>                              | <p>412 MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES</p> <p><b>ACORN</b> Superglide 130 Straight Stairlift. Paid \$4,300., asking \$1,500. Call or text John (313)682-7048</p>   | <p>412 MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES</p> <p><b>DISH Network.</b> \$59.99 for 190 channels! Blazing fast internet, \$19.99/ month. (where available.) Switch &amp; get a FREE \$100 Visa gift card. FREE voice remote. FREE HD DVR. FREE streaming on all devices. Call today! 1(833)550-1015</p> | <p>415 WANTED TO BUY</p> <p><b>CASH PAID Buying Now</b><br/>Sterling silver, tea sets, flatware, Hollowware, gold platinum, gold &amp; silver boxes, lighters, watches, Russian silver, icons, art paintings, collectibles. By appointment during this time. Call now for free no cost appointment (313)825-2248 Mack Ave. Grosse Pointe</p> | <p>500 ANIMALS ADOPT A PET</p> <p><b>Bella</b><br/>Pretty Little Chihuahua (F) 6yrs, Loves Holiday Treats and Affection<br/>Sponsored by: <b>Michele Ultery</b><br/>gpaas.org • 313-884-1551</p> | <p>500 ANIMALS ADOPT A PET</p> <p><b>Selena</b><br/>Gorgeous B&amp;W Kitten (M) 1yr, Sweet, Cuddly Mustache! Sister of Selena<br/>Sponsored by: <b>Nadia Stanley</b><br/>gpaas.org • 313-884-1551</p>   |
| <p>PRAYER to the Holy Spirit. Holy Spirit, you who make me see everything and who shows me the way to reach my ideal. You who give me the divine gift to forgive and forget the wrong that is done to me and you who are in all instances of my life with me. I, in this short dialogue, want to thank you for everything and confirm once more that I never want to be separated from you, no matter how great the material desires may be. I want to be with you and my loved ones in your perpetual glory. Amen. Thank you for your love towards me and my loved ones. Pray this prayer three consecutive days without asking your wish, after third day your wish will be granted, no matter how difficult it may be. Then promise to publish this prayer as soon as your favor has been granted. (Thank you for favors received. Holy Spirit, Blessed Mother and St. Jude. K.G.)</p> | <p><b>CDL-A Drivers</b><br/>Wanted<br/>3 months minimum experience, excellent pay, benefits, sign on bonus, 401K, dedicated routes Romeo and Wayne dispatch.<br/>Call Kirt (586)752-4529 Ext 1032</p>  | <p>400 ANTIQUES / COLLECTIBLES</p> <p><b>WANTED</b><br/>Baseball and all sports cards. Any time period. Not a dealer.<br/>Call Jason (313)502-6594</p> | <p><b>DIRECTV</b><br/>Switch and save! \$49.99/ month. Select all- included package. 155 channels. 1000s of shows/ movies on demand. FREE Genie HD DVR upgrade. Premium movie channels, FREE for 3 mos! Call 1(844)975-3287</p> | <p><b>EARTHLINK</b> high speed internet. As low as \$14.95/ month (for the first 3 months.) Reliable high speed fiber optic technology. Stream videos, music and more! Call Earthlink today 1(855)897-2418</p>  | <p><b>SELL ME YOUR VINYL RECORDS</b><br/>We buy LP's, 45's No collection too large. We come to you!<br/><b>RIPE RECORDS</b><br/>Call 313-469-7479</p>  | <p><b>Kenny</b><br/>Sweet Brown Tabby Kitten (M) 6mos Let's Play!<br/>Sponsored by: <b>Terry &amp; John Minnis</b><br/>gpaas.org • 313-884-1551</p>  | <p><b>Rebel</b><br/>White SH (M) 1yr, Sweet, Cuddly Snowman to Warm Your Heart<br/>Sponsored by: <b>Nadia Stanley</b><br/>gpaas.org • 313-884-1551</p>  |
| <p>210 HELP WANTED RESTAURANT</p> <p><b>IRISH COFFEE Bar &amp; Grill</b><br/>now hiring <b>ALL POSITIONS</b><br/>Apply in person 18666 Mack Avenue Grosse Pointe Farms</p> <p>302 CAREGIVER</p> <p><b>InnHomeCare CAREGIVERS</b><br/>available in the privacy of your own home. Best prices guaranteed. Now accepting new clients.<br/>586-215-6777<br/><a href="mailto:office@innhomecare.net">office@innhomecare.net</a><br/><a href="http://www.innhomecare.net">www.innhomecare.net</a><br/><b>NOW HIRING</b></p>   | <p>211 HELP WANTED MANAGEMENT</p> <p><b>HELP WANTED</b><br/>The Grosse Pointe News seeks to fill the following positions:<br/><b>MANAGING EDITOR</b><br/>Must have minimum two years editing/management experience or five years reporting experience. Bachelor's degree minimum required.<br/><b>BUSINESS REPORTER</b><br/>Applicable experience as a reporter/writer, preferred. Recent college graduates with professional-level experience will also be considered. Bachelor's degree or equivalent professional experience<br/><b>CIRCULATION/CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING MANAGER</b><br/>Experience in both circulation and classified advertising departments required. Knowledge of Circulation Pro and Advertising Manager Pro software preferred.<br/>Send resumé, clips (reporters) and salary requirements to: <a href="mailto:publisher@grossepointenews.com">publisher@grossepointenews.com</a></p> | <p><b>COLLECTORS' ITEMS.</b><br/>IN THE CLASSIFIEDS<br/>Grosse Pointe News (313)882-6900 ext. 1</p>  | <p><b>Classifieds Work For You</b><br/>To place an ad call: (313)882-6900 x1<br/>Grosse Pointe News</p>   | <p>415 WANTED TO BUY</p> <p><b>WANTED</b><br/>Fly fishing rods, reels, or accessories. Old or new. Any condition. Top dollar paid. Call or text (313)885-5616</p>   | <p><b>Animals</b></p> <p>500 ANIMALS ADOPT A PET</p> <p><b>Tippy</b><br/>Rare White German Shepherd (F) 3yrs, Shy but Playful<br/>Sponsored by: <b>Anonymous</b><br/>gpaas.org • 313-884-1551</p>  | <p><b>River</b><br/>Beautiful German Shepherd (F) 1yr, Loves Running!<br/>Sponsored by: <b>Michele Ultery</b><br/>gpaas.org • 313-884-1551</p>   | <p><b>Property For Rent</b></p> <p>716 OFFICE / COMMERCIAL FOR RENT</p> <p><b>TIRED of working out of your house?</b><br/>Professional executive office available. 280 sq. ft. Commercial office space on Kercheval in the Park. Furnished with high speed internet, skylights, utilities, public and private entrances. Perfect for relocating from expensive parking downtown. \$850/month everything included.<br/><b>Mark (586)489-0818</b></p> |



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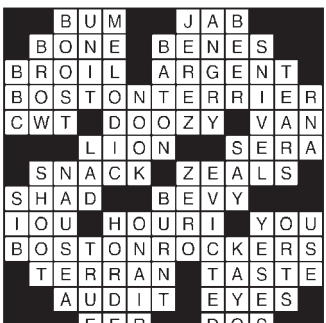
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**King Crossword Solution for last week's puzzle 12/10/20**



- ACROSS**
- 1 Porter's burdens
  - 5 Before
  - 8 Dull sound of impact
  - 12 Enticement
  - 13 Blend
  - 14 Abundant
  - 15 Opera show-stopper
  - 16 U.K. broadcaster
  - 17 Black, in verse
  - 18 Fight
  - 20 Like a lot
  - 22 Solid ground
  - 26 Entire
  - 29 Smack
  - 30 Zilch
  - 31 Bees' home
  - 32 Parsons or Gaffigan
  - 33 Slangy negative
  - 34 — out a living
  - 35 One of the Brady Bunch
  - 36 Grown-up bug
- DOWN**
- 1 Spill the beans
  - 2 Emanation
  - 3 Determination
  - 4 Birthplace of Starbucks
  - 5 Fireplace bit
  - 6 Cage component
  - 7 Cry out
  - 8 Italian fountain site
  - 9 Ireland
  - 10 Venusian vessel?
  - 11 Lair
  - 19 Appomattox surrenderer
  - 21 Frequently
  - 23 Serengeti beast
  - 24 Chinese dynasty
  - 25 Choir member
  - 26 Sharpen
  - 27 Raise
  - 28 Above
  - 32 Lotto win
  - 33 Incredible
  - 35 Mandible
  - 36 Call — day
  - 38 Make a comeback
  - 39 Warble
  - 42 Bloodhound's clue
  - 43 Quarterback Tony
  - 44 Dispatched
  - 45 Mimic
  - 46 Foundation
  - 48 Didn't pay yet

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

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**Weekly SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle  
**Solution for last weeks puzzle 12/10/20**

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

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦**

- ♦ Moderate
- ♦♦ Challenging
- ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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