

COVID-19 CASES UPDATE - 12/22			
	Cases	Deaths	
All Pointes	1,878 (+56)	45 (+2)	
Harper Woods	582 (+22)	39 (+0)	

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Grosse Pointe News

VOL. 81, NO. 52, 26 PAGES ONE DOLLAR (DELIVERY 86¢) DECEMBER 24, 2020 GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

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Dog park growling continues

By Kate Vanderstelt
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Residents of Grosse Pointe Park flooded the city council Zoom meeting Monday, Dec. 21, mostly to defend their opinions regarding the pending dog park.

See PARK, page 8A

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 next week where we reveal our first annual Pointer of the Year in this space.

— John Minnis
Publisher



ILLUSTRATION @SEPS LICENSED BY CURTIS LICENSING, INDIANAPOLIS, IN

Santa Claus did not have the luxury of Google Maps for planning his Christmas Eve route when Norman Rockwell drew his "Santa at the Globe" for the Dec. 4, 1926, cover of the Saturday Evening Post. Kids, speaking of Santa's route, don't miss our Santa Tracker map on page 3C.

Vaccine rolling out

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

THE GROSSE POINTES — As hospitals began receiving shipments of 975 doses of the Pfizer vaccine last week, no time was wasted in setting up the first administrations for healthcare workers. Those with the highest risk of exposure to COVID-19 will be prioritized throughout the process.

Dr. Nick Gilpin, medical director at Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe and Beaumont Health director of epidemiology and infection prevention, was the first employee within the Beaumont Health System to receive the vaccine at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 15, calling the process "a piece of cake" and like any other vaccination he's gotten.

"It's now two days since I got the vaccine," he later said. "I've had no side effects, not even so much as a little bit of discomfort or soreness in my arm. It's been probably one of the smoother vaccination processes I've had."

Between its eight hospitals, Beaumont Health System received almost 8,000 doses of the Pfizer vaccine last week and has been operating under a center distribution model, wherein all doses are rerouted to the Beaumont Service Center in Southfield as the singular administration site.

The goal, Gilpin said, is to decentralize the distribution model after Christmas and, once the process is perfected, begin administering vaccines at local sites.

Out of the health system's 38,000 employees and 5,000 physicians, an aggressive timeline has been set with the additional goal of having the first dose of the vaccine administered to all those willing within four to six weeks from when

See VACCINE, page 3A

Schools plan for hybrid, in-person learning

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

THE GROSSE POINTES — Following the pause implemented in mid-November, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services announced the re-allowance of in-person learning at high schools Friday, Dec.

18. According to the MDHHS, from the issuance of the pause until Friday, hospital capacity dedicated to COVID-19 patients saw a 13-day decline with capacity at 17.3 percent for beds with COVID-19 patients from 20.1 percent; overall case rates saw a

27-day decline at 439 cases per million from 739 cases per million; and the positivity rate saw an 11-day decline at 10.6 percent positive tests from 14.3 percent. "Michiganders should be proud," MDHHS Director Robert Gordon said in a press release. "We have made incredi-

ble progress over the last month. But we could easily lose that progress and endanger our hospitals again over the next two weeks. At Thanksgiving, most Michiganders sacrificed and avoided family get-togethers. We need to do the same thing this

See LEARNING, page 9A

Council, retirees unable to reach common ground

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — In an attempt to calm the waters, Grosse Pointe Shores council unanimously voted to exclusively allocate the 20 percent copay by retirees for healthcare into the retirement reimbursement account for retirees — the Other Post Employment

Benefits fund — during the Zoom meeting Tuesday, Dec. 15.

Council voted in May to alter the retiree healthcare plan by requiring retirees to pay 20 percent of their premiums, leading to months of ongoing controversy and pleas.

"I think it's appropriate that we let them know that this money is going to only be put into their

retirement reimbursement account," said Councilman Matt Seely, who made the motion. " ... That we're not taking this money and spending it on new swing sets at the park. That we're using this money exclusively for their benefit and that ultimately they will get all the money back."

Prior to the vote, the funds had been going into

the general fund. "That sounds like big government to me," said Brett Smith, who resigned as public works director in August. "You're taking it away from the retirees to give it back to them? What's going to happen there, Mr. Mayor, is the retirees are going to be funding their own OPEB."

See RETIREES, page 8A

Special Christmas Section!

A Santa Tracker

Holiday Stories to Read Aloud

A Cut & Play Family Game

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Pointer of INTEREST

See story, page 4A

Randall Tallerico

Home: Grosse Pointe Woods
Businessman has led travel-inspired life

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A cut above

Businessman set to retire after 57 years in G.P.

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

All good things must come to an end.

Such is the case with Dave Brown, owner of Dave's Haircutting & Styling Shop, who will retire Dec. 30, after a career that spanned more than five decades.

A native of Hillsdale, Brown landed his first local job in 1963, at Mack and Philip, just past the Grosse Pointe Park border in Detroit. Two years later, he was drafted into the military and served in Vietnam.

He returned to Detroit on a very significant day in 1967.

"After the service, my wife and I drove back into Detroit on the day of the riots," he said.

"We had no working radio in the car, so we hadn't heard anything. ... As we were driving, we saw all this smoke, but didn't think anything of it. We moved into an apartment near Holy Cross Hospital. We had no electricity yet, so I went to the grocery store to buy a couple of beers, a couple steaks, some charcoal and some lighter fluid.

"The clerk said, 'I can't sell you anything but the steak,'" he continued. "I said, 'Why not? I'm 21.' She said, 'I can't sell you accelerants; there's a riot

going on.'"

Stories like this and the humor with which he tells them have entertained clients at Dave's Haircutting for decades. Clients have been faithful to him just as long.

Brown cut hair at Piche's Barbershop in The Village four years before starting his own business inside Jim's Haircutting & Styling Shop, where he worked 19 years before buying it and making it his own.

"I've been at the place I'm at now for 50 years," he said, "but I've been in the area 57 years."

"It's a great area. I have a ton of people who I've cut their hair 50-some years — and their kids and grandkids."

He noted one client who received his first haircut from Brown 53 years ago; during a recent visit, "He said I couldn't retire," Brown laughed. "He said, 'I messed up. I should have found a younger barber when I started getting haircuts.' He got one haircut in all those years by someone other than me.

"This has been my life," he added. "I love all these people. ... I've had several generations of customers — grandpas and dads and kids and grandkids. They're like my family."



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Dave Brown has been cutting hair in Grosse Pointe for 57 years. His client, Bob Carden, has been getting his hair cut by Brown 55 of those years. Brown also has given haircuts to Carden's father and two sons.

Clients come from as far as Lexington and Lansing to have Brown cut their hair.

"It's not that I'm a good barber," he said, "but I like to BS with them. We laugh and have a good time every day."

Brown decided to hang up his clippers after his current wife, a dental hygienist, retired in June, "when we were off for three months," because of COVID-19.

"We wanted to start doing some traveling," he said. "It's just time."

For years, the New Baltimore resident, 76, has gotten up at 5 a.m. and left home at 6 a.m. to be to work by 7 a.m. Though in recent years, he limited his appointments to three days a week, he still took joy in the drive.

"My pleasure is getting off 94 at Shook and taking Lakeshore, so I get to see the lake in the

morning," he said. "I always make sure I'm here on time. I was only late one time, because of a blizzard."

"I never get up and wish I didn't have to go to work," he added. "I love it. It's been awesome."

As such, it was a tough decision for Brown to retire.

"I don't want to, but I want to," he said. "I'm 76. It's time to slow down."

His son, Rob, who has worked at the shop 21 years, will take over the business.

But don't expect Brown to completely fade into the sunset.

"I'll still come down and aggravate the guys a little bit," he said. "I still have a lot of friends here. We'll golf, get lunch. ... They're my family. The people around this area are just awesome. I'm going to miss a lot of people. It's going

to be hard not to see these guys every day.

"But it's time to enjoy myself," he added. "I always figured if I quit, I'd volunteer at a hospital a couple days a week, but we can't do that now. I like to golf. ... We like taking road trips. We like to travel, so we'll do a little more of that hopefully."

He also hopes to spend more time with family, some of whom live out of state. Brown and his wife each brought two sons to their marriage when they wed 30 years ago. They share eight grandchildren.

As his family takes center stage in his life, Brown's barbershop always will have a place in his heart.

"The last 50 years went by like it was five," he said. "I wish everybody could enjoy their job like I do. It's been a great career. I'm going to miss everybody."



COURTESY PHOTO

From left, Lillian Li, Maggie Mazzara and Victoria Li.

Local artists open The Leaf and Blossom

By Kate Vanderstelt
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK

— Grosse Pointe artists Lillian Li and Maggie Mazzara struggled to get exposure for their art when the pandemic forced many art shows to close down. Li voiced her frustration: "With the pandemic it was really difficult to do shows and make any sort of living off that."

After producing art for no audience for about three months, Mazzara, Li and Li's daughter, Victoria, decided to take matters into their own hands. If they could not attend art shows, they should create a space for local artists to showcase their work. The idea for

The Leaf and Blossom thus began.

Li was then put to the question of where to call home for the store. Each day Li passed the corner of Alter and Kercheval and scoped out the empty buildings that lined the street.

"I love that building. I love that building," she would say to her daughter as they drove by. "At the time it was boarded up. The new owner hadn't bought it yet."

All the pieces fell into place when they drove by one day.

"One day the door was open," Li said. "We had to stop. It ended up the

new owner was there. We talked to him and he showed us the space."

Li believed it needed a lot of work, but the building was charming and she had always thought it would be the perfect spot.

"We'd like to do this," she told the new owner. His reply: "I think my wife would like you to do this."

Though the shop needed some renovations, the artists got the store up and running in just three weeks. They were able to preserve certain aspects of the old building, like the iron roofing, that give the

space its charm.

Li reflected on how grateful she feels.

"We lucked out into a wonderful space," she said. "The landlord gave us an opportunity to put our wares into this space."

The Leaf and Blossom showcases 22 different area artists with affordable goods starting from \$12. It carries products ranging from restored furniture to painted art to teas.

The shop is located at 14832 Kercheval and is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday.

Woman struck at Lakeshore, Moross

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — A 70-year-old Warren woman was hit as she crossed eastbound Lakeshore, just east of

Moross, by a vehicle occupied by a couple in their 50s from Royal Oak at 6:49 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 20. The woman was in crit-

ical but stable condition, as of the police report at press time, and the investigation is ongoing.

She was not in the crosswalk, Farms Director of Public Safety Dan Jensen reported, and it was very dark.

"According to a witness, she was at fault," he said.

It is unknown how fast the car was traveling when it struck her.

"The same witness said it did not appear that the car was speeding," Jensen reported.

The accident occurred in an area with well-decorated homes, which could account for why the woman was there.

"With people on all these roads checking out lights, you just have to be careful if you park and get out and walk," Jensen said. "We're not sure that's what happened here, but it's in that area."

— Laurel Kraus

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Block gathers for living Advent calendar

By Kate Vanderstelt
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — COVID-19 certainly has put a damper on many cherished neighborhood traditions. When residents of the 1300 block of Audubon in Grosse Pointe Park realized they would not be

able to gather as neighbors like they typically do, they banded together to revamp old Christmas traditions.

Park resident Lena Duffy grew up in Boulden, Sweden, where a living Advent calendar was conducted last year. Each storefront was assigned a day to reveal a

decorated window at 7 p.m. in celebration of the Advent season.

“I think the hardware store hosted Dec. 1,” Duffy reminisced.

As her neighbors struggled with how they would handle missing out on their annual Christmas celebration this year, Duffy thought this would be a perfect time to introduce the European celebration.

“Maybe this whole Advent calendar thing would work,” Duffy said. “You meet outside. You can space out and wear masks and it would still be something to do as neighbors.”

The neighborhood created a Google form so willing households could sign up for a particular date to decorate their window. The only rule was to have the day’s number included in the display.

Duffy assigned herself the first night to give everyone an idea of what the living Advent calendar was and to take intimidation out of the game.

“I had music. I had a



The Miller family recently revealed their Advent calendar decoration, an upside-down Christmas tree and a scroll with a Mary Poppins quote on it that hangs above the front door of their house.



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

One window in the 1300 block of Audubon is titled, “Nutcracker Snow Globe.” The Michau brothers created it for the 11th day of Advent. For 10 years, Luc Michau has gotten a nutcracker for his birthday, so he used his collection as part of the window decoration. His brother, Nathan, said they made shelves for the nutcrackers and hooked up a small fan to circulate recycled packing peanuts to make them look like falling snow.

little light display,” she said. “I was kind of revealing it, untying the curtains.”

Though there were some gaps in the first days of December, Duffy said the schedule is now packed until Christmas.

“People realized it doesn’t really matter what (they) do (to decorate),” she said. “People are looking forward to seeing other people.”

And, according to Duffy, practically everyone is getting involved.

“It’s been fun for (everyone),” she said, noting children and adults have gotten into the spirit. “The seniors on the block got all excited and made their nativity scene. They even sewed a tiny face mask for Mary and Joseph.”

New neighbors who moved to the block in

October reportedly are getting in on the celebration, as well, loving the idea of a safe but festive way to meet the neighbors.

Though the block hopefully will get to reinstate their old tradition of meeting for the Christmas season in years to come, Duffy thinks this new celebration of a living Advent calendar will carry on.

VACCINE:

Continued from page 1A

administration began.

Thursday, Dec. 17, was the first day of vaccinations for Ascension St. John Hospital employees.

“To have a tool in front of you that may give you a light at the end of the tunnel to say there may be a new opportunity to get back to a more normal world, it was like Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, every birthday you ever wanted, all together,” said Dr. Kevin Grady, president of Ascension St. John. “... It’s a new level of hope that I can see and hear within the associates’ eyes and hearts.”

There is no timeline for when vaccinations



PHOTO COURTESY OF BEAUMONT HEALTH

Dr. Nick Gilpin, Medical Director of Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe, becomes the first Beaumont Health System employee to receive the Pfizer vaccine Tuesday, Dec. 15.

of the thousands of Ascension St. John employees may be complete, he said, because

the amount of those willing to receive them is unknown.

The Moderna vaccine,

which is set to come to hospitals in increments of 100 doses, compared to the increments of 975 with Pfizer, was anticipated to arrive at Beaumont, Grosse Pointe as early as this week, if everything goes smoothly with the FDA.

“As I understand, by entity, we will be a Pfizer-based entity,” Grady said of Ascension St. John, “and smaller institutions and facilities that would be functioning at smaller lots and needs would be doing the Moderna. (But) one thing I can tell you about the vaccine (is) if you don’t like the story you’re hearing now, just wait a couple hours, maybe half a day, and it will be different. It is very, very fluid.”

Both vaccines require two doses. Pfizer requires an interval of three weeks and Moderna an interval of four weeks.

Because the vaccine was approved under an emergency-use authorization, meaning it is still an investigational product, the two hospitals will not make it a mandatory vaccine for their employees at this time.

“That being said, I think we’re going to continue to follow this and watch the data,” Gilpin said, “and as we get more information about this vaccine and



PHOTO COURTESY ASCENSION ST. JOHN HOSPITAL

Nicole is among the first employees at Ascension St. John Hospital to receive the Pfizer vaccine Thursday, Dec. 17.

as it eventually becomes The Henry Ford Health System began its something we’ll certainly consider down the line if we need to.” as well.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BEAUMONT HEALTH

The first shipment of the Pfizer vaccine arrives at the Beaumont Service Center in Southfield Tuesday, Dec. 15, as the singular administration site for Beaumont Health System employees.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BEAUMONT HEALTH

The Pfizer vaccine is unloaded at the Beaumont Service Center in Southfield to get ready for administration of Beaumont employees.

The Week Ahead

THURSDAY, DEC. 31 - New Year’s Eve

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FRIDAY, JAN. 1 - New Year’s Day

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4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

Pointer has led a travel-inspired life

By Kate Vanderstelt
Staff Writer

Randall Tallerico, a Grosse Pointe Woods native, recalls a dinner he had with old friends when his family moved back to Grosse Pointe. At the dinner, his friends reminisced on what Detroit used to be like and talked about how much had changed for the worse.

Tallerico asked why they were simply complaining: “You can either sit back and complain or help.”

Tallerico’s outlook on helping was formed during his childhood growing up in Grosse Pointe; he credited his parents’ upbringing, as well as his “good old brothers” at Austin Catholic High School. His career took him on adventures around the world that solidified this outlook.

Traveling the world was never out of the question for Tallerico. During his studies at the University of Michigan, he recalls saying to his friends, “I want to live in Paris one day.”

His career allowed his vision of travel to become reality. Tallerico graduated from the University of Michigan in 1974, with a degree in communications and business. In 1978, he was hired at J. Walter Thompson, which moved him from Detroit to New York City. After being in the Big Apple for years, his career underwent an international twist.

“You had to get experi-



PHOTOS COURTESY OF RANDALL TALLERICO

Randall Tallerico and his wife, Siggy, at Versailles while the couple lived in Paris.

ence globally,” he said. “So, I was transferred to Frankfurt.”

In Germany, Tallerico met his wife, Siggy, through work. They were transferred from London to Manhattan to Bangkok and back to NYC, then to Sydney, Chicago, Paris and to London. During this time, the Tallericos had two children — their son, Christoph, in

Sydney and their daughter, Claire, in Paris.

The traveling did not stop. Tallerico had to travel from Johannesburg to Moscow to Copenhagen for work while in London.

During this time, he encountered one of his most shaping travel-related experiences.

On a trip into Johannesburg, there was

a national holiday on a Wednesday. He recalls his coworkers asking him what he wanted to do on his one day off, to which he replied, “I’d like to go to Soweto.”

Tallerico’s co-workers looked at him as though he was crazy, but he had made up his mind. He wanted to see what was



Randall Tallerico

occurring outside of the bubble in which he was working.

Tallerico recalls being taken by one of the natives, spending the day going into huts and schools and meeting all different types of people.

“I remember at the end of the day, it was getting (to be) dusk,” he said. “They told me, ‘We have to leave here now.’”

On his way out of town, he saw a group of people gathered around someone speaking into a makeshift megaphone.

“So we stopped and went towards it,” he said. As he walked through the crowd, the woman speaking into the megaphone asked his guide, “What is he doing here?” The guide replied, “He’s an American who lives in England and wants to know what your life is like.”

Tallerico recalled the speaker then turned, handed him the megaphone and said, in perfect English, “Speak to my people.”

Tallerico complimented the crowd on the beauty of their country. He noticed a woman with a baby tied to her back and recalled telling the group, “And I pray to God your children have a better life than you’ve had.” As he finished, they broke out in a tribal dance. He traveled out of town with tears streaming down his cheeks.

After a whirlwind five years, Tallerico decided it was time to put his family first.

“I had hit a point where the kind of travel I had, I was lucky I was home on Saturday night,” he said. “With two children it came time to say no; I’m spending time with them.”

Tallerico was transferred back to Detroit, settled in Grosse Pointe and became director of advertising and sales promotion for General Motors. In 2006, he became the chief marketing officer at Urban Science, founded by Grosse in Detroit.

When asked why he decided to settle down in Grosse Pointe when he returned to America, Tallerico simply stated, “This is home.”

With a slow-down to American life, Tallerico was able to spend more time with his family. His children, having grown up internationally, learned English as their third language and still slipped into British

See TRAVEL, page 8A

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PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

City of Grosse Pointe

had not opened.

Loyalty in question

A 53-year-old Grosse Pointe man — a 20-year Sprint customer — received an attempted debt collection from Verizon Nov. 18, for \$2,657 on an account he

Violence is not the answer

A 22-year-old Park man’s vehicle was vandalized Sunday, Dec. 13, while parked on Village Lane. The passenger-side tire was found flat, the stem was pulled and the

passenger-side mirror was pushed in and broken.

The vehicle has been damaged more than 10 times in the past and the owner suspects the perpetrator may be a neighbor upset over where he parks.

See REPORTS, page 5A

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REPORTS: Home invasion

Continued from page 4A

Officers advised him to install a dash cam to record the area around the vehicle.

Identity theft

The name, address and Social Security number of a 64-year-old Grosse Pointe man was used to fraudulently open a PNC bank account Tuesday, Dec. 15.

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

Grosse Pointe Farms**Stolen bike**

A purple Trek bicycle was stolen from a garage in the 400 block of Roland Road between Dec. 5 and 13.

Advance in pay

A 20-year-old Detroit woman was arrested Monday, Dec. 14, after security footage showed her stealing a \$100 bill out of the register in a business in the 18000 block of Mack Avenue.

Striking a wall

A 73-year-old St. Clair Shores man was arrested for operating while intoxicated after his vehicle struck the alley wall between Kerby Road and Calvin Avenue at 10:36 p.m. Monday, Dec. 14.

A preliminary breath test showed his blood alcohol content was .15 percent.

A home invasion occurred in the 400 block Barclay Road at some point between 1 and 5 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 20, while the home's occupants were asleep. The unlocked garage door, found ajar in the morning, is believed to be the point of entry.

Two purses were missing from the home. The Farms K-9 unit found a hat that was in one of the purses down the street and one of the purses later was found in a nearby parking lot.

A neighbor's surveillance footage picked up a man in the home's backyard.

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

Grosse Pointe Park**Stolen presents**

At 4:40 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19, three young males reportedly stole a package from the front of a house in the 1200 block of Bishop. They then drove a cream-colored 2006 Cadillac Escalade to the 1200 block of Yorkshire, where they stole another package at 4:45 p.m., just minutes after and one block over from the previous theft.

The three men were caught by home security systems at both houses and arrested at 6 p.m. by the Detroit Police Department on Harvard, just north of Mack.

— *Kate Vanderstelt*
Report information about this and other

crimes to Grosse Pointe Park Public Safety, (313) 822-7400.

Grosse Pointe Woods**Wine drinker**

At 7:16 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 16, the manager of a business in the 20000 block of Mack reported suspected retail fraud.

The manager observed suspicious activity when a shopper placed six high-end bottles of wine in a cart with several cases of beer. The shopper proceeded to the bathroom, where the manager suspects he discarded the bottles' security sensors.

The suspect left the cart full of beer in an aisle and walked out of the store with the six bottles of wine.

The loss is estimated at \$300 to \$450.

Drop it and run

A 31-year-old Warren resident was arrested at 6:43 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, and turned over to the Chesterfield Township Police Department for aggravated assault.

Officers were dispatched to an in-progress retail fraud, but the suspect left the merchandise and fled in a black Escalade before officers arrived.

An officer found the vehicle in a parking lot on the 21000 block of Mack and discovered the suspect was wanted in Chesterfield Township for aggravated assault.

— *Kate Vanderstelt*
Report information about these and other crimes to Grosse Pointe Woods Public Safety,

(313) 343-2400.

Grosse Pointe Shores**Speeding without insurance**

After speeding 48 mph on Lakeshore Road at 1:47 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 16, a 21-year-old St. Clair Shores man was pulled over and arrested for driving while license suspended, as well as not having insurance or registration.

FedEx worker halts crime in progress

A 51-year-old Shores woman received a phone call Thursday, Dec. 17, from a FedEx employee, who reported an unknown man with a copy of a driver's license with her name on it had tried to pick up an order of two iPhones that were fraudulently ordered through her Apple account.

After the employee confirmed the fraud with the woman, the items were shipped back to Apple.

Might as well be Monopoly money

A man was reported to public safety by the owner of an estate sale company Friday, Dec. 17, after he purchased items with a check for \$1,512.75 and it was returned for non-sufficient funds. The man gave the same company two additional checks from an estate sale in the Woods.

Driving in circles

After being seen driving in circles in the area of Oxford and Lakeshore with hazard lights on at

5:43 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19, a 23-year-old Detroit woman told officers she was lost and trying to get home.

After running her through LEIN, she was arrested for driving with a suspended license and not having insurance.

Enticed by Christmas lights

A 27-year-old Roseville man impeding traffic on Lakeshore Road by stopping near the curb with his hazard lights on at 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19, told officers he just wanted to look at the Christmas lights.

He was arrested for driving with a suspended license.

Along for the ride

Officers got more than

they bargained for when attempting to pull over a 29-year-old Sterling Heights man for driving without insurance on Lakeshore Road at 12:31 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 19.

The man, who has 30 suspensions along with statewide warrants, sped up to 75 mph before stopping at the back of an apartment complex in St. Clair Shores and fleeing on foot.

Use of the St. Clair Shores K-9 unit led to his arrest, while officers also discovered a passenger, who was an internet hookup and only knew the suspect's first name, had been left in the vehicle.

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

New look

City of Grosse Pointe resident Bob Gorski snapped this photo Friday, Dec. 18, of the new cupola that was built and retrofitted to the old weathervane and copper cap on top of the City's old fire station, which is being converted into its new courthouse.





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6A | OPINION

Grosse Pointe News

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OUR VIEW

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus

We take pleasure in answering thus prominently the communication below, expressing at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of The Sun:

Dear Editor:

I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, "If you see it in The Sun, it's so." Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?

VIRGINIA O'HANLON
115 West Ninety-Fifth Street.

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours, man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence.

We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The external light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies. You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if you did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived could tear apart. Only faith, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God! He lives and lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay 10 times 10,000 years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

Reprinted from the Sept. 21, 1897, *The New York Sun*



COURTESY JAMES TEMPLE
Virginia O'Hanlon, c. 1897



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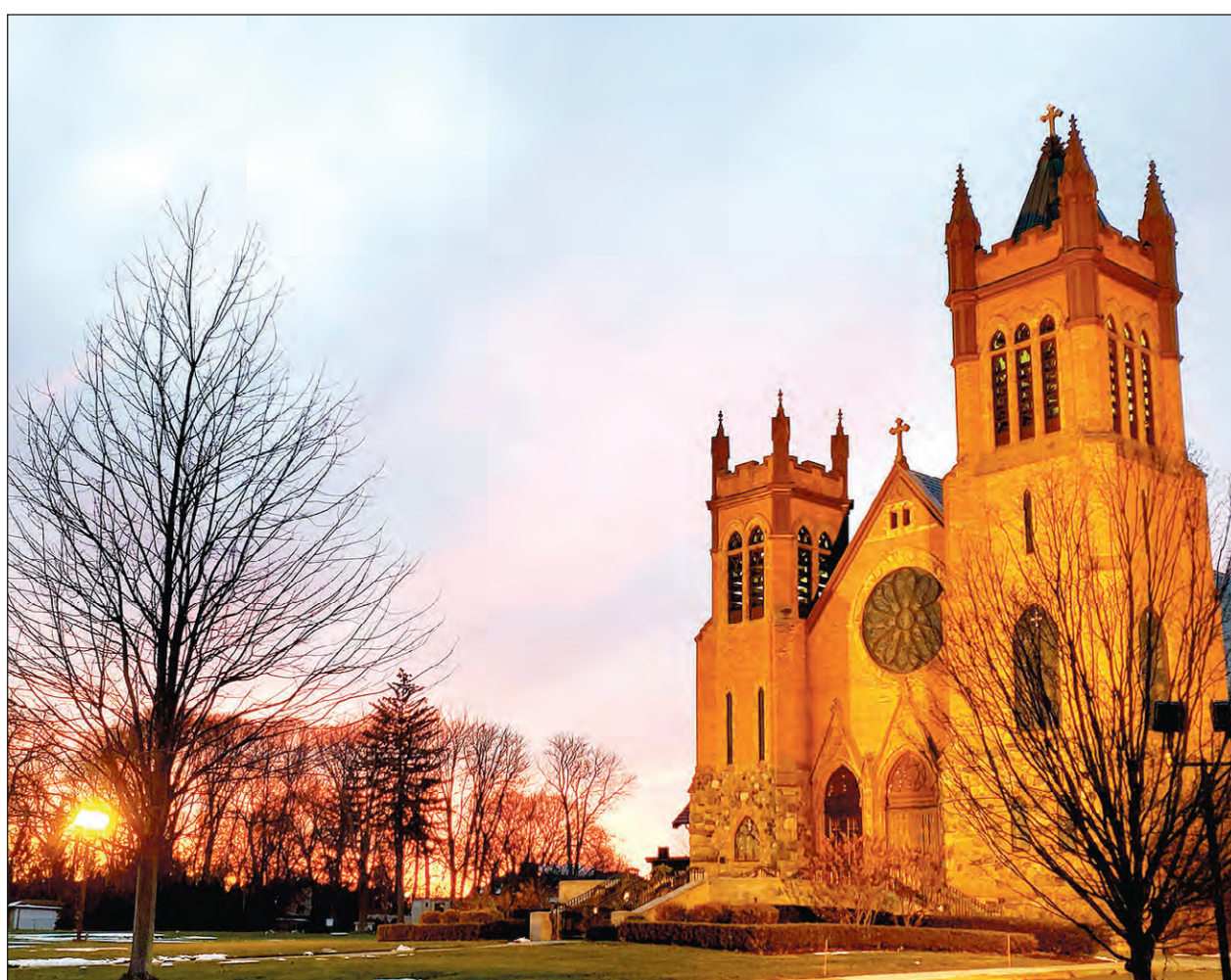


PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Pure Grosse Pointe

Despite the growing chill in the air, the setting sun on a recent winter day gave St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church on Lakeshore a warm, deep orange glow.

OUR VIEW

Here's to a very Merry Christmas!

Even a pandemic cannot take away the magic of Christmas in Grosse Pointe.

There seems to be that extra effort this year to put out Christmas lights on every eave, shrub or tree. And many businesses, too, even as they experience difficult times, are streaming Christmas light down facades in a dazzling display. (Look out, Rochester!)

Amazingly, Santa has been all over the place, too. And, less visible, but just as effective, he has been replying to letters from children left in multiple mail boxes around the Pointes. Among his helpers, Mark and Denise Van Sile even keep a spreadsheet to ensure that children get different replies each year. And Mr. Van Sile's light display, at the corner of Lakeshore and Moross roads, stands out every year.

The chance to tour the lights of the Grosse Pointes will continue through the holidays. Extending the tour to downtown Detroit — an annual adventure for many of the people who've grown up around here — is another possibility. And the Wayne County Lightfest through Hines Park has extended hours this year because of the demand (closed Christmas Day, open again on the weekend).

Grosse Pointers are walkers, so they don't need to be told how enjoyable just walking the neighborhoods and Lakeshore can be!

Clearly, the warmth and joy of Christmas can extend even during this marathon of separation caused by the spread of COVID-19. Extended families have learned to make use of digital group chat

functions to see each other, talk to their hearts' desire, even eat their meals together.

It's appropriate to make use of every digital tool. The more personal accommodations that properly belong to a festive Christmas may not be appropriate this year. It's a singular event — the only Yuletide during a pandemic — that comes with its own set of recommendations. Just like Thanksgiving, health officials are recommending that households celebrate among themselves and not do too much traveling or house-to-house visiting. Good advice.

Michiganders apparently took the recommendations to heart over the Thanksgiving holiday, as case numbers have continued to drop over the last couple of weeks. Nationally, though, travel numbers suggest the longer stretch from Christmas to New Year's will put more people on the move. Please, everyone, take care.

The ultimate gift of the season, after all, remains the good health of those near and dear to us. That comes through even from children.

Those writing to Santa, for example, have shown a particular concern this year about his health, at least as demonstrated in some of the letters printed in last week's Grosse Pointe News from OneGP Virtual students. "How are you? Do you know if Mrs. Claus is okay too?" That was what was foremost on the mind of third grader Jonathan R.

And so, dear readers, to you we send all the best wishes of the season. Here's to your health and to a very Merry Christmas!

LETTERS

The Grosse Pointe News welcomes your letters to the editor. All letters should be typed, double-spaced and signed. Letters longer than 250 words may be edited for length. All letters may be edited for content. We reserve the right to refuse any letter. Include daytime phone number for verification or questions. The deadline for letters is 3 p.m. Monday. Letters to the editor may be emailed to editor@grossepointenews.com.

up question to her is aren't Kroger stores governed by the same protocols and rules?
DOUGLAS W. FIEDLER
Grosse Pointe Farms

Lakeshore signage

To the Editor:
I hope the Grosse Pointe News will continue to follow the story on the Lakeshore sign pollution controversy.

Using the logic of the various highway departments can we now look forward to seeing similar signs popping up on Mack, Moross, Windmill Pointe, Outer Drive and every other divided boulevard in the metro area?

What is the exact regulation that is responsibly implementing this ridiculous move and when was it promulgated? The fact that each agency keeps pointing the finger at another for an answer is becoming positively

Kafkaesque.

It should be made a priority of the legal departments of all the Pointes to investigate this waste of public money. One hundred ninety signs in a single mile? Seriously?
KURT SHUCK
Grosse Pointe City

Thanks for stepping up

To the Editor:
I would like to take the opportunity to say thank you for our local paper; I so look forward to it every week.

And I want to thank John and Terry Minnis for all the work that they have done. And thanks to Sean Cotton for stepping in to help this grand paper to continue.

I am getting my daughter and her husband a subscription for Christmas by calling the subscription number.

BUNNY HOMAN
Grosse Pointe Park

Libraries closed?

To the Editor:
Why are the libraries still closed?

As a regular customer of the Grosse Pointe libraries and Kroger stores, I was pleased to see Margaret Potter's letter in the Dec. 17 edition of the Grosse Pointe News.

I also have wondered why library branches have been mostly closed while Kroger stores have been continuously open. One additional point: Kroger stores

have a much greater volume of traffic than do the library branches. Even pre-COVID it would have been easier for me to keep my distance at a library than at a Kroger store. In my opinion, a library branch is inherently safer than a Kroger store due to the lower traffic volume.

In Jessica Keyser's response, she points out that the libraries follow CDC protocols (cleaning, disinfecting, social distancing, quarantining) and MIOSHA workplace rules. My follow

I SAY By John Minnis

Christmases past on the farm



We moved to the farm from the west side of Detroit when I was 8.

While living in the city we did what everyone else did ... go to a tree lot to pick out our Christmas tree. We were always dis-

appointed in that we wanted to put the tree up right away. But not dad.

Tree lot trees, dad explained, come baled in string (then) and are smushed. So dad would stand the tree up in the garage until the next weekend so the branches would spread. The waiting a week killed us kids!

Once we moved to the farm, of course, we had no such restriction. We simply went out and cut one down and decorated it the same day.

In fact, every spring my dad would get 5,000 pine

seedlings delivered to our farm, and we would spend the next several weekends planting them by hand.

Dad cut a 3-foot-long 2x2 for us to measure between plantings. One of us would push a spade into the wet, spring dirt for the opening, and another one of us would insert the seedling and tamp down the opening with his foot. The "sick boy" would flip it over end for end for the next planting. We followed football field-length strings our dad staked out earlier.

We did this several

years in a row. I think I estimated we had planted 20,000 trees or so. The idea was to transplant every other tree as they matured so they could fully grow six feet apart. Fortunately, I had graduated high school and moved back to the "city" before that backbreaking work needed to be done.

When we were teenagers, mom and dad would rent a cottage in Paradise in the Upper Peninsula for snowmobiling. My twin brother and I liked that because we were allowed to drive up separately in

Doug's 1967 Mustang.

We felt pretty cool — until we found ourselves spinning 360s after hitting a patch of ice on I-75 near Flint. We slowed it down after that.

During school Christmas break, you would find us kids living in our pajamas (long johns) from Christmas to New Year. When we needed to go outside to do our chores or go snowmobiling, we simply jumped into our snowmobile suits in our long johns and donned felt-lined boots and mittens, and we were

good to go!

Though I would never want to brave the hardships of living on the farm again — especially in winter — I do miss the openness, to not see another house for a mile.

In fact, one of our greatest pleasures we have in our Grosse Pointe Woods home is that our family room overlooks the Barnes School athletic fields, which affords us our "country view."

We wish all our readers a merry and safe Christmas and better New Year!

YESTERDAY'S HEADLINES

1945

75 years ago this week

WAVE OF ACCIDENTS HITS: Ice and snow, which turned the streets of the Pointe into glaring mirrors of danger, brought a wave of traffic accidents to the area during the past week. No section was free from crashes which sent cars to repair shops and drivers and passengers to hospitals.

POINTE HOPES FOR REPRESENTATION IN STATE LEGISLATURE: The question of Grosse

Pointe having its own representation in the State Legislature is up again. A petition has been prepared by the Wayne County Republican Committee, Milton Carmichael, chairman, calling for a referendum vote on a constitutional amendment requiring that the city of Detroit shall be divided into 21 legislative districts. All of these districts would have to be within the corporate limits of Detroit itself and would specifically prevent the incorporation within any of them of any contiguous territory. If adopted, the

amendment would result in automatically divorcing Grosse Pointe from Detroit and provide for its erection into a district of its own.

1970

50 years ago this week

BON SECOURS WINS ROUND: The seven-year debate between Bon Secours Hospital and the City of Grosse Pointe, in which the hospital challenged the validity of the City's present zoning ordinance, as applies to it, and which prevents its

expansion, has come to a head with the recent opinion of Circuit Judge George E. Bowles, which indicated a victory for the hospital.

NO BEQUESTS PAID: Two of the three co-executors of the \$15 million estate of the late Theodore D. Buhl have once again moved to block any distribution of the bequests left under the will of the deceased. Not one penny has been paid any of the beneficiaries of the cash bequests although Mr. Buhl died more than two and a half years ago.

FIRE DESTROYS FARMS BAR: A three-

alarm fire, believed to have originated in an electric organ, gutted Manor Lounge, 18450 Mack, early morning Dec. 20. The second-floor living quarters of Mrs. Ruth Cusman, the bar owner, was damaged by flames that had shot through air ducts and by water.

Obituaries: Carl M. Breer, Zella H. Thrush, Arthur H. Bacon, Grace D. Szejbach, Clara E. Oetjen

1995

25 years ago this week

POINTES UNITE, HIRE LOBBYIST: In an unusual move demonstrating municipal unanimity, all five Grosse Pointe governments have approved the hiring of a Lansing lobbyist to promote the cities' interest in protecting local municipal courts. Over the past two weeks, all five Grosse Pointe councils approved spending \$25,000 to hire a lobbying firm to act on behalf of the cities regarding the proposed elimination of local municipal courts.

SHORES UPS BOATWELL FEES: In planning for upcoming expenses, such as chemical treatment of seaweed and additional staff assigned to the harbor, the Village of Grosse Pointe Shores council has approved a 3 percent increase in boatwell fees for the 1996 season. The rates, which will increase from \$1.37 to \$1.41 per

square foot, are determined by well size.

Obituaries: Charles Hubert Spade, Palmer L. Rooch, Matthew M. Saunders, Ann Curro Lord, George Richard Grove

2010

10 years ago this week

DISPATCH TALKS UNDER WAY: Discussions about how to cut municipal costs by sharing public safety dispatch duties is on the agenda of the five Grosse Pointes, although the rumored elimination next month of the Shores dispatch department is unfounded. Scuttlebutt is the Shores dispatch center at city hall would shut down Jan. 1.

CENSUS NOW, REDISTRICTING NEXT: Michigan's legislative map will be redrawn to conform with population changes documented in the recent national census. For the second decade in a row, census results mean that Michigan must give up one of its Congressional seats. The number of Michigan congressmen drops to 14 due to the state losing 54,804 residents since 2000, according to the 2010 Census released last week.

Obituaries: Walter E. Auch, Marie Frances Bayer, Peter J. Cubba, Elizabeth Anne Kost, James E. LaPratt, Helen Stoepel McGraw, Arthur W. Miller, Nelly S. Rashid, Faye Frances Varner

OUR VIEW

Lakeshore signage

Sure, it's not the most serious problem, not by a long shot. The battle about the oversignage along Lakeshore Road in Grosse Pointe Farms should continue nonetheless.

Having exhausted their pleas at the county level, Farms officials are taking their case to the Michigan Department of Transportation. Despite what rules may say about exactly which corners need which signs, it should be obvious that they can be waived when 180-plus signs sprout on the newly repaved stretch that runs from Warner Road to just past Moross. The lovely landscaped medians are part of the drive's innate appeal, not an invitation to blare warnings at every cut-through.

As the expression goes, once you've seen all the signs, you can't unsee them. Not only do they distract from what otherwise is the pleasure of seeing Lake St. Clair, they can also preoccupy motorists who should be keeping a better eye out for bicyclists, garbage and recycling trucks, letter carriers and landscaping vehicles.

It's sometimes easy to laugh at what gets considered a bother in this community. But even minor complaints that irritate a lot of people deserve attention, and the people who are irritated extend far beyond Grosse Pointe Farms. Part of the reason to live on this side of town is the access to a walk or drive along the lake. That includes residents of the Grosse Pointes, but extends to folks who settle near the river in Detroit or who pick Macomb County's lakeside neighborhoods.

No one should have to settle for this amount of visual pollution. It is a fight worth having.

OUR VIEW

Elworthy Field

The plethora of activities at Elworthy Field take place so smoothly that no one stops to think about the rather complicated arrangement that underlies the operation.

Leased and maintained by the City of Grosse Pointe, with significant community contributions, the field is actually the property of the Grosse Pointe Public School System. The district's ownership rarely is acknowledged except when its approval is needed for a major change, as was the case most recently with the substantial upgrade of the Rotary Club Tot Lot.

But leases run out and the current 50-year lease needs renewal. The city pays just \$1 a year for the rental, but also covers all maintenance costs, currently estimated at about \$40,000 a year.

The proposal for a new 10-year lease on the same terms was reasonable, even if the number of years seems a bit arbitrary, and got relatively quick approval in recent weeks from both the Grosse Pointe City Council and the Board of Education. Board treasurer Judy Gafa voted against the lease, saying she believed the district should charge the city more. Anyone else with complaints will need to mark their calendars for 2030.

The property, which the district bought from the Neighborhood Club so long ago, is not a potential source of wealth because sale terms dictated that it must be used for recreation to benefit all people in the school district. That legacy lives on in baseball fields, tennis courts, the Rotary Club Tot Lot and other activities — a legacy so successful that, at least for now, it would have been foolish to tinker with it.

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During this magical time of year, we'd like to extend our sincere best wishes for you and yours to enjoy a **Very Merry Christmas** and a **Fantastic 2021**

Mark and Jan Orr

Grosse Pointe Yacht Club sees uptick in boaters this past season

The Grosse Pointe Yacht Club saw a large uptick in boaters during the 2020 boating season, resulting in a full harbor and a waiting list for hopeful boaters. Due to COVID-19, boat sales have skyrocketed across the country. The GPYC expects to see similar interest in the club for the upcoming boating season and is preparing its harbor accordingly.

During these colder months, planning for spring and summer kicks into high gear. The GPYC management and Board of Directors are focusing on the annual anticipation of high-water levels in the Great Lakes Basin and Lake St. Clair.

“While the high water levels of our beautiful Great Lakes, Lake St. Clair and Michigan waterways continue to make nautical news, the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club has persevered and managed to stay high and dry,” Harbor Master Alex Turner said. “The docks and harbor facilities, as well as the historical clubhouse, have been protected as we have tirelessly worked to avoid damage from high waters. We continue to accommodate and service the boating community with our prestigious concierge and harbor services. As a designated Clean Marina, we will continue best practices of the marina industry.”

In 2020, the club took aggressive action to protect the clubhouse and ensure it had a fully functional harbor for the summer. This year saw a 6-inch rise in water levels over 2019 levels. Many of the docks in the harbor received wooden risers to keep the surface dry, ultimately resulting in safer docks for members.

“Our goal was to protect the assets of

our great club and provide our members with the extraordinary experience they have come to expect from GPYC despite the unusually high-water levels,” Past Commodore Gary Gonzalez said.

Other improvements made to combat high water included closing off the lower openings in the seawall, installing sump and dewatering systems to remove rainwater from the campus and installing backup power systems. To protect the harbor from ice and wind damage, ice eaters were installed on all docks. The club also took steps to ensure the electrical infrastructure of the harbor was not compromised by the high water and continues to monitor the stray current daily.

The club has started releasing information on open boat wells in the harbor for the 2021 boating season and expects to see another uptick in demand for a spot in the harbor.

The Grosse Pointe Yacht Club has positioned itself as a club for all seasons by offering activities for its members all year long. Amenities that attract members during the winter months include bowling in the newly renovated Bowling Recreation Center; the fully equipped fitness center, which opened August 2019; trap shooting from the Marine Activity Center; an active platform tennis program and a variety of continually sold-out social events. In addition to fresh, seasonal cuisine served all year in the club’s restaurants, the GPYC offers a brunch or dinner buffet for every major holiday.

For more information, visit gpyc.org.

City finalizes 2021 road program

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — For the seventh year of the road improvement program in the City of Grosse Pointe, began by a voter-approved 15-year 2.5-mill road improvement levy, council unanimously approved the streets slated for construction in 2021 during the meeting Monday, Dec. 14.

These include milling and resurfacing, with new curbs and gutters, on Rivard from Jefferson to Maumee and from Kercheval to a little past Waterloo, as well as the milling and resurfacing of Charlevoix between Loraine and Neff. This will mark the last section needed to be resurfaced on Charlevoix and is covered under the major street fund.

Additionally, Loraine from Mack to Waterloo will be reconstructed, as was approved by council earlier in the year as part of the replacement of the sanitary sewer under that stretch. It will be covered

through the utility fund.

The Rivard construction will be funded by the levy, estimated to generate \$900,000 in fiscal year 2020-21.

Based on comments from the public and council the past few years, city engineers are working to concentrate on sections of one road each year, rather than spreading the work out around the city.

“This year, predominantly we’ll be working on Rivard and then, in 2023, we’ve got several sections of Neff and 2024, we have several sections of Lakeland,” City Engineer Steve Pangori explained. “(In) 2025, we’ve got a long stretch of Fisher and then 2026, we’ve got a long stretch of St. Clair, so that we’re not bouncing around the city doing a block here and a block there, which should be a little more productive.”

The projections of streets from 2022 and on are tentative and could be changed based on road ratings and projected deterioration.

After submitting the sec-

tion of Cadieux between Jefferson and Kercheval to Wayne County for consideration for federal funds earlier in the year, the county’s federal aid committee approved the funding for fiscal year 2023, on Dec. 17.

According to the city’s PASER ratings—a system from one to 10 used to rate the condition of roads, with one being the worst and 10 the best—Kercheval and Cadieux have an average rating of 6.629, up from 6.440 in 2019; Waterloo and St. Clair have an average rating of 5.591, down from 5.939 in 2019; and the rest of the city’s roads have an average rating of 6.109, down from 6.235 in 2019.

“What we’ve noticed in the past few years is that the concrete streets seem to be holding their condition pretty well and we’re seeing that the asphalt streets are deteriorating a little bit quicker,” Pangori said, adding that asphalt streets will be the current focus, with concrete streets deferred to later years.

PARK:

Continued from page 1A

Some residents have expressed concerns regarding the installation of the dog park. These range from odor to safety concerns. City Manager Nick Sizeland has attempted to address these concerns while still

moving forward with planning.

“We specifically have met, socially distanced, with some of those (concerned) residents to walk the dog park site,” Sizeland said. “While we may not agree with everything, we certainly are happy to continue that dialogue and work with those residents.”

More regarding the dog park’s future is to be discussed at the planning commission meeting Tuesday, Dec. 22, after press time.

Sizeland said he does believe once final color renderings are available to be shared to the public and a wood design is agreed upon for the fence, the agreement for

the park will be signed. There will then be a meeting to finalize safety measures and rules regarding the park.

If all goes according to plan, Sizeland is hopeful the dog park will be completed in April or May.

The council also attempted to discuss the Department of Public Works building lease and

finding a replacement for director of the public safety department.

After much discussion, approval of the lease for the DPW facility was tabled for a later meeting.

Sizeland outlined the process of outside recruiting for the new public safety chief. In the meantime, when current Chief Stephen Poloni

steps down in late January, Lt. Jim Bostock will serve as interim chief.

The council also discussed the opening of the Park’s ice rink, which they hope will be ready Wednesday, Dec. 23. The rink has not opened yet this season due to unfavorable weather conditions.

RETIREEES:

Continued from page 1A

Your constituents are smarter than that and they see what you’re doing.”

While the council has “painted a dismal picture” of the city’s finances over

the past months, Smith said, the recent 2019-20 audit showed the fund balance is much higher than required and has been added to the last four out of five years; the city has maintained its AAA bond rating; and its OPEB requirements are funded much higher than

most other communities.

“You do this while you put an undue and unjust burden on your retirees,” he said. “... These contracts, Mr. Mayor, you bargained and you signed and then you reneged on and I’m sure future negotiations are going to be very difficult

in the future just based upon some of the decisions you made.”

The fact that the city’s OPEB liabilities are not as bad as other communities, Councilwoman Danielle Gehlert said in response, doesn’t mean they’re in great shape.

“These responsibilities are many years out when you’re looking at the actuary numbers, but I think we at Grosse Pointe Shores want to be better than other communities on what our true liabilities are going forward,” she said, stating the audit is not the be all and end all.

A Zoom backdrop used by a councilperson during the November meeting, which stated “Supreme Court voted it’s fair for retirees to share healthcare costs,” also was called into question.

If the meeting were taking place in council chambers, the councilman would not have set a poster behind him advertising a political statement, said resident Chace Wakefield, calling the backdrop inappropriate

and rude.

“It’s one thing to make tough decisions; it’s another to flaunt them,” he said. “It didn’t feel good as a resident to see that.”

“I wrote a letter to the mayor and the manager months ago supporting the retirees,” he added. “I still support them. Where I came from, a promise made is a promise kept and do I like having a hole in the budget? Do I like having to spend that money? No, but we agreed to it, so you’ve got to find a way to make this work and to take care of our employees and our retirees.”

Because the retirees strongly feel Shores residents are like family, Deanne Younk, the wife of a retired lieutenant, said they have not wanted to resort to filing a lawsuit against the city up to this point.

“I hope you do realize that if they do file a lawsuit against you, they’re not only going to be asking you to honor the contracts that were negotiated in good faith

previously,” she explained, “but they’re going to also ask for the past costs this past year, as well as attorney fees and punitive damages for all the hardship, anxiety, pain and suffering that you caused all of us.”

Due to Councilman Doug Kucyk’s request—Kucyk was the only councilperson to vote in opposition of the retiree healthcare changes in May—the council will hold a closed session to discuss retiree healthcare matters following the January council meeting.

The city’s labor attorney will attend the meeting with a legal opinion on the matter.

In what was called an oversight by council and city administration, a closed session following this month’s council meeting was approved in November, but was never scheduled.

“You guys have a great and wonderful Christmas as many of your retirees struggle to make ends meet,” Smith said.

TRAVEL:

Continued from page 4A

accents when they grew tired, he said. He recalled the children’s first encounter with snow in their backyard—something they had only experienced in the Alps over the pond.

“We’d let them run outside,” he said. “Once, I heard my daughter say to my son, ‘Is this all ours?’”

Since returning to

Grosse Pointe, Tallerico has been involved with Children’s Home of Detroit, Grosse Pointe Farms Foundation and Detroit Optimist Club, among other organizations.

“I decided to be quite active,” he said.

Tallerico also has been involved with Hatch Detroit and a Detroit homecoming that occurs every autumn. Both are aimed at investing in the downtown district.

The experiences

Tallerico has encountered from traveling the world and returning to Grosse Pointe, where so many of his peers were complacently upset about Detroit’s decline, has encouraged him to positively make a change, which he thinks others should follow.

“No matter where you are, there’s good people (and) there’s bad people,” he said. “The world is so universal. I think if more people traveled, we’d be in a better place.”

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

PROJECT – Video Surveillance and Door Access Control RFP

Bid Proposals will be received by Chris Stanley of the Grosse Pointe Public School System, at 389 St. Clair Avenue, Grosse Pointe, Michigan 48230, on or before **3:00 p.m.** (local time) on **January 18, 2021** (“Due Date”). The Board of Education will not consider or accept a Bid Proposal received after the Due Date, the date and time specified for Bid Proposal submission. Bid Proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud immediately following the Due Date at the same location.

A pre-Bid Proposal meeting will be held on **January 6, 2021** at **9:00 a.m.** via MS Teams video conference. The details of the meeting are outlined below:

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

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

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

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

Bid documents, including Bidders Information Manual, scopes of work, Drawing and Specifications will be made available **Friday, December 18, 2020**, at the following website:

<https://sigma.michigan.gov/webapp/PRDVS2X1/AltSelfService>

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Shae Sultes at 248.603.5352 or email at shae.sultes@plantemoran.com.

GROSSE POINTE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

Published: GPN, December 24, 2020

BOE members prepare for January appointments

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

THE GROSSE POINTE — In just over a week, David Brumbaugh, Joseph Herd, Ahmed Ismail, Lisa Papas and Colleen Worden will officially take their seats as the newest elected members of the Grosse Pointe Public School District Board of Education.

“We’re really committed to drawing all the stakeholders in and making the absolute best district we can make for our community,” Papas said, “so I think we’re going to see some really exciting things coming around in 2021.”

With the district currently set to enter January with a hybrid approach to learning, the group is focused on the safe return of students to in-person learning.

This should be in conjunction with teachers, the community and the administration, as well as health department authorities, Herd said.

Putting procedures and metrics in place as public knowledge, Papas sug-



David Brumbaugh



Joseph Herd



Ahmed Ismail



Lisa Papas



Colleen Worden

gested, such as indicating the need to close a building if it has X number of cases rather than closing the whole district, could play a role.

Ismail would like to see a stock of personal protective equipment that would get the district through June, in preparation for a possible shortage as many communities return to in-person learning.

“Along with that goal, I think we also need to make sure that the teachers feel safe in getting back to their environment,” Worden said, “so we have to work closely with our teachers and with our building princi-

pals to make sure that the environment’s safe and that they feel comfortable getting back into their buildings.”

Along similar lines, many of the new board members also are focused on re-engaging the families who recently left the school district. This could tie in with resuming in-person learning, Papas said, because the community is full of parents who have careers as essential workers, such as doctors, nurses, CEOs and business owners, who don’t have a choice to stay home with their children.

The process should involve reaching out to those who have left in a

personal manner to offer an apology and discuss what could be done to bring them back, Ismail said.

“It’s not something that should be done by a secretary via email with an email that says ‘Dear Grosse Pointe parent,’” he explained. “This has to be a very personalized approach and I think it’s going to take us calling them up and saying, ‘Let’s sit down. What do we need to do to make you happy?’ And we need to get it done.”

Following Gary Niehaus’ retirement, the board also will face the task of a search for the next superintendent.

Electing the best person who both matches the values of the community and upholds the excellent education standard already set, Herd said, is going to take a team effort among board members.

“We want a person who knows, first of all, that Grosse Pointe has a history of excellent education and that even now, during this pandemic, that to the best of our ability, we’re continuing this,” he said.

A high level of communication and collaboration, both among board members and with the families in the community, also was noted as a

necessary area of growth among the new board members’ goals.

“We really think that improving communication lines with the community, making it easier for people to communicate with the board and the administration and have some followthrough back is important,” Papas said.

Work on the 2021-22 budget soon will need to begin, as well.

“We’ve got a lot of bond work coming up, so we also have to keep an eye to the next six months, 12 months, four years, in terms of not losing the beat on that,” Brumbaugh added.



First grader Elle Shiftan brought a bag of canned food for the Maire Elementary Gratitude Can Food Drive and set it in the spot for first-grade donations. The collection took place Dec. 15, in the school parking lot.

Can-do attitude

First-year Maire Elementary School teacher Caelin Micks wanted to do something this holiday season to give back to the community. Keeping distancing restrictions in mind, she came up with the idea for a canned food drive and challenged each grade to “fill the spot.” “This was the perfect opportunity for teachers and students to interact with each other face to face,” she said. “I wanted to go along with our focuses on a program we do called Leader in Me. We have been focusing on gratitude in our classroom and this was a perfect opportunity for students to do something good for themselves and the metro Detroit area. We had a great turnout and the students exceeded my expectations for how many cans we donated.”



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Maire Elementary School Principal Ryan Francis, kindergarten teacher Annie Leshka and third-grade teacher Caelin Micks, who organized the event.

LEARNING:

Continued from page 1A

holiday season. Then we can re-engage more activities sooner and more safely.”

Find out how Grosse Pointe schools plan to approach learning in January below:

Grosse Pointe Public School System

Plans previously laid out by the Grosse Pointe Public School System remain unaffected.

“Our plan hasn’t changed,” said Gary Niehaus, GPPSS superintendent. “It actually fits into our plan that we have been publishing.”

As students return from winter break, the district will take a hybrid approach, where half the class will come to the school building for in-person learning one day and the other half the next.

Young 5’s through grade 6 and special education students are set to begin this approach Monday, Jan. 4; grades 7 and 8 will begin Monday, Jan. 11; and grades 9 to 12 will start the week of Jan. 25.

A full day of orientation for ninth graders is scheduled Monday, Jan. 25, with PSAT testing that wasn’t done in the fall set Tuesday, Jan. 26. Wednesday, Jan. 27, is scheduled as a Zoom day for grades 5 to 12, before grades 9 to 12 begin their hybrid schedule Thursday, Jan. 28.

“I believe that we were successful in the hybrid model, face-to-face K-5 and special ed the first time around,” Niehaus said, “and I think we’ll be successful with bringing back our K-6 and special education students on Monday, Jan. 4, 2021, and seventh and eighth graders on Monday, Jan. 11, 2021. We look forward to bringing back our high school students the week of Jan. 25, 2021.”

Students will wear masks, keep the required 6 feet of social distancing and have plexiglass shields on each of their desks. Parents will be expected to go through the symptoms protocol before sending their kids to school.

Along with personal protective equipment available for all faculty and staff, the district has hired an additional 30 custodians to help sanitize touch points.

University Liggett School

While the upper school switched to remote learning due to the pause issued mid-November, the lower and middle schools have remained face-to-face nearly all year at University Liggett School.

When students return from winter break the week of Jan. 4, they’ll learn virtually, before all grades return to face-to-face learning the following week.

“We’re just using that kind of as a safety buffer for travel and holiday

activities,” COO Kelley Hamilton explained, in the case of symptoms presenting themselves in students.

The same strategy was used the week after Thanksgiving.

COVID-19 precautions include enhanced and supplemental air filtration; outdoor classroom spaces, although they may not be used during winter; other non-traditional classroom spaces such as in the cafeteria because students now each lunch in their classrooms; plexiglass dividers; personal protective equipment; and two extra cleaning personnel to sanitize frequently touched surfaces throughout the day.

“We’ve learned a lot over these last few months that the kids have already been in school,” Hamilton said, “and we’re looking forward to getting them all back in a couple weeks.”

The school offers a remote pathway for students with underlying health conditions or those who simply don’t feel comfortable returning to face-to-face learning, as well.

Approximately 90 percent of students have chosen in-person instruction, Hamilton reported.

The Grosse Pointe Academy

The Grosse Pointe Academy has operated with face-to-face learning all year and currently is on winter break until Jan. 4. The week of Jan. 4, grades 1 through 8 will

learn virtually, before returning to in-person learning Monday, Jan. 11.

“We just want to make sure that our students are safe and that the school is safe,” explained Division Head Bridgette Murray, “so by allowing that gap week for students to still learn at home, hopefully by the time they return on Jan. 11, anything that might have happened regarding COVID will have happened during that week and we can make sure when everyone returns on the 11th that everybody is safe and free of COVID.”

However, preschool through kindergarten will meet in person the week of Jan. 4.

Protocols and precautions for COVID-19, such as universal masking, including students at recess, can be found on The Academy’s website in its return-to-school plan.

“We’re just excited to have the kids back on campus,” Murray said, “and we’re glad that we’ve been able to do that all year.”

The Academy also offers an option for students who prefer remote learning.

St. Paul on the Lake Catholic School

St. Paul on the Lake Catholic School students have been learning in person since the first day of school, Aug. 31, and once school resumes after winter break Jan. 4, they will continue face-

to-face.

COVID-19 precautions include masking; class sizes capped at 20; students separated by class during recess; individual playground equipment for each class; one-way stairwells; sanitizing stations installed in each classroom; and students eating lunch in their classrooms, where the hot lunch program can be delivered to them.

“After they are done eating, we have our maintenance crew that comes in and does a full sanitization of the classroom while the class is outside at recess,” Principal Tina Forsythe said.

Through a grant awarded by the William Cardinal Foundation, through the St. Paul Educational Trust, the

school purchased individual tablets for children in kindergarten through second grade, as well as Chromebooks for students in third through eighth grades. These also could be used to loan to students should a distanced learning plan become necessary.

The school does not offer remote learning for those who do not feel comfortable with face-to-face learning.

“We have a remote/distance learning plan in place if we need to follow the governor’s executive orders to close,” Forsythe explained via email, “or would we need to close due to too many COVID cases in our building and the health department advises our school to close.”

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10A | SCHOOLS



Teacher Meri Maka's kindergarten class posed with naturally shed reindeer antlers and Santa.



Mother and daughter reindeer, Comet and Blitzen.



Seventh grader Dane Lezotte pretended to be a reindeer by holding up a shed antler.

Santa sighting at St. Paul



Fifteen-month-old Penelope Nrekic stopped by to see Santa and the reindeer.



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

St. Paul on the Lake Catholic School Principal Tina Forsythe planned a holiday surprise for the staff and students. On Dec. 18, Santa came to the school and brought a couple of his reindeer. One class at a time was brought outside to see the live reindeer.

Merry Christmas!

This year, I am extremely grateful to be surrounded by such a wonderful community. I wish you the very best this holiday season and a New Year filled with peace, joy and good health.

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PRIDE OF THE POINTES

Miles Dearing of Grosse Pointe Park was named to the 2020 spring semester Dean's List at Ohio Wesleyan University.

William Poplawski of the City of Grosse Pointe earned a national award for contributions to the College of the Holy Cross's Alexander Hamilton Society. Poplawski is majoring in political science.

Area students in their first year at Albion College were accepted

to programs of distinction during the fall 2020 semester. **Michael Polizzi** of the City of Grosse Pointe joined the Carl A. Gerstacker Institute for Business and Management. He is a graduate of Grosse Pointe South High School. **Rory Angott** of Grosse Pointe Woods joined the Gerald R. Ford Institute for Leadership in Public Policy and Service, the Carl A. Gerstacker Institute for Business and Management and the Prentiss M. Brown Honors Program. **Stovall** is a graduate of Grosse Pointe South High School. **Alexander**

of Grosse Pointe Park joined the Carl A. Gerstacker Institute for Business and Management. He is a graduate of Grosse Pointe South High School. **Rory Angott** of Grosse Pointe Woods joined the Gerald R. Ford Institute for Leadership in Public Policy and Service, the Carl A. Gerstacker Institute for Business and Management and the Prentiss M. Brown Honors Program. **Stovall** is a graduate of Grosse Pointe North High School. **Alexander**



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An abundance of donations allowed each child to receive a substantial Christmas gift.



Megan Prieur helped David and Marie Calcaterra organize the collection for CCH. Clothes for each boy were purchased from The Campus Shop and blankets, created by five Grosse Pointe families, were donated from Blanketed with Love.

Christmas collection Community effort provides comfort and joy to Christ Child House boys

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

For the 17 boys currently living at Christ Child House in Detroit, this Christmas was made a little warmer thanks to the generosity of several Grosse Pointe residents.

CCH, whose mission is to be “an innovative treatment program that fosters hope and healing for children and families impacted by trauma,” has been in the hearts of Grosse Pointe Woods residents David and Marie Calcaterra nearly a decade.

The couple, who recently spearheaded a holiday collection for CCH, got more than they were expecting this year.

“I posted that I was just looking for things to stuff into stockings for 17 boys,” David Calcaterra said. “It ended up being much more than just for stockings.”

Grosse Pointe Farms resident Megan Prieur, a local Realtor, saw Calcaterra’s post and ran with it. After sharing it on her own Facebook page, Prieur made sure to alert family and friends who are not on social media.

After that, the donations started pouring in, including 17 oversized, no-sew fleece blankets from The Helm’s Blanketed with Love Project, which were assembled by five different Grosse Pointe families.

“And we got a \$10,000 check from one donor,” Calcaterra said. “One woman bought \$2,500 to \$2,600 in clothes, so every boy got clothes. Another family donated all kinds of toys. It’s been very exciting.”

Prieur said CCH’s need “hit home for so many people.”

“It just touched my heart,” she added. “The



COURTESY PHOTOS

Marie and David Calcaterra are all smiles as they prepare to gift Christmas presents to the boys at Christ Child House.

thought that these children don’t have families, it pulled at my heartstrings. My grandpa was raised in an orphanage, from the time he was 3 or 4 until he was 17 or 18; he was never adopted. Just the struggles he had to go through; orphanages were different in those days. To be able to provide these children with something to look forward to at Christmas and especially with COVID, just to be able to make a small difference in these children’s lives, to let them know people care and want them to have a merry Christmas, made me want to support them in any way I can.”

The gifts were packaged and delivered to the Calcaterras the week before Christmas, so they could be organized and

delivered to CCH for the holiday.

Though the Christmas collection is complete, CCH welcomes additional help all year. And the Calcaterras are happy to provide it.

During Easter 2019, the Calcaterras delivered pizza, cupcakes and candy to the boys, and played games with them. Together, they dyed 16 dozen Easter eggs.

“The kids loved it so much,” he said. “One of the counselors told us they were all asking for something to put the eggs in so they could take them to school to show people. Some of them had never dyed eggs before. If we can get in to visit (in 2021), we’ll do that again.”

The Calcaterras also bring candy to the kids on

Valentine’s Day, but their support lasts beyond the holidays; one year, they took the kids to a baseball game.

“We try to do things throughout the year,” Calcaterra said. “It’s a very wonderful organization. ... Some of these boys get to return to their parents or legal guardians; sometimes that’s not the case. We’re always hopeful the children are going back.”

The Calcaterras learned about CCH through their church, St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, which also supports the organization. The church recently donated \$2,500 for new carpet at CCH.

Calcaterra said the outpouring of support he’s seen these last few weeks has been touching; he’s grateful for the generosity of so many, especially during the pandemic.

“They’ve had a tough year,” Calcaterra said of CCH. “It’s really wonderful that people donated.”

Added Prieur, “David is so modest and always doing things for other people. He donates his time, money and effort. This was a collective effort of everyone the last two weeks. Any time people hear about children in an orphanage and a way they can help, they’re happy to do so.”

“I’m proud of the community we live in,” she continued. “I’m grateful to have these friends in my life that are so wonderfully giving and who care about others. It makes me appreciate this community even more.”

Calcaterra encouraged people to learn more about CCH on its website, christchildhouse.org.

“It’s a wonderful organization,” he said. “It would be wonderful to get more people involved.”



Each boy received clothing, purchased from The Campus Shop, as well as blankets among other items.

About Christ Child House

Christ Child House is owned and operated by the Detroit Chapter of the Christ Child Society, a charitable, nonprofit organization of volunteers who have been helping disadvantaged youth throughout Michigan more than 100 years.

In 1948, the Christ Child Society became aware of the lack of temporary emergency housing for children removed from a home in crisis, often facing parental unemployment or catastrophic illness. Answering the challenge, the society purchased, decorated and furnished a home on Pallister Avenue in Detroit’s New Center neighborhood that could house up to 11 children at one time.

As the years passed, the society faced the reality that the house, overcrowded and in constant need of repairs, was no longer meeting the needs of the children they were serving.

In 1957, two acres of land on Joy Road, west of Greenfield, were acquired from Ford Motor Co. and the Henry Ford family for a purchase price of \$1. The grey brick colonial farmhouse that today is called Christ Child House opened its doors to 18 children in May 1958.

The house has undergone numerous physical plant expansions since that date; however, the most significant change has been in the profile of the boys who call the house their home. The definition of a “home in crisis” is worlds apart from that which served as the genesis of this program.

The paths these young men have traveled to the doorstep of CCH are ones of physical, verbal, emotional and sexual abuse and years of neglect. Often these children have failed in multiple foster home placements. They have learning disabilities, emotional distress, anxiety, depression and the lasting effects of post-traumatic stress.

Following a period of intensive individual and family therapy, children have been able to return to their homes, but increasingly, a total breakdown of the family system makes a child’s return impossible. In these cases, the house seeks forever families and strives to build a strong loving bond between the child and his new family.

In 1995, a foster care program was instituted and in 1997, CCH post-residential and post-adoption treatment services became fully operational.

Today, CCH continues to adapt to the changing needs of the community, but undoubtedly, the house will always stand as a place of refuge, healing and new beginnings.

For more information, visit christchildhouse.org.

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2B | FEATURES

Holiday house calls

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

There have been quite a few Santa Claus sightings this holiday season, much to the delight of Grosse Pointe children — and children at heart.

Lately, the jolly old elf has embodied a much younger self in the form of 18-year-old City of Grosse Pointe resident Bennett Smihal, who decided to don the red-and-white suit and spread some holiday cheer. For two weeks, he's been surprising children in their homes, oftentimes with gifts or candy canes.

"I just want to give

back to the community," the Grosse Pointe South High School senior said. "It's been a rough year for everyone; it just didn't feel like Christmas this year."

Remembering the joy of his childhood visits to Santa, Smihal wanted to give that experience to other kids, especially now, in the days of COVID-19.

"I want to spread happiness through this dark time and give out the Christmas spirit," he said. "I like to see their reactions, the joy on their faces. When they see Santa at their front door, it's a surprise to them."

It's not a surprise to

parents, who schedule the visits when Smihal is available. Sometimes, parents will drop off gifts to his house so he can surprise the children with something from their wish lists. Other times, Smihal delivers Santa books and candy canes to the wide-eyed youngsters.

The service, which started two weeks ago, concludes Christmas Eve. Though Smihal accepted donations for the visits, the money he made was put right back into them, for candy canes and other gifts.

The response, he said, has been amazing.

"The kids are just freaking out," he said.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Six-year-old Mallory Navalta and her sister, three-year-old Myla, were joined by their 18-month-old sister, Mariella, on their porch to talk to Santa who, right before he left, gave them all candy canes.

"They're either jumping for joy or just staring at me.

"Visiting around

Grosse Pointe is not just for the kids; it's for the adults, too," he added, noting he's caught more

than a few adults staring and smiling. "I give them a wave, wish them a merry Christmas."

Racing For Kids jumpstarts holidays with Christmas visits

Racing For Kids kicked off the holiday season with two special visits — one to Children's Hospital of Michigan and the other to Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City. Both visits were Christmas gift "drop-offs" to help brighten a hospital stay for many metro Detroit and Kansas City children.

During the Detroit visit, a couple of Santa's best elves — Racing For Kids' Linda Finger and Debby Wright — stopped by the hospital Dec. 9, with several bags full of gifts for the kids. Each child received a "Star Night" rotating planet night light projector to magically transform their hospital ceiling into a sparkling galaxy constellation.

"2020 has been a tough year, especially for hospitalized kids who

haven't been able to have visitors to take their minds off their tests and treatments," said Racing For Kids' CEO Pat Wright. "We're hoping these rotating galaxy lamps will bring a little magic into their rooms and entertain during their recovery."

On hand to receive the presents were Kathy Donovan, president and CEO of Children's Hospital of Michigan; Kate Kesner of The Children's Foundation; and Sincead Nimmo, CHM Child Life project specialist.

Racing For Kids' other holiday visit was to Children's Mercy Hospital of Kansas City. Racing For Kids partner, TranSystems Corp., which is headquartered in Kansas City, sponsored the visit and delivered the "Star Night" projectors to the hospital.



Pictured in front of Children's Hospital of Michigan on gift drop-off day are, from left, Linda Finger, Racing For Kids; Kate Kesner, Children's Foundation; Kathy Donovan, president and CEO of CHM; and Debby Wright, Racing For Kids.

COURTESY PHOTO

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. 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.

Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

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

AREA ACTIVITIES

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.

- ◆ 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31, Pointe Fitness, 19556 Harper, Harper Woods.

Register at redcrossblood.org.

GPAA

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.

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.

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After 36 years of service to our community, and after having had a successful career as an independent practitioner, Dr. Naber has chosen to begin a new phase of his life. We wish Dr. Naber health, happiness, and all the time in the world to spend with his lovely wife Mary, his children, his new grandchild Charlotte, and his trusty dog Penny.

We are proud to carry on his professional legacy.

Thank you Dr. Naber,
Drs. Gill, Fox, Beals, and Owens P.A.

Winter survival: Facebook style

Park resident fosters togetherness one post at a time

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

As if winter months aren't tough enough — with chilly weather, icy roads and flu season hampering any interest in socialization — add a pandemic and its restrictive guidelines to the mix and time may seem to stand still.

Hoping to get families and neighbors outside and uplifted, Grosse Pointe Park resident Missy Kinyon has created a Facebook page welcoming ideas to bring joy to the Pointes.

The GPP Holiday and Winter Survival page, which already boasts nearly 800 members, is a platform Kinyon created to turn strangers into friends and get people to find fun and inspiration during winter. It mirrors another successful



Missy Kinyon did her grocery shopping dressed as an elf as part of The Challenge.

Facebook platform she started several years ago, Eastside Jam Collective,

which brings musicians together to share their craft.

"The EJC page took off really well," Kinyon said. "I like having platforms where people can connect without politics, to find something we all have in common."

"It's been such a hard year for so many people," she continued. "People are so disconnected. This is like anything that involves a collective effort. I want people to think about things we can do, because there are so many things we can't do. What can we do to make things happier?"

So far those efforts have included a Christmas ornament exchange, as well as a

cookie exchange, during which people left cookies on front porches, "like trick-or-treating for adults," Kinyon said, "but with cookies."

And then there's The Challenge, Kinyon said.

"The Challenge is for people to make an absolute fool out of themselves in public," she explained, "which increases dopamine."

The Challenge asks people to accomplish three tasks:

1. Grocery shop dressed as an elf.

2. Stand on a street corner and sing Christmas carols as loud as possible.

3. "TP" someone's house in Christmas decorations.

Those who accomplish all three tasks receive a gift certificate for a kayaking excursion with Detroit Outpost, which Kinyon owns, when it warms up.

"I'd like to think of things for us to do after Christmas, in the dark months, things where adults can be childlike," Kinyon said, noting that a snow fort-building contest and adult winter kickball league have been banded about. "They should be fun, ridiculous things to do outside so we can connect."

"Isolation really is bad for people; it's really unhealthy," she continued. "There are things we can do to encourage people not to be so isolated."

Like the EJC page, the

Holiday and Winter Survival page doesn't have a leader, just leadership. Page members, from Grosse Pointe and beyond, are welcome to share their own ideas for fun.

"Just join the page," Kinyon said. "If you have any ideas, share them. It's a true collective."

"Find a way to connect to your neighbors," she added. "Find a way to give to your neighbors. Maybe some people can't give money, but (for example) I've been baking bread and giving it to people. It's about doing random acts of kindness."

Posts aren't limited to ideas for socializing either. Kinyon invited

any uplifting or cheerful posts, such as photos of houses decorated for Christmas, or messages that share compliments or gratitude.

Kinyon hopes this Facebook page continues to gain momentum, even after the weather clears and the pandemic is over.

"We can go back to the page and take the same events and start some traditions that will grow," she said.

Though she created the page, she takes no credit for the ideas that have been shared to date. It's a community effort, she said.

"This is all possible because we have such an amazing community," she added. "I can't see things like this being pulled off anywhere else. My efforts were really minimal. I just provided a platform; it's the people in our community that really participated and made it happen."



The group's cookie exchange was a success.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MISSY KINYON

As part of The Challenge, participants are asked to drape someone's house in holiday decor.

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The Christmas Season at St. Ambrose

VIGIL OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

Thursday, December 24, 2020,
Masses at 4 P.M. (FACE BOOK LIVE) AND 8 P.M.

FEAST OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

Friday, December 25, 2020
MIDNIGHT MASS AT 12 A.M. (FB LIVE)
MASS ON CHRISTMAS DAY
AT 8:30 A.M. AND AT 11:15 A.M.

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Saturday, December 26, 2020, MASS AT 4 P.M. (FB LIVE)
Sunday, December 27, 2020,
MASS AT 8:30 A.M. AND 11:15 A.M.

NEW YEAR'S EVE & DAY

Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God
Thursday, December 31, 2020 AT 4 P.M. (FB LIVE)
Friday, January 1, 2021, MASS AT 10 A.M.

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Saturday, January 2, 2021, MASS AT 4 P.M.
Sunday, January 3, 2021,
MASS AT 8:30 A.M. AND 11:15 A.M. (FB LIVE)

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Saturday, January 9, 2021,
MASS AT 4:00 P.M.
Sunday, January 10, 2021,
MASS AT 8:30 A.M. AND 11:15 A.M.

Those joining us for worship this Christmas must reserve their seats in order to attend a church service. We will open masses to a congregation of 25 percent of the building's capacity — roughly 150 persons. Face masks and social distancing are required. In addition, we now require contact tracing information. Archbishop Vigneron has extended the dispensation to attend Mass on Saturday/Sunday, as well as Christmas, but we want to welcome and encourage those able to join us at Mass during this Holy Season.

There is no designated Children's Liturgy this year, and there is one extra mass on Christmas Eve. There is an online reservation form for parishioners to reserve their seats for each mass. Everyone must reserve their seats at the mass/es they plan to attend. This will help assure mass-goers that they will not be turned away when we reach full capacity at each service. Each reservation is limited to 2 seats. Go to: stambroseparish1.flocknote.com/signup/20686 or call us at 313-822-2814. St. Ambrose Roman Catholic Church is located at 15020 Hampton in Grosse Pointe Park.

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.

Mary Jane Naz

Grosse Pointe Shores resident Mary Jane Naz, 96, passed away Tuesday, Dec. 15, 2020.

She was the beloved wife of the late Paul; loving mother of Paul Andrew Naz (Janice Lynn), Mary Deborah Naz, Gary Timothy Naz, Jennifer Lynn Naz-Dusman (Scott) and the late Wendy Ann Ward; cherished grandmother of eight; and great-grandmother of 10.

A funeral Mass will be celebrated at noon Monday, Dec. 28, at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 22412 Overlake, St. Clair Shores. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, face coverings are required and flowers are prohibited at the church. The service will be livestreamed at sjascs.org.

In lieu of flowers, as St. Joan of Arc parish was the focal point of Mary's life, second only to her family, donations may be made to St. Joan of Arc Catholic School, c/o Mary Jane Naz, 20502 Harper, Harper Woods, MI 48225.

Patrick Douglas Packer

Grosse Pointe resident Patrick Douglas Packer, 77, passed away Saturday, Dec. 12, 2020.

The firstborn child of Fred "Bud" and Dorothy "Dot" Packer (nee Gaul), Pat grew up in Detroit. The city always remained near to his heart and was a love he passed down to his children and grandchildren.

Pat became a journeyman in 1968. A pattern and model maker, he worked in the automotive industry until he retired.

Pat married the first love of his life, Suzanne Packer (nee Leyshock), in 1970. They moved to St. Clair Township in 1984. Pat and Suzy shared a love of horses and spent many hours on the homestead with their beloved Frankie, their Friesian horse "son." Pat continued to work the

"farm" many years after Suzy passed away in May 2008. He also spent much time honing his pickleball and bridge skills. A determined player at both games, which he enjoyed immensely, Pat walked away with a sense of pride whenever he could tip the scale and beat one of his buddies.

In 2013, Pat met the second love of his life, Jeannie Fellows, and shortly afterward moved to Grosse Pointe. Together Pat and Jeannie took many trips across the U.S., having fun and living life to the fullest.

He was the guy at a party everyone wanted to be around and always had a joke at the ready no matter the situation. Pat will be remembered by those who loved him as a warrior who never gave up; a father and grandfather who would move mountains for his loved ones; a companion always up for anything; a competitor with a temper, but always gracious; and a man with the biggest heart and kindest soul one could meet.

Pat was predeceased by his wife, Suzanne Packer, and sister, Susan Walter. He is survived by his children, Bree Hoski, Kurt Packer and Polly Packer; grandchildren Merrill and Emmet Hoski; girlfriend, Jeannie Fellows; siblings, Dan Packer (Karen), Ken Packer (Kathy) and Pamela Packer; and many nieces, nephews, friends, family, including the Leyshock clan, and loved ones.

A memorial service at one of Pat's favorite places, Pinery Provincial Park in Ontario, Canada, will be held at a later date.

Tribute contributions in Pat's honor may be made to the International Leonard Peltier Defense Committee, whoisleonardpeltier.info; or Detroit Federation of Teachers, 7700 Second Ave., Suite 410, Detroit, MI 48202; or Detroit Symphony Orchestra, dso.org.

Share a message of comfort at youngcolonial.com.

Constance Hilary Patricia Lynne-Davies, M.D., Ph.D.

Patricia "Pat" Lynne-Davies, 87, died peacefully Monday, Nov. 30, 2020, in Southport, N.C. A longtime resident of Grosse Pointe Park, she remained a staunchly proud native of Wales.

Patricia moved to Grosse Pointe Park in 1979, when she accepted a joint appointment as professor in the department of internal medicine at Wayne State University School of Medicine and chief of pulmonary medicine at Harper-Grace Hospital. In 1985, she was named associate chair of research at the Allen Park VA Medical Center. Under her leadership, the department grew to achieve more than 90 percent funding success. When the Allen Park VA Hospital merged with the John D. Dingell VA Medical Center in Detroit, Patricia was appointed associate chief of staff, research, a position she retained until 1995.

Colleagues remember Patricia as a skilled researcher and educator, adept at overseeing complex research projects. She provided mentorship and support that helped develop many faculty members' scholarly careers.

Patricia spent the last few years of her career as a practicing physician at the Gertrude Levin Pain Center and then at Michigan Orthopaedic Specialty Hospital.

The Lynne-Davies family thanks the staff at Elmcroft of Southport for the care and kindness they provided Patricia – especially over the past months and during Patricia's final hours. Her family expressed sadness that they were unable to be with her due to COVID-19 restrictions.

A memorial service for interment of Patricia's ashes will take place at the church founded by her father, St. Hilary's



Mary Jane Naz



Patrick D. Packer



Constance Lynne-Davies

Church in Killay, Swansea, Wales, when travel permits.

Memorial donations may be made to the Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir, <https://welshchoir.ca>.

George Port

Grosse Pointe resident George Franklin Port, 81, died peacefully Thursday, Dec. 10, 2020, at home.

George is survived by his wife of 56 years, Harriet Dodd Port, and their daughters, Mary Bush Ginn (Thomas A.) of Chicago and Diana "Dodie" Dodd Baker (John H.L.) of San Anselmo, Calif. He also is survived by his sister, Barbara Ann Gold of New York City; four grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews who came to him for good counsel and cheer.

George was born Jan. 12, 1939, in the Bronx, the son of Diana Wiener and Max Port.

As a teenager, he stole away from his home in Woodmere, Long Island, to Manhattan, where he snuck into jazz clubs to listen to the greats. George's stories and anecdotes filled the room. His love of jazz and music colored and influenced his career and life.

George earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Vanderbilt University and a Bachelor of Laws degree from the New York University School of Law.

After his military service in the U.S. Army Reserve, George married Harriet Dodd of Louisville, Ky., whom he had met at college. The couple moved to New York, where their two daughters were born.

With his first job at the Motion Picture Association of America, George embarked on his



George Port



Jeffrey L. Kraus

career of more than 55 years on the business side of the entertainment industry. George's entrepreneurial spirit kept his family on the move. The Port family made their home in Toronto, Short Hills, N.J., Wayzata, Minn., and Grosse Pointe.

George co-founded Video Treasures in 1985, which was bought by Handleman Co., and brought the couple to Michigan. George's love of sailing inspired a company name change to Anchor Bay Entertainment. In 1998, George headed up Anchor Bay's international division expansion, which gave Harriet and George three years in London. His work brought "Teletubbies" and "Thomas the Tank Engine" to the U.S. In 2003, George came out of retirement to co-found MarVista Entertainment, where he was a consultant for the next 15 years.

Harriet's brother, Allen Dodd, introduced the couple to Wyoming, and George fell in love with the Wind River Range, where he and Harriet had many horseback adventures. A cowboy friend built a log cabin for them and the couple spent 18 years traveling from Grosse Pointe to Pinedale, Wyo.

Wherever George lived, he was active in his church. He served on the vestry and Outreach Committee at Christ Church Detroit. He also headed the Investment Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of Michigan. George had great affection for St. Andrews in the Pines, in Pinedale.

Together with Harriet, he was a member of the Jane Austen Society and Alliance Francaise of Grosse Pointe. George loved his morning bowling group. He also was a member of the Witenagemot Society.

A bon vivant and raconteur extraordinaire, George made more than 100 trips to France, many for business and all for pleasure.

George was a family man above all else. He adored his four grandchildren, his namesake Georgianna Larned Port, William "Billy" Nichols Baker, Harriet Lane Baker and John "Huck" Gomez Ginn. He loved and cared for his wife and daughters with humor and usually, patience. His joie de vivre, wit and outspokenness were legendary, his family said. George loved to sing, dance and make his family laugh. He played the broom with great skill.

His was a life well lived.

Services will be held at Christ Church Detroit and Cave Hill Cemetery in Louisville at later dates.

Donations in celebration of George's life may be made to Christ Church Detroit, christcd.org/ online-giving; or the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, dso.org/support/donate.

Jeffrey Lawrence Kraus

Eastpointe resident Jeffrey Lawrence Kraus, 76, passed away Sunday, Dec. 13, 2020.

He was the cherished brother of Henry Kraus (Amy) and Martha Kraus (Jerry Bartkiewicz); adored uncle of Kimberly Standish (Clark), Jeffrey Kraus (Jessica), Karen Burghardt, Kristin Dragovic (Joe) and Meredith Kraus; loving great-uncle of Anna (Will), Henry, River, Natalia, Isabel, Leo, Louisa and Sophia; and dear cousin to many. He was predeceased by his parents, Hazen Henry and Esther Virginia, and sister, Gretchen Josephine.

Jeffrey was a graduate of Wayne State University.

A proud U.S. Army veteran, he served four years of active duty with the Special Forces division as a Specialist Five, in Berlin. He was awarded two certificates of appreciation – one from President Richard M. Nixon as Commander in Chief and one from Gen. W.C. Westmoreland as General of the U.S. Army Chief of Staff.

Jeffrey was a senior computer developer team leader at Chrysler Financial many years. Twenty years ago, his team developed a main-frame system that remains in use today.

Jeffrey was an avid golfer and pianist. He always looked forward to his Wednesday golf day.

He most loved his family and will be greatly missed, his family said.

A memorial service for Jeffrey took place Dec. 19, at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church, Grosse Pointe Woods. The service was livestreamed at olsos.org.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, donate3.cancer.org; or Michigan Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, jdrf.org; or Multiple Sclerosis Association of America, mymsaa.org.

See OBITS, page 5B

Ann Sullivan Kay



Ann Sullivan Kay, (nee Schroeder), 88, died on December 17, 2020 in Bloomfield Hills surrounded by her family. A resident of Grosse Pointe for more than 60 years, Ann was the daughter of Frederick J. Schroeder and Evelyn (nee Cahalan). As a child she attended the Academy of the Sacred Heart in Grosse Pointe Farms. Following graduation, Ann attended Manhattanville College in New York, and the University of Detroit where she earned degrees in English and Mathematics. After college, Ann joined Michigan Bell as a statistician.

Ann loved spending her summers at the Detroit Boat Club, which is where she first took an interest in sailing. It was during these summers on the water when she met the love of her life, Chuck Sullivan, who was her sailing instructor. Ann and Chuck quickly became inseparable. They married in 1955 and moved to Grosse Pointe Farms where they raised four children. Ann and Chuck were very involved in their church community at St. Ambrose Parish, where Ann was a Eucharistic minister and Chuck was a Lector. Ann and Chuck worked together at Crossroads, a social service outreach agency, and Ann also worked at the Women in Transition shelter to assist those who were victims of domestic abuse. Ann was an avid

fan of the Detroit Tigers and Thoroughbred Horseracing, and she had an uncanny ability to select the winning horse. Ann continued her love of sailing as an officer of the Grosse Pointe Farms Boat Club.

Ann's husband Chuck had an untimely death in 1987 at age 61. Some years later, Ann was reunited with a longtime family friend, John Howard Kay (Howard), who had also lost his spouse. Ann and Howard both found love again and eventually married in March 1998. Together, Ann and Howard enjoyed sailing, and spending time with their children and grandchildren until Howard passed away in September 2001. Ann is survived by her children Charles C. Sullivan, III (Andrea) of Carmel, IN, Mimi Sullivan Phillips

(Tony) of Saint Clair Shores, MI, Brian Frederick Sullivan (Marylyn) of Acworth, GA and Kevin Girard Sullivan (Eileen) of Columbia, MD. Ann was very close to and extremely proud of her grandchildren including Kate Sullivan (Sebastian), Charles C. Sullivan IV (Jessica), Robert W. Martin-Sullivan (Michelle), Jack Sullivan, Maggie Sullivan, and Elizabeth Sullivan.

Ann is also survived by two great-grandchildren, Jacqueline Mae Martin-Sullivan, and Olivia Sullivan; countless cousins, nieces, and nephews; and by her stepchildren including Julie Elizabeth Calkins (Thomas), Mary Clare Kelmenson (Lawrence), John Howard Kay, Jr. (Maurya), Peter Stuart Kay, Margaret Lynn Dyer (Christopher), and Alison Lee Pacifici (Mario).

Ann was predeceased by both of her husbands, John Howard Kay, Sr. and Charles C. Sullivan, Jr., brothers Frederick J. Schroeder, Jr. (Janet Bachrach) and John C. Schroeder (Claire Lewis), and her brother-in-law Daniel W. Sullivan (Mary Morse). A Catholic funeral mass will be held in 2021.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the St. Ambrose Conference of St. Vincent de Paul <https://eps.mvppbanking.com/cgi-bin/simplysaid/login.pl?access=60058&preview>.

OBITS:

Continued from page 4B

Sybil Louise Thomas

Grosse Pointe Woods resident Sybil Louise Thomas, 84, passed away Wednesday, Dec. 16, 2020, at home surrounded by her family.

She is survived by her beloved husband of 62 joy-filled years, Henry Thomas Jr. Sybil was the treasured mother of Suzanne McCuish (Jim), Lisa Hill (David) and Dr. Julie Thomas (Michael Enyeart). She was cherished "Mimi" to her grandchildren, the pride and joy of her life who adored her as much as she adored them, Mackenzie, Henry and James Jr.; and dear sister of Justine Miller (the late Keith) of Harbor Springs and the late Ross Enkelmann.

Born Feb. 14, 1936, in Detroit, to Henry and Esther Enkelmann, Sybil was her parents' first-born child and Valentine



Sybil L. Thomas

baby.

She graduated from Denby High School in 1954.

A gifted musician, Sybil played piano throughout her life and had the ability to immediately play any song she heard. She was a choir member at First English Lutheran Church for 39 years and instilled her love of music in her daughters and grandchildren.

Sybil enjoyed spending time with her family at their summer home on Lake Huron, built by Henry in the 1950s, where many cherished

memories and traditions were created. Every time family was together, she made it a special occasion and prepared an elaborate feast in celebration.

Sybil and Henry traveled to The Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island every summer for 40 years. They shared that love by hosting numerous family vacations at the Masco Cottage at The Grand.

Her family said Sybil made everyone, including strangers, feel special with her kind and generous ways; she treated strangers as friends and family. She was adored, loved and surely will be missed by all who knew her, they said.

Sybil's unwavering faith gave her the sure and certain hope of eternal life through Jesus Christ.

A private family memorial service will be held.

Arrangements are entrusted to A.H. Peters Funeral Home.

Habitat Grosse Pointe Partners donates \$15,000 to Habitat for Humanity Detroit

The Habitat Grosse Pointe Partners, or HGPP, an ecumenical partnership of Grosse Pointe churches dedicated to supporting the work of Habitat for Humanity Detroit, recently made a \$15,000 donation to the local organization. The HGPP secures funding for new and existing house projects and provides volunteer support to work on home building and repairs.

"We uphold the mission and fully support the work of Habitat for Humanity Detroit," said



COURTESY PHOTO

Members of Habitat Grosse Pointe Partners pose at one of their recent projects.

Ted Fly, president of HGPP. "Our organization

See HABITAT, page 6B



PHOTO COURTESY OF JAMES BIERY

Each song took an average of eight hours to assemble.

Music makers Memorial choir, director assemble virtual concert

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Choir members at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church have been hard at work since April, making sure their voices still are heard each Sunday, despite limitations in place due to COVID-19.

Virtual services have included three to four songs each week that are

individually recorded, then edited together by Memorial's organist and choir director, James Biery.

"First, I prepare a 'guide video' for each song," Biery explained. "Then, the singers individually record videos of themselves singing each song as they listen and watch the guide video, using smartphones or

computers. "Every individual singer video is edited to the same format and synced with the master guide video," he added. "Then they are all assembled in a video editor. The sound is edited separately."

It takes Biery a minimum of eight hours, on average, to assemble each song. This holiday season, because there will not be in-person Christmas Eve or Christmas services, the choir and its director have been working extra hard preparing some-

See MUSIC, page 6B

In Memoriam



Karl M. Parsons

December 15, 1963 - December 27, 2019

*When God was making you as far as we could see...
He made a special man especially for our family...
He made a perfect gentleman compassionate and kind...
With more love and affection that you could ever find...
He gave Karl the heart of solid gold...
He gave us wonderful memories only our hearts will be able to hold...
He was someone we could talk to that no one can replace...
He was someone we could laugh with till tears ran down our face...
Next time we meet will be at heaven's door...
When we see you standing there we won't cry anymore...
We will put our arms around you and kiss your smiling face...
Then the pieces of our broken hearts will fall back into place!*

Karl M. Parsons, of Harper Woods, was the beloved husband of Kelly (nee Oliver); son of the late Ralph Parsons Sr. and Aileen Parsons; loving brother of Linn Cimini (Val), Ken Parsons (Linda), Judy Vanderdonckt (Ed), Eric Parsons, the late Ralph Parsons and the late Deborah Eland; Karl will also be missed by JoAl White-Parsons, wife of the late Ralph Parsons Sr. Godfather to the late Erica Parsons; and uncle of many nieces and nephews. Also, his fur-babies and faithful rescue dogs, Katy and Bella.

A Mass Intention will be offered for Karl at 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 26, at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 22412 Overlake, St. Clair Shores.

Worship Service

Grosse Pointe UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
An Official Welcoming Congregation

Join us online for Sunday morning worship
<https://gpumc.info/SundayWorship>

Learn more about us by visiting our Facebook page:
www.facebook.com/GrossePointeUMC

Rev. Dr. Ray McGee
www.gpumc.org
313-886-2363

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

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

WEDNESDAY
10 a.m. - Bible Study

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9:30 am - Spark Church
11:00 am - Worship Service

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

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

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

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

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

Masses
Saturday Vigil — 4:00 p.m.
Sunday — 10:00 a.m.

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

6B | FEATURES

Beaumont seeks holiday cards for patients, staff, volunteers

Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe seeks encouraging cards, letters and notes to share with its patients, staff and volunteers this holi-

day season. Cards are being collected through Thursday, Dec. 31. They may be mailed to: Volunteer Department/Operation

Cheer, c/o 255 Ridgemont, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236.

For more information, email suzanne.berschback@beaumont.org.

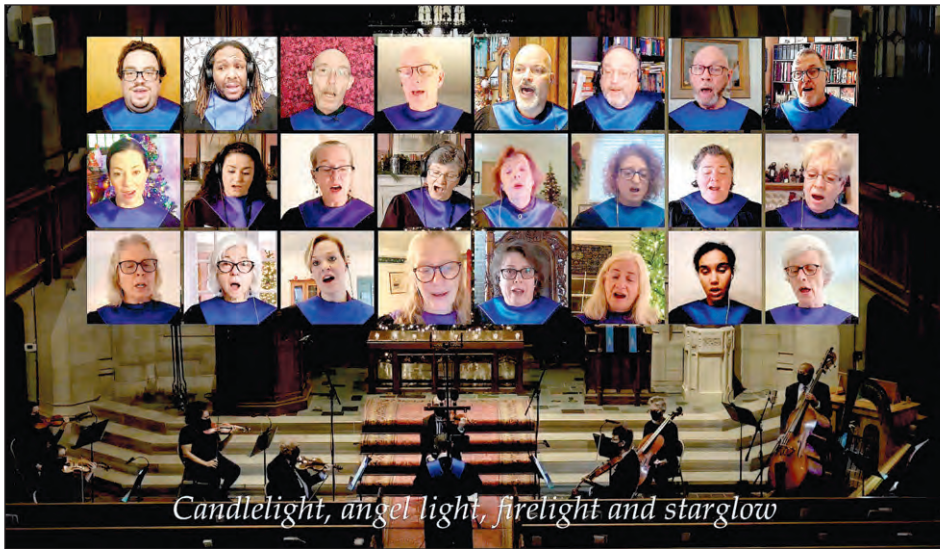


PHOTO COURTESY OF JAMES BIERY

The Grosse Pointe Memorial Church choir's Christmas concert is available on the church's YouTube channel.

MUSIC:

Continued from page 5B

thing special.

"For our Dec. 20 'Lessons and Carols,' there were 11 (pieces), plus instrumental music that we recorded in the church in November," Biery said, noting the service included some traditional Christmas carols and some choral music for the season. Many of the songs performed are musical arrangements Biery composed over the years.

"We wanted to provide something for our con-

gregation and audience that would resemble our annual 'Christmas Story' concert, in an online format," he said.

Memorial's virtual Christmas concert is available online at bit.ly/3myJzSM.

The full 55-minute "Service of Lessons and Carols" is available at bit.ly/3mMMX3z.

The music-only portion of the service may be viewed at bit.ly/3ato9el.

"There will be more music during the Christmas Eve candlelight service," Biery said,

available Thursday on Memorial's YouTube

channel.

What has appeared online so far has attracted attention from across the country and Canada, as several churches have borrowed Memorial's recordings for their own services.

"I think during these COVID times, many churches are scrambling to provide online services and few have the resources that we have at Memorial," Biery said.

"They are grateful for the videos that we have been able to offer on the internet. There are over 47 hymns available there and other songs for worship."

ASK JEFF AND DEBRA By Jeff and Debra Jay

Holiday 'mocktails' for fun and safety

Holiday safety in 2020 means something different than in past years. We are always interested in promoting safe driving, but this year, with the COVID-19 pandemic, we also are considering alcohol's role in lowering inhibitions and how this undermines sensible safety precautions. Alcohol not only alters mood and emotions, it changes how we act and react. The probability of making unwise decisions increases with the amount of alcohol consumed.

The CDC's safety recommendations ask that we spend the holidays with people in our households for the lowest risk of spread. Inviting people from different households — including students returning from college — increases risk.

Risk varies depending on the spaces we share, ventilation, amount of time spent together, number of people and our behaviors prior to coming together. Risk also varies depending upon how people behave during a gathering: hand washing, social distancing and

mask wearing. The CDC warns that the use of alcohol or other drugs can alter judgment, making it less likely that common sense safety measures will be consistently followed.

This year, in the spirit of protecting ourselves and others, we recommend rethinking the role alcohol plays in holiday festivities. For those who choose to imbibe, it's smart to encourage light drinking. One way to accomplish this is to offer an imaginative menu of enticing "mocktails."

Presenting a variety makes comparing different alcohol-free drinks fun. Here are a couple of our favorites.

Christmas Cheer Fizz

Ingredients:
Equal parts sparkling cider and cranapple juice
Squeeze of lime juice
3 tablespoons of sugar
and 1/2 teaspoon of cinnamon blended together on a plate

Cranberries rolled in white sugar
Ice

Directions:
Rub a lime around the rim of an old-fashioned

glass.

Twist rim into sugar/cinnamon mixture.

Add ice.
Pour in the cider and cranapple juice.

Add lime juice.
Stir.

Garnish with three sugar-coated cranberries on a cocktail pick.

Blue Ice Mocktini

Ingredients:
2 ounces of Blue Curacao syrup
8 ounces of Sprite
Squeeze of lemon juice
1 ounce sugar syrup
Orange, quartered
White sugar on a plate
Ice

Directions:
Pour first four ingredients over ice.

Stir.
Rub orange around martini glass rim.

Twist rim into sugar, coating well.
Strain the drink mixture into martini glass.

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

HABITAT:

Continued from page 5B

is completely volunteered and is a true testament to churches coming together to help our community."

The HGPP consists of volunteers from more than six churches located in the five Grosse Pointes. Their involvement includes outreach funding and volunteerism, including a monthly volunteer workday known as "Second Saturday."

The group's donation was made in honor of Evelyn Brown, Habitat's former chief executive officer, experienced community development professional and champion of affordable housing initiatives. Brown served as Habitat Detroit's board president and senior vice president for the national Local Initiatives Support Corporation, as well as held senior positions with Mayor Dennis



COURTESY PHOTO

Evelyn Brown is presented a plaque in honor of her years of service with Habitat for Humanity Detroit.

Archer's Administration in Detroit.

"Evelyn is such a passionate leader," Fly said. "It was truly a benefit to the organization to receive her knowledge and expertise. She will always be a friend to Habitat Detroit and the GPP."

Brown retired from Habitat Detroit in June.

The financial gift from HGPP will help provide critical home repair assistance to individuals and families in need, as well as continue to build better homes and stronger communities within southeast Detroit.

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Find a Pet a Home

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Yorki - 1 yr
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Meet "Aldo"
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Sponsored by: John Brown
gpaas.org • 313-884-1551

Meet "Byron"
Pug
Curious & Friendly
Sponsored by: Anonymous
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Meet "Belle"
Grey Senior
Active and Affectionate
Sponsored by: Marc Owen
gpaas.org • 313-884-1551

Meet "Mutt"
Choc Lab
Playful & Friendly
Sponsored by: Tina & Matt Prescott
gpaas.org • 313-884-1551

Meet "Silky"
DSH - 10 yrs
Little Princess, Very Sweet
Sponsored by: Bob Smythe
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Meet "Chelsea"
Tabby
Huggable & Affectionate
Sponsored by: The Markson Family
gpaas.org • 313-884-1551

Meet "Dingo"
Boxer Pug
Happy & Laid Back
Sponsored by: Debra Louis Jefferson
gpaas.org • 313-884-1551

When readers sponsor a GPAAS adoptable pet, your sponsored pet will be seen in the Grosse Pointe News Classifieds, maximizing their chance to find a good home!

AND a \$10 donation will go to GPAAS for every ad posted, to help them all year.

Grosse Pointe News classifieds

To sponsor a pet and help GPAAS find homes for more fur babies: **CALL 313-343-5567**

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Including Christmas Eve!

At the Dirty Dog we take the health and safety of our patrons and staff seriously. We will continue our curbside carryout service and invite you to enjoy our fine menu items in your own home. We look forward to being able to provide in-person entertainment and fine dining again soon.

Curbside & Carryout Menu

NEW! FAMILY DINNERS

Feeds 4 to 6 people

-Entree Dinners-

- 1) **Chicken Breast Dinner:** Sautéed breast of chicken with sauce selection (Marsala, Tomato Mozzarella, or Piccata) Served with mashed potatoes and green beans. **\$50**
- 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**

All for pickup only by 5pm end of day. Cut off for family dinner orders will be 3pm.

INDIVIDUAL LUNCHESES & DINNERS

Soup/Salads

Smoked Tomato - \$5.00 Soup du Jour - \$5.00

Caesar Salad - \$9.00

Organic Garden Salad - \$9.00

Vinaigrette or creamy buttermilk dressing

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

Served with red or white sauce

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

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The Helm for the holidays

Volunteers distribute goods, comfort for Christmas

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

For more than 20 years, volunteers at The Helm at the Boll Life Center have packaged and delivered gift baskets to homebound seniors for the holidays.

Despite complications due to COVID-19, industrious staff with the organization found a way to keep the tradition alive while keeping everyone safe.

“One big change is we couldn’t have volunteers assemble the bags because of the state orders,” said Heidi Uhlig-Johnstone, volunteer coordinator at The Helm. “Also, instead of baskets, we did bags to keep it more sanitized.”

The Helm staff members took the place of volunteers to assemble 103 gift bags last week, filling them with non-perish-



The Helm staff packed bags for more than 100 homebound seniors in Harper Woods and the Grosse Pointes.

able food items, paper products, toiletries, puzzles, games and various sundries.

“They’ve been so helpful to fill the void of the volunteers for me this year,” Uhlig-Johnstone said. “Without them I would have had to do it

all myself.”

Volunteers still were part of the project, with 13 of them collecting the bags from The Helm Friday, Dec. 18, and making sure they were delivered by Thursday, Dec. 24.

Items that made up the

gift bags were donated by various members of the community.

“The community was super generous this year,” Uhlig-Johnstone said, noting efforts by a Facebook group, some of The Helm’s board members and other Grosse



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Heidi Uhlig-Johnstone, volunteer coordinator, shows Mark and Shelley Eells what is in the bags they will be delivering.

Pointe and Harper Woods residents. “I’m so grateful for that.

“Especially this year, it brings a visit and some happiness” to homebound seniors, she added. “With everything that’s going on, a lot of people need that extra smile to put on their faces.”

A new addition to the gift bags this year is non-fleece blankets.

“We weren’t sure how many items of food we’d get, so we wanted an additional gift for the seniors,” Uhlig-

Johnstone said. Blankets were donated by individuals, as well as Lakeshore Senior Living, Sunrise Senior Living, Beaumont Hospice and Home Care, Home Instead, Nursing Unlimited and The Helm’s Blanketed with Love group.

“Everyone’s been generous,” she added. “Thank you to the community and to everyone who supported us this year. I was worried we would not have enough items, so a big thank-you to the community for all their support.”



COURTESY PHOTO

Sweet dreams

Beaumont Health’s annual “Moonbeams for Sweet Dreams” took place virtually this year. The event is meant to let children who are in the hospital during the month of December know they are not forgotten. This year, because of COVID-19, the health system asked participants to send photos and videos so they could make a collage for hospitalized children.

Members of Junior Girl Scout Troop 76543 each created a letter to spell out “Sweet Dreams” as their message for the video they created. They also donated funds from Girl Scout cookie sales to “Moonbeams for Sweet Dreams.”

Pictured top row, from left, are Abbey Daniell, Matilda Konieczki, Eva Grose, Bethany Strong and Noelle Huchingson; and bottom row, from left, are Jordyn Dearing, Lucy Caulfield, Phoebe Francis, Verity Suson, Emily LeBlanc and Jordan LeBlanc.

Protecting women’s mental health during the COVID-19 pandemic

By Asha Shajahan, MD, MHSA
Guest Writer

Research shows that as early as age 5, girls develop self-limiting beliefs that they’re not as smart and capable as boys. They may stop believing in themselves and start listening to cultural stereotypes. But as more women assume new roles in society, the more examples young girls have that they can be whatever they want to be.

But COVID-19 is demonstrating otherwise. The pandemic led to a large increase in childcare and housework, with the closing of schools and the inability to outsource. There has been increased involvement with men in housework and childcare, but most of the burden has fallen on women. In the U.S., 55 percent of employed women do housework compared to 18 percent of men, and women tend to spend twice the amount of time with their children than men do. The COVID-19 crisis has increased gender inequalities. Recent data from the U.S. Department of Labor states 865,000 women left the workforce in September, nearly four times more than the number of men.

If we want women to stay in the workforce during the pandemic, in addition to targeted economic policy it’s also important to invest in mental health resources. More than 20 percent of American women already struggle with depression or anxiety, according to the Office on Women’s Health. Nobody is spared from the emotional toll of COVID-19, but women are almost three times as likely as men to report suffering from significant mental health consequences. I’ve observed the same trend in my medical practice since COVID-19 hit. One patient started sobbing during a virtual visit because her children wouldn’t stop interrupting her while she was trying to speak about her anxiety.

Some may wonder why women are more susceptible to depression than men. One reason is that a woman’s body is constantly changing from puberty, pregnancy and childbirth to menopause. Some of these physical and hormonal changes can trigger postpartum depression, premenstrual dysphoric disorder and perimenopausal depression. In addition, women often carry more domestic responsibilities than men with little support.

Many elements of the pandemic are out of our control, but here are some things we can do. If you are a working mom who is struggling, this top 10 list may help you.

1. Get at least 15 minutes of sunshine per day. Sunlight increases serotonin in the brain and also increases vitamin D production, both of which can elevate mood.

2. Spend 20 minutes outside. Whether on a park trail or just in a backyard, nature boosts endorphins.

Just dress appropriately for the weather.

3. Exercise at least 30 minutes daily. Don’t have time? Break it up into three 10-minute segments in between Zoom meetings. This includes using free weights and not only aerobic exercise.

4. Get adequate sleep. It’s tempting to scroll and scroll through social media at bedtime, but put the device away and enjoy about eight hours of sleep. Having trouble with this? Read up on proper sleep hygiene.

5. Try a change in scenery. This can be going for a short drive or a trip to a place you haven’t explored. Even just for a few hours, this can provide increased stimulation.

6. Unplug from devices. This halts the constant flow of messages and the never-ending multi-tasking. Try this during meals or for one hour before you go to bed.

7. Practice kindness. Send an uplifting text to a friend or family member. Share a compliment to a friend or coworker. Reach out to a person you haven’t spoken to in a while. These acts of kindness will not only lift others, but will provide you with the endorphin boost you may need.

8. Talk to a trained professional. If you’re feeling detached from others, extremely negative or unable to complete your daily tasks, these are signs to seek professional help. If you’re struggling with hopelessness, suicidal thoughts or addiction to food or illegal substances, a medical professional can help you regain control of your life.

9. Be at the table when COVID-19 decisions are being made in the workplace. Be present or at least have a female representative at meetings about COVID-19 relief for employees.

10. Use an employee resource group. Women employee resource groups can be crucial, as well as employee well-being services with coaching, mentoring and counseling opportunities available. These can help tremendously with decreasing anxiety, feeling heard and developing a plan for one’s success at work and at home.

If we want to be safe from COVID-19, protecting women’s mental health is almost as important as masking up and social distancing. To prevent women from continuing to be disproportionately affected by this pandemic, we need to keep women in the workforce and provide them with the mental health support they need and deserve. Everyone can use a little more help than usual during this crisis, so let’s not forget to support our women.

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 or visit healthygphw.org.

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE FARMS
CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING SUMMARY

Virtual Meeting	Monday, December 14, 2020	7:00 p.m.
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A regularly scheduled meeting of the City Council for the City of Grosse Pointe Farms was held virtually and called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, December 14, 2020, by Mayor Louis Theros.

Present: Mayor Louis Theros, Mayor Pro Tem Joe Ricci, Councilmembers John J. Gillooly, James C. Farquhar, Beth Konrad-Wilberding, Neil Sroka and Lev Wood.

Absent: None.

Mayor Theros led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council approved the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting held on November 9, 2020.

Council adjourned and reconvened as the Board of Zoning Appeals.

The Board of Zoning Appeals granted two dimensional variances to the owner of the property located at 60 Tonnancour Road.

The Board of Zoning Appeals tabled considering an application from the owner of the property located at 115 Lake Shore Road for two dimensional variances until January 11, 2021.

Board of Zoning Appeals adjourned and reconvened as City Council.

Council approved a PILOT agreement with the Grosse Pointe War Memorial.

Council approved an agreement with the Grosse Pointe Farms-City Little League.

Council approved the 2021 City Council Regular Meeting Schedule. Regular meetings will take place the second Monday of each month with the exception of the May 11, 2021 meeting. All meetings will start at 7:00 p.m. Visit www.grossepointefarms.org for details.

Council approved the Consent Agenda.

- Consideration of resolution regarding Wayne County Annual Permit renewals.
- Consideration of a request from Administration to approve the 2021 Administrative Fee Schedule.
- Consideration of a request from the City Controller/Treasurer to approve November 2020 invoices.

Council received the November 2020 Public Safety Report.

Council heard public comment.

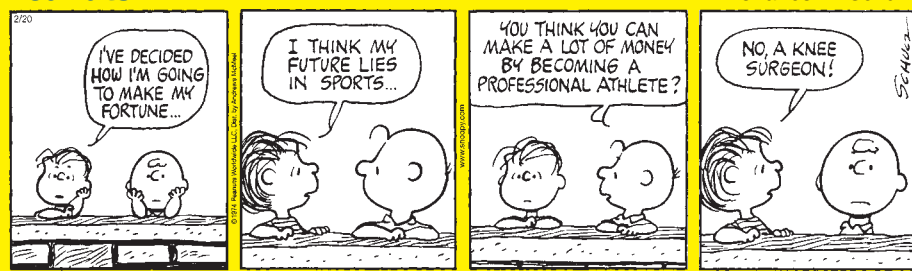
Mayor Theros adjourned the regular meeting at 8:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Derrick Kozicki, City Clerk.

Published: Grosse Pointe News 12/24/2020

Comics and Puzzles

Peanuts



Charles M. Schulz

Garfield



Jim Davis

Dilbert



Scott Adams

Over The Hedge



Michael Fry and T. Lewis

F Minus



Tony Carrillo

Marmaduke



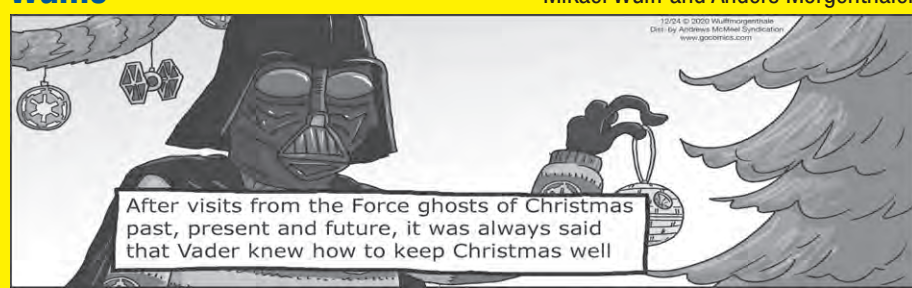
Paul & Brad Anderson

Ziggy



Tom Wilson

Wumbo



Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler

Reality Check



Dave Whamond

Flying McCoys



Glenn McCooy

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg December 24, 2020

ACROSS

- 1 Healing sign
- 5 Kayla Harrison's Olympic martial art
- 9 "I have a secret to tell you!"
- 13 Merchandise
- 15 Way, way, way off
- 16 Nebraska native
- 17 Tree topper option
- 18 Carbonated drink
- 19 ___ or less
- 20 "Way to go!"
- 22 Wishing, with "that"
- 24 "Told ya!"
- 25 Aunt, in Spain
- 26 Actress Torres
- 27 *Request at a ball
- 32 U-turn from NNW
- 34 Ireland, on a euro
- 35 Get dressed in
- 36 *Something hideous
- 41 Programming pioneer Lovelace
- 42 Quaint reply to a woman
- 43 Pooh's hopping pal
- 44 *Football player who makes a catch
- 49 Bread end
- 50 Breeze, essentially
- 51 Org. that battles cartels
- 54 Stores up
- 57 Wizard who said the quote formed by the starred answers' first words
- 59 The Des Moines Register's state
- 60 Apt-sounding surname for an Uber driver
- 62 French greeting
- 63 Fraction of an ounce
- 64 Based on a ___ story
- 65 Plumbing or roofing
- 66 Terrier type named for a Scottish isle
- 67 Google find
- 68 Feature of a big cake
- 11 Miffed
- 12 Casual tops
- 14 DMV animal in "Zootopia"
- 21 Org. that tweets spot-the-difference puzzles
- 23 Takes cover
- 27 Where many fish live
- 28 "I wanna try it!"
- 29 It can be cutting or sparkling
- 30 Pacific salmon
- 31 Sinus doc
- 32 Kids' party drink
- 33 Put aside for the future
- 36 Down time?
- 37 Ritual combustible stacks
- 38 Votes in again
- 39 Corner PC key
- 40 Like some verbs: Abbr.
- 45 Kind of seed in halvah
- 46 "My thoughts exactly"
- 47 By means of
- 48 ___ & Young
- 51 Lead-in to "Lama"
- 52 Give the slip
- 53 On the trail of
- 54 Helps
- 55 Mindy's partner on an old sitcom
- 56 Draped Indian garment
- 58 Tavern missile
- 61 Same old routine

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

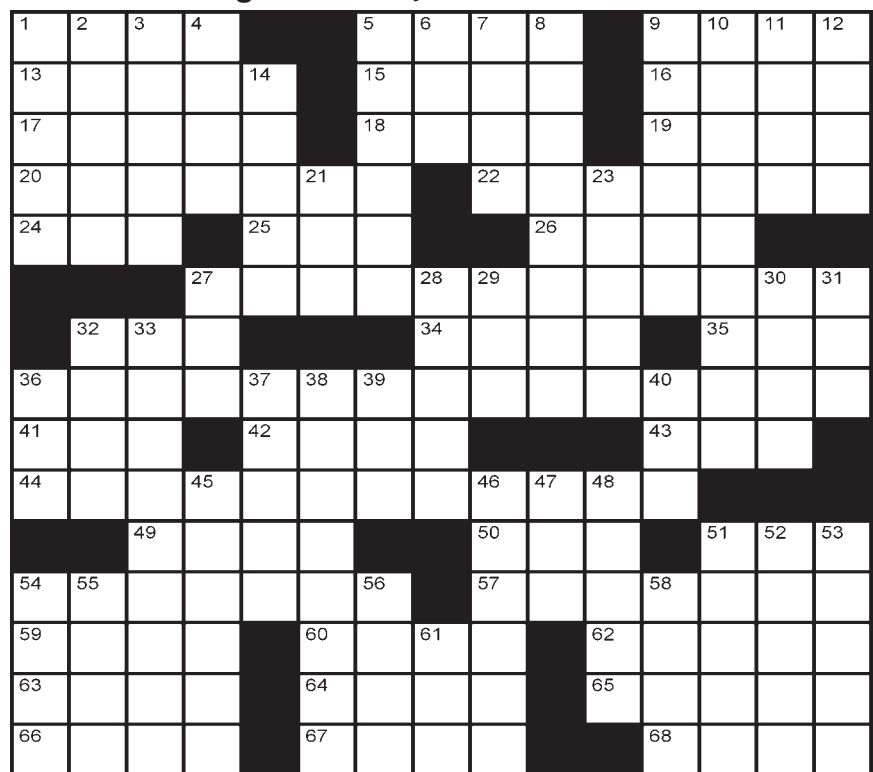
B	A	G	S	E	R	E	T	H	U	D
L	U	R	E	M	I	X	R	I	F	E
A	R	I	A	B	B	C	E	B	O	N
B	A	T	T	L	E	L	O	V	E	
		T	E	R	R	A	F	I	R	M
W	H	O	L	E	H	I	T	N	I	L
H	I	V	E	J	I	M	A	I	N	T
E	K	E	J	A	N	I	M	A	G	O
T	E	R	R	A	C	O	T	T	A	
		H	A	W	K	R	A	Z	O	R
A	B	E	L	P	O	I	I	D	O	L
P	E	A	L	O	W	L	N	O	M	E
E	D	D	Y	T	E	L	G	R	O	W

12/17

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www.upuzzles.com

12/24

Magic Words by Lita and Tass Williams



UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

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

Complete the grid so every row, column and 3 x 3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

Previous puzzle solution

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

12/24

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★☆

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12/17

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

3C SANTA TRACKER | 4C COCKTAIL & COOKIE RECIPES | 6C HOLIDAY PET CONTEST

A CHRISTMAS STORY: The Cat on the Dovrefjell

An ancient Christmas tale as most famously collected and retold by Peter Christen Asbjørnsen and Jørgen Moe in *Norske Folkeeventyr*, published 1841.

In the olden days in the frozen north where the sun shone dim, there was a hunter of the Fenni people, the name of Peer Gynt, who had caught a great ice bear up in the endless tundra, which he was going to take to the great king, Ragnar Lodbrok. Now, it so fell out, that Peer came to the mountainous lands of the Dovrefjell just about Christmas Eve, and there he turned into a small holdfast where a man lived with his family, whose name was Halvor, and asked the man if he could get room for the night for his bear and himself.



“Heaven never help me, if what I say isn’t true!” said the man; “but we cannot give anyone hearth and home just now, for every Christmas Eve

our own heads, to say nothing of lending one to anyone else.” “Oh?” said the great hunter, “if that’s all, you can very well lend me your house; my

with no other hope decided to rely upon Peer so they fled, and before they went, everything was made ready for the trolls; the tables were laid, and

all else that was good, just as for any other grand feast of the Midwinter.

Peer thought he should be able to clear the trolls out – he had done such a thing before and knew their weaknesses. The ice bear, known as Björn, lay down behind the fireplace, and Peer took out his awl, and began making a big shoe, which it took a whole pig’s skin to make. He put a strong rope in for laces, that he might pull the shoe tightly together, and, finally, he armed himself with a couple of snow axes.

So, when everything was ready and the fire burned low, down from the frozen waterfalls in the high places came the trolls. Some were great, and some were small; some had long tails, and some had no tails at all; some, too, had long, long noses

and others protruding teeth; and they smashed their way into the house and attacked the feast, and they ate and drank, and tasted everything. They had a fiddler with them, and some began dancing, while others fell to eating the Christmas fare on the table – while others ate fried frogs and toads, and other nasty things which they had brought with them.

During their capering some of the trolls found the shoe Peer

had made. They thought it must belong to a very big foot. They all wanted to try it on at once, so they put a foot each into it; so Peer made haste and tightened the rope, took one of the snow axes and fastened the rope round it, and got them at last securely tied up in the shoe.

At the same time one of the little trolls caught sight of the tip of the ice bear’s nose, peeking out behind the

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such a pack of trolls come down upon us, that we are forced to flee, and haven’t so much as a house over

bear can lie under the fireplace yonder, and I can sleep in the side-room.” Halvor and his kin,

there was baked fish in bread, Koft Svinmålla, wheels of cheese and elk sausage, honey nut cake and Färskost, and



The Rivers Lights the Way to a Bright Holiday

Like many of us this year in the Grosse Pointes, The Rivers went the extra mile to “deck the halls” for Christmas. The senior living community never looked so magical as it does this year. In fact, when John and Terry Minnis saw how beautiful it looked one night last week after a light snow, they asked their summer photographic intern, Jack Ryan, a Grosse Pointe South student, to take a night drone shot of The Rivers. To say he succeeded speaks for itself! Thank you, CEO Rich Levin, and residents and staff at The Rivers for making our holidays brighter.

Drone photo by Jack Ryan, SkyView Aerial Productions



Celebrating Our Festive Community THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

From our unique businesses, traditional and new, to our proud area residents, it's easy to see what makes Grosse Pointe special. And no one puts more joy and enthusiasm into the holidays than Grosse Pointers! Here is a sampling of the many beautiful homes and businesses who have decked their halls to celebrate the holidays

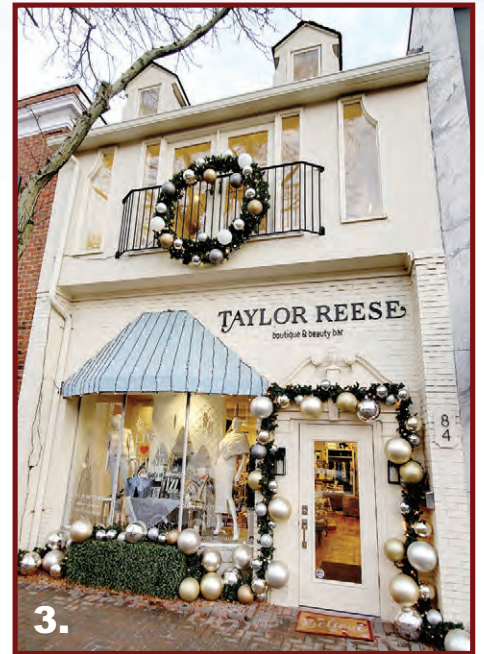


Photo by Carly Russell

Photo by Christie Wadsworth



1. Signature Sotheby's is looking fresh for the holidays
2. Capricious makes it easy to be green
3. Taylor Reese Boutique is always pretty
4. Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe's decorations are music to Grosse Pointe's ears
5. The 1100 block of Buckingham has Santa hiding
6. The Grosse Pointe Chamber shines like gold
7. The 400 block of University got a visit from Frosty the Snowman
8. It's a Blue Christmas in the 1100 block of Buckingham
9. The 1000 block of Devonshire's got a sweet tooth
10. The 100 block of Lothrop simply glows
11. A wayward reindeer got "hung up" in the 100 block of Cranford
12. Everything's "Frozen" except GP hearts at the Christmas
13. Multicolor lights brighten the night in Grosse Pointe
14. Everyone's favorite elf is on the 100 block of Meriwether
15. The Force is strong on the 600 block of Notre Dame

Photos by Renee Landuyt

'Twas The Night Before Christmas

By Clement C. Moore
Special to the Grosse
Pointe News

GROSSE POINTE —
'Twas the night before
Christmas, when all
through the house

Not a creature was
stirring, not even a
mouse;

The stockings were
hung by the chimney
with care

In hopes that St.
Nicholas soon would be
there;

The children were
nestled all snug in their
beds,

While visions of sugar-
plums danced in their
heads;

And mamma in her
kerchief, and I in my
cap,

Had just settled our
brains for a long win-
ter's nap,

When out on the lawn
there arose such a clat-
ter,

When, what to my
wondering eyes should
appear,

But a miniature sleigh,
and eight tiny reindeer,
With a little old driver,
so lively and quick,

I knew in a moment it
must be St. Nick.

More rapid than eagles
his coursers they came,
And he whistled, and
shouted, and called
them by name:

"Now, Dasher! now,
Dancer! now, Prancer
and Vixen!

On, Comet! on, Cupid!
on, Donder and Blitzen!
To the top of the porch!

To the top of the wall!
Now dash away! dash
away! dash away all!"

As dry leaves that
before the wild hurri-
cane fly,

When they meet with
an obstacle, mount to
the sky; So up to the
house-top the coursers
they flew,

With the sleigh full of



He was dressed all in
fur, from his head to his
foot,

And his clothes were
all tarnished with ashes
and soot;

A bundle of Toys he
had flung on his back,
And he looked like a
peddler just opening his
pack.

His eyes – how they
twinkled! his dimples
how merry!

His cheeks were like
roses, his nose like a
cherry!

His droll little mouth
was drawn up like a bow,
And the beard of his
chin was as white as the
snow. The stump of a
pipe he held tight in his
teeth,

And the smoke, it
encircled his head like a
wreath;

He had a broad face
and a little round belly,
That shook when he
laughed, like a bowlful
of jelly.

He was chubby and
plump, a right jolly old
elf,

And I laughed when I
saw him, in spite of
myself;

A wink of his eye and
a twist of his head,
Soon gave me to
know I had nothing to
dread;

He spoke not a word,
but went straight to his
work,

And filled all the
stockings; then turned
with a jerk,

And laying his finger

aside of his nose,
And giving a nod, up
the chimney he rose;

He sprang to his
sleigh, to his team gave
a whistle,

And away they all
flew like the down of a
thistle.

But I heard him
exclaim, ere he drove
out of sight,

"Happy Christmas to
all, and to all a good-
night."

Author Clement Clarke Moore, 1779-1863, was an American scholar and teacher. This iconic poem, also known as "A Visit from St. Nicholas", was reportedly written to entertain his five children. A serious theological scholar, he was reluctant to publish such a light piece, and only did so at the urging of his children. Thanks to them, generations have enjoyed his delightful work.



I sprang from the bed
to see what was the mat-
ter.

Away to the window I
flew like a flash,
Tore open the shutters
and threw up the sash.

The moon on the
breast of the new-fallen
snow

Gave the lustre of mid-
day to objects below,

Toys, and St. Nicholas
too.

And then, in a twin-
kling, I heard on the roof
The prancing and
pawing of each little
hoof.

As I drew in my head,
and was turning around,
Down the chimney St.

Nicholas came with a
bound.



Hey, Kids! Here's a Fun Way for You to Wait for Santa...

RAINY DAY ART & FRAMING CO.
CREATIVELY UNIQUE SINCE 1971
20507 Mack Avenue, Grosse Pointe Woods
(313) 881-6305
rainydayartco.com

GROSSE POINTE NEWS

Santa TRACKER

Follow Santa's Journey to Grosse Pointe!

Are you getting excited? We are! Here's a fun way for you to track the progress of Santa and his reindeer, including Rudolph, as they visit all the children of the world! Just go to noradsanta.org to see where Santa is throughout Christmas Eve night and plot him on this map as he makes his way to your house. Draw a line to each new place he visits. Color in the continents and landmarks as he travels through all the wonderful places that people call home. Here comes Santa Claus!

4C | RECIPES

Mistletoe Margaritas, a zesty holiday kiss



Mistletoe Margarita

By the staff at Red Crown, designed especially for this holiday season

First chill your traditional Cobbler Cocktail Shaker.

Then prepare your glass(es):

Cut a notch in a lime and run the notch around the rim of a tall glass until the rim is

coated in lime juice.

Then turn the glass over and press into a bowl of sea salt with lime garnish to make a perfectly coated rim.

Chill the glass for 5 minutes.

Next, mix the following into the cobbler, each mixture makes one drink.

1.5 ounces of Jose Cuervo Tequila

.5 ounces of Triple Sec Liqueur

.5 ounces of simple cocktail syrup

1 ounce of pomegranate juice

.5 ounces of freshly squeezed lime juice

Shake together briskly and pour over ice into your prepared glasses.

Merry Christmas! Enjoy!



Spicy Christmas Snickerdoodles

By Chef Justin Kurtz with Cutting Edge Cuisine

Makes about 3 dozen

Cook time: about 30 minutes

Ingredients:

5 1/2 cups all-purpose flour

4 teaspoons baking powder

1 teaspoon coarse salt

2 cup (4 sticks) unsalted butter, room temperature

3 cups plus 4 tablespoons sugar

5 large eggs

5 teaspoons ground Ceylon Cinnamon

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Sift together flour, baking powder, and salt into a bowl. Put butter and 1 1/2 cups sugar in a bowl of an electric mixer fitted with the paddle attachment. Mix on medium speed until pale and fluffy, about 3 minutes. Mix in eggs. Reduce speed to low; gradually mix in flour mixture.

2. Stir together cinnamon and remaining 2 tablespoons sugar in a small bowl. Shape dough into 20 1 3/4 inch balls; roll in cinnamon sugar. Space 3 inches apart on baking sheets lined with parchment paper.

3. Bake cookies, rotating sheets halfway through, until edges are golden, 12 to 15 minutes. Let cool on sheets on wire racks. Cookies can be stored between layers of parchment in airtight containers at room temperature up to 3 days.



HOLIDAY PHOTO CONTEST



2020 has been a year for the books!

What better way to wrap up the year than with your funniest, cutest, most heartwarming or most beautiful holiday pictures?

Show us how YOU and yours are celebrating this unusual holiday and making the most of it.

- Families
- Couples
- Kids
- Santa fails
- Food fails
- Decor
- Grosse Pointe scenery
- Be creative!

1st Prize \$100

2nd Prize \$50

3rd Prize \$25

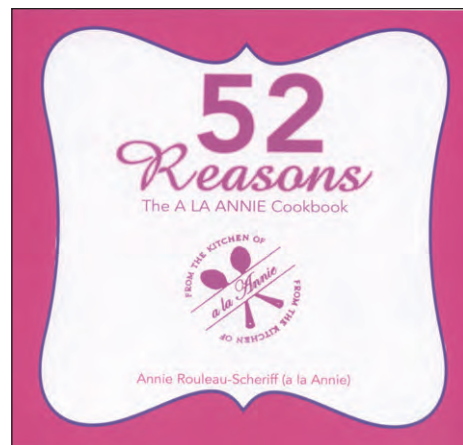
Will be published in 12/31 issue along with some honorable mentions.

Submit photos with photo credit info to media@grossepointenews.com

Must be received by Monday, 12/28/20 at noon.

Annie's Back!

Just in time for Christmas, Annie Rouleau-Scheriff, who wrote her weekly recipe column "a la Annie" for 20 years for the Grosse Pointe News beginning back in 1996, has just released her own cookbook, "52 Reasons." "I chose '52 Reasons' as the title of my cookbook to represent the number of recipes that I submitted to the newspaper each year," Annie wrote in the back of the book. "It is my hope that these recipes (that I cherish) will give you a reason to step into your kitchen and find the joy that I do when cooking." "52 Reasons" is being sold at Atelier GP and Notre Dame Pharmacy in The Village. Cost is \$25.99.



Copies can also be purchased by contacting Annie at alaannie@hotmail.com or by calling her at (313) 231-2411. For Grosse Pointers and nearby residents, she will even deliver!

CAT


Continued from page 1C

fireplace; so he took a piece of sausage and stuck it on a fork, and went and poked it up against the bear's nose, screaming out: "Here little kitty, will you have some sausage?"

Then the ice bear rose up to his full

height, his head brushing the rafters and growled in his language, and Peer yelled out, "Atganga Björn!" and the bear got so angry that he rushed the trolls with a mighty roar and slashed them all over while Peer took the other snow axe out and protected the great bear's flank. The ice bear then chased them out into

the night and hunted the whole pack of them into the high places. And good Peer enjoyed the whole Christmas fare to himself. After that Christmas Eve the trolls were not heard of there for many many years, fearing the great cat of Halvor, who himself lived in peace with his family from all things trollish until the end of their days.



Nine Man Morris

Here's a holiday game for you and your family to enjoy... Also known as Ninepenny Marl, Nine-Man Morris is a strategy game for two players that has been played for over two thousand years and was popular when the Roman Empire was young.

*"The nine men's morris is fill'd
up with mud,*

*And the quaint mazes in
the wanton green*

*For lack of tread are
indistinguishable."*

A Midsummer Night's Dream
by the Bard of Avon, 1595

RULES:

Start with nine "men" for each player. The men can consist of two types of beans, coins or red and green candies.

The purpose of the game is to form 'mills'—three of your own men lined up in a row of contiguous intersections, either horizontally or vertically. When you form a mill you get to remove one of your opponent's men. You can only remove a piece in your opponent's mill if there are no other pieces to remove.

The game ends when either you or your opponent only has two men left or one of you cannot make a legal move. The winner has the most men.

Phase I: Place your men

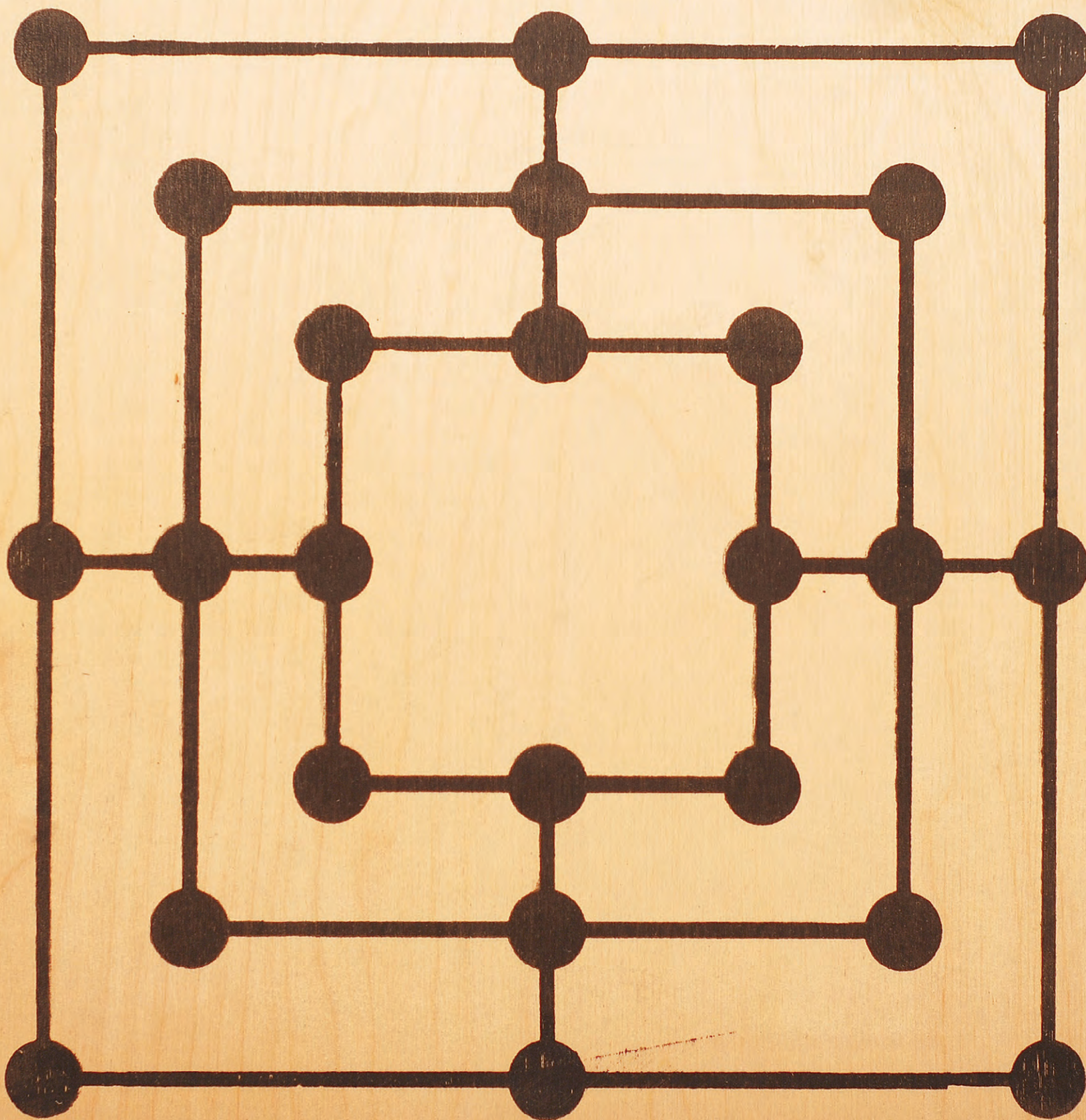
Play rock, scissors, paper to determine who gets to lay down the first piece. The winner should place their piece first with each player alternating thereafter. If you form a mill during this phase you still get to remove one of your opponent's men.

Phase II: Moving your men

After all men have been placed you can begin to move your men to an adjacent point along one of the lines. A piece may not "jump" another piece. Alternating moves, you and your opponent continue to form mills to remove each other's men. You may "break" a mill by moving one of your pieces out of an existing mill and then reform that mill to take another of your opponent's men.

Phase III: Flying

If one of you only has three men left then that player can begin flying. Flying allows you to move a piece to any open point on the board.



6C | HOLIDAY PET CONTEST

Pets Add More Joy to the Season

Congratulations to Charlie, our prize-winning holiday pet! Charlie's mom will receive the top prize of a custom pet portrait from talented local artist Jackie Listman!

A very BIG thank you to all the sweet pets on this page for letting our Grosse Pointe community see how great you look in your holiday finery!



WINNER:
Charlie
Heidi Slattery



Tika
The Wadsworths



Brady
The Family Harris



Cooper
Pembroke



Brady
Regan
Stolarski



Eddie



Louie
Clare Conway



Smurfy and
Cinnamon



Sylvio



Sampson and Murphy
The Thams Family



POTUS
Stephanie
Roehl



Finnegan
and Bear
Mike and Bee



Ramone



Maizie, Maddie,
Willie and Odin



Ruby



Bandit



Jesse



Derby
Griffin