

COVID-19 CASES UPDATE - 1/12

	Cases	Deaths
All Pointes	2,075 (+93)	48 (+3)
Harper Woods	658 (+32)	40 (+1)

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Grosse Pointe News

VOL. 82, NO. 02, 18 PAGES
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JANUARY 14, 2021
GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

Clock ticking to fill Poloni's shoes

Director search underway in City, Park

By Laurel Kraus and Kate Vanderstelt
Staff Writers

GROSSE POINTE CITY AND PARK — With Park and City Public Safety Director Stephen Poloni set to leave his position Monday, Jan. 25, to become city manager in the Shores, the clock is counting down for a new director — or directors — to be named. While officials from both cities have yet

to confirm whether there will be two separate public safety directors or not, each city is conducting a separate search. “(The City of Grosse Pointe) city manager and I have talked that Chief Poloni was a very special case,” Grosse Pointe Park City Manager Nick Sizeland said. “He had a very unique experience being able to manage both departments. From a public safety standpoint, it was quite amazing that he

was able to handle that duty. We would have to have a very significant candidate to be able to handle both Grosse Pointe City and Park. We are going about an individual process, but that does not leave the option unavailable.” City of Grosse Pointe City Manager Pete Dame agreed that a joint director still could

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Round 2 of TIFA grants begins

By Kate Vanderstelt
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — The Tax Increment Finance Authority approved a second round of the COVID-19 Reopening Assistance Program at a board meeting Tuesday, Jan. 5. City Manager Nick Sizeland proposed the second round, explaining that, like the first

round, the grants will give businesses in the TIFA district assistance with any COVID-19-related expenses. For restaurants, this may include expenses like outdoor tables and chairs, temporary fencing, outdoor lighting, heaters and expansion of online ordering capabilities. For businesses, this could include

See TIFA, page 2A

Hall resigns after three months

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — In the short period since August 2019, the Shores has experienced the turnover of every department head and now is heading toward a second round. Hired early October 2020 to fill the city's department head vacancy of finance officer/treasurer, Cathy Hall

turned in her resignation approximately a month ago, according to Interim City Manager Tom Krolczyk. Since then, he said, the city has been in negotiations to try to keep Hall on as long as it could, but her official last day with the Shores will be Friday, Jan. 15. The position was posted on the Michigan

See RESIGN, page 2A



PHOTO COURTESY OF BEAUMONT HEALTH

Dr. Nick Gilpin is the first Beaumont Health employee to receive the second dose of the Pfizer vaccine Tuesday, Jan. 5.

Beaumont rolls out second dose of vaccine

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

As the first Beaumont Health employee to receive the initial dose of the Pfizer vaccine in mid-December, Dr. Nick Gilpin, medical director at Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe and Beaumont Health director of epidemiology and infection prevention, also became the first to

receive the second dose, as the health system began the first administrations of it Tuesday, Jan. 5. Similar to the first dose, he reported experiencing very little reaction, with just minor arm soreness. “I was very fortunate, I think,” he said. “I really had minimal to no side effects. Others that I’ve spoken to have had a lit-

tle bit more exuberant reaction to the second dose, but I have not heard any reports of anyone having such a bad reaction that they had to stay home from work or anything like that, at this point.” Reactions can be an exaggerated version of what the person experienced with the first dose, he added, and are commonly soreness in the

arm, a low-grade fever or fatigue. The reaction typically will start around 24 hours after the shot, usually lasting only a few hours and gone by the next day. While it still is a theory, those who have had COVID-19 seem to have much more significant reactions from the first injection, according to

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Resident donations cover cost of public safety project

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — The \$21,050 purchase of 19 new sidearms and accompanying equipment for the Shores Public Safety Department has been fully funded without use of public safety budget funds, thanks to five generous residents who made donations to the depart-

ment leading up to the holiday season. With approximately \$17,000 supplied by the residents, the department was able to cover the rest of the cost through sale of the old sidearms, with city council unanimously approving the purchase during its December meeting. The Smith & Wesson M&P 9mm semi-automatic pistols are

expected to be implemented in February, and became necessary after the department was informed its current sidearm model no longer would be supported with parts and service. “This is also a project (that) when completed, will service this department for 10 years beyond, so it’s a complete transition with no hit to the budget,” Director of Public Safety John

Schulte explained, “and not only is it necessary, but this has been an easy path to accomplish this project.” The donations also allowed the department to purchase advanced sight optics and rail-mounted flashlights, as well as new Safariland Level III security holsters, which the department

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Pointer of INTEREST

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Jack Stander
Home: Grosse Pointe Woods
Lifelong athlete puts hockey career on hold during pandemic

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Sharrow brings propeller business to Detroit

By Kate Vanderstelt
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — After moving away for quite some time, Greg Sharrow, of Sharrow Engineering, has moved his family back to the Park with new headquarters for business in Detroit.

Sharrow grew up in the Park, but moved away when he went to college in California at Berklee College of Music, where he got a degree in classical composition. He dove into the world of production, which eventually led him to engineering.

“My career led me to a point where I was developing very advanced digital (cinematography),” Sharrow said. During his work, he became interested in potentially incorporating drones into productions.

“That led me to think of solutions for the noise that propellers create during flight,” Sharrow explained. “That led me to start thinking about propellers and the tips of the propellers.”

Sharrow said he was returning from walking his dog one day when he said to his wife, “I just invented the world’s most efficient propeller.”

She gave him a funny look and Sharrow’s



COURTESY PHOTO

A product of Sharrow Engineering.

engineering project began.

The idea was to build a tiplless propeller. After constructing the idea and plans for it, it was time to find Sharrow’s propeller a new home. The business had been operating out of Philadelphia, but sourcing from companies across the country. He wanted a central location for his MX-1 Propeller, which was going to break new ground.

Around one year ago, Sharrow was con-

tacted by a group in Detroit who asked if he needed help with manufacturing. Sharrow came to Detroit to meet with the group.

As he considered the option of moving this development back to his hometown, he grew excited. “Detroit made the most sense,” he said. “The resources we most needed were here. My own hometown is the best place to manufacture.”

“I was just blown away,” Sharrow continued. “The idea that we could bring big propeller manufacturing back to Detroit was just incredible to me.”

So, in March, they packed up and moved headquarters for the MX-1 Propeller to Detroit.

The MX-1 Propeller was released to the recreational market in December 2019. It won the coveted 2020 Miami International Boat Show Innovation Award in February.

Sharrow said since moving they have discovered more and more about the opportunities Detroit holds they would have never been aware of had they not relocated.

Sharrow looks forward to being able to reconnect with old friends in the Park and continue to develop his family life here, while being able to bring jobs to and expand his business in Detroit.

SEARCH:

Continued from page 1A

be possible.

“If a candidate comes forward that might be well suited to do both, we would consider it,” Dame said via email.

Following is the current status of the hiring process in each city:

City of Grosse Pointe

The goal in the City is to select a director before Poloni leaves the position at the end of the month, according to Dame.

“As the person responsible for hiring department heads, including the public safety director, I expect to begin interviews next week for the public safety director position,” he said last week.

The position of public safety director is not appointed or approved by a vote of the city council in the City.

With applications due Jan. 8, the position was posted approximately a month ago both internally and publicly on sites including the Michigan Municipal League, City of Grosse Pointe website, National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives and Indeed.

“The City has undertaken an open process inviting applications for the important position of public safety director,” Dame said. “... An open process is one where anyone can apply and everyone who does apply will be considered.”

Grosse Pointe Park

When Poloni leaves the Park at the end of the month, Lt. Jim Bostock will serve as interim chief, allowing Sizeland to take his time with the process of selecting Poloni’s successor.

It is the responsibility of the city manager in the Park to select the director of the public safety department. The city council does not interact with the decision.

Sizeland will partner with Empco Inc., which “specializes in testing and consulting services for public safety and municipal government agencies,” according to its website.

Sizeland believes his partnership with Empco should help him find not only qualified candidates, but candidates who will be well suited to the Park community as well.

Internal candidates will be equally considered for the position and will have to undergo the same hiring processes as any external candidates.

In terms of a timeline, Sizeland said he is working diligently, but does not want to rush the process and risk sacrificing quality.

“We are working as fast as we can,” Sizeland said. “We really want to attract the best qualified candidates; we’re really doing a deep dive. I can imagine that by either the end of this week or early next week the job will be posted.”

That would put Sizeland at an end date for applications in mid-February and, if the hiring process goes smoothly, a candidate hiring date of late February or early March.

Stefek’s Auctions expands services throughout Michigan

Stefek’s Auctions, a full-service estate liquidation management company, is both innovating and growing despite challenging times for small businesses. It has kicked off 2021 with a schedule of events and is opening a northern Michigan office.

Earlier this month, Stefek’s hosted an online estate sale featuring furniture, artwork and accessories from its warehouse collection. This week, it hosts an online auction featuring an

eclectic mixture of mid-century modern furniture, sculpture and a unique collection of taxidermy. The week concludes with a two-day sale featuring the largest private tool collection in more than 25 years.

Stefek’s also is opening a northern Michigan office this winter to serve Traverse City/Suttons Bay and surrounding areas with professional appraisals and consultations.

In 2020, Grosse Pointe resident Lori Stefek and her team

addressed the pandemic by developing new safety protocols for patrons and redesigned their in-person sales procedures. They also created online estate sales and conducted virtual appraisals when appropriate. They expanded their online auctions and increased the inventory one can purchase online through the Buy It Now section of the website.

Stefek is a Certified Appraiser of Personal Property with the International Society of

Appraisers. The CAPP designation is the highest level of professional recognition that can be achieved within the ISA. She also is a member of ISA Private Client Services.

Demand for her home consultation services has grown substantially as people prepare to sell or downsize. Stefek serves as a trusted consultant to the legal and wealth management community, servicing estates

See EXPAND, page 4A

TIFA:

Continued from page 1A

expenses like Plexiglas installation.

The first round of TIFA-funded assistance came in August and was awarded through September. It aided businesses in the TIFA zone, including the Charlevoix and Kercheval business districts. Businesses that

received the grant included O’Flaherty’s bar and Cellar 313, among others.

Businesses that received funding in the first round of the program are eligible to receive funding in the second round, as well.

The first round was approved for \$50,000 in funding. At the board meeting, Sizeland explained only around \$30,000 was used in the

first round and he hopes to reallocate the leftover \$20,000 to this second round.

The board hopes to spread word about the assistance more effectively during this round to expand participation.

To apply, businesses in the TIFA district need to submit a letter of interest to tifa@grossepointepark.org, describing the assistance the business needs along

with a project budget. Applications opened Monday, Jan. 11, and all funded projects need to be completed and closed out by Friday, April 16.

Sizeland anticipates each business that applies will be able to receive the maximum \$5,000 grant with this amount of funding. If there is more demand than supply, he expects to return before the board to negotiate more

funding. Whether the state reopens indoor dining for restaurants or not, Sizeland affirmed the program will continue.

“We’re always looking to continue helping businesses in this difficult time,” Sizeland said.

More information regarding the COVID-19 Reopening Assistance Program may be found on the TIFA page at grossepointepark.org.

RESIGN:

Continued from page 1A

Municipal League website around two weeks ago.

Hall has worked in public accounting more than 20 years, providing services to nonprofits and all levels of government, and could not be reached to comment on her resignation by press time.

She was hired following the resignation of Rhonda Ricketts, 33-year finance officer/treasurer, who left due to an overbearing workload when city council did not fill important city positions for months on end, as well as in response to the council’s May decision to require retirees to pay 20 percent of their healthcare premiums.

“This last year we’ve been very short staffed and I’ve been tired of just working, working,

working,” Ricketts said at the time. “I’m salary. I’m here until my job gets done and they’ve made it very hard and then when they made that decision, I made my decision.”

“If our council would have acted differently, not only on the retiree healthcare, but getting us staff, I’d probably still be here for a couple more years.”

August 2019 saw the controversial retirement of seven-year City Manager Mark

Wollenweber, followed by the resignation announcements of eight-year Councilman Bruce Bisballe in November 2019, Ricketts in August 2020, 33-year Public Works Director Brett Smith in June 2020 and nine-year Public Safety Director John Schulte in October 2020. Schulte’s last day with the city will be Jan. 26.

Smith reported a recently toxic work environment in the city and has been outspoken

in his disappointment in the ethicality of council’s retiree healthcare changes, while Bisballe cited a lack of city leadership by council and the mayor.

“The Shores had a reputation, at least for the last eight years I would think, of being very fiscally prudent, really tightly run, no waste,” Bisballe said upon his departure, “and (now) people have agendas and they’re promoting those agendas with their projects.”

Grosse Pointe News

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PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

The aftermath of the house fire on Peach Tree Lane.

Homeowner uninjured in Woods house fire

By Kate Vanderstelt
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — At 7:17 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 10, the Grosse Pointe Woods Department of Public Safety received a report that the house at 694 Peach Tree Lane was in flames.

According to Director John Kosanke, the fire was noticed by the resident of the home, who reportedly told officers she heard sounds coming from near the home's furnace area. When she checked the area, she noticed flames.

When fire crews

arrived, they were unable to enter the home due to floor-to-ceiling possessions. Crews from the Shores, Farms and Harper Woods assisted Woods public safety, who remained on-scene more than eight hours.

After the fire had been contained and settled down, the house stood in a pile of rubble.

One of the officers on-scene sustained a minor injury, according to Kosanke. The resident of the home did not sustain any physical injuries from the fire.

The resident likely has been living there since the mid-1970s, Kosanke



PHOTO COURTESY OF JACK CRITCHFIELD

Firefighters respond to a house fire on Peach Tree Lane.

said, and many of her belongings were contained within the home — all of which is practically unsalvageable.

“That’s an extremely traumatic thing to go through,” Kosanke said.

As far as next steps go, Kosanke explained the city is in contact with a contractor who will fence off the lot.

“The insurance company is deciding if they’re going to send anybody out to pinpoint what happened,” he said.

No further injury was reported by neighbors. Grosse Pointe Equestrian, located in close proximity to the fire, confirmed that none of its animals were impacted in the event.



COURTESY PHOTO

Smoke pours from the house on Peach Tree Lane.

DOSE:

Continued from page 1A

Chief of Clinical Services for Beaumont Health Jeffrey Fischgrund, M.D., who is overseeing the vaccine rollout program.

“It’s just almost anecdotal,” he said. “It’s what we’re seeing in our patient population. We’ve heard enough reports around the country of people having more severe reactions if they’ve tested prior COVID positive.”

As of Tuesday, Jan. 6, the health system had administered more than 17,000 vaccinations, of which a little more than 500 were second doses.

When Beaumont began administering vaccines three weeks ago, it was able to vaccinate around 800 to 1,000 people a day, but beginning last week, it increased the capacity to 3,200 a day to account for now-needed second doses.

The FDA recommends receiving the second dose of the Pfizer vaccine after 21 days, plus or minus two.

The health system now is entering phase 1B, which includes those older than age 65, first responders and teachers, following Gov. Gretchen Whitmer’s announcement last week that the priority level could begin receiving vaccinations as early as this week.

Beaumont sent out a communication to patients older than 65 late Thursday, Jan. 7, inviting them to schedule the vaccine, which led to the Beaumont servers



PHOTOS COURTESY OF BEAUMONT HEALTH

The Beaumont Health System is administering 3,200 vaccinations a day at its Southfield Service Center.

maxing out Friday, when at one point more than 25,000 users simultaneously attempted to register for myBeaumont Chart.

Nearly 9,000 patients activated their accounts Friday and Beaumont more than tripled its server capacity over the weekend.

The health system began vaccinating those in phase 1B this past Monday.

Local and state health departments already have begun to reach out to police and fire departments, but are unable to directly contact those older than 65.

“The goal is to have enough overlap that nobody in the 1B gets overlooked,” Fischgrund

said.

Up until now, the health system has used a centralized distribution model with all vaccine administrations taking place at the Southfield Beaumont Service Center, but it plans to open another to the north

and south, with the first one to be opened within the month.

For the foreseeable future, it appears Beaumont will continue with the Pfizer vaccine singularly, rather than also receiving shipments of the Moderna vaccine.



Pins for Beaumont employees who have been vaccinated encourage discussion.

Mack Ave. plan takes first step

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — As the first of the implementation steps after the completion of the Mack Avenue Corridor Improvement Plan recommendations, the City approached potential zoning changes throughout its section of the corridor by gathering public opinion during a Zoom meeting Tuesday, Dec. 15.

“This will be the first of several meetings related to zoning before it comes back to city council for approval,” City Manager Pete Dame explained beforehand.

The plan seeks to set an updated and unifying zoning code throughout the entire Mack corridor. Recommendations include increasing the number of permitted uses, promoting a pedestrian-friendly environment and modernizing parking standards to potentially reduce development constraints on parking space requirements.

Currently, the two types of zoning that make up the largest sections of Mack in the City are the restricted office district, R-O1, and local commercial, C-1.

Permitted uses in both districts are fairly restrictive, reported Julie Connochie, principal planner at McKenna

and Associates. “The more uses that are permitted, the more potential businesses that can move in and, hopefully, the less vacancies that you would see over time on the corridor,” she added.

Through a public survey during the meeting, multi-family housing and commercial uses such as studios/galleries, grocery and personal services were voted to be the most needed uses on Mack, while restaurants and bars; unique/experimental uses such as indoor recreation, theaters, fitness centers and breweries; and child care tied for third.

Sixty-seven percent of participants voted car-oriented uses should be allowed as a special land use, as opposed to allowing existing uses to continue while prohibiting new car-oriented uses or allowing car-oriented uses by right.

With 50 percent of participants preferring taller buildings, if permitted on Mack, be allowed throughout the entire corridor, 67 percent also said the maximum height should be four stories in special cases only.

When it comes to how parking for expanded uses should be accommodated, the top three choices of participants

See *STER*, page 4A

The Week Ahead

MONDAY, JAN. 18 — Martin Luther King Jr. Day

◆ Offices closed

TUESDAY, JAN. 19

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

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 20

◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Local Officers Compensation Commission meeting, 6 p.m. via Zoom.

◆ Grosse Pointe Park Planning Commission meeting, 7 p.m.

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4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

A big part hockey, a bigger part family: Jack Stander

By Kate Vanderstelt
Staff Writer

Grosse Pointe Woods native Jack Stander has been playing sports for as long as he can remember. Stander recalls his two sisters always being competitive with him growing up.

"My older sister is four years older than me and she's always been a successful athlete," Stander said. "I was always competing against her. I really enjoyed growing up in a competitive environment."

Stander's older sister, now Olivia Dallaire, was a successful high school basketball player for Grosse Pointe North High School and ended up playing collegiate soccer at Michigan State University. His younger sister, Ava Stander, currently is a soccer-playing sophomore at the University of Detroit Mercy.

His competitive-spirited family led him to be involved with many different sports his whole life, including football, basketball, swimming and hockey, to name a few. Stander recalls feeling supported by his parents and grandparents to pursue many activities.

Maternal grandparents, Tom and Anne Marie Johnston, played "a pivotal role in my life growing up, whether it was taking me to the hockey rink or the football field," Stander said. His parents, Trisha and Jeff Stander, also were big factors in shaping who Stander is today.

After a childhood of car rides to every practice imaginable, Stander decided to focus on football and hockey when he attended Grosse Pointe North.

When he reached his senior year, he knew he



COURTESY PHOTOS

Jack Stander

had a desire to play a sport at the collegiate level, but he would have to pick one to pursue.

"My senior year I knew I wanted to play in college," Stander said. "I knew I had the best chance of that with hockey."

A typical route for young hockey professionals is to graduate high school and play in a junior league for a few years before playing collegiately. So, Stander focused on hockey his senior year and was drafted to play with the United States Hockey League upon graduation.

Stander played for the Sioux Falls Stampede in the USHL in South Dakota one year. Though he planned to return for a second season, he got a call from Canisius College in Buffalo, N.Y. "I went on a quick visit

over a weekend and kind of ended up just staying there," Stander said.

A large part of his decision to attend Canisius was attributed to its relative closeness to home. He stayed at the college for four years, playing hockey and studying. Stander graduated in 2018 with a bachelor's degree in finance and economics.

Out of college, Stander signed with the Atlanta Gladiators in Duluth, Ga. He has bounced around since then — professionally playing hockey — from Atlanta to Syracuse to Worcester to Milwaukee.

The onset of COVID-19 put a halt to Stander's competitive hockey playing and ultimately brought him home to play the waiting game. The pandemic caused



The Stander family, back row, from left, father, Jeff Stander; brother-in-law, Michael Dallaire; and Jack Stander; front row, mother, Trisha Stander; sister, Olivia Dallaire; sister, Ava Stander; and girlfriend, Faith Mascioli.

Stander's hockey career to look a little uncertain, as it is hard to plan for the sport in the current ever-changing world.

"(This has) been kind of a transition phase for me," Stander said.

Through this transition phase, Stander is exploring other career possibilities.

"I'm fortunate enough to fall back on a great degree from a good school," he said.

Stander currently is studying for chartered financial analyst certification, which includes a three-level exam process that, if passed, would earn him one of the highest designations in the investment world.

Despite the current hold on his pursuit, Stander said his goal still is to play in the National Hockey League.

"Working towards that has been a great experience," he said. "I've obviously devoted my life to the game. I wouldn't trade it for anything else."

Stander said, for now, he enjoys being back home.

"Hockey is obviously a big part (of my life); a

bigger part is family and moving back home," he said. "They've supported me in hockey and sports for the past 20 years of my life."

"I always saw myself moving back to Grosse Pointe at some point," he added. "If that's right now — I don't know, exactly. I definitely see myself staying in the area and I obviously love

Grosse Pointe.

"All my family's in Grosse Pointe. It's been great to move home and be with them; I've kind of missed living in the area and being close to family and friends."

In his free time — though professional athletes don't have much, he laughed — Stander enjoys golfing and traveling.



Stander with his grandparents, Tom and Anne Marie Johnston.

STEP:

Continued from page 3A

were to allow shared off-street parking toward required parking; create new parking lots behind buildings; and allow on-street parking to count toward required parking.

Following the meeting, city planners and staff are working together to draft initial recommendations for proposed zoning changes. A second public meeting will

be held in a month or two, after the proposed changes are made public.

"Then after that we'll be onto our last draft and initiating the adoption process with the City of Grosse Pointe," Connochie said, adding a six-month timeframe, beginning in early December, is anticipated.

The Mack Avenue Corridor Improvement Plan recommendations may be found at mackaveplan.com.

EXPAND:

Continued from page 2A

and trusts, providing appraisals for individual and high-net-worth clients and handling of all phases of estate liquidation management.

All of Stefek's appraisal team members are Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice compliant. Her team of appraisers holds degrees in art history and professional affiliations

including membership and accreditation in the ISA, as well as expertise in personal property evaluations and consignment management.

January events

◆ Thursday, Jan. 14 — Stefek's January Winter Furniture and Decor Auction showcases several mid-century pieces, fine art, taxidermy, swords and a collection of decorative items. Featured are mid-century design pieces highlighted by a JBL Metregon speaker cabinet, a dining set and cabinet designed by Paul McCobb for the Connoisseur Collection and a set of Edward Wormley for Dunbar

nesting tables. Several bronzes after Frederic Remington will be on offer, including "Old Dragons," "Rattlesnake," "Outlaw," plus other bronze works by artists such as Martin Duque, Barbedienne and anonymous artists. A collection of taxidermy from a Michigan estate will be available with a variety of animals such as water buffalo, African kudu, African gemsbok, Arctic fox and an impressive full body standing brown bear. Learn more at stefeksauctions.com/winter-furniture-and-decor-auction/

◆ Friday, Jan. 15, and Saturday, Jan. 16 — Tool Sale, which features

name brands such as Snap-on, Senco, Bosch, Porter + Cable, Delta, Chicago Tool, Craftsman, Wilton, Ridgid, Hitachi, Stanley, Metabo, Bostitch, Nikota, Makita, Dewalt, Milwaukee, Record Power and Benjamin's Best. Thousands of tools are included. Details and photos will be posted at stefeksauctions.com Tuesday, Jan. 12, with the Waterford location revealed Thursday, Jan. 14.

Stefek's Auctions' offices and gallery are located at 20100 Cornillie Drive, Roseville. Call (313) 881-1800 or visit stefeksauctions.com.

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City of Grosse Pointe

Wrong place, wrong time

After the owner discovered a bullet hole in his vehicle parked in his Rivard Boulevard yard, officers determined it likely occurred during New Year's Eve celebratory gunfire from north of Mack Avenue.

— Laurel Kraus

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

Grosse Pointe Farms

Another pole bites the dust

A 39-year-old Harper Woods woman was transported to Ascension St. John Hospital after hitting a DTE Energy utility pole at Moross Road and Country Club Lane with her vehicle at 2 p.m. Friday, Jan. 8.

Alcohol is believed to have been involved.

— Laurel Kraus

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

Grosse Pointe Shores

Illegal hide and seek

A 24-year-old Detroit man was found hiding in an upstairs closet of a home in the 700 block of Lakeshore Road at 5:25 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 6, after officers received a breaking-and-entering alarm and arrived to find the milk shoot and door

open.

The home was unoccupied at the time due to construction.

Too drunk to drive

After being stopped for impeding traffic at Lakeshore Road and Fairlake Lane at 10:16 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 7, a 52-year-old Detroit man was arrested for operating with a high blood alcohol content of .17 or more.

— Laurel Kraus

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

Grosse Pointe Woods

'Looking for my dog'

At 12:52 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 5, a resident of the 2100 block of Roslyn reported a suspicious person in his backyard. Security footage of the home showed the suspect creeping through the yard and peering into windows.

The prowler was found to be a 24-year-old Southfield resident, who, when questioned, stated he was looking for his dog. He was issued a citation for prowling.

Loads of laundry

A store manager in the 20000 block of Mack reported retail fraud at

3:55 p.m. Friday, Jan. 8.

The store manager claimed the suspect, described as a 5-foot, 8-inch heavy-set black male, removed 10 containers of Tide laundry detergent from the store without paying.

The suspect entered a Chrysler minivan, which was driven by a black woman and was last seen on Mack. The total loss is \$100, with each container valued at \$10.

Bye Ford Fusion

At 9:28 p.m. Friday, Jan. 8, a 40-year-old Detroit resident was pulled over at North Harper at Allard. The officer found the driver's black Ford Fusion had an invalid license plate and no insurance.

The driver had three current suspensions and four current traffic warrants, leading to the driver's arrest. The vehicle was impounded.

The driver was further issued citations for driving on a suspended license and with no acquired license and registration for the vehicle.

— Kate Vanderstelt

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

Grosse Pointe Park

Toxic rage

At 3:44 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 5, a 31-year-old

Eastpointe man was arrested for operating while intoxicated.

A Park officer was called to the scene of a reported road rage incident. The officer located the suspect at Kercheval and Buckingham, where he was found to be intoxicated and arrested.

Cannot escape the law

A 29-year-old Detroit woman was arrested at 11:13 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 5, for driving with a suspended license.

A Park officer pulled her vehicle over for speeding at Mack and Chatsworth. She was found to be driving on a suspended license and had multiple warrants out for her arrest.

Caught speeding

A Park officer stopped a vehicle for speeding at Mack and Buckingham at 2:01 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 6.

The officer encountered an intoxicated 24-year-old Detroit woman, who was arrested for operating while intoxicated.

New Year's celebration

A resident of the 1300 block of Whittier celebrated the New Year on vacation and returned to a shot-up car.

The victim found a .45 caliber bullet embedded in the hood of her vehi-

cle. The bullet was presumed by Park public safety to be the result of New Year's gun fire, as the victim discovered the bullet Sunday, Jan. 3.

The crime is being deemed malicious destruction of property. A suspect has not been identified.

Converter theft

A catalytic converter was taken from a vehicle parked overnight in a driveway in the 1300 block of Three Mile Road.

The theft occurred between noon Tuesday, Jan. 5, and 2:20 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 9. A suspect has yet to be identified.

No identity

A 42-year-old Detroit man was arrested Sunday, Jan. 10, for operating while intoxicated.

A public safety officer stopped the man because his vehicle had defective equipment. Upon stopping him, the officer found the driver to be without a license and

intoxicated, which led to his arrest.

— Kate Vanderstelt

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

PROJECT:

Continued from page 1A

currently uses.

"In law enforcement there's always a concern that your weapon could be taken from you," Schulte explained, "and these holsters are a level three security holster, which helps prevent that."

The donating residents wished to remain anonymous, but expressed appreciation for the department.

"The public safety department is extremely grateful to these residents," Schulte said, "and each one has specifically made reference to the exceptional service that they have received in regards to these donations."



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6A | OPINION

Grosse Pointe News

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16980 KERCHEVAL AVE., GROSSE POINTE, MI 48230
PHONE: (313) 882-6900 FAX: (313) 882-1585
E-MAIL: EDITOR@GROSSEPOINTENEWS.COM

SEAN COTTON: Owner

JOHN MINNIS: Publisher

TERRY MINNIS: Vice President

JODY MCVEIGH: Editor

OUR VIEW

Vaccinations
hit by red tape

Even as worries abound that not enough people will get vaccinated against COVID-19 to create herd immunity, senior citizens around here are flooding call centers and crashing appointment websites.

This early phase of vaccination, as the worldwide pandemic still rages, has proved a massive disappointment — not unlike the difficulty worried residents had in getting a test last spring, one of the first signs that the country was botching its response as the new coronavirus filled local hospitals and sometimes overran funeral homes.

All of this is very much playing out in the Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods, where, so far, older residents are forced to await word from their hospital system, if they're attached to one. Wayne County is focused on first responders, school staff and correctional facility workers, according to Dr. Mouhanad Hammami, county health strategist, as quoted in the Detroit News.

"The state has said, 'Call your health department,' which will do them no good if they call us," Dr. Hammami said of county residents 65 and older. "In fact, it will put a lot of burden on us because we are going to repeat the same message: You need to go to your health system."

Senior citizens without a hospital affiliation appear to be out of luck for now.

Even the Grosse Pointe Public School System seems mostly flummoxed about getting vaccines for teachers and other staffers who work with students. Deputy Superintendent Jon Dean, at Monday's Board of Education meeting, said the district had hopes of working with local hospitals rather than the county and has volunteered school facilities to hold staff immunization clinics.

Still, as of the board meeting, nothing had been scheduled. Basically, that's the status for almost everyone. And it doesn't help that the one fairly transparent hospital system — Beaumont — still had only one vaccination center as of early this week and it's in Southfield.

At some point, pharmacies seem to expect vaccine shipments and presumably will dispense them as most do for annual flu shots. But so far, vaccine supplies seem to be scant — and no one can explain what the problem is.

Hindsight may eventually reveal the logistical bottlenecks and hopefully there will be lessons learned in case the country needs mass immunizations again. Sadly, it appears that public health systems have been so reduced that there's no hope of major, centralized shot clinics. Meanwhile, neither the counties nor the hospitals seem able to plan farther ahead than a week; they may not even be getting enough of the two-dose vaccines to fill their current appointment capacities.

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer also may have over-raised expectations last week when she expanded the age group for vaccinations from 75-plus to 65-plus. That's what set off the frenzy of older residents swamping call centers and websites.

Still, other counties appear to be functioning better than Wayne County. And vaccinations are not the only complaint. In another example, the school district is working on its own dashboard of COVID-19 statistics because the county's is of so little use locally. (Although still far lower than November case counts, local numbers have crept up since Christmas. Stay vigilant!)

Much has been made of the anti-vaccination movement, with early stories of some health personnel and first responders refusing shots. But that still leaves a big majority seeking vaccinations, especially among older adults who want to hug their children and grandchildren, get together again with friends and basically come out of nearly a year of isolation.

For now, unfortunately, the only counsel around here seems to be patience — something that's very hard to exercise when no one can or will explain the current mess.

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EDITORIAL

(313) 882-6900

Jody McVeigh:
Editor

Laurel Kraus:
Staff Writer

Elizabeth Martin:
Staff Writer

Renee Landuyt:
Staff Photographer

Kate Vanderstelt:
Staff Writer

Barb Arrigo:
Editorial Writer

CIRCULATION

(313) 343-5578

Kristin Martin Duus

PRODUCTION

(313) 343-5573

Ken Schop:
Production Manager

John Pigott:
IT Manager

David Hughes

Donna Zetterlund

ADVERTISING

(313) 882-3500

Shelley Owens:
Advertising Manager

Paul V. Biondi:
Account Executive

Julie R. Sutton:
Account Executive

Melanie Mahoney:
Administrative Assistant

CLASSIFIED

(313) 882-6900 ext 567



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE PORTRAIT PLACE

As a high school student, Ahmed Ismail, who now sits on the Grosse Pointe Board of Education took this iconic photo of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. speaking at Grosse Pointe High School on March 14, 1968.

GUEST VIEW By the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

MLK Nobel Peace Prize speech

Martin Luther King, Jr. was born on Jan. 15, 1929. He lived a mere 39 years before being gunned down for his beliefs, yet in that time Reverend King shook the very pillars of the heavens and the earth and impacted this world and our society like few others in this era or any other. Committed to equality and advancing civil rights for all, King changed the world through his positive social philosophy. As he stated in "My Pilgrimage to Nonviolence," this philosophy was the conviction that nonviolent resistance was one of the most potent weapons available to oppressed people in their quest for social justice.

King lived this philosophy through some of the most tumultuous years in the 1950s and '60s. He suffered through a prior assassination attempt and multiple arrests through acts of civil disobedience to protest the Jim Crow laws of the South, the philosophy of segregation and that not all were equal under the eyes of the law. To try and distill the struggles of this civil rights warrior in a brief printing would only do him a disservice. Instead, the legacy that has lasted that he had a large hand in seeing come to pass is easier to speak to, mainly the passage and signing into law of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. One of the most powerful pieces of legislation ever enacted into law in the United States, it has come to define federal and state law as well as judicial decisions.

The preamble of the law states its purpose to be: "To enforce the constitutional right to vote, to confer jurisdiction upon the district courts of the United States to provide injunctive relief against discrimination in public accommodations, to authorize the Attorney General to institute suits to protect constitutional rights in public facilities and public education, to extend the Commission on Civil Rights, to prevent discrimination in federally assisted programs, to establish a Commission on Equal Employment Opportunity, and for other purposes."

That Oct. 14, Martin Luther King Jr., at the age of 35 became the youngest winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, the prize created in the will of Alfred Nobel which he directed be given to the person that in the preceding year has done the most or best to advance fellowship among nations, the abolition or reduction of standing armies, and the establishment and promotion of peace congresses. It had been less than 14 months when in the last days of summer that King had told the entire world about a dream he had. A dream that while very familiar to the reader was wildly foreign at the time. A dream "that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed — we hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal."

So, on the 10th day of December of 1964, a giant of the world, standing at 5'7" walked into the auditorium of the University of Oslo and accepted the peace prize on behalf of a movement:

Your Majesty, Your Royal Highness, Mr. President, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I accept the Nobel Prize for Peace at a moment when 22 million Negroes of the United States of America are engaged in a creative battle to end the long night of racial injustice. I accept this award on behalf of a civil rights movement which is moving with determination and a majestic scorn for risk and danger to establish a reign of freedom and a rule of justice. I am mindful that only yesterday in Birmingham, Alabama, our children, crying out for brotherhood, were answered with fire hoses, snarling dogs and even death. I am mindful that only yesterday in Philadelphia, Mississippi, young people seeking to secure the right to vote were brutalized and murdered. And only yesterday more than 40 houses of worship in the State of Mississippi alone were bombed

See NOBEL PEACE PRIZE, page 7A

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.

Tree City USA?

To the Editor:
As a Grosse Pointe Woods homeowner, I'm deeply disappointed in the continuous assault on trees in my neighborhood despite repeated claims by the city that trees are

"a beautiful and vital part of Michigan's landscape."

On daily walks I watch one huge healthy tree after another systematically dismantled and hauled away, which is why in December 2020 I was even further disappointed to see an email

update from the city of Grosse Pointe Woods explaining that DTE Energy crews will again be trimming and removing trees "growing too close to power lines" at their discretion.

What kind of public-private partnership is this? DTE makes record profits in the billions year after year. If the private energy company and the city of GPW are so concerned about trees interfering with power lines, why doesn't DTE use some of those record profits to bury the power lines, as has been done or at least discussed, in other municipalities, like Bloomfield Township?

Instead, property owners are forced to watch

property values and neighborhood aesthetics diminish as tree after tree is removed.

ArborDay.org's National Tree Benefit Calculator (arborday.org/calculator) shows just one mature silver maple brings a benefit of more than \$250 a year to property values.

In other words, the removal of trees is a public cost being used for a private benefit when DTE could remedy the problem by burying the lines.

Trees, especially mature ones, provide numerous human, social, environmental and communal benefits. Let's start acting like it.

NOELLE GRAIN
Grosse Pointe Woods

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

I SAY By Laurel Kraus

Fear, faith cannot coexist



The entire concept of a new year only exists in large part because humans require structure. The transition from New Year's Eve to New Year's Day is essentially the same as any day turning to the next, which is precisely why I've never

really gotten with the trend of New Year's resolutions.

Why not commit to make or break habits any day of the year rather than putting it off for months and then feeling like you've missed your chance if you slip up once?

That being said, New Year's definitely hit differently this year.

Has anything really changed? Not really, and yet I have never been so delighted to leave the label of a year behind. I've literally been smil-

ing every time I write 2021 on a check or document.

Since March, my 2020 was filled with fear. Fear of stepping foot outside my home; fear of catching COVID-19; fear of spreading it to my loved ones; fear of how quickly a life can end; fear over political divides; fear over the future of this country; fear of car accidents; fear of criticism; fear over making the right decisions; fear of change. I really could go on and on.

But do you know what

it all basically boils down to? A fear of the unknown. A deep, overwhelming unease because there is no way to predict what the next moment will bring.

It's now 2021 and a time machine to fill us in on what's next still has not been invented, but I've come to the realization that there is someone who does know and that's God.

Just a few weeks back, I heard the phrase "fear and faith cannot coexist" during a sermon, and its impact has been

immense.

How can I call myself a Christian and say I trust God, while allowing this inner turmoil to fester in my heart?

Worrying about what's going to happen is not going to change what ends up happening, but placing that worry in God's hands will absolutely change how capable you become to face what happens.

We are, of course, human and some fear is inevitable during such turbulent times, but I no longer want to succumb

to it.

Even if every single morning, and then again at noon, and even again at the end of the day, I have to re-surrender my fears to God, I am determined to do so.

I may not be strong enough to face each trial that comes my way, but my God is.

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea." Psalms 46:1-2.

My hope is that all of us can cultivate our faith so it becomes bigger than our fear this year.

NOBEL PEACE PRIZE:

Continued from page 6A

or burned because they offered a sanctuary to those who would not accept segregation. I am mindful that debilitating and grinding poverty afflicts my people and chains them to the lowest rung of the economic ladder.

Therefore, I must ask why this prize is awarded to a movement which is beleaguered and committed to unrelenting struggle; to a movement which has not won the very peace and brotherhood which is the essence of the Nobel Prize.

After contemplation, I conclude that this award which I receive on behalf of that movement is a profound recognition that nonviolence is the answer to the crucial political and moral question of our time — the need for man to overcome oppression and violence without resorting to violence and oppression. Civilization and violence are antithetical concepts. Negroes of the United States, following the people of India, have demonstrated that nonviolence is not sterile passivity, but a powerful moral force which makes for social transformation. Sooner or later all the people of the world will have to discover a way to live together in peace, and thereby transform this pending cosmic elegy into a creative psalm of brotherhood. If this is to be achieved, man must evolve for all human conflict a method which rejects revenge, aggression and retaliation. The foundation of such a method is love.

The tortuous road which has led from Montgomery, Alabama to Oslo bears witness to this truth. This is a road over which millions of Negroes are travelling to find a new sense of dignity. This same road has opened for all Americans a new era of progress and hope. It has led to a new Civil Rights Bill, and it will, I am convinced, be widened and lengthened into a super highway of justice as Negro and white men in increasing numbers create alliances to overcome their common problems.

I accept this award today with an abiding faith in America and an audacious faith in the future of mankind. I refuse to accept despair as the final response to the ambiguities of history. I refuse to accept the idea that the "isness" of man's present nature makes him morally incapable of reaching up for the eternal "oughtness" that forever confronts him. I refuse to accept the idea that man is mere flotsam and jetsam in the river of life, unable to influence the unfolding events which surround him. I refuse to accept the view that mankind is so tragically bound to the starless midnight of racism and war that the bright daybreak of peace and brotherhood can never become a reality.

I refuse to accept the cynical notion that nation after nation must spiral down a militaristic stairway into the hell of thermonuclear destruction. I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word in reality. This is why right temporarily defeated is stronger than evil triumphant. I believe

that even amid today's mortar bursts and whining bullets, there is still hope for a brighter tomorrow. I believe that wounded justice, lying prostrate on the blood-flowing streets of our nations, can be lifted from this dust of shame to reign supreme among the children of men. I have the audacity to believe that peoples everywhere can have three meals a day for their bodies, education and culture for their minds, and dignity, equality and freedom for their spirits. I believe that what self-centered men have torn down men other-centered can build up. I still believe that one day mankind will bow before the altars of God and be crowned triumphant over war and bloodshed, and nonviolent redemptive good will proclaim the rule of the land. "And the lion and the lamb shall lie down together and every man shall sit under his own vine and fig tree and none shall be afraid." I still believe that We Shall overcome!

This faith can give us courage to face the uncertainties of the future. It will give our tired feet new strength as we continue our forward stride toward the city of freedom. When our days become dreary with low-hanging clouds and our nights become darker than a thousand midnights, we will know that we are living in the creative turmoil of a genuine civilization struggling to be born.

Today I come to Oslo as a trustee, inspired and with renewed dedication to humanity. I accept this prize on behalf of all men who love peace and brotherhood. I say I come as a trustee, for in the depths of my heart I am aware that this prize is much more than an honor to me personally.

Every time I take a flight, I am always mindful of the many people who make a successful journey possible — the known pilots and the unknown ground crew.

So you honor the dedicated pilots of our struggle who have sat at the controls as the freedom movement soared into orbit. You honor, once again, Chief Lutuli of South Africa, whose struggles with and for his people, are still met with the most brutal expression of man's inhumanity to man. You honor the ground crew without whose labor and sacrifices the jet flights to freedom could never have left the earth. Most of these people will never make the headline and their names will not appear in Who's Who. Yet when years have rolled past and when the blazing light of truth is focused on this marvellous age in which we live — men and women will know and children will be taught that we have a finer land, a better people, a more noble civilization — because these humble children of God were willing to suffer for righteousness' sake.

I think Alfred Nobel would know what I mean when I say that I accept this award in the spirit of a curator of some precious heirloom which he holds in trust for its true owners — all those to whom beauty is truth and truth beauty — and in whose eyes the beauty of genuine brotherhood and peace is more precious than diamonds or silver or gold.

YESTERDAY'S HEADLINES

1946

75 years ago this week

BUILDING BOOM

STARTS: The big building boom for the Pointe, which has been predicted for as soon as the war ended, is fast developing into a reality. During the whole war period when building operations were impossible because of the primary claims of the war upon both materials and labor, there was no new construction at all and only such minor emergency repairs as were absolutely necessary.

Obituaries: Mrs. Hamlord E. Finnie, William U. Ford, Mrs. Julius L. Hager

1971

50 years ago this week

Obituaries: Paul W. Rowe, Alexander McMillan, Robert P. Brennan, Marguerite S. Costello, Daniel A. Schaitberger, William G. Wahl, Myrtle Freudenthal, Harold E. McClure, Herbert J. Chandler, Edith C. Brown, Ruth D. Schmidt, Lorne J. Norton, Elizabeth M. Thornton

1996

25 years ago this week

INFERNO DESTROYS

MANSION: Despite the valiant efforts of three local fire departments, the mansion of automobile dealer and entrepreneur Ken Meade on Windmill Pointe Drive in the Park was destroyed by fire. According to the public safety report, Meade noticed the faint odor of smoke around 4 p.m. last Saturday, but because there was a fire in the fireplace, he was not concerned. A brief check of the house revealed a heavy haze of smoke on the second floor.

Obituaries: Czeslawa Kurzatkowski, Henry Abels, Dorothy Ann Peelle, Paul J. Lauri, the Rev. Charles H. Beynon Jr., Eleanor Lauhoff Benkert, Charles Edward Barlow, Ella Ruth, Karl F. Barr, Ella E. Nixon, John F. Corbin, the Rev. Wilfrid Holmes-Walker, Irvin Lawrence Haisenleder, Peter John Connolly

2011

10 years ago this week

100 YEARS OF SERVICE: Neighborhood Club enters second century of service.

Obituaries: Christine Angela Kujawski, James W. Goss, the Rev. William J. McGoldrick, Philip D. Lockhart, Donna Touscany Wilberding, Joan Bernadette Kovalick

GROSSE POINTE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM ADVERTISEMENT

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

ABATEMENT PROJECT - SPRING 2021 WORK PROGRAM - MAIRE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, RICHARD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, BROWNELL MIDDLE SCHOOL AND SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL

Bid Proposals will be received by Amanda Matheson, Deputy Superintendent of the Grosse Pointe Public School System, at 389 St. Clair Avenue, Grosse Pointe, Michigan 48230, on or before **11:00 a.m.** (local time) on **FEBRUARY 11, 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. Due to COVID restrictions attendance is not required for the opening and will be restricted to (1) representative from each company.

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

February 2, 2021 @ 4:00 p.m. at Maire Elementary School located at 740 Cadieux Rd. Grosse Pointe Park, 48230. All persons attending the Pre-Bid will be required to meet at Receiving. This is an active school so face masks will be mandatory and temperature scans will be required in order to enter the building.

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

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

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

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

Bid documents, including scopes of work, Drawing and Specifications will be made available after February 1, 2021 at Nova Environmental, Inc., 5300 Plymouth Rd. Ann Arbor, Michigan 48105 and at the mandatory Pre-Bid Proposal meeting.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Adam Amin at (734) 930-0995 or email at amin@nova-env.com.

GROSSE POINTE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

Published: GPN, January 14, 2020

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Grosse Pointe News

FIRST ANNUAL

THE FINER POINTES ART CONTEST



\$5000 PRIZE

*The
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We are excited to showcase local talent and pleased to announce our first annual
"The Finer Pointes Art Contest"

Open to all local established or talented aspiring artists from the Grosse Pointes, Harper Woods and St. Clair Shores

The winning artist will be awarded a \$5000 prize.

The winning piece of art will be permanently installed in a prominent public Grosse Pointe location to be announced at a later date.

Art can be created in any of these genres: Painting, drawing, textiles, sculpture or relief.

See artist guidelines online for more details.

CONTEST DETAILS

Artists, please submit by February 1, 2021 at 5:00pm:

1. Three photos of recent sample works
2. A CV or professional bio
3. A description of up to 250 words regarding your vision or intention for your contest submission.

Submission forms available online.

10 Finalists will be chosen (and notified by February 8th) to receive \$500 for materials to create their submission piece.

Finalists will submit photos of their completed works on April 30th, 2021 by noon. A winner will be announced on May 20, 2021 in the Grosse Pointe News.

To be considered, please submit materials at:
www.grossepointenews.com/art

Finer Pointes

Grosse Pointe News hosts inaugural art competition

The Grosse Pointes long have been home to beautiful works of art — from fine art and architecture to culinary arts and music — as well as the talented artists who create them.

In an effort to foster the arts locally and showcase the established talent Grosse Pointe has to offer, the Grosse Pointe News is proud to sponsor its inaugural "The Finer Pointes" art contest, inviting all of Grosse Pointe's professional artists to participate.

Entries — of any subject matter, in any medium — are requested for approval by 5 p.m. Monday, Feb. 1. Those interested must submit their vision and a sketch in this first round.

An appointed committee will select and notify the top 10 artists by Monday, Feb. 8. Those established artists each will be given \$500 to pro-

quire their materials. They then will have until noon Friday, April 30, to create their masterpieces.

One winner will be chosen blindly Saturday, May 15.

That winner will be awarded \$5,000 and the winning artwork will be donated to a not-yet-determined public institution for display.

Each submission should include the artist's name; contact information, including phone number, email address and home address; medium and materials planned; and inspiration for the piece.

All entries should be emailed to art@grossepointenews.com with "The Finer Pointes" in the subject line.

For more information, email media@grossepointenews.com.

Meet Grosse Pointe's own matchmaker to the art world

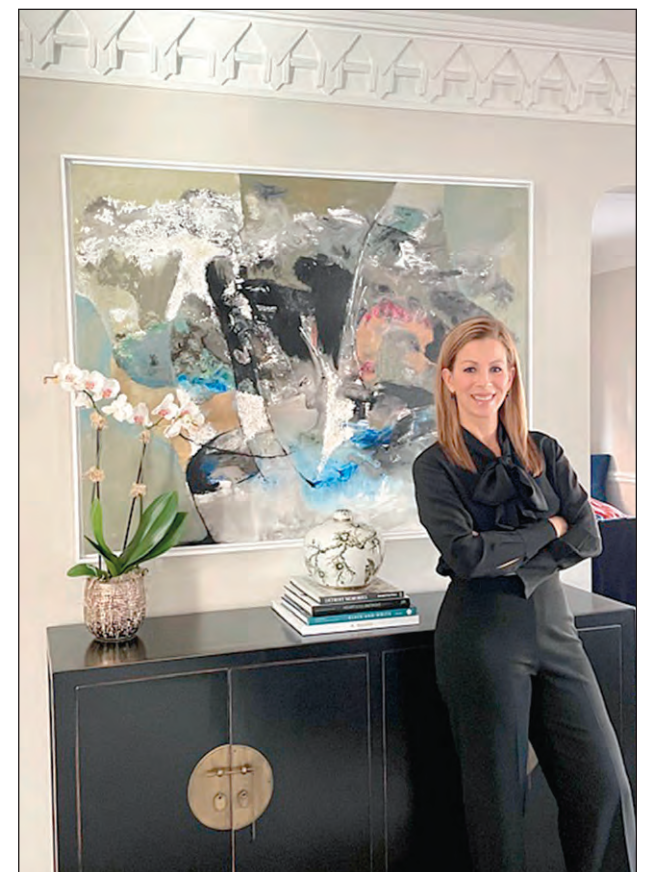
Paragon Art Collective founder Mary Wysocki believes fine art is for everyone and she's ready to guide one and all to the perfect piece.

"Walking into a fine art gallery can be so intimidating, not to mention negotiating a price for an original painting," Wysocki said.

That intimidation is an unnecessary stress that fuels the idea fine art isn't for everyone, which is exactly what Wysocki has set out to change.

She founded Paragon Art Collective on the principle that original works of art, from both established and up-and-coming artists, are within reach, even for art novices. Wysocki serves as a matchmaker of sorts, escorting her clients into the world of art, to help them find art they will love.

"My goal is to listen and to get an understanding of the type of



COURTESY PHOTOS

Mary Wysocki believes fine art is for everyone.

art that expresses who you are and what you

love. Then I try to make a match, within the client's price range. That means we scan the market, from up-and-coming to well-

established artists, until we find the perfect piece," Wysocki said.

Paragon Art Collective takes the stress out of buying original art.

Wysocki's role is to handle the steps that typically stress out the art buyer, such as the art search and price negotiation. She believes in a direct-to-artist approach whenever possible, as she finds it becomes a more personalized experience for the client when the art comes directly from the source.

Paragon Art Collective may be based in Grosse Pointe, but Wysocki said the world is her canvas when it comes to finding the right art. She lived in Singapore several years, giving her firsthand knowledge of and access to a wide range of artists and galleries across Southeast Asia.

"We also have incredibly talented artists right here in Michigan," she added. "You don't always need to look far to find art that is meaningful."

Those interested may view some of Paragon Art Collective's successful art matches on Instagram — [@paragonartcollective](https://www.instagram.com/paragonartcollective) — or contact Wysocki directly at paragonartcollective@gmail.com for help finding new art to love.



Examples of Wysocki's work.

2020 IN REVIEW

A year of change for GPPSS

2020 was a year of transformation for the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Trustees, starting with the resignation of President Brian Summerfield in January and ending with a fall election that brought several new faces to the school board. The district also grappled with being thrust into virtual learning, coming up with creative commencement ideas and sorting out reasons for declining enrollment.

This is the year in review:

January

◆ GPPSS opens 2020 with the news Brian Summerfield is stepping down from the Board of Education as of Jan. 2. Summerfield, a resident of Grosse Pointe Park, says he weighed the decision over the holidays, citing consideration for his family as his main reason for stepping down.

◆ Superintendent Gary Niehaus announces the possibility of keeping Trombly open next year, not as an elementary school, but as a tuition-based dedicated early childhood center, made possible in part by an anonymous donation.

◆ Grosse Pointe Woods resident Joseph Herd emerges as the top applicant among a pool of 14 to replace former board President Brian Summerfield. A motion to approve his appointment passes unanimously.

◆ Parents who stage a protest before the last school board meeting of the month ask the district to put the brakes on reconfiguration plans. A dozen or so families urge the district to slow down, stop, “let kids be kids” and keep fifth grade in the elementary schools.

February

◆ Monteith Elementary School families are notified that “a potential financial irregularity was identified in the Monteith PTO bank account resulting from one individual’s actions.” All accounts are frozen and the matter is referred to the Woods Public Safety Department.

March

◆ Superintendent Niehaus hears about the acquisition of Rocket Fiber, a Detroit-born internet service provider specializing in delivering gigabit internet connectivity solutions, by



Board members Margaret Weertz and Chris Profeta welcome newly appointed board member, Joseph Herd, center, to the board in January.

Everstream only moments before it is publicly announced. Rocket Fiber is in the midst of designing, engineering and constructing a fiber-optic internet network for the school district; its CEO reaffirms its commitment to completing the project in partnership with Everstream during the acquisition.

◆ Schematic designs are complete, construction documents drawn and bid documents prepared and issued for major construction work this summer at Defer, Ferry and Monteith elementary schools, Parcels Middle School and Grosse Pointe South High School.

◆ The Grosse Pointe Academy embarks on a strategic planning process for its aging Lake Shore building and arrives at the decision to explore possibilities for redeveloping the building, completed in 1885. The first step is identifying a suitable partner for the undertaking.

◆ While no confirmed cases of COVID-19 have been reported yet in Michigan, school districts throughout the state are preparing for that event and sharing information with parents and staff to help contain the virus should an outbreak occur. The school district plans to follow experts’ recommendations on safety and preventive measures for students and staff.

◆ In anticipation of Gov. Gretchen Whitmer’s mandate to close all K-12 schools in the state, GPPSS administrators opt to close schools Friday, March 13, to allow staff to participate in a day of professional development on remote learning appropriate for each age group. The Grosse Pointe Academy and University Liggett School also close to allow teachers planning time

for online learning.

◆ The school board dips into untested waters March 23, conducting its first-ever virtual meeting under new guidance by Gov. Whitmer. It is the first public body in the Pointes to do so since emergency measures promoting social distancing and other safety precautions as a result of the new coronavirus pandemic are put in place by order of the governor.

April

◆ School buildings may be closed for the remainder of the year, but learning continues in GPPSS. Gov. Whitmer announces April 2 she is suspending in-person instruction of K-12 students and providing “limited and temporary relief from certain restrictions and requirements so that K-12 education may continue by the best alternative means possible.”

◆ A vote on principal appointments, a report on teacher assignments for 2020-21 and a scheduled vote to approve the new middle school curriculum indicate the district is moving forward with its reconfiguration plan, slated for implementation in the fall.

May

◆ A May 1 executive order from Gov. Whitmer gives the green light for construction to commence on GPPSS summer bond projects. The order requires construction companies to follow safe workplace requirements as necessary.

◆ A projected loss in billions of dollars to the state general fund and school-aid fund from the COVID-19-related economic shutdown is expected to negatively impact school funding, with school districts across the state looking at ways to address this shortfall. The impact could hit not just next

year’s budget, but the current year’s as well, says GPPSS Deputy Superintendent for Human Resources and Educational Services Jon Dean.

June

◆ Former PTO Treasurer Quinn Smith, 43, is charged in connection with embezzlement of almost \$100,000 from Monteith Elementary School’s branch of the organization and from the GPPSS Millage Committee for Renewal.

◆ North’s and South’s virtual commencement ceremonies both focus on the themes of strength and resilience in the face of loss. Celebrations include “honor drives” at both schools, where graduates arrive in a parade of vehicles at each campus to pick up their diploma covers, pose for photos and be congratulated by socially distanced faculty, administration and board members. The Grosse Pointe Academy and University Liggett School also host outdoor commencement ceremonies.

◆ Ben Henri, director of choral activities at North, wins the 2020 “Jeopardy!” Teacher Tournament, capturing a \$100,000 grand prize and a berth in the next edition of the Tournament of Champions.

◆ A donation of \$1 million for an early childhood center expansion at Trombly is put on hold due to concerns about COVID-19. Due to this change, Superintendent Niehaus recommends the board consider a pilot year for the ECC with the possibility of expansion if the donors’ funds come through.

◆ Neither snow nor rain nor heat — nor



The first day of school in September for St. Paul School students, who’ve learned in person from the start.

heavy backpack — keeps second grader Max McPartlin from the swift completion of his appointed route to Maire Elementary School. By the last day, June 12, he has walked or biked to school every day this year, even after schools closed for remote learning.

◆ The Head Start preschool program, operated at Poupard Elementary School in Harper Woods since 2012, seeks to relocate to Ferry Elementary School in the Woods or Trombly Elementary School in the Park for the next school year, due to Poupard’s closure.

◆ A safety walk-through on a major construction project underway at South High School unveils a drapery cord fashioned into a noose in a first-floor classroom. The job site is closed for the remainder of the day and an investigation begins.

July

◆ An independent See *SCHOOLS*, page 10A

investigator hired by GPPSS to look into the behavior of two adults associated with South’s choir program — director Christopher Pratt and choreographer Andy Haines — recommends removing Haines from the program and re-examining the role of the South choir boosters. No disciplinary action is recommended against Pratt.

◆ The Wayne County Election Commission votes unanimously to reject language submitted for a recall petition against GPPSS Board of Education President Margaret Weertz and Trustee Chris Lee. All three members of the commission approve a motion to reject the petition due to lack of clarity.

◆ School board members unanimously vote to open Trombly as an early childhood center for a pilot year in 2020-21, and approve the Head Start program at Trombly, a vote contingent on the building remaining open

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North’s cardboard boat races took place last February.

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10A | SCHOOLS

SCHOOLS:

Continued from page 9A

for the year.

◆ Eighteen candidates file for five open seats on the GPPSS school board in the general election. Running for four four-year terms and one two-year term are three incumbents, two former board members and 13 newcomers.

◆ The consensus among those who weighed in during a recent school board meeting is that the district's plan for remote, hybrid and face-to-face learning falls short on details. Many parents and staff members are left with more questions than answers on how the plan ensures a safe return to learning in the fall, in particular the



Grosse Pointe South's marching band practiced socially distanced in August.

logistics of mitigating risk with the face-to-face option.

August

◆ Superintendent Niehaus emails staff and families informing them of a decision to start the

school year "in full remote learning with a gradual plan to bring everyone back," pending approval from the Board of Education. Days later, parents stage a march to protest the recommendation to open schools remotely.

◆ Meanwhile, University Liggett School and The Grosse Pointe Academy, as well as Our Lady Star of the Sea, St. Paul on the Lake and St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic schools prepare for in-person learning.

◆ A GPPSS human resources report includes a recommendation to furlough hourly employees whose work has been eliminated or shifted during the district's 100 percent remote format for the start of school. The furlough agreement is effective Aug. 31, and will be re-evaluated monthly.

September

◆ The WEB — Where Everybody Belongs — program at Brownell, Parcels and Pierce middle schools kicks off a little differently this year. In

anticipation of a remote opening to the school year, a WEB orientation for incoming fifth- and sixth-grade students is held virtually via Google Meets, with eighth graders leading the way.

◆ Gary Niehaus announces at the close of the Sept. 14 school board meeting that 2020 will be his last year as superintendent of GPPSS. He makes the decision to support his wife's decision to pursue a career as president of a community college.

◆ The Wayne County Election Commission votes unanimously to approve language submitted for a recall petition against Board of Education President Margaret Weertz and Trustee Chris Lee. The pair voting in favor of reconfiguring elementary and middle schools, approving construction contracts with Rocket Fiber and extending the superintendent's contract are cited as reasons for the recall.

◆ The district prepares to welcome students back to buildings for face-to-face instruction after beginning the school year with remote learning. The plan begins with the youngest and most at-risk learners and proposes a hybrid return, with students divided primarily by alphabet — allowing families to stay together — and attending school every other day.

◆ Two weeks after opening day, University Liggett School students and staff are settling in to the new safety protocols required for face-to-face learning during the COVID-19 pandemic.

◆ Finishing touches are being put on nearly

\$30 million on bond summer construction projects, including approximately \$20 million worth of construction, \$2 million in roofing projects and \$7.5 million in technology.

October

◆ Misinformation in campaign ads placed in the Sept. 24 Grosse Pointe News result in a resolution proposing a formal censure of Trustee Cindy Pangborn. In spite of a strong recommendation from an attorney to vote down the resolution, the board votes 6-1 in favor at its next meeting.

◆ Three school board candidates named in ads and a flyer with negative claims about GPPSS disavow any involvement with the independent expenditure committee responsible for creating the campaign.

◆ The regular meeting of the GPPSS Board of Education takes place in Brownell Middle School's auditorium — the first in-person meeting since March. GPPSS limits attendance to 160 people, including board members, administration and support staff to allow for social distancing.

◆ An employment discrimination case against GPPSS filed nearly four years ago will be tried in front of a jury after both parties are unable to reach a settlement. In Redlin vs. GPPSS, Debra Redlin, an assistant principal at Parcels, filed a complaint alleging she was discriminated against due to her gender and sexually harassed during the 2014-15 school year while an assistant principal at Grosse Pointe South and was transferred to Parcels as retaliation for filing a complaint.

◆ Students in Young 5 to grade 2 begin face-to-face learning in their elementary school buildings and the principals overseeing their return bill it a success. The week is off to a great start in middle schools as well, with the first cohort of fifth graders getting their bearings before they are joined by older students.

◆ Seventeen candidates vying for five seats on the GPPSS Board of Education share with the Grosse Pointe News their views on the main chal-

lenges facing the school district, ideas for managing those challenges, their reasons for running and what makes them uniquely qualified to serve.

◆ A group of parents line the sidewalk entrance to Brownell Middle School's multi-purpose room, greeting attendees of the school board meeting with pleas to open the school buildings to face-to-face learning. One sign captures the sentiments of protesters: "You're failing our kids and our community. F2F now!"

November

◆ A recommendation by the Michigan Department of Civil Rights to the GPPSS nearly a year and a half ago is coming to fruition. The administration is adopting a council on race, equity and inclusion that will report directly to the superintendent and present recommendations to the school board on board policies, curriculum and hiring practices.

◆ Ahmed Ismail, returning to the school board after having served from 2004 to 2009 and 2014 to 2018, takes the lead for a four-year term on the board with 11,496 votes. He is followed by newcomers Colleen Worden with 10,945 votes, Lisa Papas with 9,972 votes and David Brumbaugh with 9,844 votes. Of the three incumbents in the race, only Joseph Herd is successful in his bid. He ran to complete the term he was appointed to in January, earning 11,132 votes.

◆ University Liggett School celebrates its golden anniversary this year. The 2020-21 academic session marks 50 years since students first graduated under the united University Liggett School identity in 1971.

◆ Sixty-eight percent of voters approve renewing the Wayne County regional enhancement millage on the ballot.

◆ Due to a rise in COVID-19 cases in GPPSS and a letter grade of "E" representing the highest risk from the Wayne County Health Department, administration recommends all students return to remote learning.

◆ An enrollment decline of approximately 300 more students than projected prompts the GPPSS administration to conduct an exit survey to determine why families left the school district.

December

◆ Despite economic uncertainty, University Liggett School announces the successful completion of its largest fundraising campaign in school history. When ULS launched its \$50 million Sure Foundations campaign in 2012, the country still was in a measured recovery from the Great Recession. The campaign concludes eight years later in the midst of a pandemic, exceeding its goal and raising \$51 million.

◆ The Board of Education approves Superintendent Niehaus' evaluation with a collaborative score of 92 percent.

◆ Following the pause implemented mid-November, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services announces the re-allowance of in-person learning at high schools.



FILE PHOTOS

A student learns remotely in October.

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Residents pushing for face-to-face learning protested down Fisher Road in August.

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New marker commemorates King's historic speech at South

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Almost exactly one year ago, the Grosse Pointe News announced its intention, in partnership with the Grosse Pointe Board of Realtors and Grosse Pointe Public School System, to unveil a new historic marker at Grosse Pointe South High School, commemorating Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s 1968 speech, "The Other America."

It was in observation of the 50th anniversary of said speech that Grosse Pointe News Publisher John Minnis decided such an historic event should be commemorated.

"It was when we were doing stories on the 50th anniversary of the MLK speech at South that it occurred to me: Why don't we have an historic marker on this?" he reflected.

Though the marker wasn't installed last spring as intended, it has finally found its home at South — marking the end of a long road for those who brought it there.

Origins

It was in 2018, after preliminary research and a few phone calls, Minnis mentioned the idea during a Grosse Pointe News Advisory Board meeting. Quick to jump on board was Bob Taylor, CEO of the Grosse Pointe Board of Realtors.

"Grosse Pointe is not known for being an inclusive community," Taylor said. "The Grosse Pointe Board of Realtors has a Fair Housing Committee; we're very engaged in the topic of fair housing. ... We also have available to us



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Grosse Pointe Board of Realtors President Alexis DeLuca and Grosse Pointe News Publisher John Minnis stand by the marker their organizations helped bring to fruition.

something called fair housing grants." As Taylor discovered when he approached the National Association of Realtors, such grants may be used for the commemoration of historic events like King's 1968 speech.

Taylor and Minnis went to work writing the grant application, Minnis supplying much of the necessary background information. The grant was approved "early on," Taylor said. "It was chance happenstance," he added. "If we had not all been sitting in the Grosse Pointe News office, I'm not sure this would have happened."

Also at the meeting was GPPSS Community Relations Specialist Rebecca Fannon, who introduced the idea to Superintendent Gary

Niehaus.

"The district was honored to work with John Minnis and Bob Taylor to bring this historical marker to Grosse Pointe South," Niehaus said. "We are grateful for their leadership in this important partnership."

In addition to garnering board support, the district worked with The Mothers' Club at South and the Michigan Historical Commission on placement of the sign, Niehaus said.

"We wanted it to be visible so people read it, but it couldn't be too close to the original historic marker about the building itself," he added, noting Minnis drafted verbiage for the marker. "We also worked with the committee on editing the language for the marker, using words right from King's

speech."

Support from the GPPSS Board of Education and its facilities committee was easily granted.

"The district is very appreciative of all the work that went into erecting the marker at Grosse Pointe South High School," board President Margaret Weertz said. "Martin Luther King Jr.'s historic visit to Grosse Pointe in 1968 certainly should be celebrated. He was assassinated just three weeks after the visit. We have commemorated his visit, but the marker is a daily reminder of that evening. Kudos to the Grosse Pointe Board of Realtors and the Grosse Pointe News for making this happen."

Roadblocks

However, even with the grant and school board approval, there were roadblocks — literally — along the way, the first of which was construction at South, which received a new secure entryway when the marker was first set to be installed.

"We received the sign on time to install it on the 51st anniversary of the MLK speech, but the planned construction of the Fisher Road entrance prevented us from getting the marker put up at the time," Minnis said. "Then, of course, the pandemic hit."

The marker eventually was installed last month, on the walkway to the school's new secure entryway. An older marker, commemorating

the building's architecture, was moved closer to the school; the new marker is more prominently placed.

Organizers hope to have a formal ceremony later this year.

"The board will be planning a dedication ceremony, hopefully in the fall of 2021, with attendees to include representatives from the state of Michigan Historical Commission, representatives from The Henry Ford, state and local government representatives, members of the National Association of Realtors leadership and members of the group who originally sought out Dr. King to speak at the high school, as well as attendees from that day," said Alexis DeLuca, president of the Grosse Pointe Board of Realtors. "All of these people have asked to be invited to the official dedication ceremony."

Significance

Niehaus said while a ceremony will take place as soon as it's safe to gather, "in the meantime, we encourage people to take a moment on MLK Day to visit the marker, read Dr. King's words and discuss what this means to their family and our community."

DeLuca emphasized the importance of placing the marker at South. "We want to keep future generations, along with passersby, aware of Dr. King's historic speech, considering it was one of his last, and the importance of it taking place in our community," she said. "The Grosse Pointe Board of Realtors finds deep value in preserving and sharing this event in our community's history. Promoting equality and fair housing is such an important issue which we work toward continually, both because it is ethically right and we believe our community is strengthened when we welcome and embrace diversity."

Taylor agreed. "I think it's important for the community of Grosse Pointe to realize it has been at the very front of discussions of fair housing and diversity and race within this country," he said. "The fact that (King) spoke here 53 years ago tells me somebody in Grosse Pointe had a vision ... of what Grosse Pointe should be. I wanted that

Martin Luther King Jr. in Grosse Pointe

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◆ Side One

Martin Luther King Jr. spoke at the Grosse Pointe High School auditorium on March 14, 1968, to a crowd of more than two thousand people. In a speech entitled "The Other America," King depicted two worlds within the nation: one where white families flourished, and another where black families struggled due to inequality. Nearly two hundred protestors from Breakthrough, an anti-communist group based in Detroit, picketed outside the high school and heckled King during his speech. The protestors criticized King for his opposition to the Vietnam War. King allowed a few hecklers to voice their opinions during his presentation. At the end of the speech he received a standing ovation. Just three weeks after he visited Grosse Pointe, King was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee.

◆ Side Two

Speaking here in 1968, Martin Luther King Jr. described "two Americas": "One America is beautiful for situation. ... In this America children grow up in the sunlight of opportunity. But there is another America. This other America has a daily ugliness about it that transforms the buoyancy of hope into the fatigue of despair. ... Thousands of young people are deprived of an opportunity to get an adequate education ... the schools are so segregated ... that the best in these minds can never come out. ... "However difficult it is to live amidst the constant hurt, the constant disrespect, I can still sing we shall overcome ... because the arc of the moral universe is long but it bends towards justice."

voice to be heard."

The marker is just one step in the school district's current efforts for diversity, equity and inclusion. It recently established a council on race, equity and inclusion, and also produced a diversity calendar in cooperation with the GPBR.

Niehaus quoted a recent letter from the council regarding the marker's significance and why the district continues such efforts:

"Our different beliefs and worldviews create variance in what we will need or not need when we process momentous events. However, as educators, we are bonded by the unique work of caring about the way others think, process and understand the world around them. That is our main work. So, never forget that in the chaos that surrounds, we have all committed to a work that affirms — not breaks down — our humanity. There is comfort in knowing we are in a good fight, together."

Virtual film screening, panel discussion on MLK Day

Across America, more than 900 streets bear the name of Martin Luther King Jr. For this year's Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration, the Detroit Historical Society's Black Historic Sites Committee and the Detroit Historical Museum present an in-depth look into how race and geography have played a role in naming streets after King and whether the streets have lived up to his legacy and dreams.

The all-virtual event from 1 to 3 p.m. Monday, Jan. 18, is free with registration and includes a panel discussion and special viewing of the 15-minute film short "King Blvd."

The Zoom event panel features:

◆ Earl Hardy, writer and producer of "King Blvd." In his travels, Hardy noticed that MLK streets often were located in blighted neighborhoods and

wanted to know why and what could be done to revitalize those areas. This investigation led the Detroit native to write and produce "King Blvd."

◆ Dr. Derek Alderman, cultural geographer and professor at the University of Tennessee. He has studied and written about streets named after MLK since the early 1990s. Alderman's specialties include race, public memory, symbolic landscapes, heritage tourism and critical place-name study.

◆ Jamon Jordan, local historian, educator and founder of The Black Scroll Network, History & Tours. He established the tour company after 20 years as a public school teacher who observed the scarcity of African American history in school curriculums and decided to do something about it.

For more information and registration, visit bit.ly/3hRd749.

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OBITUARIES

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

Ruth Ann Thomas

Longtime Grosse Pointe Woods resident Ruth Ann Thomas, 77, of Port Sanilac, passed away peacefully Wednesday, Jan. 6, 2021. Born Oct. 11, 1943, in Deckerville, to Lyle and Freda DeLong, she had 10 siblings – five sisters and five brothers.

A graduate of Deckerville High School, Ruth earned undergraduate and graduate degrees in education with a specialty in reading from Michigan State University. She was an avid Spartan fan.

Ruth and Peter Thomas were married in 1966. The couple lived in Grosse Pointe Woods more than 30 years before they relocated to their beloved home on Lake Huron in Port Sanilac.

Ruth is survived by her husband, Peter; children, Charles Thomas (Marie) of Grosse Pointe Woods and Pamela Mowatt of Grosse Pointe Woods; and grandchildren, Ethan Mowatt, Annaliese Thomas, Tyler Mowatt and Sarabeth Thomas. She was predeceased by her parents.

Ruth played a huge role as an elementary and middle school teacher at Lakeview Public Schools in St. Clair Shores. She shaped the lives of many children and was a highly respected educator and friend among her peers. Ruth's firm, yet kind, approach taught her students that motivational learning, hard work and giving their best were the means to success.

Ruth relished life and endeavored to experience every aspect

through her and Pete's vast travels, from their many sailing trips through the U.S. and British Virgin Islands, rafting the Colorado River through the heart of the Grand Canyon, exploring Australia and New Zealand, to cruising the Danube and countless other trips around the U.S. and world.

Ruth spent many winters in Scottsdale, Ariz., where she enjoyed golfing and time with friends. Ruth cherished these adventures and always had a story to tell about her travels, often with a humorous one tucked in. Ruth had a contagious laugh that still can be heard when stories are recounted and memories shared of times spent with her.

Ruth loved journaling every detail of her and Pete's travel and experiences, including places visited, sites seen and cuisine experienced. Her family said Ruth was such an incredibly talented and descriptive writer that reading these pages makes one feel as though they are present in the very moments and places Ruth experienced.

Ruth truly enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren; she had a special connection with each one. She loved watching her grandchildren compete in their various athletic endeavors – never wanting to be interrupted during a meet or game – with an intensity for her grandchildren to run, swim and play their very best. She admired her grandchildren's grit in every respect and cheered them on with much enthusiasm and spirit. Ruth loved telling stories

of the sports she herself played as a child, often including how she was the lone girl among the boys and how she loved to compete and often surprised them with her skill.

A gracious, gentle and caring soul, many people looked to Ruth as a mentor for sage guidance as a wife, mother, educator and friend, and for her no-nonsense advice.

Ruth enjoyed golfing with Pete and also took pleasure in her weekly golf outings with her "gals" from the Huron Shores Golf Club, as well as taking part in annual Thomas family reunion golf outings and barbecues.

She also was an avid gardener and maintained an expansive number of perennial beds around their home in Port Sanilac. Ruth traded plants with family, friends and neighbors; she taught her children the art of ditch-digging lilies if there was a color she did not already have that was in a ditch she somewhere passed by. From her plant swapping and sharing, Ruth's beautiful soul will live on and flourish in Port Sanilac and at the homes of her children and friends near and far, her family said.

Ruth's family said she will be remembered as being exceptional at many things – a wonderful and supportive partner, devoted wife, working mother and loving grandmother; a kind, generous and humble woman; a brilliant educator and inspirer of children; a traveler and explorer who never lost sight of how much there is to see in the world; a



Ruth Ann Thomas



Marie Vanderpool



Barbara Bertschinger

lover of sports and competition; a master gardener; a woman with an unparalleled ability to light up a crowd and room with her stories and laughter; and a person committed to her friends and family and making sure everyone around her was included and felt loved.

A funeral Mass will be celebrated at noon Saturday, Feb. 13, at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 22412 Overlake, St. Clair Shores.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association of America, act.alz.org.

Marie Vanderpool

Marie Vanderpool (nee Hosten), 102, died Saturday, Jan. 2, 2021, at her home in Grosse Pointe Shores.

A resident of the Grosse Pointes for 92 years, she devoted her life to her husband, five children and relatives. When her mother passed, and later her siblings, she became matriarch of her extended family that included nieces, a nephew and their children's families.

Her biggest delight was to entertain and be in the company of family and friends. She maintained close relationships with family members in Belgium that continue today into the third generation. Many enduring friendships and social groups brought her joy throughout the years.

Marie attended Grosse Pointe High School beginning in seventh grade, the year the school opened. At 16, she began to help manage family real estate investments when her father died. A 1936 graduate of Grosse Pointe High School, she attended the Detroit Business College. After Marie married, she raised her family and continued to manage properties well into her 90s.

An avid traveler, she ventured throughout the U.S. and introduced her children to most of the national parks via road trips. Her travels extended worldwide, including Antarctica and the Arctic Circle.

Marie's family said she was a woman with abundant energy, ahead of her time, and set a high bar for herself and her family. She will be greatly missed by all.

Marie was the beloved wife of the late John Vanderpool. She also was predeceased by her son, John A. Vanderpool, his first wife, Linda, and second wife, Cynthia; brother, Karl Hosten; and sister, Elise Hosten McGough. She is survived by her children, Marie Seamans (Ron), Julie McBride (Don), Robert (Kathy) and Janet; eight grandchildren; and 22 great-grandchildren.

A funeral Mass was

held Jan. 6, at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church in Grosse Pointe Woods.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the organizations that helped Marie in her later years — The Helm, helmlife.org/donate; or Angela Hospice Home Care, 14100 Newburgh Rd., Livonia, MI 48154.

Barbara Lee Bertschinger

Barbara Lee Bertschinger, 91, passed away Saturday, Jan. 9, 2021, in Brookfield, Conn., under the care and comfort of her family.

She was a longtime Grosse Pointe resident who later settled in St. Clair Shores.

Barbara was the beloved mother of Walter Bertschinger, Karen Lynn, Beth Telesco and Kenneth Bertschinger; cherished sister of Rosalyn Roegner; treasured grandmother of Michael McCall, Kristina Breuninger and Kevin Breuninger; and dear aunt of Mark Roegner, Sue Smith, Paul Roegner, John Roegner and Sarah Wuebben. She was a friend to many and the spark of joy to so many more. She was predeceased by her parents, Kenneth and Lillian Edwards.

Barbara spent her life in service to others.

A 1947 graduate of St. Clair High School, she earned a degree from the Henry Ford Hospital School of Nursing. She worked as a registered nurse prior to marrying Walter Bertschinger Sr., now deceased, and later returned to the profession as an oncology nurse.

Barbara was lifelong friends with many of her nursing-school colleagues; their annual reunions were non-negotiable, even in her 90th year.

Barbara's passion for service went beyond her career. She was a committed member of the Grosse Pointe Woman's Club, a lifelong Girl Scout and a troop leader for the Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts. She also was deeply involved at St. Michael's Episcopal Church, where she was an ordained elder.

Wielding a formidable green thumb, Barbara took pleasure in maintaining the garden at her home in Grosse Pointe and beautifying the city where she spent much of her adult life. An avid traveler, Barbara visited all of the states in the contiguous U.S. and numerous countries in Europe, Asia and Oceania. She also loved reading, playing bridge and, above all, spending time with her family.

Memorial services will be held at a later date.

The family notes that hospice workers spared no effort to aid Barbara in her final days. In lieu of flowers, they request



Mark Binder Edelstein

donations be made by check payable to RVNAHealth, 27 Governor St., Ridgefield, CT, 06877, with "Hospice" written on the memo line.

Mark Binder Edelstein

Longtime Grosse Pointe Park resident Mark Binder Edelstein, 71, passed away Monday, Jan. 4, 2021, after a long illness.

Born and raised in St. Louis, he enjoyed baseball and camping. He also enjoyed membership in the Boy Scouts of America and earned the rank of Eagle Scout.

Mark graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Wisconsin, where he majored in English and chemistry. He earned M.D. and Ph.D. degrees from Washington University in St. Louis and a post-doctorate degree at the Radiobiologic Institute in the Netherlands. Mark completed a medical residency and hematology and oncology fellowship at Duke University.

A physician in the Netherlands for four years, Mark thereafter joined the medical staff at the VA Hospital in Detroit, where he remained 27 years and served as chief of medicine more than 10 years. He was a professor of medicine at the Wayne State University School of Medicine and loved teaching and rounding with his students and residents.

Mark enjoyed bicycling in his spare time and spent Sundays working at Bike Tech cycle shop in Detroit. He was a voracious reader and car enthusiast.

Mark is survived by his wife of 49 years, Terese Edelstein, and children, Matthew Edelstein of Grosse Pointe Park and Katherine (Vince) Facchiano of Phoenix. He also is survived by his sister, Jacki Benn (Peter); nieces, Madeleine and Ava; and brother, William Edelstein (Barb Parmet), all of whom reside in California.

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

Contributions in Mark's memory may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, alz.org; or Disabled American Veterans, dav.org.

See OBITS, page 3B

Alfred "Fred" Paul Wittwer

March 22, 1925 - January 02, 2021

Alfred "Fred" Paul Wittwer of St. Clair Shores, Michigan departed this life on Saturday, January 2, 2021.

He was born in Gelsenkirchen, Germany on March 22, 1925 and came to the United States with his mother, Henrietta and father, Alfred in 1930. They settled in Detroit, Michigan where Fred graduated from Eastern High School and Wayne State University, '51.

After graduation from Eastern High School, Fred enlisted in the Army on June 21, 1943 and served as a Flight Maintenance Gunner in New Guinea, Southern Philippines and Borneo. He was honorably discharged with honors on January 24, 1946.

While attending Wayne State University, Fred and Margaret Elizabeth Hock married on August 20, 1949. After graduation, Fred started his career with Shell Oil and Northern Engineering before partnering in the founding of Medallion Crane Builders. He later formed his own business, the A.P. Wittwer Company in 1969; specializing in overhead cranes and brake units for Industrial distribution. He remained active in the Company as President and CEO until retiring in 1999. He remained active as Chair-

man of the Board until his passing.



Retirement allowed Fred to follow many interests. He and Margaret traveled the world with the Nomad travel group of Grosse Pointe, and spent many winter months in Scottsdale, Arizona entertaining friends, family and most importantly, their 8 grandchildren.

He loved to play golf, was an avid photographer and attended many youth baseball, basketball, soccer and tennis events- all to cheer on his family.

Margaret and Fred were regulars in the stands! Margaret also convinced Fred to learn bridge, which gave them time to spend with their Bridge group of over 70 years, all of whom they met as young members of Peace Lutheran Church on Detroit's east side.

After living in Grosse Pointe for 50 years, their final move was in 2019 to Lakeshore Senior Living of St. Clair Shores, Michigan. Fred was active at both Peace Lutheran Church in Detroit and Christ the King Lutheran Church in Grosse Pointe Woods. He was a former member of the Grosse Pointe Senior Men's Club and the Detroit Yacht Club.

Fred was predeceased by his loving wife of 70 years (1949-2019), Margaret Elizabeth Wittwer (nee Hock). He is survived by his four children, Ellen Rohde (Al Daniel) of Columbia, SC; Tom (Val) Wittwer of Olalla, WA; Nancy Fitzpatrick of Stamford, CT; David (Sally) Wittwer of Grosse Pointe Park, MI; and 8 grandchildren - Andrew Wittwer, Emmaline Wittwer, Kevin (Kerri) Fitzpatrick, Lauren Amaral, Emily Fitzpatrick, Dr. Julie Wittwer, David Wittwer Jr., and Jack Wittwer.

His children would like to thank all of the medical and nursing staff in the Covid and Hospice units at Ascension St. John Hospital; and all of the staff of Lakeshore Senior Living who made our parents feel welcomed and at home.

A Memorial Service will be held sometime in the post-Covid months of 2021. Details to follow. www.ah-peters.com

The Neighborhood Club celebrates 110th anniversary

The Neighborhood Club celebrates its 110th anniversary Thursday, Jan. 14, and also marks the eighth anniversary this month of the grand opening of the Neighborhood Club Recreation and Wellness Center.

In a message to supporters, the club thanked its Board of Trustees and staff, as well as the community for supporting it through fitness center memberships, program participation, volunteer coaching, thrift shop

patronage and monetary donations.

“We are grateful for our collaboration with the Grosse Pointe Public School System and the City of Grosse Pointe,” the message read. “Our thanks as well to Beaumont for offering adult physical therapy, as well as the John A. and Marlene L. Boll Center for Human Development for children facing learning and developmental concerns.”

“Thank you, Grosse Pointe community, for

keeping the Neighborhood Club strong for 110 years and for supporting the first eight years of the Neighborhood Club Recreation and Wellness Center.”

The Neighborhood Club began in 1911, when a group of women founded the organization to address the recreation, education, welfare and healthcare needs of the community. In the early days, the Neighborhood Club co-sponsored Grosse

Pointe’s first library, constructed its first gymnasium, organized the community’s first hospital — Cottage Hospital — and hired a visiting nurse to tend to local families.

The Neighborhood Club of 2021 offers activities and programs for an even wider segment of the community through its recreation and wellness center. Prior to the center’s opening in 2013, the Neighborhood Club primarily was known for its youth athletic league

programs, preschool program and thrift shop. With the added facility, additional offerings allow even more people of all ages and abilities to lead a more active lifestyle. With a warm water pool, gymnasium and fitness complex, the Neighborhood Club added expanded fitness class offerings, personal trainers, swim lessons, water aerobics and therapy classes, open swim and open gym time, birthday party packages and conference room

rentals.

In addition to Neighborhood Club programs, Beaumont Health System provides adult physical therapy in the facility, as well as services to children and adolescents with behavioral and developmental disorders. It is the only place Beaumont Health System offers all these services under one roof and the only place for these services in the Grosse Pointe area.

To learn more, visit neighborhoodclub.org.

Farms man honored by Habitat for Humanity of Michigan

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

If you ask Jim Garlough about receiving Habitat for Humanity of Michigan’s Volunteer of the Year honor, he’ll likely downplay the statewide recognition.

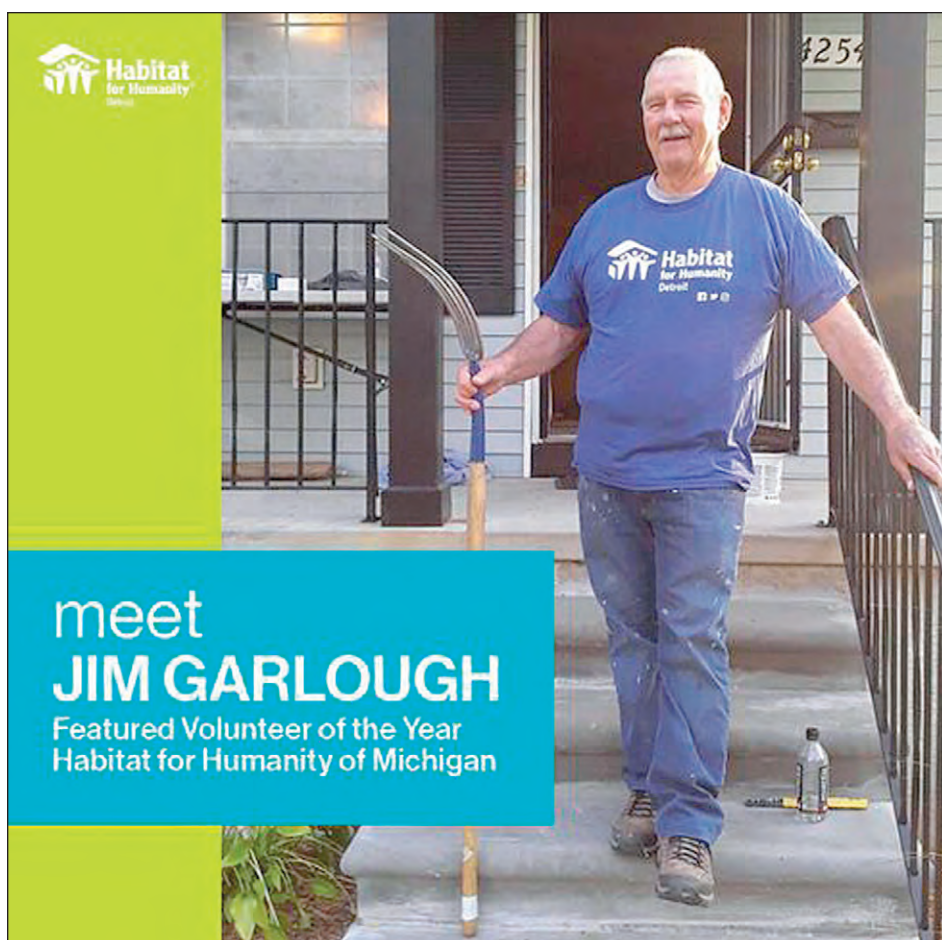
The Grosse Pointe Farms resident will say he “just happened to be one” of the people singled out for it.

Which is not to say he wasn’t surprised by or grateful for the award, which was presented to him for his years of volunteering and all he’s accomplished to advance the mission of Habitat for Humanity.

“It’s very nice, a nice recognition,” he said.

Garlough was introduced to Habitat in the 1990s through Jack Williams, a fellow member of Grosse Pointe Memorial Church and one of the founders of the church’s Habitat Grosse Pointe Partners group. Williams first introduced Garlough to Habitat through its Macomb County affiliate; they worked on home builds with high school students. Then they took a group of church youth on a build in Virginia. Garlough also participated in several of Habitat’s summer blitzes.

“I’ve always felt good about Habitat as a non-profit,” he said. “If we can put somebody in a house, that’s a really cool long-term benefit for somebody. ... It’s a nice sense of satisfaction



COURTESY PHOTO

Jim Garlough recently was named a Volunteer of the Year by Habitat for Humanity of Michigan.

putting people in a house they can afford, that’s safe and dependable and they don’t have to worry about being evicted.”

Garlough’s devotion to Habitat became more serious after he retired in 2006; he spent most of his career teaching history at Grosse Pointe South High School.

“When I retired, I was looking for something to do,” Garlough said, adding that he and his wife, Mary, tossed around a few ideas of how they’d like to spend their time. “I thought this is some-

thing I wouldn’t mind being more involved in. I started working a couple days a week, then two or three.”

However, Habitat isn’t the only venture in which they’ve found fulfillment.

The couple also has volunteered for Heifer International the past 12 years, visiting the organization’s Arkansas facility four to six weeks per trip. He provides maintenance while she does landscaping.

“We made good friends there,” he said. “It was

our Michigan getaway, semi-working vacation.”

Their travels to Arkansas likely won’t happen this year, a precaution against COVID-

19, but fortunately for them there’s plenty to do in the Detroit area.

“We’ve been just as busy (with Habitat) in the last 18 to 20 months as any other time,” Garlough said, noting for the last 15 months or so, even pre-coronavirus, sites have been limited to three or four volunteers. Safety protocols currently are in place to keep workers spaced out on job sites as well.

It helps that Habitat has refocused its efforts these last few years from ground-up construction to rehabbing and repairing existing houses.

“Given all the situations that have happened for several years now, it’s been slowly reorganizing itself,” Garlough said. “The housing crisis had a serious impact on housing and there was the economic impact from getting fewer donations. But it’s making a good comeback.”

A few years ago — after completing a commitment to build 100 houses in the Morningside neighborhood on Detroit’s eastside — Habitat Detroit began building in Midtown and

then, “We started getting houses back,” Garlough said. “People had lost them because of the economy, because of job losses. So the focus the last couple of years is major rehab and handicap ramp builds.”

Garlough added, with Detroit’s size and number of vacancies, “rehabbing even just on the eastside is going to be a major project,” especially on houses that are 80 to 100 years old.

While the Habitat crew specializes in flooring, painting, repairs, bathroom remodels and smaller tasks, skilled tradesmen are brought in for services like plumbing, electrical and HVAC.

No matter the job, Garlough said his involvement with Grosse Pointe Partners and Habitat Detroit continues to be fun and “a great pleasure.”

“I hope I can continue to do it for at least a while,” he added. “I’ve slowed down from what I was doing eight or 10 years ago, but I still enjoy it. I still enjoy being involved in it and I’d like to do it as long as I can.”

Pro Musica LIVE presents Angela Theis

Pro Musica Detroit presents soprano Angela Theis of Grosse Pointe Woods in a pro-

gram that will be webcast at 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 21. The multitalented American artist, accompanied by Michigan pianist Timothy Cheek, stars in the third program of the new Pro Musica LIVE online performance series.

Hosted by Cecelia Sharpe of WRCJ 90.9 FM, Pro Musica LIVE programs include musical selections and conversations with the artist in an intimate setting, evoking the Pro Musica concert experience.

To enjoy Theis’ Pro Musica LIVE performance, listeners are invited to visit pro musicadetroit.com to register for the Jan. 21 webcast. Pro Musica LIVE programs are free and open to all who enjoy the musical arts.

This has captivated the attention of audiences and critics alike on stages around the world. She will perform the arias “Donde Lieta,” from Giacomo Puccini’s “La Boheme,” and “Deh vieni non tardar,” from Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart’s “Le Nozze Di Figaro.” The program also includes Sergei Rachmaninoff’s “Vocalise,” as well as African American spirituals.



COURTESY PHOTO

Angela Theis



CITY OF GROSSE POINTE FARMS CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING SUMMARY

Virtual Meeting

Monday, January 11, 2021

7:00 p.m.

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, January 11, 2021, 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 December 14, 2020.

Council adjourned and reconvened as the Board of Zoning Appeals.

The Board of Zoning Appeals dismissed the 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 the MDOT Safety Grant resolution and agreement.

Council approved the Consent Agenda.

- Consideration of a request to re-appointment Tom Youngblood to the Board of Review for a term of three years expiring February 2024.
- Consideration of a request to reschedule the second meeting of the Board of Review from March 22, 2021 to March 15, 2021.
- Consideration of a request from Grosse Pointe Sunrise Rotary to hold the 42nd Grosse Pointe Run on Saturday, September 18, 2021.
- Consideration of a request to approve December 2020 invoices.

Council received the December 2020 Public Safety Report.

Council approved the Urban County Cooperative Agreement for the Federal Community Development Block Grant Program.

Council heard public comment.

Mayor Theros adjourned the regular meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Derrick Kozicki, City Clerk.

Published: Grosse Pointe News 1/14/2021

Abnormal seasons still yield championships

In March 2020, post-season sporting events sponsored by the Michigan High School Athletic Association were suspended “immediately and indefinitely” due to concerns related to COVID-19.

In September, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer gave high school athletes and coaches some much-needed good news when she gave the OK for athletic competition to begin.

Despite shortened seasons and school shutdowns, Grosse Pointe high school athletes still managed to find victory during these unprecedented times.

The winter 2020 sports season saw Grosse Pointe North’s girls varsity basketball team become district champions, while the school’s gymnastics squad became Great Lakes League champs when it placed first at the Great Lakes League Championship. Winter 2020 also saw North’s competitive cheer team take the Macomb Area Conference Gold Division championship and, in figure skating, North athletes were A and C Team district champions.

In fall 2020, North’s boys varsity soccer team won the MAC White championship and its boys varsity tennis team became district champions.



Grosse Pointe North’s boys varsity soccer team won the MAC White championship.



Grosse Pointe South’s field hockey team took the Division 2 East regular season championship, later winning quarter-final and semi-final games.

It was a busy fall for Grosse Pointe South High School, as its boys cross-country team became district champs and its field hockey team took the Division 2 East regular season championship, later

winning quarter-final and semi-final games. While South’s boys soccer team won the district finals, head coach Francesco Cilano also won district coach of the year for the second year.

South’s boys tennis team won the MAC Red and regional championships, its volleyball team won districts and its girls swimming and diving team won the MAC Red Division.

Fall sports at University Liggett School included the girls varsity field hockey team becoming Catholic High School League champions and then state champions. The Liggett boys varsity tennis team went from regional champions to state champions, while its boys varsity soccer team became district champions.

At press time, Liggett’s girls varsity swim team planned to compete for the state championship Saturday, Jan. 16.



Grosse Pointe South’s swim team won the MAC Red Division.



University Liggett School’s football team took on Carson City.



Grosse Pointe North cross-country runners compete.

FILE PHOTOS

Red Cross, NFL urge donation during National Blood Donor Month

The American Red Cross and the National Football League are teaming up this month, National Blood Donor Month, to urge individuals — especially those who have recovered from COVID-19 — to give blood and help tackle the national convalescent plasma shortage. Right now, more donors are needed to help hospital patients.

During this critical time, the Red Cross and NFL are offering all those who donate an opportunity to receive a special thank you. Those who donate blood or platelets this month will be automatically entered to win two tickets to next year’s Super Bowl LVI in Los Angeles. In addition, those who come now until Wednesday, Jan. 20, also will be automatically entered to win the Big Game at Home viewing package that includes a 65-inch television and \$500 gift card for food and fun.

Individuals may schedule an appointment to give blood with the American Red Cross by visiting redcrossblood.org, using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, calling 1-800-RED-CROSS or activating the Blood Scheduling Skill for Amazon Alexa.

“Blood and plasma donors who have recovered from COVID-19 may have the power to help critically ill patients currently battling the virus,” said Dr. Erin Goodhue, Red Cross medical director of clinical services. “With hospital distributions for convalescent plasma increasing about 250 percent since October,

these generous donations are vital in helping to save lives throughout the winter — a time that is often challenging to collect enough blood products for those in need.”

As COVID-19 cases have risen across the U.S., so has the need for convalescent plasma, leading to a shortage of this potentially lifesaving blood product. Like “special teams” units on the field, COVID-19 survivors have a unique ability to make a game-changing difference in the lives of COVID-19 patients. Individuals who have recovered from COVID-19 may have antibodies in their plasma that could provide a patient’s immune system the

boost it needs to beat the virus.

There are two ways COVID-19 survivors can help — through a convalescent plasma donation or by simply giving whole blood. Plasma from whole blood donations that test positive for COVID-19 antibodies may be used to help COVID-19 patients. Health emergencies don’t pause for holidays, game days or a pandemic; blood is needed every two seconds in the U.S. to help patients battling injury and illness.

To protect the health and safety of Red Cross staff and donors, individuals who do not feel well or who believe they may be ill with COVID-19 should postpone their donation.

Each Red Cross blood drive and donation center follows the highest standards of safety and infection control. Additional precautions — including temperature checks, social distancing and face coverings for donors and staff — have been implemented to help protect the health of all those in attendance. Donors are asked to schedule an appointment prior to arriving at the drive and are required to

wear a face covering or mask while at the drive, in alignment with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention public guidance.

Upcoming local blood drives include:

◆ 1 to 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 15, St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church, 1401 Whittier, Grosse Pointe Park.

◆ 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Christ Church Grosse Pointe, 61 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse

Pointe Farms.

◆ 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 24, St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 22412 Overlake, St. Clair Shores.

◆ 1 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 27, Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church, 211 Moross, Grosse Pointe Farms.

◆ 1 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 28, AMVETS Post 57, 19730 Harper, Harper Woods.

Register at redcrossblood.org.

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IRISH COFFEE BAR & GRILL
EST. 1980

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Doordash or Grubhub
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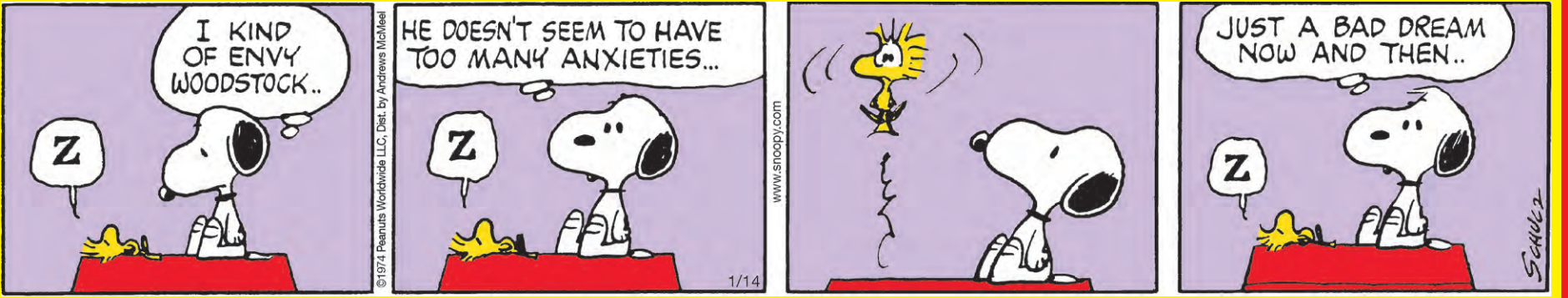
Come see what's new in 2021

74 Kercheval Avenue • Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236
313.458.8719
Hours: Tuesday - Saturday 11-5 • Sunday & Monday - Closed

Comics

Peanuts

Charles M. Schulz



Family Circus

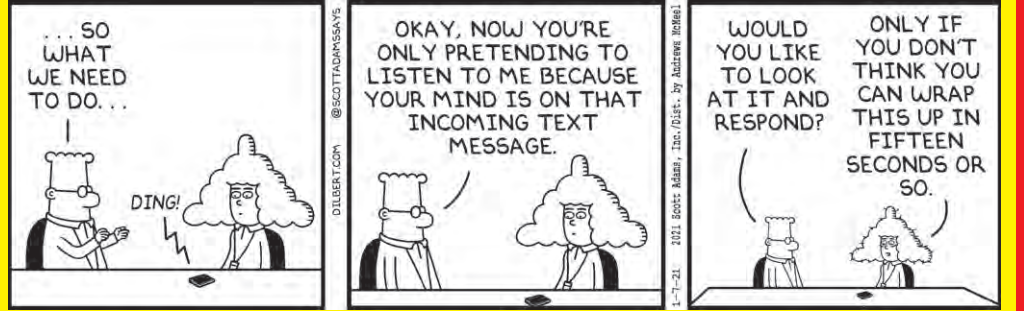
Bill and Jeff Keane



"A prescription for cookies?"

Dilbert

Scott Adams



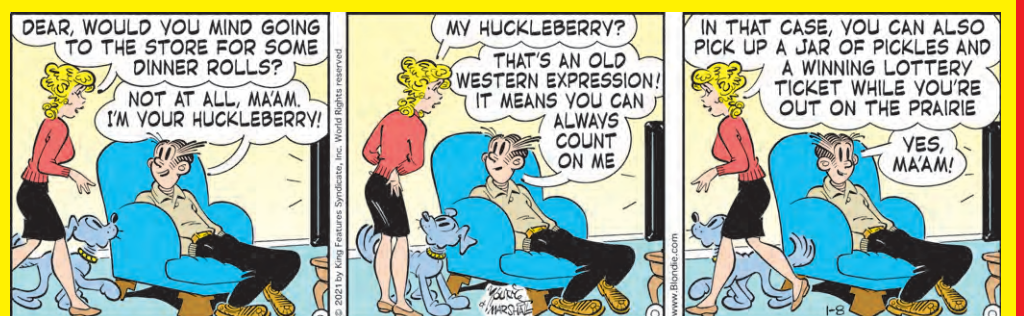
Beetle Bailey

Greg and Mort Walker



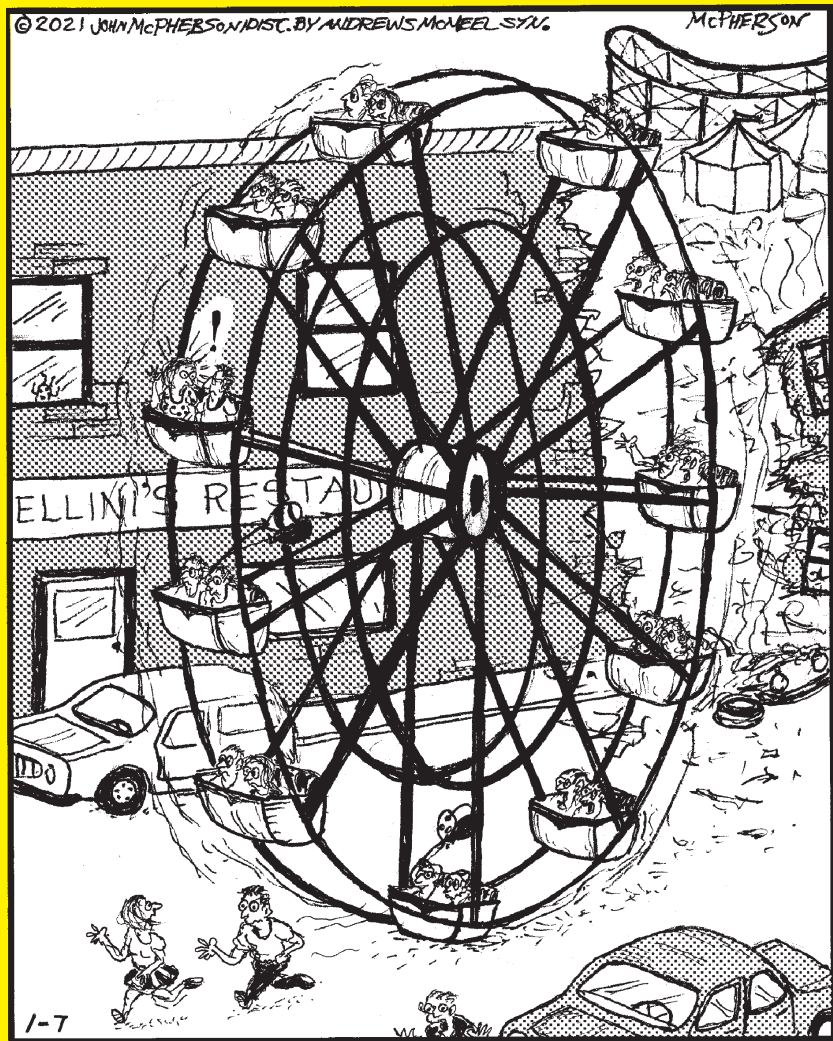
Blondie

Chris and Dean Young



Close To Home

John McPherson



"Will you quit singing that stupid 'Big Wheel Keep on Rolling...' song?!"

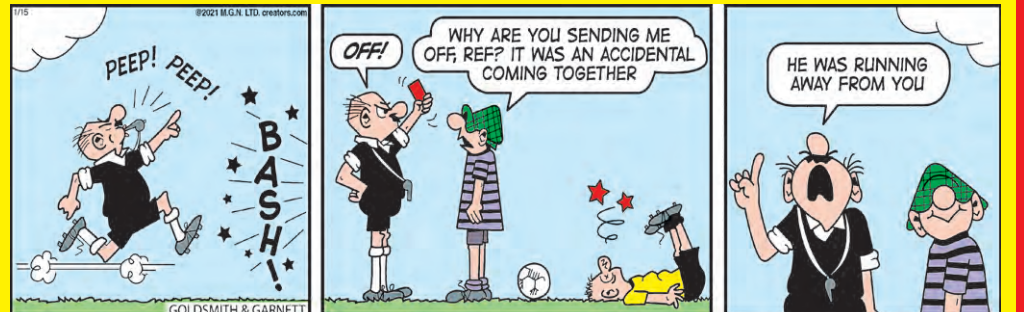
Over The Hedge

Michael Fry and T. Lewis



Andy Capp

Reg Smythe



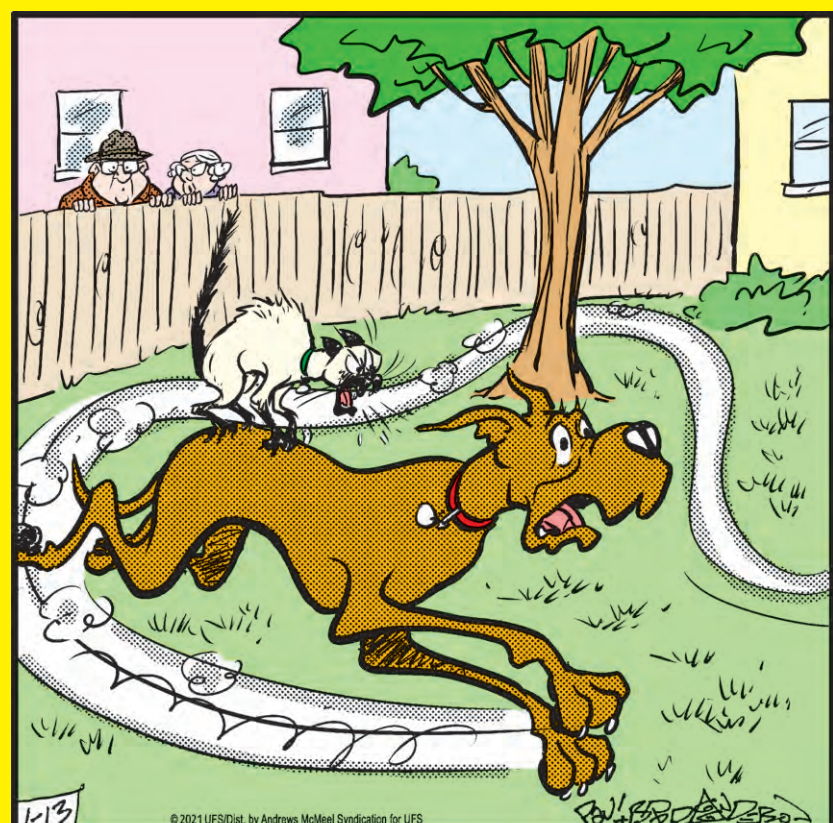
Wizard of Id

Created by Brant Parker and Johnny Hart. Currently by Mason Mastroianni



Marmaduke

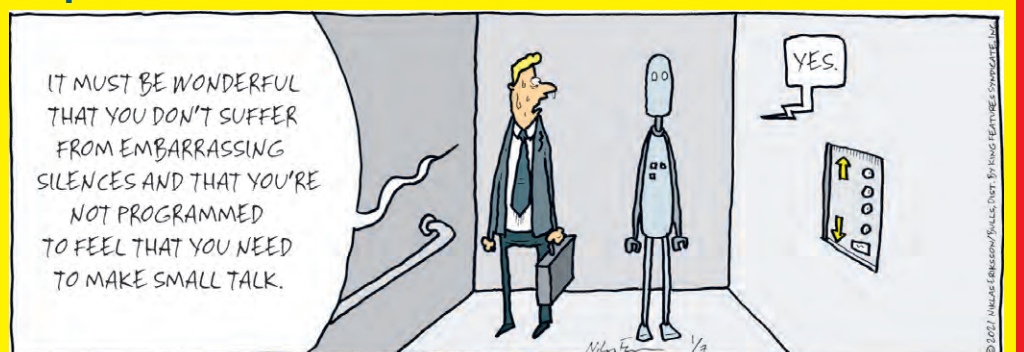
Paul & Brad Anderson



"Nice to see those two are getting along."

Carpe Diem

Niklas Eriksson



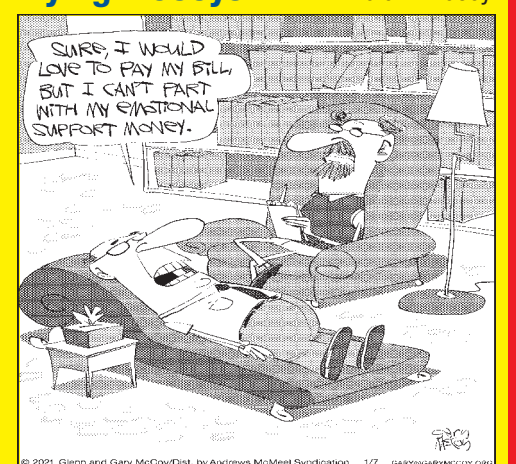
Ziggy

Tom Wilson



Flying McCoys

Glenn McCoy



and Puzzles

Garfield

Jim Davis



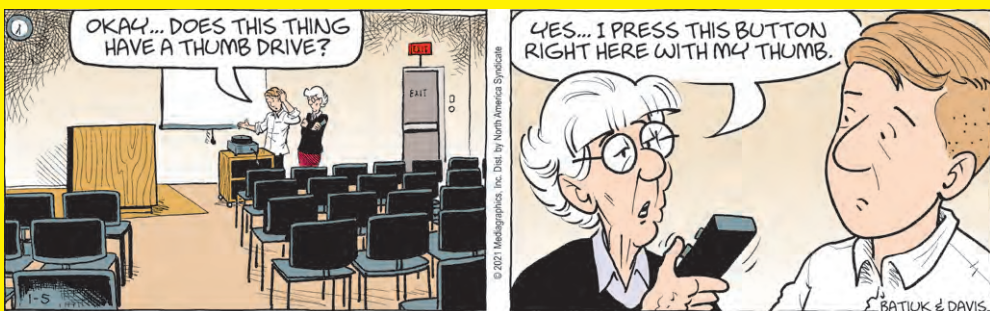
Hagar The Horrible

Dick Browne and Chris Browne



Crankshaft

Tom Batiuk and Dan Davis



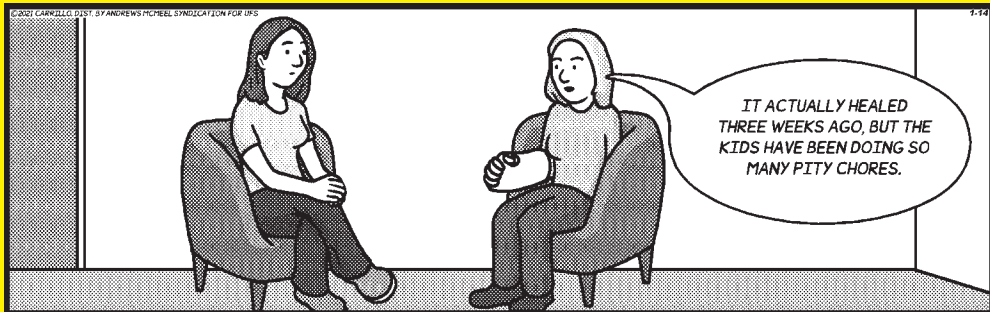
Crock

Created by Bill Rechin and Brant Parker



F Minus

Tony Carrillo



Wumo

Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler



B.C.

Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni



Mother Goose and Grim

Mike Peters



Reality Check

Dave Whamond



Bizarro

Dan Piraro and Wayno



UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

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

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

Previous puzzle solution

5	6	1	9	4	2	8	3	7
9	2	8	6	7	3	1	5	4
3	4	7	1	5	8	6	2	9
4	5	3	7	2	1	9	6	8
7	8	2	4	9	6	3	1	5
1	9	6	3	8	5	4	7	2
8	3	5	2	6	4	7	9	1
2	1	9	8	3	7	5	4	6
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01/14

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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01/07

Universal Crossword

Edited by David Steinberg January 14, 2021

- ACROSS**
- 1 Nippy pooch
 - 6 Swiveled joints
 - 10 Forthwith, in a memo
 - 14 ___-Lay
 - 15 Wallet fillers
 - 16 Sleeper agent
 - 17 Bet taker on social media?
 - 19 Fix the spelling of, say
 - 20 Hawaii's third-largest island
 - 21 Frosted cereal bit
 - 22 Property value determiner on social media?
 - 27 French writer who loved his madeleines
 - 28 Actress Chaplin
 - 29 Santa's strap
 - 30 Desirable Halloween option
 - 32 Apt Greek letter for a Penn frat name
 - 35 Language expert on social media?
 - 39 Winter hrs. in Helena
 - 40 Bottom of the barrel
 - 41 "Do ___ others ..."
 - 42 Serb or Croat
 - 43 Do more than hear
 - 45 Patent holder on social media?
 - 50 Booth warning sign
 - 51 Itty-bitty bit
 - 52 Money holder
 - 53 Professional socializing that 17-, 22-, 35-, and 45-Across are engaged in?
 - 59 Seaweed in a forest
 - 60 Shrek, notably
 - 61 Edmonton hockey player
 - 62 Handicrafts website
 - 63 Sheared stuff
 - 64 Hard-to-find guy in a red-striped shirt
 - 18 Hops-drying kiln
 - 21 Coke's fruity cousin
 - 22 Small birds with big voices
 - 23 Pull up with a pulley
 - 24 Father's sister, e.g.
 - 25 Works by Dickinson and Angelou
 - 26 Meander
 - 27 Overly proper
 - 30 Roman fountain
 - 31 Old T-shirt, perhaps
 - 32 Ford from the '70s
 - 33 Troll on a fan page
 - 34 Part of, as a plot
 - 36 Grace of "Will & Grace"
 - 37 Reunion attendee, briefly
 - 38 Iron oxide
 - 42 Peanut butter brand
 - 43 Shannon of Thirty Seconds to Mars
 - 44 All lined up
 - 45 Enlightenment philosopher from England
 - 46 Small bay
 - 47 Woodworker's fasteners
 - 48 Prefix for -glycerin
 - 49 Y is the only one in "syzygy"
 - 53 Immediately
 - 54 A narcissist has a big one
 - 55 Rio manufacturer so great
 - 56 Not feeling so great
 - 57 Homer's neighbor
 - 58 Miracle-___
- DOWN**
- 1 Closest pal, in texts
 - 2 Long-term savings plan, for short
 - 3 ___-tac-toe
 - 4 Hot time in Paris
 - 5 Modern assembly line workers
 - 6 Commotion
 - 7 Prepare for printing, as a press
 - 8 Canada's smallest prov.
 - 9 Kansas City-to-New Orleans dir.
 - 10 Aviator Earhart
 - 11 Fizzy drinks
 - 12 Similar
 - 13 "The Tale of ___ Rabbit"

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

A	T	A	R	I		G	R	I	S	T		L	O	W	
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01/07

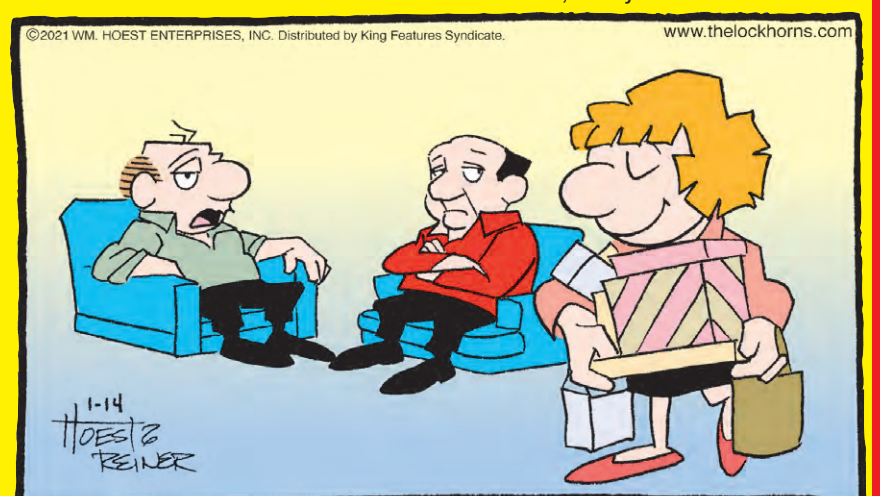
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01/14 Online Followers by Rob Gonsalves and Jennifer Lim

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The Lockhorns

Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner



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