

COVID-19 CASES UPDATE - 3/23

	Cases	Deaths
All Pointes	2,483 (+97)	54 (+3)
Harper Woods	811 (+41)	42 (+0)

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Grosse Pointe News

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Complete news coverage of all the Pointes



COURTESY PHOTO

Brian Colter

Colter honored

By Kate Vanderstelt
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Brian Colter, Grosse Pointe Park's urban forester, received the 2020 Honors Award from the Michigan chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture Friday, Feb. 12. The award recognizes one certified arborist a year who exemplifies success in managing forests, educating the public and implementing high-caliber and unique programming.

Colter was awarded for his "dedicated, faithful and honorable service to arboriculture and urban forestry."

Colter's love of arboriculture began years before his certification as an arborist. After graduating high school at 18, Colter traveled to Alaska to work for five years as a field biologist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. His first summer there,

See COLTER, page 3A

No-anchor zone application resumed

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — Picking up where it left off last summer, the Shores council unanimously voted to apply for a six-month temporary local watercraft control through the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Law

Enforcement Division during its meeting Tuesday, March 16.

The application could create a no-anchor zone 300 feet off the shoreline of Lake St. Clair, with buoys placed approximately every 100 feet from Osius Park to the Macomb County line. The section of lake in Macomb County, Councilman Matt Seely said, is

deeper water where no one anchors.

Swimmers, Jet Skis and even boats passing through still would be allowed in the zone, but would be prevented from anchoring in order to create better visibility and safety for those in the water.

"We just don't want to put the public at risk," Seely said.

"We'd like to make sure that people can enjoy the water, not restrict them from enjoying the water. We, more than anything, want to create a buffer zone between the shoreline and where people start to anchor so it's a safe zone for people to swim in."

See ANCHOR, page 3A



COURTESY PHOTO

Hop to it!

Easter is just a hop, skip and a jump around the corner, as we're reminded by this painting, "Rabbits," by Charlotte Schreiber.

Pointes ponder American Rescue Plan Act allocations

By Laurel Kraus and Kate Vanderstelt
Staff Writers

THE GROSSE POINTES AND HARPER WOODS — Implemented March 11, American Rescue Plan Act funds will be distributed based on population size and are intended for budget gaps as a result of the pandemic, premium pay to eligible workers performing essential work or necessary infrastructure investment.

The biggest beneficiaries under this act are cities with 50,000 people or greater, known as entitlement communities and labeled as such because they are entitled to direct money from the federal government, unlike smaller communities such as the Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods, whose funds will be funneled through the state of Michigan.

While official numbers have yet to be determined and relayed to the cities, the allocations currently are estimated at \$508,898 for the City of Grosse Pointe; \$899,902 for Grosse Pointe Farms; \$1,091,060 for Grosse Pointe Park; \$275,875 for Grosse Pointe Shores; \$1,513,858 for Grosse Pointe Woods; and \$1,091,060 for Harper Woods.

"There were some gov-

See RESCUE, page 4A

Main Street approaches strategic planning

Community survey available online

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — After hiring Executive Director Cindy Willcock in early March, the Main Street Grosse Pointe initiative to revitalize The Village is taking strides forward, starting with a community survey.

Seeking feedback and input on the strengths and needs of The Village in order to help define strategic steps moving forward, the survey will be live until Wednesday, March 31, and can be

taken at surveymonkey.com/r/997N2FY.

A five-year agreement, from July 2020 to December 2025, outlining the respective responsibilities of the City and Main Street board, was unanimously passed by city council during its meeting Monday, March 15. The Main Street board now will need to adopt it as well.

From a financial standpoint, the City has committed to support the initiative with \$50,000 per year. However, the amount was reduced to

\$40,000 this first fiscal year, because the project did not begin in July as expected due to the pandemic. It also committed to an additional \$50,000 for three years from the capital project fund for infrastructure projects in The Village, which must be mutually agreed to by both entities.

At this time, it is unclear what form those projects may take, but ideas are expected to come out of the upcoming strategic planning process.

"These were all things that we committed to as part of the application,"

City Manager Pete Dame explained, "and it's what we are formally committing to (by) authorizing releasing the annual funds to Main Street by adopting this agreement."

Under the agreement, the City also commits to provide back-end work for the Main Street organization so it will not need to put community donations toward creating its own accounting system for payroll and accounts payable. Instead, Willcock, as the organization's sole

See MAIN, page 3A

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Week Ahead 3A
Opinion 6A
Schools 8A
Features 1B
Obituaries 4B
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Pointer of INTEREST

See story, page 4A



Michael & Blagica Bottigliero
Home: City of Grosse Pointe
Recent transplants bring Bottles Nation business to Detroit



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2A | BUSINESS

JHouse Juice squeezes through the pandemic

By Whitney McDonald
Staff Writer

When the coronavirus hit last year, Grosse Pointe's JHouse Juice implemented new strategies and leaned on federal and local support to stay afloat.

The juicery, which opened in 2015, was purchased by siblings, Emma and Charles Kruse, in May 2019.

Charles Kruse worked at the original JHouse Juice when the opportunity to purchase the store arose.

The pair took ownership less than a year before the pandemic struck and changed the way business would be conducted.

The coronavirus made the siblings ask themselves, "How can we do things better, safer



JHouse Juice owners, Emma and Charles Kruse.

and more efficiently?" adding new services, including free delivery within

Grosse Pointe, online ordering capabilities and curbside pickup.

They shared the support they received from the past owners and the community throughout the pandemic.

"We probably would be closed if it hadn't been for the PPP and we also received a grant from Wayne County last fall," Emma Kruse said. "Those literally saved our business."

Sales are still down from pre-COVID numbers, but their hope is to see traffic pick up in the store.

"We miss our customers," she added.

The shop offers cold-pressed juice, smoothies, coffee and a food menu with all organic, gluten-free, dairy-free, soy-free and egg-free

options.

"We're just trying to do things a little different," Emma Kruse said about the menu.

She shared some JHouse favorites: the green monster smoothie, the energy packed juice and the roasted veggie power bowl.

The siblings plan to continue prioritizing safety and are working toward growing their small business.

If something positive came from the pandemic, they said it improved the efficiency of their business and strengthened their partnership.

"It's been a growing experience for us," they agreed.

JHouse Juice is located at 375 Fisher, Grosse Pointe Farms. Visit jhousejuice.com for more information.

Co-working space launches in Grosse Pointe Park

By Whitney McDonald
Staff Writer

When Grosse Pointe local Kevin Quasarano opened the Nott in Grosse Pointe Park pre-COVID, he thought he

might have made a big mistake starting a co-working space at the start of a global pandemic.

A year later, he has come to find that professionals are eager to work

in a professional setting and step away from the kitchen table.

The Nott is a co-working space where professionals can collaborate, host meetings and ultimately work in a state-of-the-art office space.

The space offers desks, meeting rooms, Wi-Fi, 24/7 secure access and an opportunity to work with others in the Grosse Pointe community.

Quasarano saw co-working spaces popping up in major hubs throughout the world, including London, Los Angeles and New York.

He decided to bring the idea to his hometown of Grosse Pointe.

He said Grosse Pointe is usually behind Birmingham and Royal Oak when it comes to new innovations.

"I wanted to bring something to Grosse Pointe first," he said.

The business plan started in 2018, and construction started the following year.

Because COVID hit



PHOTOS COURTESY OF BRITTNEY ROBINSON AND JACOB CIPRIANO MENDEZ

The Nott office space in Grosse Pointe Park offers a newly renovated professional working environment for the community to rent.

prior to its opening, Quasarano is still working on a plan to introduce the community to the space.

The original market for the Nott was geared toward attorneys who were traveling into Detroit every day.

He wanted to offer a local space that provides privacy for meetings, transactions and sign-

ings.

He quickly learned the space could be used by anyone.

Grosse Pointe Realtor Jayme Smolarz said she uses it for closings and client meetings for real-estate deals.

"It has a lot of potential," she said.

The Nott currently is available for reservations and memberships

may be purchased on the website at thenott.space.

Private offices will be available on the third floor in June and on the second floor by September.

A grand opening is in the works with plans to follow COVID-19 protocols for a safe event.

The Nott is located at 15324 Mack, Grosse Pointe Park.



Owner Kevin Quasarano using one of the work spaces at the Nott.

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Ford announces offer of \$2 billion convertible notes

Ford Motor Co. announced its plan to offer \$2 billion in convertible senior notes due in 2026, according to a March 17 press release. The notes were to be

sold to qualified institutional buyers pursuant to Rule 144A under the Securities Act of 1933.

Sales were set to close March 19, and proceeds

are expected to reach nearly \$2 billion.

The notes will mature March 15, 2026, and will not be redeemable by Ford until March 20,

2024.

Ford was up 0.16 percent to \$12.85 as trading closed Monday, March 22.

Convertible notes are short-term debt instruments that allow for investment in a company without putting a value on the company's worth.

The automaker plans to use the proceeds from this offer for "general corporate purposes, including the potential repayment of debt," according to the press release.

— Whitney McDonald

Upcoming 2021 Elections

City of Grosse Pointe
(313) 885-5800 • www.grossepointecity.org
No salary for Mayor or Council Members
Filing deadline: July 20, 4 p.m.
*Terms expiring:
Mayor: 2-year term
Sheila Tomkowiak
Council Members 4-year terms
Maureen Juip
Christopher D. Walsh
Daniel J. Williams

Grosse Pointe Shores
(313) 881-6565 • www.gpshoresmi.gov
No salary for Mayor or Council Members
4-year terms for Council Members and Mayor
Filing deadline: July 20, 4 p.m.
Terms expiring:
Council Members
Robert H. Barrette Jr.
Matthew Seely
Municipal Judge, 4-year term - \$15,000
Matthew R. Rumora (statutory retirement)

Grosse Pointe Farms
(313) 885-6600 • www.grossepointefarms.org
Salary: Mayor, \$900, Council Members, \$600
4-year terms for Council Members;
2-year term for Mayor
Filing deadline: April 20, 4 p.m.
*Terms expiring:
Mayor:
Louis Theros
Council Members
James C. Farquhar Jr.
John Gillooly
Beth Konrad-Wilberding
Municipal Judge, 4-year term - salary \$30,000
Matthew R. Rumora (statutory retirement)

Grosse Pointe Woods
(313) 343-2440 • www.gpwmi.us
Salary: Mayor, \$6,000; Council Members, \$3,750
4-year terms for Council Members and Mayor
Filing deadline: July 20, 4 p.m.
*Terms expiring:
Mayor
Vacant
Council Members
Victoria Granger
Todd A. McConaghy
Vacant

Grosse Pointe Park
(313) 822-6200 • www.grossepointepark.org
No salary for Mayor or Council Members
4-year terms for Council Members;
2-year term for Mayor
Filing deadline: April 20, 4 p.m.
*Terms expiring:
Mayor
Robert Denner
Council Members
Darci McConnell
Lauri Read
James E. Robson
Municipal Judge, 4-year term - salary \$23,000
Carl F. Jarboe.....term expires 12-21

City of Harper Woods
(313) 343-2500 • www.harperwoodscity.org
Salary: Mayor, \$2,700, Council Members, \$2,400
4-year terms for Council Members; 2-year term for Mayor
Filing deadline: April 20, 4 p.m.
*Terms expiring:
Mayor
Valerie Kindler
Council Members
Ernestine Lyons
Vivian Sawicki
Ivery Toussant Jr.

*Unless otherwise specified, all seats expire in November and will be on the Nov. 2, 2021 ballot. Source: LWV-GP

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Hodges to run for Park mayor

GROSSE POINTE PARK — With current mayor Robert Denner announcing his plans to resign from the mayoral role with the November election this year, the seat will be up for grabs. Current Councilwoman Lauri Read announced her plans to run for the seat just weeks ago. Now, fel-

low Councilwoman Michele Hodges announces her intention to do the same. Hodges has been a member of council since November 2019. Her seat is not up for re-election until 2023. “I see leadership as a responsibility and I feel well-suited to move my

community forward in a collaborative and united fashion,” Hodges said. “I’ve enjoyed my service on city council and would like to take on the mayoral role now that Mayor Denner has stepped down after many years of outstanding leadership.” Hodges said she has most enjoyed her time on

council. “It’s a privilege to be at the table at a time of transition,” she said. “I’ve enjoyed helping to navigate that period of change.” Her focus will be on leadership, not politics, as she pursues the role of mayor, she said.

— Kate Vanderstelt

Stroll through Neff Park’s Easter event

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — In place of the annual spring egg hunt, the City will host a Neff Park Spring Stroll from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, March 28.

Participants can enjoy a walk through the decorated park to the pavilion where Peter Cottontail will be waiting for socially distanced professional photos, before receiving a candy bag and balloon on the path out.

“For our socially distanced Peter Cottontail photo, he is going to be sitting in a chair on a stage, while the children will be placed in front of him,” Recreation and Aquatic Coordinator Rebecca Jenzen explained via email. “We have brought in a professional photographer this year to provide all our participants with a free downloadable photograph.”

Groups will be registered within a 20-minute time slot.

“During the two-hour time frame, every 20 minutes a group (will) start and stroll through the park in one direction and we’ll continue that flow

for those two hours,” Parks and Recreation Director Chris Hardenbrook explained. Open to City residents 14 and younger, along with their parents, for \$5 per child, the event requires advanced registration via the City’s website due to the COVID-19 restrictions.

To sign up, go to <https://recpro.grossepointecity.org/CourseActivities.aspx?id=17&cat=3>

Those who haven’t used the online registration system before will need to enter the email they provided on their Emergency Response Form and click “Reset Password.” A temporary password will be generated and sent to the email address, after which a new password may be set up for the household.

“I would just stress that it is a pre-registration,” Hardenbrook said, “and that we’re not going to unfortunately be able to take walk-ins.”

Participants will be asked to maintain a social distance of six feet or more from those outside their household, with anyone older than age 2 required to wear a mask.

The playground will be closed during the event.

Osius Park welcomes mini Easter event

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — In the same vein as the mini Boo Fest event held around Halloween this past year, the Shores will hold a mini Easter event at Osius Park from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Saturday, March 27.

A decorated path will offer photo opportunities, an Easter Bunny passing out candy bags and chil-

dren’s activities. Courtesy of the Grosse Pointe Shores Improvement Foundation, children also will receive a snack and drink.

“We will adhere to social distancing and masks will be encouraged,” pool manager Jennifer Serra said, adding a health screening will be

conducted before participants enter the park. “But we did want to give the kids an opportunity to be able to come to the park for the Easter event.”

The free event is open to residents only and for children age 10 and younger.

— Laurel Kraus

Marshmallow drop planned at Patterson

GROSSE POINTE PARK — The marshmallow drop will resume this year at Patterson Park Saturday, March 27.

The first drop takes place at 10 a.m. for children ages 1 to 5. The Park is asking participants to arrive by 9:45 a.m. so they are prepared

for the drop. At 10 a.m., a helicopter will fly overhead and drop the marshmallows.

At 11 a.m., the event will repeat for ages 6 to 10.

In the drop, kids will be encouraged to look for 10 golden eggs, which can be redeemed for special

prizes.

Due to the pandemic, the event will look a bit different this year. Tickets will be limited, individuals must wear masks and no close-contact activities will take place, meaning Easter Bunny photos will not occur. The event will be

limited to 100 participants per age group.

Tickets are \$10 per child and available for purchase at the Lavins Center.

Unused marshmallow drop tickets from 2020 may be redeemed for this year’s event.

— Kate Vanderstelt

COLTER:

Continued from page 1A

he lived in a tent on the Arctic North Slope.

“My whole family is an outdoorsy type of family,” Colter said. “My brother hooked me up with a friend of his who volunteered with the federal government up in Alaska. Somebody dropped out at the last minute and I jumped at the chance.”

Colter would work in Alaska during spring and summer and take college classes in fall and winter. He attended Henry Ford Community College, where both of his parents taught, to receive his associate’s degree.

Colter then attended the

University of Michigan to obtain his bachelor’s degree, and worked as a consulting forester for ACRT, an independent vegetation management consulting firm, and an arborist for local tree companies.

Colter pursued a master’s degree in urban forestry from Michigan State University. In 1994, he was hired as Grosse Pointe Park’s city forester. Since 2017, he also has been the city forester for the City of Grosse Pointe.

According to Park Beautification Commission member Lisa Kyle, Colter has gone above and beyond his designated duties as city forester during his 27-year career.

“Armed with his commitment

to environmental sustainability, his educational background and his inherent love of the natural world, Brian built a foundation of arboricultural advancement and citizen outreach in the Grosse Pointes and across the state of Michigan,” Kyle said in a statement. “During his tenure in (the Park), the city received 27 annual designations of Tree City USA through the Arbor Day Foundation and another 13 Growth Awards, making the city one of only six Sterling Communities in Michigan.”

Kyle said Colter has even developed a wood reutilization program in the Park, where removed trees are reused to make park benches and hardwood floors.

ANCHOR:

Continued from page 1A

Council already unanimously passed a resolution to pursue the control in July 2020, when there was a significant increase in boats gathering because of the pandemic, but then chose to place the issue on hold when it was found that boating season would be over by the time a control could potentially be approved and implemented.

At that time, concerns

from lakefront homeowners regarding noise disturbance generated from the gathering boats also was a main reason for pursuing the control.

While the city held a public hearing on the matter to measure public opinion during the March council meeting, no one from the public chose to speak.

If the temporary control is granted by the DNR, the city then will have to tackle the issue of funding for the buoys, which are anticipated to

cost approximately \$200 each.

“My concern is about the cost,” Councilwoman Danielle Gehlert. “... I absolutely do not want the city to pay for that, because there are people that are not along Lakeshore that are not boaters, more interior to the city, and I don’t think that they should pay if there’s a cost involved with that.”

Routes for the funds could be through the Grosse Pointe Shores Improvement Foundation

or a fundraiser. Lakeshore residents in the area also have offered to contribute money, Mayor Ted Kedzierski said.

If implemented, the city could reapply for another temporary six-month control next season.

“Ultimately, if it’s something we decide as a community that we want to do permanently, then we can request that,” Seely said, “so this is more of a trial phase, so to speak, if the DNR even grants our request.”

MAIN:

Continued from page 1A

employee, will be considered a city employee for purposes of processing payments, record keeping and auditing.

While Main Street is a completely independent organization, Dame explained, the City will act similarly to a management team, with Willcock included in City department head meetings.

“We’ll be working really closely together to accomplish whatever the goals are that the community decides through its Main Street strategic planning process,” he said.

Both the City and Main

Street Grosse Pointe also have entered into a five-year agreement, to end December 2025, with the Michigan Economic

Communities program and lays out the activities Main Street Grosse Pointe must pursue and follow to remain consid-

‘We’ll be working really closely together to accomplish whatever the goals are that the community decides through its Main Street strategic planning process.’

PETE DAME
City of Grosse Pointe City Manager

Development Corp., as the organization under which the Michigan Main Street Program falls.

The agreement requires the City to continue being active with the MEDC’s Redevelopment Ready

ered a Main Street participant.

In return for these stipulations, the MEDC will provide customized program training, technical assistance, such as retail market assessments, and various program services

including business recruitment and design consultation.

“You have to follow their approach — it’s been a proven approach to revitalizing downtowns — and work toward accreditation through the state,” Dame said. “(Main Street) is something that we’ve all been working toward for about two years and it’s exciting to finally see it happen.”

A virtual community-wide engagement session hosted by state and national Main Street experts, and during which community members may share their thoughts on revitalizing The Village, will take place at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 7.

The Week Ahead

SATURDAY, MARCH 27

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores Mini Easter event, 10 to 11:30 a.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Egg Stroll at Lake Front Park, all day.

SUNDAY, MARCH 28

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Egg Stroll at Lake Front Park, all day.
- ◆ City of Grosse Pointe Spring Stroll at Neff Park, 2 to 4 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 2 - GOOD FRIDAY

- ◆ Municipal offices closed

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4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

City couple is the toast of the town

By Mike Adzima
Staff Writer

In 2020, husband and wife team Michael and Blagica Bottigliero brought their business to Detroit and settled in Grosse Pointe as their new home. The couple co-founded Bottles Nation, a company that provides wine, craft beer, whiskey and other cocktail-tasting experiences to those looking to learn more about their favorite drinks or just relax with a nice glass.

“Our ethos is all about celebrating things in a bottle,” Blagica Bottigliero said. “We celebrate bringing family and friends together around a bottle. ... When people are around a bottle together just relaxing and talking things out, things are better.”

Blagica Bottigliero has a background in digital marketing and serves as head of marketing and partnerships for Bottles Nation. Michael Bottigliero's background is in the restaurant business, with his vast knowledge of wine making him lead sommelier.

Michael Bottigliero previously used his sommelier skills running his wine tasting and consulting business, Windy



PHOTO COURTESY OF CATALYST MEDIA FACTORY

Michael and Blagica Bottigliero recently brought their Bottles Nation business to Detroit.

City Wine Guy. In late 2019 and early 2020, the Bottiglieros began Bottles Nation and quickly adapted their wine and other tasting events to the virtual landscape due to the pandemic. The move to virtual opened the door for the Bottiglieros to make another move for their business, moving back to Michigan.

“Just having the vir-

tual aspect come into play we can just move anywhere we want,” Michael Bottigliero said. “Even before virtual came into play we were talking about the need to be closer to more family,” Blagica Bottigliero, a metro Detroit native, said. “Back in Chicago we had a great network of friends that we made over the years ... but the majority of our immedi-

ate family is here.”

The Bottiglieros had planned on making the move back to Michigan no matter what, but shifting their business to a largely virtual format allowed them to come to Michigan a couple years earlier than they initially planned.

So far in their time living in Grosse Pointe, the Bottiglieros have found just the type of atmo-

sphere they were looking for in a new residence.

“It’s reminiscent of many different neighborhoods I’ve lived in in Chicago and, having been close to Lake Michigan for my whole life, I really liked having access to a large lake and driving down Jefferson really blew me away,” Michael Bottigliero said.

“It was important to us to live in an area that respected that piece of community and the ability to get to know each other and all of the Pointes have that,” Blagica Bottigliero said. “You can still walk outside, get on your bike, run some errands and you have an amazing experience and get to know your neighbors that way.”

Bottle Nation still offers virtual tasting events, but Blagica Bottigliero said they plan on beginning a return to in-person events as soon as this summer. The Bottiglieros also started a Facebook page called “Grosse Pointe Wine,” where they host online events every Sunday.

“It’s a way for the community to get together and talk about wine,” Blagica Bottigliero said. “The goal is to have a community member of the Pointes to sit with us on Zoom to chat about wine and chat about local things going on. It’s a way for folks to get to know one another in a nice, relaxed environment.”

To learn more about Bottles Nation, visit bottlesnation.com or check out the Grosse Pointe Wine Facebook page.

RESCUE:

Continued from page 1A

ernmental entities that were not included in that calculation, so I think those numbers will likely be going down because they have to now go back and add some communities that hadn’t been included,” Farms City Manager Shane Reeside said, “so we don’t know exactly what the numbers are, but we still think it’s going to be, obviously, significant, even if it goes down.”

Local government funds under the act will be distributed in two equal tranches, with the first expected by May 10, 2021, and the second by March 11, 2022. Municipalities then will have until the end of 2024 to spend the funds.

While the funds could be used to fill revenue holes in city budgets that were caused by COVID-19 or even for a limited

number of infrastructure purposes such as water, sewer or broadband, but not including roads, the parameters are not as flexible as they were originally thought to be, Grosse Pointe City Manager Pete Dame said. Known restrictions include pensions, certain salaries and funding new tax cuts.

Therefore, the Pointes, under the recommendation of the Michigan Municipal League, still are evaluating the requirements before rushing to decide what specifically the funds will go toward.

“It’s ambiguous because the U.S. Treasury Department hasn’t come out with rules that interpret the minimal guidance that is contained within the law,” Dame explained, “so there are confusing things about how the law was written that’s going to be up to the treasury department to help clarify.”

When the appropriate time comes, the respective city councils will make the decisions on the funds’ allocation.

With the City facing a potential for revenue loss over the next couple years due to a possible

‘We don’t know exactly what the numbers are, but we still think it’s going to be, obviously, significant, even if it goes down.’

SHANE REESIDE
Grosse Pointe Farms City Manager

decline in commercial property values from ongoing vacancies, according to Dame, one such use in the City could be filling this hole.

“It’s not a huge windfall for the City of Grosse Pointe,” Dame said. “We don’t know what the number is, but it’s probably going to be several hundred thousand. ... It’s the equivalent of

paving two blocks of streets, so it’s not like it’s going to solve the world’s problems, for Grosse Pointe anyway.”

With the Farms making ongoing strides toward becoming more of a virtual city via bring-

ing residents additional options to conduct more city business remotely and with greater ease, the funds potentially could be used for improving the city’s computer software and phone system. Another option could be addressing infrastructure needs, Reeside said.

“At this point, we don’t know how much we’re

getting and we don’t know how it can be used, but with that said, we have infrastructural needs throughout the city,” he said, “so to the extent that we can put funds toward infrastructure — water mains, sewer lines and things of that sort — that would be money that is desperately needed for older communities.”

The Park likely will use the money to improve water and sewer infrastructure, according to City Manager Nick Sizeland.

“That’s been a top need for the Park,” he said. “Just to have that influx from the federal government, that’s a lot.”

A budget workshop will take place in the Park, during which Sizeland hopes there will be more information available regarding how the money can be used.

While the Shores is facing a major sewer infrastructure project and the work seems to fall under the approved uses, the city’s allocation

amount wouldn’t be particularly helpful in funding such work, City Manager Stephen Poloni said.

“The dollars appear to be very minimal,” he said. “Some cities such as St. Clair Shores were tentatively scheduled to get \$22 million. I think we’re looking at a couple hundred thousand, so we’re not looking at anything that’s going to help us with a \$9 million sewer project.”

As the city has experienced loss of revenues due to COVID-19, such as in building permits and fines, the funds likely will go toward replacing the loss in revenue, Poloni added.

Woods City Administrator Bruce Smith said though the city has been looking to improve roads and parks, nothing is definite in terms of where the money will be allocated.

“We’re excited about it,” Smith said. “It’s an exciting time to be able to look and see ... what can we do and how can we make the city better.”



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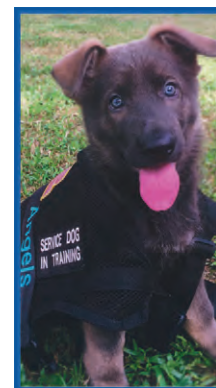
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Suspect in string of larcenies arrested

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE CITY, FARMS & PARK — Officers in the City, Park and, more recently, the Farms have been after a 56-year-old Detroit man since mid-February for a string of larcenies from local vehicles. They finally were able to pin him to the crimes last week thanks to one Park detective's attention to detail and a singular razor.

Joseph McMahon was arraigned before Grosse Pointe Municipal Judge Russell Ethridge, who set bond at \$100,000, Friday, March 19.

McMahon had been released from parole just two days prior to the first reported larceny from a vehicle in the Park Feb. 19. He had been serving time

for crimes he committed years ago — the list most notably includes breaking and entering into the Farms public safety building in 2011.

He now is suspected of larcenies from at least 13 vehicles and one vehicle theft in the last month. A second vehicle theft is suspected but cannot yet be proven, Grosse Pointe Detective Sgt. Joseph Adams said.

Officers realized the crimes were committed by a single person when home camera systems in six of the incidents picked up a skinny, white man always wearing the same black sweatshirt, white tennis shoes and often wearing a camouflage hat. His M.O. appeared to be slowly walking up driveways to check for unlocked cars deep in the driveways

and near garages.

The crimes escalated when a vehicle was stolen from the 400 block of Washington on Feb. 26, in the same area of three larceny from vehicle reports. Through FordPass location services, the vehicle was recovered within three hours of being reported stolen. The brother of the man found with the vehicle said it was given to him by an unknown white male.

Soon after, officers developed McMahon as the suspect, but remained unable to catch him in the act or with incriminating evidence. Park officers pulled him over March 7, when he was seen wearing the same clothing as seen in the footage, but couldn't arrest him as he hadn't stolen from any vehicles yet that night.

"Our guys were out countless hours," Adams said. "We had one officer, he put 114 miles on a patrol car in an eight-hour period ... driving around our one-square-mile city actively looking for him. All the night shifts have been doing it, here, the Park and the Farms, trying to find this guy, but the problem was he was quick. He knew what he was doing."

Their efforts came to a head Thursday, March 18, when a search warrant was secured to collect McMahon's DNA to compare it with DNA found in the Feb. 26 recovered vehicle.

While the suspect consented to the swab, search of his home and of his vehicle — repeatedly assuring officers he had nothing to hide — it was

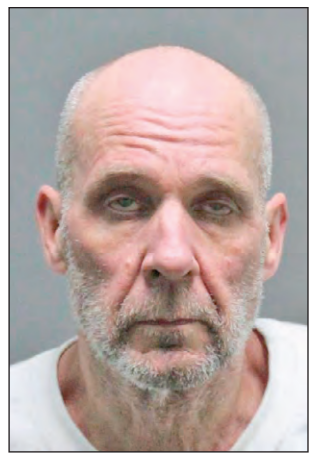
Park Detective Sgt. Michael Narduzzi who discovered an electric razor in the driver's side doorwell of McMahon's vehicle.

The same electric razor, confirmed by sending two photos to the owner while still on scene, happened to be the only item missing from the vehicle stolen Feb. 26.

"If it wasn't for that piece," Adams said, "we'd have to wait a year for (DNA) or catch him in the act."

During and following the arrest, the camouflage hat was discovered in McMahon's room and the black sweatshirt in the cargo area of his vehicle.

He is charged with larceny over \$20,000 (for the vehicle theft), receive and conceal over \$20,000, larceny from auto and habit-



McMahon

ual fourth offender.

"Unfortunately, there's more Joseph McMahons out there and we cannot emphasize people locking their vehicles (enough)," Adams said.

The crime spree was not McMahon's first run-in with the law in the Pointes. In fact, he already was fairly well-known among officers prior to it.

It was in 2014, when he

See LARCENY, page 9A

City of Grosse Pointe

Stolen medical fees

Since December, a 44-year-old Grosse Pointe woman discovered \$710.48 has been fraudulently charged to her health savings account card.

Double whammy

A letter from the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity Unemployment Insurance Agency informed a 66-year-old Grosse Pointe woman of a redetermination for her claim for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance, which she never filed.

The woman's husband was a victim of the same fraud approximately three weeks prior.

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

Grosse Pointe Park

Checks in Illinois

A business in the 1000 block of Kensington became the victim of check fraud at 1:41 p.m. Monday, March 15.

The business owner was notified that someone in Illinois was attempting to cash a check in the business account. The owner said the check was fraudulent and had never been issued.

The check was not cashed.

Spit in the face

A 31-year-old Detroit woman was arrested in the 1000 block of Nottingham at 8:01 p.m. Wednesday, March 17.

The woman was fleeing Grosse Pointe Farms public safety when she was located in her car by Park officers.

As the Park lieutenant attempted to arrest the woman, she spit on his face.

She was charged with assault in the Park and turned over to Farms public safety.

Threatening calls

A resident in the 900 block of Nottingham reported receiving sev-

eral threatening calls from an unknown subject at 5:47 p.m. Wednesday, March 17.

The caller later was identified as someone with a mental illness.

Car theft

Between Wednesday, March 17, and Thursday, March 18, a Rycom utility transmitter and miscellaneous tools were stolen from a locked truck bed parked in the 8100 block of Barrington.

The theft totaled a loss of \$1,320.

Improper lane use

A 29-year-old Detroit woman was arrested Saturday, March 20, when she was stopped for improper lane use at Mack and Alter.

The driver was found to be intoxicated, and had warrants out for her arrest and a suspended license.

88 mph

A 23-year-old Detroit woman was stopped at 3:11 a.m. Saturday, March 20, for driving 88 mph.

She was arrested for reckless driving and was found to have warrants out for her arrest.

Detroit warrant

At 9:22 a.m. Saturday, March 20, a 50-year-old Detroit man was stopped for speeding at Mack and Buckingham.

He was found to have a warrant out for his arrest in Detroit. Park public safety turned the man over to Detroit's police department.

Bank identity theft

A resident of the 1300 block of Wayburn received mail regarding a Chase Bank account in her name at 10:19 a.m. Saturday, March 20.

The victim had not opened the account. Chase Bank's fraud department closed the account.

Sunday morning crash

No one was injured in a crash at Jefferson and

Bishop at 4:18 a.m. Sunday, March 21; however, a 30-year-old Westland man involved in the crash was arrested for operating while intoxicated.

Flooded basement

A resident of the 800 block of Nottingham returned home after being out of town to find the basement flooded.

A garden hose was found turned on against the basement window, causing the flooding.

The victim suspects an ex-boyfriend to be the culprit, though the investigation is ongoing.

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

Grosse Pointe Farms

Low-speed chase

After a brief, low-speed pursuit at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 16, which ended at the Mack Avenue alley and Lannoo Street, a 27-year-old Detroit man was arrested for driving on a suspended license, possession of brass knuckles and resisting arrest.

Lawn detour

With two children in her vehicle, a highly intoxicated 31-year-old Detroit woman, who was driving with a suspended license, drove over lawns on Edgemere Road and assaulted two officers in an attempt to flee from arrest at 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 17.

This is the woman's second drunken driving offense and she also is being charged with multiple felonies and child endangerment.

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

Grosse Pointe Shores

Company thrown under the van

A 65-year-old Detroit man was pulled over at Lakeshore Road and Fontana Lane at 3:46 p.m. Wednesday, March 17, after a LEIN search showed his license plate was expired.

Although the man claimed to be driving a company van and did not know the plate was expired, it came back registered to a different

vehicle.

He was arrested for improper plate and not having insurance.

Foiled by a rock

In a welfare traffic stop to a vehicle parked on Lakeshore Road with hazard lights on at 1:23 a.m. Thursday, March 18, the 23-year-old Detroit driver told officers she believed she hit a rock and had stopped to call for a tow truck.

The officer noticed no damage to the vehicle and when she was unable to produce her license, she ultimately was arrested for driving while license suspended.

Checking all the boxes

After a vehicle was observed traveling below the speed limit on Lakeshore Road at varying speeds and swerving in its lane, a 42-year-old Ferndale man was pulled over at 11:02 p.m. Saturday, March 20.

An open bottle of alcohol could be seen in the cup holder, his words were slow and sluggish, and a preliminary breath test showed his blood alcohol content to be .19 percent.

The man was arrested for operating under the influence of liquor with

a high blood alcohol content, driving while license suspended, improper registration, no insurance, improper lane use and not wearing a seat belt.

Drunken sightseer

With his vehicle parked in the right lane of Lakeshore Road, a 43-year-old Garden City man was seen standing by the breakwall before stumbling back to his vehicle at 12:29 a.m. Monday, March 22.

A preliminary breath test showed his blood alcohol content was .174 percent and he was arrested for operating under the influence of liquor with a high blood alcohol content, improper registration, improper lane use and not having insurance.

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

Grosse Pointe Woods

No crimes to report per dispatch.

Report information about crime to Grosse Pointe Woods Public Safety, (313) 343-2400.



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6A | OPINION

Grosse Pointe News

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OUR VIEW

Face-to-face learning on pace

With more than a week of full-time in-person school completed at all grade levels, Grosse Pointe students and teachers appear to be navigating the new landscape fairly well. But it remains somewhat ominous that COVID-19 case counts continue to rise throughout the area, as they have throughout Michigan.

Moreover, based on comments from Superintendent Gary Niehaus at Monday's Board of Education meeting, the district continues to struggle with new tasks that consume huge amounts of time, such as contact tracing whenever a new case occurs. Teachers, especially at the high school level where quarantining is most prevalent, are overwhelmed by the need to get plans to those who must stay home, he said.

The experience in the Grosse Pointe Public School System suggests that, as most studies show, little or no spread occurs during the school day when students stay masked and mostly distanced, with three feet being the latest standard set by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Students also use desk shields in most classrooms; new room air purifiers are due for delivery this week and sanitation standards are high.

Better weather also is giving secondary students more outside options for lunch, the most fraught time because masks must be removed. And, while winter sports have been a minefield for many high school students, the start of outdoor sports for spring should provide some relief. Gov. Gretchen Whitmer also has ordered stepped-up testing for athletes.

But, with spring break starting Monday, the need for vigilance among families, staff and the whole community remains great. District officials also are encouraging participation in testing programs, stressing their hopes that high schoolers will take the weekly one available to them.

The plan is to keep the district mostly open unless state or county health officials say otherwise. Individual classrooms of students will return to remote learning if necessary, or entire schools may need to be closed, but in-person teaching will continue everywhere else.

The prize: proper ceremonies for the two high schools' graduations, which are set for June 9 and 10.

Historic district

The decision feels right to abandon any further work on a potential historic district in the City of Grosse Pointe. The idea was so unpopular that, as Councilman John Stempfle noted, it drew "unanimous non-support."

Any effort to preserve bigger, older homes was going to be fraught with challenges; those concerns, along with uncertainties about new construction, will continue.

The district would have required residents within it to work with a special commission whenever they wanted to make major exterior changes. Unfortunately, it was fragmented across several streets, picking up blocks here and there both north and south of Jefferson. Many houses that didn't qualify as historic were scattered throughout, as well.

Most of the historic houses were designed by well-known architects of the early 20th century, as the area gradually changed over from summer cottages to permanent homes for some of Detroit's wealthier families. One plus of the now-abandoned effort is the documentation of the architects and original owners.

The Grosse Pointe City Council appears intent on looking into ordinance changes that might prove even more restrictive than a historic district, so this may not be the final chapter. Home owners, too, probably need to ponder how much change they would welcome in their neighborhood.

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PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Pure Grosse Pointe

The Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South counseling staff, The Family Center of Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods and the Healthy Grosse Pointe/Harper Woods Coalition worked together to bring therapy dogs from Go Team Therapy Dogs to students for their first full day back in school March 15. Research has shown that therapy dogs can reduce stress and anxiety and provide a sense of connection in difficult situations. The students haven't been back in the building in a long time, so the dogs helped ease their return and the students enjoyed being able to say hello and pet the dogs. Go Team Therapy dogs is a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that brings well-trained dogs to schools, libraries, hospitals, disaster areas, working with servicemen and women, first responders and anywhere a therapy dog is needed to provide comfort through the human-canine bond. The three therapy dogs at Grosse Pointe North, above, were Ringo, Cheyenne and Boba. Cate Ramsey, right, pets Boba, an English lab, outside of the main entrance of North.



OUR VIEW

Park, Farms filing deadline looms

This election year could hold particular significance throughout the Grosse Pointes, as two mayoral posts open up. And that's without discussing the occasional controversies, some mild and some fierce, that have cropped up in the two years since the last election.

Potential candidates in the Park and the Farms need to get themselves in gear, if they haven't already. The filing deadline is 4 p.m. April 20 — less than four weeks away.

In the Park, Mayor Bob Denner has already announced he will not run for re-election; he has held the post since 2015. Two incumbent council members have announced a mayoral run, suggesting at least one opening also will be available among the three council terms that expire this year. That provides the opportunity for airing divergent viewpoints about the Park's future — if enough residents put themselves forward as candidates to create a robust discussion.

In the Farms, the mayor is up for re-election, along with three council members. As of earlier this month, all seemed ready to run.

Potential candidates in the City, Shores and Woods

don't need to file until July 20. But that doesn't mean they can sit idly by. Candidates basically have to hit the ground running to gain traction before the winner-take-all vote in November.

The Woods faces particularly sad changes, created by the recent deaths of long-term Mayor Robert Novitke and Councilman George McMullen. Both the mayor's position and three council seats will be on the ballot.

The City of Grosse Pointe's ballot will include the mayor, who anticipates running again, and three council members, all of whom have said they will run for re-election. Two council members in the Shores, also up for re-election, have said they will run again, as well.

In most cases, mayors have two-year terms and council members have four-year terms. Two municipal judgeships — in the Park and the Farms-Shores joint position — are also on the ballot; qualifications vary and the filing deadline for both is April 20.

Challengers don't always appear for municipal elections and residents may in fact be content with their local governance. But when contests do arise, voters should welcome the chance to participate in setting the direction their city will take.

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.

Pondering from the Farms

To the Editor:

Having read your column (Pondering the Pointes) by Greg Theokas) in the March 11 issue, I wanted to express my thanks for

outlining the history in Grosse Pointe Park.

Being a lifelong resident of Grosse Pointe Farms, I remember the '80s well and your description of those days is very accurate.

You also addressed a few other items like the

building of the new GPP DPW building and the selection of the new director of public safety for GPP.

I wholeheartedly support your position on both issues.

The wall (in question) for the new DPW area helps to provide safety for everyone within the area. I find it hard to find discrimination in keeping people safe.

Also, the outside interference (letter campaigns) by people and their organizations simply should be ignored. These are not people who live in GPP but want to gain influence using bully tactics. They have their own interests/agenda with no regard

for the GPP citizens.

Finally, I want to thank all public safety officers/first responders for their dedication and hard work to keep us all safe. Sometimes it's a thankless job, but you should know how much you are appreciated.

KEITH CUNNINGHAM
Grosse Pointe Farms

Know-nothings in the Park

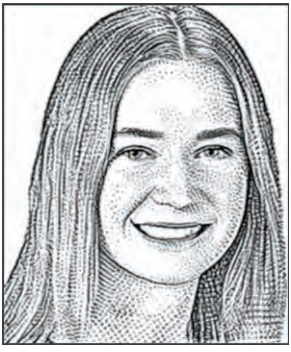
To the Editor:

Thank you for continued articles about Grosse Pointe Park and the know-nothings on the city council trying to dismantle the city's jewels and insult the big time

See LETTERS, page 7A

I SAY By Kate Vanderstelt

My first garden



ing the heat — and winters in a light jacket. I did not own a winter coat — or really any decently heavy coat, for that matter — until I moved to Michigan for college in the fall of 2016.

Michigan was a whole new world for me.

I had known desert for as long as I could remember. In my memory, it snowed heavily enough for my younger brother and I to make a snowman just once in the 10 years I lived in Vegas.

Along with the desert climate came a very lim-

ited knowledge base on plants. I didn't know much. I knew about cacti. I knew about palm trees. I knew practically nothing about flowers, unless they were flowers my mom was buying to put in the two planters next to the front door.

Michigan's plethora of wildlife understandably took my breath away. The flowers I saw popping up wildly on the side of the road astounded me. My favorite flower became forget-me-nots (those little indigo-looking flowers that bloom in bunches and

spread easily). I loved how they just bloomed by themselves, everywhere, year after year.

I went on road trips through Michigan with different families and they were always astounded by how little I knew. I felt like a second grader learning about all these things for the first time.

They'd ask, "Kate, what crop do you think that is, planted in that field?" I'd stare and stare and, for the life of me, could not even come up with a simple guess. "That's a bean field," they'd tell me. "Ahh," I'd say, taking it in so I could answer correctly the next time.

With spring in the air, I

had a strong desire this year to tackle the Michigan season of growth. It started with an old onion I found sprouting at the bottom of a basket of produce I had in my kitchen. My friend, a Michigan native, told me I could plant the onion's sprout and endlessly grow more onions! Wow, was I blown away.

I started asking her more questions about gardening and how I might be able to cultivate more greenery in my home. She said I could grow all sorts of things, even from inside. With a few pots, some dirt and water, I'd be on my way.

We went to the store (shout out to Allemon's

Landscape Center, for providing the beginnings of my first and best experience in gardening) and she helped me pick out seeds. I chose to grow peppers, cilantro and a few flower mixes.

We put dirt in an empty egg carton and planted the seeds in each empty egg slot. She told me to water the dirt every day and try to follow each seed's directions on how much sunlight it needs.

After being planted five days, I have yet to see any sprouts. I am still optimistic. With the sun shining and the temperature rising, spring is definitely in the air. Things will grow, right?

PONDERING IN THE PARK By Greg Theokas

The council rules!

One of the reasons that we don't have a big, unified city called "Grosse Pointe" is because the five smaller cities create an opportunity for citizens to interact more directly with their city councils.

During the last election, we heard a lot about the need for more participation between Park residents and the council. Unfortunately, the opposite seems to have happened.

Since then, Park council meetings have evolved into highly choreographed events. They now more closely resemble a tightly run Grosse Pointe school board meeting — or a corporate shareholders' meeting — than the free-flowing exchanges that occurred in the Park for many decades.

Why? Because a new meeting format was introduced.

In "the old days" the council interacted directly with its audience on virtually every agenda item. Citizens were encouraged to respectfully comment during any point in the council deliberation. Lively, timely and mostly courteous debate occurred. It was an intellectually challenging, spontaneous process. Often, opinions were changed or legislative initiatives were modified because of these exchanges.

It was an excellent example of town hall democracy.

Now, citizens are required to speak (or write letters) on new agenda items at the very beginning of the meeting. Like the school board, they are limited to three minutes. But the new agenda items they are commenting on are often acted upon more than an hour later.



There is no immediate connection between the citizen comments and the subsequent council deliberations.

And, more importantly, council members and citizens are not allowed to talk to each other — at any time during a council

meeting.

After the initial public comments, the citizens are forced to remain silent while the council drones through a litany of reports that should be available on the city's website. Among them, the manager's report and separate committee minutes (such as Recreation, Ordinance Review, etc.). Again, only the council members are allowed to comment.

Finally, the new agenda items are discussed and voted on.

At times, council members' unchallenged opinions emerge and everyone politely listens to what amounts to speeches. Too often, the conversation is devoted to asking the city manager, or city attorney, to research matters that are never brought up again at future meetings.

After the new agenda items are voted on, the citizens are reintroduced to the meeting process. They can talk about pretty much anything. Again, there is a three-minute time limit and no verbal exchange with the council.

This often amounts to many of the same Park residents expressing their unanswered concerns.

After that, the meeting ends and everyone returns a month later.

If the intent of the new format was to establish a more participative council meeting — an Athenian democracy — where citizen colloquy contributes to a better result, then that did not happen.

Instead, a lot of time is spent hearing about the council members' views. It's a very isolated, protected process where no one interacts with the people.

Maybe this has occurred, unfortunately, because as a society we no longer can have a civil discourse.

Greg Theokas is a former mayor and councilman in Grosse Pointe Park and is a regular contributor to the Grosse Pointe News.

LETTERS:

Continued from page 6A

donators who make this a great place to reside. Please keep the articles coming and stop these know-nothings and remove them from the council.

KEN SANBORN
Grosse Pointe Park

YESTERDAY'S HEADLINES

1946

75 years ago this week

PARK CITIZENS ARGUE AGAINST WAR PLANTS: The citizens living in the general vicinity of Charlevoix and Maryland in the Park are not at all satisfied with the prospect of the establishment of permanent industrial plants in their neighborhood. They made this clear at the council meeting March 14, and again the following night when the village Planning Commission met.

LIBRARY TO BE MOVED: The Grosse Pointe Public Library is about to be uprooted from its longtime location in the building at Kercheval and Cadieux. The property on which it is located has been owned by the J. L. Hudson company and has recently passed to other owners, who desire its early use. The school board is seeking permission to erect a quonset hut on its property at Kercheval and Fisher for use as a library building.

Obituaries: Emily Harris

1971

50 years ago this week

TENNIS BUFFS UNITE: After five months of group meetings in The Pointe, the birth of a Grosse Pointe Tennis Association is just around the corner. The association, hoping to bloom in time for the summer sea-

son of 1971, will be structured on an extremely small scale until organizational and financial problems are worked out.

POINTER DECORATED: A Pointer arrived home a hero after the U.S. Army awarded him the Bronze Star for distinguishing himself under fire while serving in Vietnam. Norman F. Buckler was given the award for remaining cool and efficient while under an emergency situation during an enemy attack Nov. 29, 1970.

Obituaries: Dr. Joseph S. Markey, Alfred O. Bertram, Marion Law, Catherine P. Downer, Dennis P. Devine, Anna Kanowski, John Kenneth Hoffman, William Hutchinson Brennan, John Philip Thomas, Phyllis J. Werle, Henry C. Hosbach

1996

25 years ago this week

GROUP FOCUSES ON THE POSITIVE: Tired of all the negative campaigning against Grosse Pointe's schools, library system and city councils by various citizens' groups, a network of Pointe residents has formed a group that hopes to accentuate the positive. The newly formed Grosse Pointe Community Network, which has been loosely knit since 1993, officially formed a nonprofit corporation and appointed a board last fall.

MEMORIAL, WAR MEMORIAL PLAY 'CONNECT THE LOTS':

The Grosse Pointe War Memorial and Grosse Pointe Memorial Church are joining together, literally, by renovating and connecting their parking lots. The new configuration will result in additional parking spaces, improved lighting, direct access between the two lots and restoration of the original tree-lined entrance leading to the historic Alger House.

Obituaries: Ethel J. Smith, Grace Haselby, Lucille Motschall, Lucy L. Friedt, John D. Donahue, Lee S. Shier, Dorothy A. Jones, Erin M. Hile, Elsie M. Birch, Raymond F. VanGampelaere

2011

10 years ago this week

MOVING ON WITH DISPATCH: Two of the five Grosse Pointes are formalizing an agreement to share public safety dispatch services. A bid by the Farms to assume duties of the Shores communications center included the winning consideration to employ displaced full-time dispatchers.

DON'T BE ALARMED: A false alarm may soon cost real cash in Grosse Pointe Woods. City officials have proposed charging home and business owners when a burglar alarm goes off and police are dispatched only to find that the alert has been tripped by the owner forgetting to turn it off or an employee not familiar with the system.

Obituaries: Jeffrey W. Strauch, Lena Connolly, Robert Whitefield Powell

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8A | SCHOOLS

Early childhood program gets the go-ahead

By Peggy Walsh-Sarnecki
Staff Writer

It was controversial, but in the end the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education voted to run the early childhood program at Trombly Elementary School for the 2021-22 school year. It's a temporary reprieve for the program. The board also decided to form a working group to recommend whether the program would be continued into the future. That decision will come in September, in time for parents to decide what to

do in the 2022-23 school year if the program is discontinued.

The vote to continue the program was 4-2, with Vice President Margaret Weertz and Trustee Dr. Christopher Lee voting against the measure. Board member Ahmed Ismail was absent.

Trombly and Poupard elementary schools were closed after the 2019-20 school year due to declining enrollment. Trombly was allowed to remain open this year as an early childhood learning center, but was to close in June.

However parents were allowed to sign up for next year, despite the decision to close in June, putting the board in a position of having to decide whether to shut the program down in the face of those parents' expectations.

Trustees David Brumbaugh and Lisa Papas were decidedly in favor of the program. Weertz was definitely opposed.

"I feel strongly that we're rationalizing a decision that we backed into twice," Weertz said. "That's not an effective way to plan ahead."

She also pointed out that the program will run at a \$30,000 deficit.

"We have to be aware that taxpayers did not sign up to subsidize childcare," Weertz said. "When we subsidize childcare programs, that's nothing that we have an obligation for. I don't think that this is an effective and efficient and intentional way to do it."

Brumbaugh looked at it differently. Trombly will lose \$30,000, but the overall early childhood program makes a profit, Brumbaugh said.

"Every student that

comes into the district will bring 13 years of general fund dollars with them," Brumbaugh said.

The district lost more than 500 students this year, mostly due to private and parochial schools having in-classroom education while GPPSS went to a hybrid form. Consequently, attracting more students to the district has been a major priority.

Some early childhood programs in the community have closed due to the pandemic, Brumbaugh said. If the Trombly program is closed at this late date,

those 60 parents who registered for Trombly may not have alternatives.

Continuing the program "helps us do right by the families that committed to it," Brumbaugh said.

Papas said deciding to discontinue the program this late in the year would be "a slap in the face" to the families who signed up.

"Nobody wants to run a program at a \$30K loss. That's not good fiscal management," Papas said. "But these are not normal times. Another year is not going to break us."

Spaced accordingly

The CDC last week said students can be safe in classrooms with three feet of social distancing.

That's good news for the Grosse Pointe Public School System. The district's historic buildings were not built for a pandemic. In many cases, the previous recommendation of six

feet of social distancing was simply impossible.

In returning all students to in-classroom education, Grosse Pointe schools configured classrooms and other school spaces with as much social distancing as possible.

— Peggy Walsh-Sarnecki

Sign up required for student COVID testing

Parents are reminded that high school students must sign up for the free in-school COVID-19 testing before each test.

Students will be tested after Spring Break on April 7.

Around 200 students were tested March 8 and 9, and all tested negative.

School officials are urging students to sign up, saying it's important to

monitor COVID-19 in the schools.

Testing is free and administered by Wayne Health, out of Wayne State University.

Students may sign up at bit.ly/316Sj14. Parents or guardians must sign up for minor students to take the test. Text GPPSS Cares to 48355.

— Peggy Walsh-Sarnecki



PHOTO COURTESY OF SUZY BERSCHBACK

An anonymous grant will help fund a greenhouse on the grounds of Defer Elementary School.

Defer greenhouse project gets green light

By Peggy Walsh-Sarnecki
Staff Writer

A long-awaited greenhouse project at Defer Elementary School got the go-ahead during Monday's school board meeting.

The school board on Monday awarded a bid for the project, with all costs being covered by an anonymous grant.

The school's greenhouse was in such disrepair it couldn't even be used any more. Suzy Berschback, healthy communities manager for Beaumont Hospital, found the anonymous donor, who gave \$350,000 to rebuild the green-

house. The district received the donation, but the project was halted due to the pandemic.

Now it's time to finally move forward. The work will be done mostly over the summer, to be completed in the early fall.

"Students will learn how to grow and enjoy healthy food and beautiful flowers and all the lessons that go with that," Berschback said.

Beaumont is promoting healthier lifestyles that include a connection to nature and food, and will provide health expertise and guidance for the project. Students will experiment, make mistakes and learn from

their experiences, she said.

The greenhouse also will allow parents and family to join in, in recognition of the fact that parent-child relationships also contribute to child health.

Berschback also leads the Healthy Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods coalition, healthygphw.org, which works on community health initiatives.

The Defer greenhouse project is in conjunction with Grosse Pointe schools and Wayne State University. It's a pilot project and if it goes well, Berschback said they hope to find the funding to expand the program.

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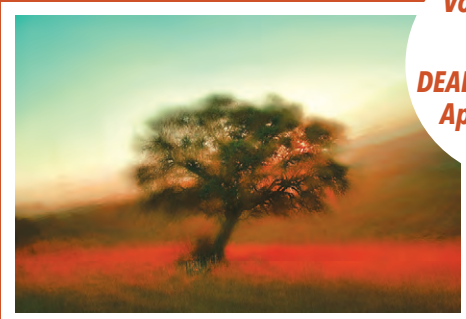
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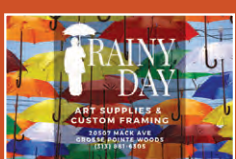
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PRIDE OF THE POINTES

Grosse Pointe Farms resident **Claire Duncan**, a senior chemistry major at Michigan State University's Lyman Briggs College, was named to the Dean's List for the fall 2020 semester.



Claire Duncan

Grosse Pointe Farms resident **Kate Duncan**, a freshman civil engineering student at Michigan State University, was named to the Dean's List for the fall 2020 semester.



Kate Duncan

Devon Grace Krasner of Grosse Pointe Farms, a 2019 graduate of Grosse Pointe South High School, has earned University Honors and was named to the Engineering College Dean's List for the fall 2020 semester at the University of Michigan.

Krasner is pursuing a degree in biomedical engineering with a minor in German.

Grosse Pointe Farms resident **Susan Moesta** has been named to the fall 2020 semester Dean's List at Marquette University. Moesta is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in computational mathematics.



Devon Krasner

District awaits possible federal relief funding

By Peggy Walsh-Sarnecki
Staff Writer

The Grosse Pointe Public School System can potentially receive approximately \$3.4 million in federal relief money.

But wrangling between Republicans and Democrats in Lansing is holding up most of the money from actually getting to the schools.

There are two parts to the money, Deputy Superintendent Amanda Matheson said. The first part includes \$1.6 million.

Of that, \$635,000 is available now, pending the state approving a grant application from the district describing how the money will be

spent. The remaining money from the \$1.6 million is being held while line item vetoes by the governor in HB 4048 are worked out.

The second pot of money would provide another \$1.8 million for Grosse Pointe schools in HB 4049. Gov. Gretchen Whitmer vetoed that bill outright and that money also is being held.

"I truly believe the Legislature will work this out and we'll get it," Matheson said.

The district wants to spend the \$635,000 in two areas. First will be to reimburse the district for the air purifiers purchased to help the district reopen for in-classroom education.

Second, the district

would like to spend the rest of the money on summer school.

"We're looking to expand our summer program this summer," Deputy Superintendent Jon Dean said. "A lot of kids have suffered learning loss because school was interrupted for a year."

Meanwhile, Republican legislators and the governor will need to work out their differences so the money can filter down to schools.

Republicans are using the school stimulus funds as a tool in their battle to curb Whitmer's power to impose pandemic restrictions. They want Whitmer to sign a separate bill that would limit her power to close

schools or cancel school sports and transfer that power to local health departments.

"Senate Republicans have passed over \$8 billion in COVID-19 relief since the pandemic began for schools, vaccines and unemployed Michiganders. Most of that funding has passed with overwhelming bipartisan support," said Matt Sweeney, director of the Senate Majority Communications Office. "We do believe local health departments are better qualified to determine whether it's safe for local schools to open rather than bureaucrats in Lansing and we hope the governor sees the wisdom of such a policy."

Democrats, obviously,

Summer school expanding

Summer school will be expanded this year to offer three two-week sessions in addition to the usual summer offerings.

The goal is to give students another tool to keep up with their education despite the restrictions caused by the pandemic. Students can sign up for one, two or three of the sessions, which will focus on learning skills.

The programs will not be aimed at making up for poor grades. Instead they will enhance what students have already learned, Deputy Superintendent Jon Dean said.

"It will be helping to make sure they're ready to start school in the fall."

— Peggy Walsh-Sarnecki

see it differently.

"I think Republicans are continuing to be intransigent about releasing federal dollars because they want to hold the governor over the barrel," said state Sen. Adam Hollier, who represents the Grosse

Pointes and Harper Woods. "But I think people who live in this state are going to be frustrated with this kind of political gamesmanship."

The federal relief program included a total of \$30.7 billion for education.

Mason recognizes Down Syndrome Awareness week

By Kate Vanderstelt
Staff Writer

Sunday, March 21, is World Down Syndrome Day. Mason Elementary School put on programming throughout the week leading up to the day to spread awareness and support to those living with Down syndrome.

World Down Syndrome Day has been observed by the United Nations since 2012. March 21 was the date chosen because it symbolizes the triplication of chromosome 21, which causes Down syndrome.

The week's events were organized by Heather Wettstein and her husband, who have a first-grade son at Mason with Down syndrome. They partnered with principal Roy Bishop to design and execute the week.

Wettstein's two older sons were in elementary school when she gave



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Secretaries, a teacher and a student show off their crazy socks.

birth to Caden, who has Down syndrome. Wettstein would go into her older sons' elementary school classrooms and read books regarding Down syndrome in efforts to spread awareness. As the kids grew older, the tradition fell to the side.

With Caden in first grade at Mason, Wettstein thought this year would be a good year to propose bringing back the read-

ings. She and her husband set up a phone call with Bishop, who was ecstatic about the idea. Bishop even took Wettstein's idea for a day and extended it into a week-long event.

"She brought it to us and we were like, absolutely," Bishop said.

Bishop strives to promote inclusion and kindness at Mason, so the idea of a week dedicated to promoting understanding of Down syndrome was a no-brainer.

"We want to make sure (students) feel safe at Mason," he said. "We're celebrating everyone as their unique self."

The week's theme was "Be kind to everyone."

Each day of the school week, classrooms participated in different activities to raise awareness about Down syndrome. On Monday, students watched a video of kids meeting a woman with Down syndrome and asking her questions. Bishop also explained to students 10 facts about kids with Down syndrome.

On Tuesday, a video of child-rapper Matty B was played on the announcements. Matty B's sister has Down syndrome and

he did a tribute to her via a cover of "True Colors" by Cindy Lauper.

Bishop went over 11 more facts about Down syndrome on Wednesday. Third- and fourth-grade classrooms watched a video about older kids and their friendships with kids with Down syndrome.

On Thursday, Wettstein conducted a virtual reading session with the classrooms, where she read "What's Inside You Is Inside Me, Too: My Chromosomes Make Me Unique," by Deslie Quinby and Jeannie Visootsak, M.D.

Friday was crazy sock day. The socks specifically imitated the shape and various colors of a chromosome. "Rock Your Socks" is an annual March 21 event to raise awareness and celebrate World Down Syndrome Day. According to the 3-21 Foundation, socks are chosen because the karyotype of Down syndrome chromosomes looks like mismatched socks.

"The hope is that throughout the school and community, someone will ask about their socks and they will have the opportunity to advocate for our



Triplets Emmanuel, Noah and Luke Jayakar, kindergartners, wear matching PJs and crazy socks.

learners with Down syndrome," Bishop said in an email. "The socks are conversation starters."

Caden even brought socks for Bishop to wear.

"I wore some hero socks and actually, Caden brought them for me," Bishop said. "We took a picture together. The socks really meant a lot for me, because I consider Caden to be a hero in my life. Just the amount of drive he has and how persistent he is ... it's just motivation for me and it inspires me so much."

Wettstein expressed her appreciation for the ability to spread awareness within the school.

"I like people to ask questions," she said. "People should always ask questions. That's one thing that I've read with all of these blogs. ... It's easier to just stare, I suppose, but it's nicer to just ask questions so that way you at least have an

understanding."

The students were receptive to the events of the week and asked creative questions.

Wettstein said Caden even received a letter from another student.

"Caden got a letter from a girl, I think in third grade," Wettstein said. "She said, 'Dear Caden, I heard about you today. I just wanted to say keep smiling and stay strong and stay sweet. —Sofia.'"

Wettstein asked Bishop if the school has an awareness committee to typically handle events like Down Syndrome Awareness Week. Bishop said Mason does not have such a committee and the pair is working toward starting one now.

Bishop is excited about further opportunities to bring experiences to his students that will extend knowledge beyond the four walls of their classrooms.



Mason Principal Roy Bishop and Caden Wettstein, who has Down Syndrome, give a thumbs up to crazy socks.

LARCENY:

Continued from page 5A

was arrested after being suspected of stealing items from 19 unlocked homes in the Farms and Woods, that his 2011 trip into the Farms public safety building came to light.

To the officers' surprise, it turned out that McMahon simply had walked into the building through an open fire apparatus bay late one night when officers were responding to a fire and then down into the basement of the building, where he stole two gun stocks, which are replicas

used for the department's honor guard. It's likely he thought they were real weapons, Farms Detective Brian Ford said.

When led into the building during his 2014 arrest, McMahon recognized the stairway in the back of the department and decided to tell officers of the escape of his own accord.

"That was investigated internally, but it didn't result in anything," Ford explained. "We thought it was somebody internal, which it didn't prove to be, and we ended up just through an interview that he couldn't help himself and he spilled the beans when we were interview-

ing about his other crimes."

While Farms officers were unable to place him at the scene of the home invasions with any physical evidence, he was charged with illegal use of a credit card that had been taken from a Provençal home and, once arrested, all of the home invasions ceased. He also was charged with breaking and entering of a building, the department, at that time.

"We're very familiar with him," Ford said. "He's a well-known person around here. We spent a lot of time looking for him."

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Something to celebrate

Exhibition highlights Greek artists, honors 200 years of independence

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

This year marks the 200th anniversary of the outbreak of Greece's Independence War against Ottoman rule in 1821. As part of the recognition of its independence, the Hellenic Museum of Michigan is playing a role in reintroducing the country and its contributions to the world.

The museum, a center of reference for others to learn about Hellenic history and culture, recently celebrated its reopening after being closed since last summer due to the pandemic. Additionally, it's hosting its Inaugural Hellenic Art Exhibition through July 25, featuring the works of Greek artists from across the state, throughout the U.S. and Greece.

"With the 200th anniversary of Greek independence this year, I thought this would be one way to celebrate it and also to celebrate the arts, especially with Greek artists," said Evans Tasiopoulos, who serves as juror for the exhibition. "An exhibition like this, where it's just Greek artists, is something that's never been done in Michigan before. Or if it has, it was on a small scale."

Tasiopoulos said he pitched his idea for the exhibition when museum administrators were looking for ways to celebrate the 200th anniversary.

"Everyone has an equal voice here," he added. "Everyone embraced the idea to move forward with it."

Tasiopoulos, a Grosse Pointe Farms resident, spent nearly five months on the project, putting out a call to artists and narrowing the field to 20 contributors.

"Every media is covered," he noted, from painting and photography to sculpture and videography. "And there are not too many similar styles represented."

Among the featured artists are Grosse Pointe Woods resident Karen Panagos and Grosse Pointe South High School graduate Georgianne Niforos. Tasiopoulos, himself a painter and photographer, also has some of his work in the exhibition.

"The arts is very important to our people, as part of our heritage," he said. "This is a great way to showcase what Greek artists are capable of."

For several of the artists, this is the first time their work in being displayed. And for the Hellenic Museum of Michigan, this is the first time it has hosted a Greek art exhibition.

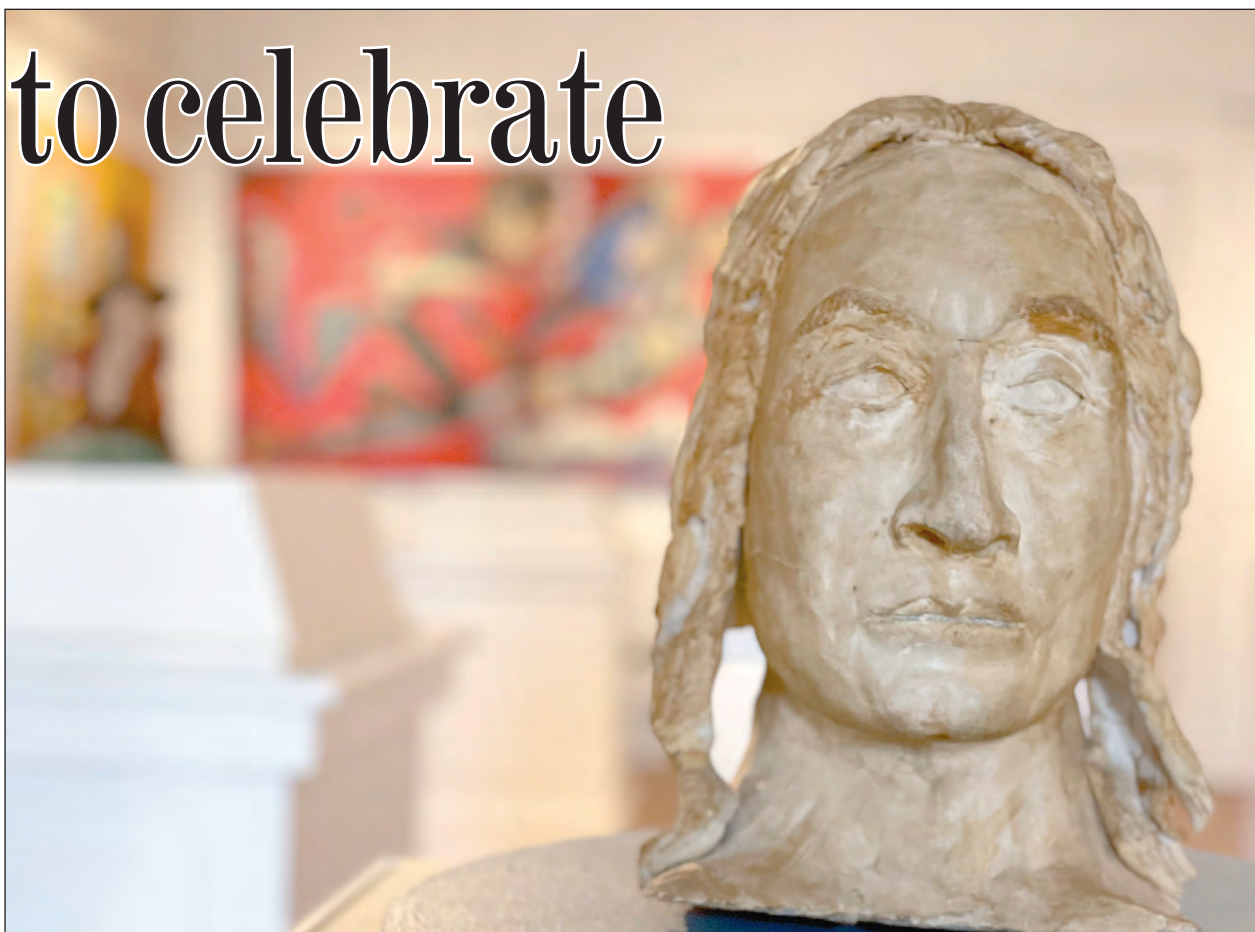
"We hope to continue it every year," Tasiopoulos added.

Guests to the museum are required to wear masks and admission is limited to 50 percent capacity, so reservations are required to visit.

Following health and safety protocols, the exhibition successfully launched Sunday, March 21, welcoming 75 patrons to the museum.

Museum hours are noon to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

"It's free to attend," Tasiopoulos said. "It's perfect for families. You



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE HELLENIC MUSEUM OF MICHIGAN

The Inaugural Hellenic Art Exhibition features art in a variety of media, including sculpture, all created by Greek artists.



Evans Tasiopoulos organized the Inaugural Hellenic Art Exhibit at the Hellenic Museum of Michigan.

don't have to be Greek to enjoy the exhibition or the museum. There's plenty there to appreciate and relate to."

The Hellenic Museum of Michigan is located at 67 E. Kirby, Detroit MI.

To make an appointment, email info@hellenicmi.org. For more information, visit hellenicmi.org.

About the juror

The photography and artwork of Evans Tasiopoulos have been featured at the Museum of New Art, The Scarab Club and the Marlene Boll Gallery. His photography has been published in Pure Michigan Magazine, Broadway World and the Athens Voice.

His work has been celebrated internationally in galleries such as The Palazzo Flangini in Venice, Italy, and Millepiani Exhibition Space in Rome, Italy, as well as featured on the Greek television network Antenna in Athens, Greece.

Recently, Tasiopoulos' photography has been put on permanent display in the lobby of the GM Renaissance Center. See more of his work at evans47.com.

Hellenic Museum of Michigan

It was the intention of the Greek community to create a Hellenic museum to integrate its heritage into the Detroit metropolitan community at large.

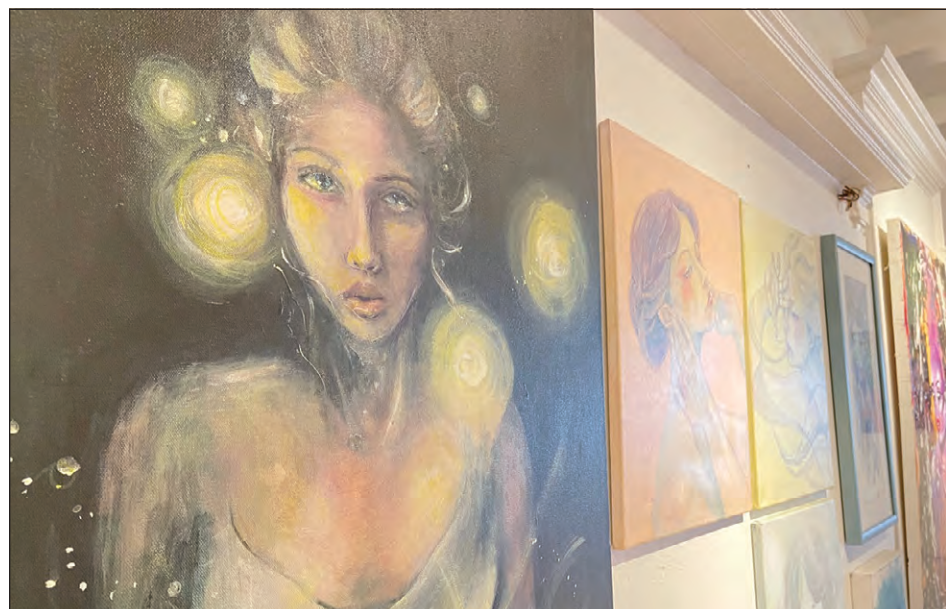
"There was no formalized setting for presentation of Hellenic culture and its rich heritage of music, art, literature, history, philosophy and language," said Joan DeRonne, one of the museum's founding members and its director of operations. "We found at the time that schools and organizations would ask churches to direct them to resources, but there was not a whole lot available."

A Greek language and culture committee was established by Metropolitan Nicholas of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit. Its mission was dedicated to increasing awareness of the contribution and the importance of Hellenic culture to America. Its first endeavor was the implementation of the Greek Independence Day Parade in Greektown, which is in its 19th year.

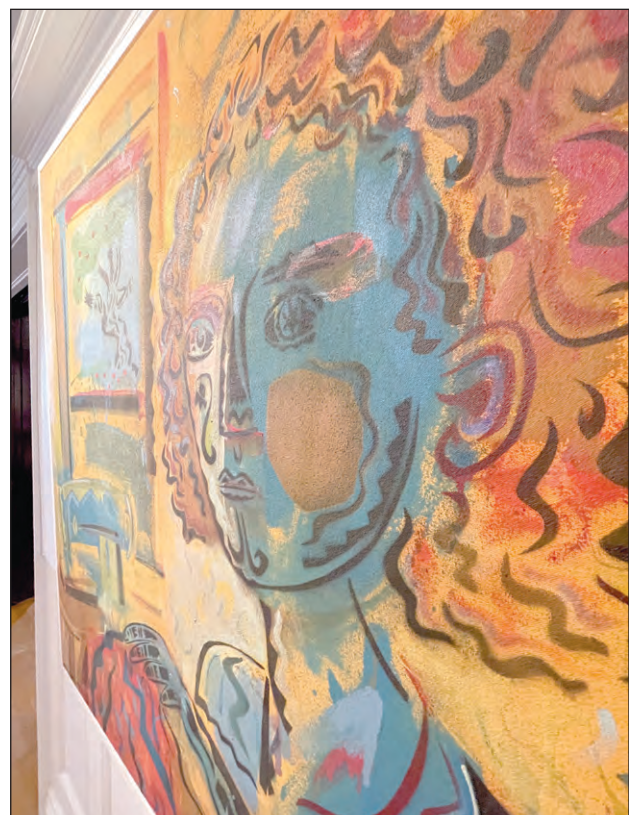
The committee then obtained a grant to present a choral ensemble of Byzantine music and medieval carols with voices from around the world. The concert served to enlighten the community of the beauty and richness of this music which reflects the heritage of thousands of Greek-Americans in the metro area.

Those premier events continue to expand in a formalized setting at the Hellenic Museum of Michigan, through its permanent and rotating exhibitions.

The renovation of the Hellenic Museum carriage house is nearing completion and will provide space for meetings, workshops, classes and social events. Kitchen access will be offered for catered events and a café will serve authentic Greek coffee and pastries. Planned classes include Greek language, art, history, archeology, music, dance, Ancient and Modern Greek folklore and Greek cuisine.



The exhibition runs through July 25.



The exhibition features the work of 20 Greek artists.

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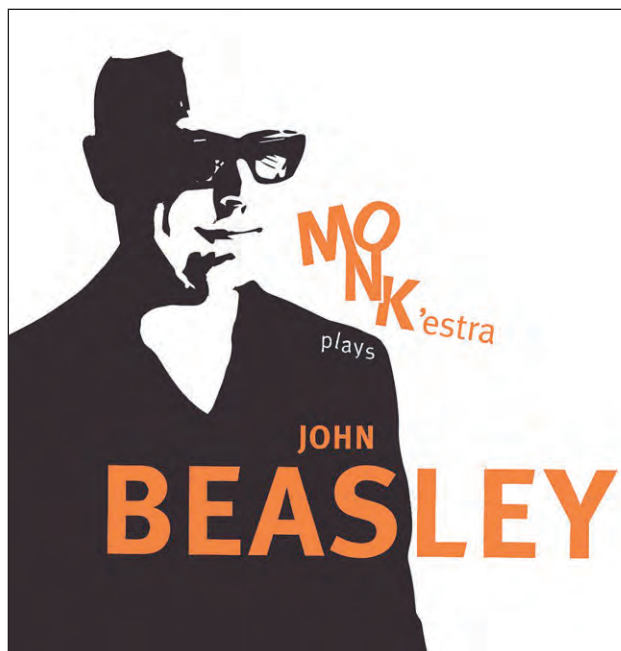
Mack Avenue Records artist gets Grammy win

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

The March 14 broadcast of the 63rd annual Grammy Awards included a proud moment locally as pianist John Beasley, an artist signed to Grosse Pointe-owned Mack Avenue Records, won the award for Best Arrangement, Instrumental or a Cappella.

“My first reaction when I heard his name announced was, ‘Yes!’ as I threw my arms in the air,” Mack Avenue Records President Denny Stilwell said. “I am so thrilled for John. All of us at the label are

“We know how hard he’s worked and of his



exceptional history as an leader, in addition to artist, composer, being one of the nicest arranger and band people to know,” he con-

tinued. “The L.A. Times referred to him as a ‘shape shifter’ in a recent article. It’s so true. John is like the Swiss Army knife of musicians — he does it all.”

Beasley earned the award for his arrangement of “Donna Lee,” performed by his big band, MONK’estra, from the album “MONK’estra Plays John Beasley.”

Stilwell noted Beasley’s immense talent, as well as the respect he receives from the music community, as evidenced by his nine other Grammy nominations.

“For him to get his first Grammy for one of his Mack Avenue MONK’estra projects is extremely satisfying for

all of us,” Stilwell said. “He was due for this recognition.”

Beasley has been a part of the Mack Avenue Records family since he signed to the label in 2016.

He was nominated for four Grammy Awards this year. Fellow Mack Avenue artist Christian Sands also was nominated this year for Best Instrumental Composition for his “Be Water II.” This was Sands’ second nomination.

They are just the most recent artists to receive recognition during Mack Avenue’s award-winning history, which Stilwell attributes to two key components: music/cre-

ative and investment/support.

“We are fortunate to be working with exceptionally talented artists and their creative teams,” he said. “It all starts with the music and the creators that bring it to life. Bringing the music to the public takes planning, budgets and other resources, however. We are blessed with supportive ownership that understands this music and a terrific Mack Avenue team that loves music and knows how to promote it.”

Mack Avenue Records was founded in the late 1990s by Grosse Pointe businesswoman and jazz enthusiast Gretchen Valade.

Grosse Pointe Theatre awarded \$40,000 state grant

Grosse Pointe Theatre recently was awarded a Michigan Stages Development Survival Grant for

\$40,000 from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation. “We are just thrilled to receive this grant to help us in this difficult year with no ticket revenue,”

GPT Executive Director Linda Zublick said. “The funding will help us manage our operational costs and allow us to begin reopening plans for fall programming.”

More than 100 live

music and entertainment venues around the state were awarded a total of more than \$3.4 million through the MSSG program, which was launched to provide relief for Michigan’s live

music and entertainment venues that have been negatively impacted by COVID-19.

Nearly 400 applications were received for the funding and 101 grants were awarded.

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TUESDAYS-1 SEATING: 6:00PM-8:30PM (Ron English plays from 6:30PM-8:00PM)

WEDNESDAY THRU SATURDAY

1st SEATING: 5:00PM-7:00PM (Performer plays from 6:00PM-6:45PM)

2nd SEATING: 7:30PM-9:30PM (Performer plays from 8:00PM-9:30PM)

Dining room capacity has been reduced to 25% so we can accommodate groups of 6 or less for lunch or dinner. We are following all state guidelines for your safety and the safety of our staff and performers.

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WEDNESDAY THRU SATURDAY
2 Seatings each night.

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AREA ACTIVITIES

Library

The Grosse Pointe Public Library hosts the following virtual programs:

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

◆ Thoughts to Action Book Club, 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday, March 25. The group will discuss “Caste,” parts 6 and 7.

◆ SF Hardy, A Children’s Author Event, 10 to 11 a.m. Saturday, March 27.

◆ Spice of the Month Club, 11 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 27. The March spice is curry powder.

◆ Girls Coding, 4:30 to 5:45 p.m. Wednesday, March 31, for girls in fifth through eighth grade.

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

The Helm

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

◆ The movie “Harriet” is shown 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Friday, March 26.

◆ PATH, or Personal Action Toward Health, a virtual class, 1 to 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 14 to May 19, with facilitator Margaret Cooper and a Detroit Area Agency on Aging staff member.

◆ Ask the Physical Therapist, 9:15 to 10 a.m. the first Tuesday of each month, with Jessica Malfa.

◆ Medicare Counseling When You Need It, for members and nonmembers, done by appointment via telephone or video conferencing. Call (313) 882-9600 for information or to schedule an appointment. Messages will be returned within 48 hours.

◆ Carryout lunches, 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. weekdays. Cost is \$7 for members, \$10 for nonmembers. Reservations close at 10 a.m. each

morning. Register by calling (313) 882-9600 or emailing mcooper@helmlife.org.

◆ Pointe Area Assisted Transportation Services buses operate Monday through Friday. Harper Woods and Grosse Pointe residents age 60 and older or who are disabled may schedule a ride for shopping or appointments. Call (313) 343-2580.

Vaccine clinic

The Detroit VA Health Care System hosts a COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 27, at the Joe Louis American Legion Post 375, 19486 Sherwood, Detroit. The clinic is open to all veterans enrolled with VA services. Detroit VA will have registration staff on hand to register eligible veterans who have yet to enroll for VA services. For more information, call (313) 244-7707.

Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:

◆ 10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Monday, March 29, Lakeshore Presbyterian Church, 27801 Jefferson, St. Clair Shores.

◆ 8:30 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. Wednesday, March 31, South Lake High School, 21900 Nine Mile, St. Clair Shores.

Register at redcrossblood.org.

Gilda’s Club Lake House

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

◆ Gentle Mat Yoga, 4 p.m. Tuesday, March 30.

◆ Chair Yoga, 6 p.m. Wednesday, March 31.

Register at gildasclubdetroit.org/events/calendardar.

Rotary

The Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe hosts its

next meeting virtually at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 31. Visit grossepointerotary.org for information. Those who wish to join the meeting via Zoom should email grossepointerotary@gmail.com.

Mini Picassos

Mini Picassos offers the following art classes for children:

◆ Spring Break Pop Up, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, April 8, for students in kindergarten through sixth grade. Cost is \$48.

◆ Clay & More Workshop, 4:15 to 5:30 p.m. Mondays, April 12 to May 3, for students in third through sixth grade. Cost is \$125.

◆ Tuesday or Thursday Art Club, 4:15 to 5:30 p.m. either Tuesdays, April 13 to May 11, or Thursdays, April 15 to May 13, for students in kindergarten through fifth grade. Cost is \$145.

◆ Painting Club, 10:30 a.m. to noon Saturdays, April 17 to May 15, for children in kindergarten through eighth grade. Cost is \$150.

◆ Create Your Own Flower Pots, 10 to 11:30 a.m. Saturday, April 24. Cost is \$28. Apart from embellishing their own flower pots, students will plant flowers in them too.

Toastmasters

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

NAMI

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

Fontbonne Auxiliary hosts spring fundraiser

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

The members of the Fontbonne Auxiliary, which provides financial and other assistance to Ascension St. John Hospital, want the community to know the organization is still here and going strong.

Like other nonprofits that have weathered the COVID-19 storm and adapted to changing circumstances, the Fontbonne Auxiliary also has carried on.

"We still have board meetings, we have a healthy membership and we're willing to work," said Camille Cracchiolo, chairwoman of the organization's spring fundraiser, "Spring into Action."

"We traditionally have a spring event," she added. "This year we're just not ready to have an in-person event, but we're still having a fundraiser. And we found something to raise money for — a great cause.

"We're raising money for a DigniCap Scalp Cooling System," she continued. "It's a system that's used during chemotherapy ... to help people save more of their hair."

DigniCap is a cold cap therapy system that narrows the blood vessels beneath the scalp, reducing the amount of chemotherapy medicine that reaches the hair follicles. Studies have shown approximately two-thirds of patients who used cold cap therapy were able to preserve 50 percent or more of their hair.

"Most typically, it's not covered by private insurance and it's expensive to pay out of pocket," said Lorna Zalenski, president of the Fontbonne Auxiliary. "We want to develop a fund so patients who want to use it and can't afford it, can use it."

Along with keeping most of their hair, patients find other benefits of the cold cap therapy include improved quality of life and self-image, Zalenski

said, noting she's known about the treatment since her days as an oncology nurse.

"It's really important for self-image for cancer patients," she added. "I've had a lot of friends who've gone through chemo. Their greatest fear is hair loss, being bald."

Added Cracchiolo, "Chemo's hard enough as it is. This gives them a ray of hope."

"Spring into Action" invitations were mailed

out two weeks ago and already donations have started coming in. As the organization makes it annual giving to the hospital in May, any "Spring into Action" donations are due April 20. Checks may be mailed to Fontbonne Auxiliary, c/o Lorna Zalenski, 1200 N. Renaud, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236. For more information, call (313) 590-5607 or email lorna.zalenski@ascension-external.org.

"We want to make it as easy as possible," Zalenski said. "Donations (are welcome) in any amount."

Throughout the pandemic, the Fontbonne Auxiliary has benefited from the generosity of supporters in the community. Even though its 2020 spring event was canceled at the last minute, many patrons let their donations stand, Zalenski said.

The organization also

saw donations come in for its other annual fundraiser, the White Christmas Ball. Following the theme "Miracles Can Happen," the ball raised funds for the Get Well Network, an interactive technology program for the Ascension St. John Children's Hospital, which is housed within the hospital proper.

"This program is used by leading hospitals throughout the community," Zalenski said. "It provides interactive care with doctors and families" by allowing children to play games that teach them about diabetes, obesity and other health issues. It empowers patients and increases family participation, she added. Plus, it's fun.

The White Christmas Ball raised more than \$50,000 for the Get Well Network. Zalenski said she'd be happy to raise the same for the DigniCap Scalp Cooling System.

For more information, email Zalenski or visit stjohnfontbonne.org.



Wayne County Commission creates new citizen-based Women's Commission

Group to craft, advocate for solutions for Wayne County women

Wayne County commissioners recently voted to create a citizen-based Women's Commission. The volunteer group will focus on studying issues, making recommendations and advocating for actions to improve the lives of women across Wayne County.

By looking at areas like employment, earning power, education, health care and child-care, the Women's Commission will work collaboratively to identify and promote solutions, while making sure women play a key role in economic growth throughout the county.

"There remains a large disparity in income, educational opportunities, health care and so many other issues affecting women, and it is time to truly develop a realistic plan to address those issues," Commission Chair Alisha Bell said. "This will be an impactful commission."

The commission will consist of 19 volunteer members from various backgrounds. Members will serve two-year terms and participate in meetings subject to the state Open Meetings Act. They will not receive compensation.

Each county commissioner will appoint one member and the commission chair will appoint four members, one of whom will be a county commissioner.

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer applauded the action made by the Wayne County Commission.

"I'm confident the Wayne County Women's Commission will be an effective advocate for women throughout

Wayne County and beyond," Whitmer said. "I look forward to working with the Wayne County Women's Commission to tackle important issues from pay equity for women to ensuring all Michigan women have access to affordable childcare. Women across Michigan have been on the frontlines of the COVID-19 pandemic and women will play a key role in Michigan's economic recovery."

The idea for the Wayne County Women's Commission was proposed by former State Rep. and Macomb County Commissioner Sarah Roberts, who now lives in Wayne County.

"Last summer I felt the need to do something that would be meaningful, impactful and work towards positive change. In the past, I created the Macomb County Women's Commission and as a state rep, created and fought for public policy supporting women," Roberts said. "Our goal in establishing the Wayne County Women's Commission is to positively impact the lives of women across Wayne County. I want to thank Chairwoman Alisha Bell for her leadership and our entire workgroup for making this a reality."

The workgroup included Bell, Roberts, Commissioner Melissa Daub, Commission Council Felicia Johnson, former Commissioner Edna Bell, Michigan Women's Commission CEO Cheryl Bergman and Nicole Stallworth, assistant vice president of the Office of Government and Community Relations at Oakland University.

WEDDING

Kish-Hall

Katie Kish and Austin Hall were married Dec. 12, 2020, in a backyard tented ceremony followed by a reception in Grosse Pointe Farms. Tony Cimmarrusti officiated the wedding.

The bride is the daughter of Ken and Amy Kish of Grosse Pointe Park. The groom is the son of Chuck and Amber Hall of Linden.

The bride wore a sheath crepe dress designed by Christopher David, embellished with a beautiful lace bodice and long train with a lace border. She carried a bouquet of eucalyptus and white roses with burgundy accents.

The bride's sister-in-law, Kyrian Kish, served as maid of honor. Bridesmaids were her sisters-in-law, Kate Kish and Mariah Hall; the groom's sister, Lauren Hall; the bride's friends, Amanda Marra, Carly Gouge, Samantha Catron, Sydney Ackerman, Taylor Bennett and Annika

Zeilstra; and her cousin, Julie Wittwer. The bridesmaids wore wine-colored velvet, flutter-sleeved, high-low dresses. Their bouquets featured a mix of eucalyptus, white roses and berries.

The groom's brother, Trevor Hall, served as best man. Groomsmen were the bride's brothers, Rob Kish and Richie Kish; and the groom's friends, Sean Burtless-Creps, Ethan McMillan, Kyle Beyer and Wes Cimmarrusti.

The bride graduated from Hillsdale College with a Bachelor of Science degree in exercise science and a minor in religion. She is on the staff of InterVarsity Christian Ministries at Hillsdale College.

The groom graduated from the University of Michigan with a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering. He is a manufacturing engineer at Brembo in Homer, Mich.

The couple honeymooned in Punta Gorda, Fla., and lives in Hillsdale.



Mrs. and Mr. Austin Hall

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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.

Robert Ervin Novitke

Longtime Grosse Pointe Woods resident Robert “Bob” Ervin Novitke, 74, passed away Sunday, March 14, 2021. He was born July 20, 1946, in Detroit, to Ervin and Ruth Novitke.

Bob was a devoted and loving husband to Marsha for 54 years; an amazing dad to the late James, Debra McCarthy (John), David, Michael and Deanna Deldin (Marc); dearest grandpa to Emma, Caitlyn and Nora; and loving older brother to Dennis.

A proud military veteran, Bob served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1964 to 1968, including time in Vietnam, and was awarded the Purple Heart. His work ethic and service carried throughout his life, always applying the Marine Corps slogan of “Adapt, Improve and Overcome.”

Bob earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Wayne State University and a Juris Doctor degree from the Detroit College of Law. He began practicing law in 1975.

A Grosse Pointe Woods resident for more than 46 years, Bob served 30 years as the city’s mayor and 13 years as a city council member. In honor and recognition of his years of service, the city dedicated and renamed the Grosse Pointe Woods city complex the Robert E. Novitke Municipal Center.

Bob was a Mason and member of the VFW and Kiwanis Club of Grosse Pointe.

Bob’s love for his family and friends was evident in his enjoyment of family gatherings, playing euchre and pinocle, shooting pool and playing backyard volleyball, badminton and driveway basketball. He also was an avid racquetball player. Together with his family, he enjoyed trips to Disney World and Sanibel Island and loved visits to White Rock, Mich., where his grandmother lived. He had an inquiring and intrepid nature for outdoor activities that led to windsurfing, parasailing, jet-skiing and adventurous walks.

He had a passion for music — particularly blues — and loved to dance whenever an opportunity presented itself. Bob loved all versions of “Stand By Me.” He also enjoyed science fiction movies and books and watching the Pistons. He was inquisitive, continuing to challenge his mind through reading, puzzles and more.

An honorable and humble man, Bob will be remembered for his leadership and strength, calming demeanor, and sense of humor and wit, his family said.

A private funeral service was held March 20, at A.H. Peters Funeral Home, Grosse Pointe Woods.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, 375 Lothrop Rd., Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236; or the American Lung Association, action.lung.org.

Henry B. Maloney

Henry Bert Maloney, 93, a longtime resident of Grosse Pointe Woods and Troy, passed away Tuesday, March 16, 2021.

The grandson of Irish immigrants from County Mayo and County Waterford, Ireland, Henry grew up in the Ste. Anne de Detroit parish community. Together with his parents, he briefly lived in Brighton, where he graduated high school at age 16. He worked at J.L. Hudson’s in downtown Detroit before enrolling at the University of Detroit, sandwiching a degree in English around an 18-month hitch in the U.S. Army.

Henry earned a master’s degree at the University of Michigan and embarked on a 50-year career as an educator, beginning in Detroit Public Schools. His 1960s workshop enabled teachers to develop study materials compensating for the social inadequacies of textbooks.

Henry maintained close friendships with many leading educators for decades, collaborating on projects to help students and teachers, attending U of D Titans, Michigan Wolverines and professional Detroit sporting events or spending a Friday evening at Ivanhoe’s.

He was active in the National Council of Teachers of English and served as president of its Michigan affiliate, the MCTE. After Henry earned a doctorate from Columbia University, he was named academic vice president at U of D. He left U of D with a new opportunity to work closely with students and teachers again as the English department chair at Birmingham Seaholm High School.

After Henry retired at 70, he taught Honors English classes at Bishop Foley High School, took a film class at the University of Oxford, drove to New York City to attend plays and was alternately thrilled and frustrated by the Tigers, Lions, Pistons and Red Wings.

He and Margaret Wortley were married at St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church in 1954.

He was proud to see Margaret become a principal in Detroit schools before she lost her fight with breast cancer. In addition, his oldest son, Kevin, and youngest daughter, Caitlin, passed away in recent years. Their careers in corporate training and the film industry reflected Henry’s love of education and the arts.

Henry is survived by his children, Sean (Laura) and Megan. He also is survived by five grandchildren, Caitlin LaPratt (Jeff) — both teachers — and Jillian, Ian, Colin and Kiera, with whom he enjoyed travel, Detroit sporting events, plays and musicals each Christmas, and perennial St. Patrick’s Day brunches at which there was an empty seat

this year; and great-grandchildren, Vincenzo and Mia.

Henry appreciated the support he received from his family, including Maria Handlen; friend, Jerold Terrell; former neighbors at The Fairways; caregivers at Lakeshore Senior Living and Cranberry Park Clio; and students and teachers who kept in touch.

In lieu of donations, Henry’s family requests his memory be cherished by reading a favorite book or reading to someone who is unable to do so.

Share reminiscences and obtain updates on the memorial Mass and Irish wake that will be held at a later date on Henry’s Facebook page.

Joan Hopcian

City of Grosse Pointe resident Joan Hopcian, 72, died Friday, March 19, 2021, after a short illness. She was born April 7, 1948, in Detroit, to Leonard and Genevieve Hopcian.

Joan was a graduate of St. Thomas High School. She attended college at the University of Detroit.

Joan enjoyed a long career in retail beginning in the 1970s, working at Emily’s Across the Street and ending at Saks Fifth Avenue, where she worked in the cosmetics and fragrance department for more than 25 years. She took great pride in delivering beauty and excellent customer service to her clients.

Apart from her career, Joan loved all animals — especially her precious cats. After she retired from Saks, she owned a pet concierge business in Grosse Pointe, “Haughty Dogs and Cool Cats.” For many years, she organized the Blessing of Pets at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church. She also volunteered at the EyesOn Design auto show and for the Full Circle Foundation.

As for the person she was, Joan was a kind neighbor, a good friend, a cool aunt and a loving sister and daughter. She took particularly to the elderly, with whom she struck up friendships and was always sure to check in.

Joan loved being on Lake St. Clair — especially aboard her boat, The Otter, in her younger years. She loved the Lake St. Clair sunsets and the view of the freighters. She enjoyed meeting friends at The Pony for a burger and a laugh.

She was very much loved by her family and friends, and Joan will be missed tremendously.

Joan is survived by her sisters, Angeline Dunlap, Virginia Brinker and Carol Hopcian-Middleton. She was the beloved aunt of Lisa and Jill Bankey and Mary and Matthew Brinker.

Visitation takes place from 8:30 to 9:15 a.m. Friday, March 26, at Verheyden Funeral Home, 16300 Mack,



Robert E. Novitke



Henry B. Maloney



Joan Hopcian

Grosse Pointe Park, followed by a funeral Mass at 10 a.m. at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. A private family burial will take place Saturday, March 27, at St. Mary’s Cemetery in New Baltimore.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Michigan Humane Society, michiganhumane.org.

Justine Weitzmann

Justine “Trudy” Weitzmann, 87, died Saturday, March 20, 2021, due to myeloma, in Clinton Township. She was born March 23, 1933, in Grosse Pointe, to Hal and Gertrude Kliemann.

Trudy was predeceased by her husband, James Weitzmann, 26 years ago. She is survived by her children, James Weitzmann (Lori) and Janice Weitzmann Lovchuk; grandchildren, James Justin Jr. a/k/a “Sparky,” Kiley Weitzmann and Jackson and Justin Lovchuk; and brother, Richard Kliemann (Rayetta).

A graduate of Grosse Pointe South High School, she attended Olivet College.

She played violin and performed at Orchestra Hall, as did her mother; continuing the legacy, her daughter later performed there in an orchestral concert.

Trudy attended Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, where she was married and her children were baptized, and sang in the choir.

Trudy was devoted to her grandchildren. She placed a “valet” sign in her car window as she shuttled them to their activities and her youngest grandson’s many therapy appointments. She always attended their many sporting events and programs. Her grandchildren said she made the best pancakes in the world. She made every holiday gathering fun with many unique toys and treats. Her grandchildren learned math at a young age because she assigned a nickel, dime or quarter to different color Easter eggs, which they added up to determine the amount they received from the Easter egg hunt.

Trudy met her husband, Jim, at Rustic Cabins in Grosse Pointe Park. They enjoyed simple pleasures such as Lafayette Coney Island, gathering with friends and traveling Up North to ski and enjoy the beauty of northern Michigan. Trudy hosted many weekends Up North for neighborhood friends, families and relatives. She enjoyed gatherings at Bayview Yacht Club, where she and Jim were members.

When Trudy and her family stayed at Lost Lake Woods in summer, she washed laundry by



Justine Weitzmann



Emily A. Guarini

hand and used Mother Nature as a dryer. A wonderful aunt and second mom to many, she enjoyed taking her children, nieces, nephews and friends on “deer rides” through the woods and over dirt roads to search for deer at dusk and to see the beautiful lakes and woods. She also spent time on the north branch of the AuSable River in Lovells, where the Weitzmann and Pochelon families gathered.

An accomplished and gifted artist, Trudy hand-painted hundreds of items including purses, flowerpots, the outdoor gas tank at the family cabin, Christmas ornaments, old skis and furniture. Jim told her she could paint anything she wanted, just not the kids.

She was a member of the Grosse Pointe Artists Association, where she displayed her artwork. She attended many art classes at the Birmingham/Bloomfield Art Association, in Traverse City and throughout Michigan. Trudy donated her artwork to raise funds for the Mercy Education program begun by the Sisters of Mercy of Detroit to educate underprivileged women and girls. Her artwork also raised funds for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society’s Woman of the Year campaign. She also knitted, collected dolls and made many beautiful quilts and decoupage purses.

Trudy was a volunteer at the Bon Secours Hospital gift shop and supported the Make-A-Wish Foundation. In memory of her husband, she participated in the initial Less Cancer Bike Ride, a 300-mile bicycle ride across the state, by driving a support and gear vehicle. Trudy and her family received the organization’s Annie Award for their efforts and they were honored in the state Senate.

A Girl Scout leader, Trudy hosted camp week and gatherings for her troop as well as her son’s Indian Guides. She also was a member of the PTA. She attended many Grosse Pointe South High School band and orchestra concerts and headed the grapefruit and orange fundraiser sale. In addition, Trudy was in charge of the voting precinct at Maire Elementary School, where she felt blessed to greet many neighbors and family friends.

She visited her children out West and had many adventures in Colorado and Utah. She also enjoyed traveling to England, Scotland, Florida, Texas, New Hampshire and Toronto.

Trudy’s family said she set an example for young women and men that their passions could be pursued while raising and being devoted to family.

Visitation and a blessing took place March 23, at Chas. Verheyden Inc., Grosse Pointe Park.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society Woman of the Year Campaign, online at pages.ils.org or checks, payable to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, may be mailed to Janice Lovchuk, 2259 Thomas Ave., Berkley, MI 48072; or Christ Church Cranbrook, christchurchcranbrook.org; or Make-A-Wish Michigan, secure2.wish.org; or Clinton River Area Mountain Bike Association, cramba.org.

Emily A. Guarini

Grosse Pointe Farms resident Emily Ann Guarini, 98, passed away Friday, March 12, 2021, at Henry Ford Macomb Hospital, Clinton Township. She was born Jan. 18, 1923, in Detroit, to Joseph and Rose Barker.

An avid runner, she was twice featured in the Grosse Pointe News as a Pointer of Interest. Rain or shine, she was seen running on Grosse Pointe Boulevard. She ran, transitioning to walking, into her early 90s.

Emily is survived by her sons, John (Lisa) and Steven (Renee); grandchildren, Anthony and Alexandra; and brother, Joseph. She was predeceased by her husband, Stefano; sisters, Anne, Catherine, Agnes, Lorraine and Rita; and brothers, Phillip, Edward, Peter, Paul, Theodore and Kenneth.

A funeral Mass was celebrated March 23, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, Grosse Pointe Farms. Interment took place at the St. Paul on the Lake Columbarium.

Memorial contributions may be made to The Helm, helmlife.org.

OBITS:

Continued from page 4B

Catherine A. Keilly

Grosse Pointe resident Catherine Ann Keilly (nee Mascarin) passed away Saturday, March 13, 2021, after a long and hard-fought battle with cancer, surrounded by her friends and family. She was born June 30, 1956, in Windsor, Ontario, Canada, to Dr. Telesforo Mascarin and Yolanda Mascarin.

Cathy was a talented seamstress as a child; she loved adding personal and unique touches to her wardrobe. With her eye for style, she earned the title "best dressed" in high school. She also was a skilled athlete, figure skating and playing tennis on the boys' team at Grosse Pointe North High School, and integral in passing Title IX in Michigan, which prohibited gender-based discrimination.

An honor student, Cathy graduated from Grosse Pointe North in 1974. She continued her education at the Mercy School of Nursing, where she discovered her passion of caring for others. Cathy enjoyed a successful and meaningful life-long career in anesthesia as a certified registered nurse anesthetist. Throughout her career, Cathy was dedicated to the safety and well-being of others and she successfully campaigned to provide life-saving equipment aboard emergency service vehicles in Grosse Pointe.

Cathy married Paul H. Huth in 1984, and had two wonderful and beloved children, Hunter and Holly Huth. Cathy was a loving and dedicated mom to both of her beautiful children, raising them to be thoughtful and kind adults who went on to accomplish great things in their own lives.

Cathy did everything perfectly and effortlessly, her family said. She knew how to make a house a home. She had a flair for floral arrangements, interior design



Catherine A. Keilly

and photography. She shared her love of gardening and cooking with her son, Hunter, and her passion for knitting and shopping with her daughter, Holly. She enjoyed being by the ocean and collecting seashells in St. Maarten, her home away from home.

A loyal friend and confidant, Cathy enjoyed spending time with her closest friends, but above all enjoyed being with her family, watching her children grow up and playing with her grandchildren. Her family noted Cathy's positive attitude and infectious smile will be forever missed.

Cathy was predeceased by her father, Telesforo A. Mascarin. She is survived by her son, Hunter Huth (Mia) and their children, Margot and Henry; daughter, Holly Huth (fiancé, Andrew Wirkus); mother, Yolanda Mascarin; siblings, Deborah Mascarin, Drew Mascarin and Susan Keane; niece, Justine Mickas (Matt) and their children, Elle and Miles; niece, Jaylen Brennan and her daughter, Finley; nephew, Jordan Musselman (Kendra) and their children, Madeline and Landon; and nephews and nieces, Jeff Musselman, Matthew Keane, Charles Keane, Samantha Keane, Madelyn Mascarin, Michael Mascarin and Margaret Mascarin.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Catherine's name may be made to the non-profit corporation Wings of Mercy, the mission of which is providing free air transportation by volunteer pilots for patients needing medical treat-



Rita M. Hopkins

ment at geographically distant centers in the Eastern and Midwestern United States, wingsofmercy.org.

A celebration of Cathy's life will take place in St. Maarten this summer.

Rita M. Hopkins

Former Grosse Pointe Woods resident Rita Marie Hopkins (nee McCartney) died peacefully Sunday, March 14, 2021, in Escanaba, at the Bishop Noa Home for the Aged, of natural causes, with family at her side. Born Sept. 20, 1924, in Steubenville, Ohio, to Thomas William and Stella Marie "Tess" McCartney, she was 96.

A 1942 graduate of St. Anne Seaton High School in Cincinnati, she married U.S. Army Medical Corps physician Scovell M. Hopkins, M.D., March 13, 1945. Rita attended Good Samaritan School of Nursing in Cincinnati, from which she graduated as a registered nurse in May 1945.

Her early married years were spent with her husband, "Hop," while he was stationed at the Army Medical Hospital in Outwood, Ky., and then Cleveland, where he completed training as a thoracic surgeon at the City Hospital of Cleveland, now known as Cleveland Clinic. In Cleveland, the couple's children, Maureen, Suzanne and Steven, were born in 1946, 1948 and 1951, respectively. The family's next move was to Huntington,

W.Va., where Dr. Hopkins opened his first practice. After their son, Dennis, was born in 1955, Rita and Hop moved to Detroit, and in July 1957, to Grosse Pointe Woods, where Dr. Hopkins was one of two thoracic surgeons on Detroit's east side and surrounding suburbs.

The couple's next 19 years were spent in Grosse Pointe Woods, where Rita was well known for her energetic activity at numerous hospital organizations and in other philanthropic endeavors, including Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church, Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts.

In June 1976, Rita and Hop moved to Boise, Idaho, followed by Topeka, Kan., Fort Thomas, Ky., and finally, Erie, Pa., where Hop was chief of surgery and chief of staff at VA hospitals at each location.

Rita was a dedicated member and servant to many community support organizations everywhere she went. Rita and Hop moved to Independence Village of Brighton in June 2004. After Hop died in June 2006, Rita remained in Brighton

until October 2012. After a serious fall injury in October 2012, Rita relocated to the Bishop Noa Home, where her daughter-in-law, Joy, chief nurse at OSF St. Francis Hospital, managed Rita's medical needs.

Rita is survived by her children, Maureen Emerson (Dr. Geoffrey) of Hingham, Mass., Suzanne Hopkins of Erie, Pa., and retired U.S. Navy Capt. Dennis Hopkins (Joy) of Bark River, Mich.; five grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; three nieces and four nephews.

Rita was predeceased by her parents; husband, Scovell; son, Dr. Steven Hopkins, DVM; granddaughter, Tess Meyers Hopkins; brother, Thomas McCartney II; and sister, Kathleen "Kay" Vocolle.

In accordance with Rita's wishes, no formal funeral service will take place. A celebratory Mass of her life will be held at a later date.

The Hopkins family extends their sincere thanks and gratitude to the staff, nurses and aides at the Bishop Noa Home — especially the nurses and aides of Units I and III — for

their years of care and support; they are all truly remarkable professionals.

Arrangements were managed by the Allo Coolman Funeral Homes of Escanaba and Spalding.

Share online condolences with the family at allofh.com.

Paul M. Koch

Grosse Pointe Farms resident Paul Martin Koch, 98, died Friday, March 12, 2021. He was born Aug. 16, 1922, in Detroit, to William F. Koch and Luella Schmid Koch.

Paul served in the U.S. Air Force. He graduated from the University of Michigan and had a career as an attorney.

He enjoyed sailing and was a member of the Detroit Boat Club.

Paul is survived by his wife, Joann Koch. He was predeceased by his siblings, Mary Quarles, William Koch and John Koch.

A private funeral service was held March 19, at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church.

Memorial contributions may be made to an organization of the donor's choice.

Urban League salutes Distinguished Warriors

The Urban League of Detroit & Southeastern Michigan will hold its 42nd annual Salute to Distinguished Warriors Event at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 8. This event, which honors the legacy and impact of individuals who have contributed immeasurably in the areas of human and civil rights, will take place virtually this year. Visit deturbanleague.org/dw for information on purchasing tickets and sponsorship opportunities.

Funds raised will support the Urban League's Workforce Career Development program to provide essential job search resources and support, which are especially needed to assist

individuals who have been displaced by the pandemic. These dollars also will help build the capacity of its College Club-Project Ready program, which increases educational opportunities for youth pursuing post-secondary degrees by providing scholarship information and support to more than 150 students each year, while also providing enrichment activities such as leadership development, life skills and financial literacy training.

This year's Distinguished Warrior honorees include Hispanic community leader and activist Jane C. Garcia, retired U.S. Congressman represent-

ing the 9th District the Honorable Sander M. Levin, retired WXYZ news anchor Diana Lewis, speaker and CEO Geneva J. Williams and the posthumous recognition of Dr. O'Neil D. Swanson Sr., founder of Swanson's Funeral Home.

Tickets start at \$200 for adults and include admission to the Virtual Salute to Distinguished Warriors Experience, membership to the Urban League of Detroit and recognition during the program. Event sponsors will receive multiple registrations to attend and branding recognition on various Urban League platforms among other benefits.

Worship Service

FIRST ENGLISH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
800 Vernier Road (Corner of Wedgwood)
(313) 884-5040

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

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

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

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

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

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Christ the King Lutheran Church and Preschool
Mack at Lochmoor • 884-5090
www.christthekinggp.org

SUNDAY
8:15 & 10:45 a.m. - Worship Service
9:30 a.m. - Bible Study
10:45 a.m. - Sunday School

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

WEDNESDAY
10 a.m. - Bible Study

Randy S. Boelter, Pastor
Making New Disciples - Building Stronger Ones



St. Matthew Catholic Church
Harper at Whittier
Holy Week Liturgies

(masks required with social distancing)

Palm Sunday Masses,
Saturday, March 27, 4:30 pm and
Sunday, March 28, 10:00 am

Monday, March 29, 7:00 pm ~ Lenten Penance Service

Holy Thursday, April 1, 7:30 pm ~ Mass
9:00 to 10:30 pm ~ Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Good Friday, April 2, noon ~ Stations of the Cross
1:30 pm ~ Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Holy Saturday, April 3, 9:00 pm ~ Easter Vigil Mass

Easter Sunday, April 4, 10:00 am
~ Mass of the Resurrection ~



Looking for something more this Easter?

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Good Friday Service at 7:00 p.m.
Easter Sunday Services at 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

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Or Live Streaming Online
www.YouTube.com/YourC3



Rejoice!

Celebrate the risen Lord during one of our Holy Week services

March 28: Palm Sunday, 9:30 am

April 1: Maundy Thursday, 7:30 pm

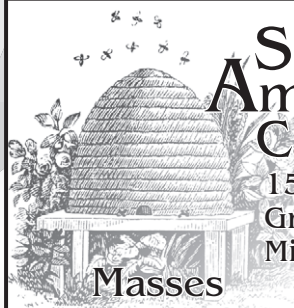
April 2: Good Friday, Noon

April 4: Easter, 9:30 am

Register to attend in person in the sanctuary
<https://gpumc.info/RegisterAttendance>

View all services via livestream
<https://gpumc.info/SundayWorship>

Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church
211 Moross Road, GP Farms
www.gpumc.org
313-886-2163



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

Masses

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

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

GPT offers 2021 scholarship auditions

Grosse Pointe Theatre will host its 2021 scholarship auditions at 315 Fisher Road on Saturday and Sunday, May 1 and 2.

Because of pandemic restrictions, this year's applicants will be limited to high school seniors from the class of 2021.

Grosse Pointe Theatre created a scholarship program in 1972, designed to help high school seniors planning

to attend an accredited college or university, and high school underclass students enrolled in a recognized summer theater or performance camp. This year marks GPT's 48th year of granting scholarships to students in the community.

Applications and rules are available at gpt.org for any interested senior high school student meeting at least one of the fol-

lowing criteria:

- ◆ Graduated from a Grosse Pointe high school
- ◆ Grosse Pointe resident
- ◆ A child or grandchild of a Grosse Pointe Theatre member or season ticket holder
- ◆ Has performed in or worked backstage for a GPT show
- ◆ Has participated in GPT's "Youth on Stage" program

Scholarships are awarded for theatrical performance or technical theater work.

Students will audition with a choice of two pieces: a memorized dramatic monologue, a memorized comedic monologue song or a dance.

Technical theater applicants should prepare a presentation of their work such as videos,

PowerPoints, models, pictures or binders of work. This will be presented and evaluated as a whole body of work. All applicants will receive immediate feedback from the judges.

With the safety of everyone as the first priority, private scheduling of each applicant, a deep-cleaned audition space, social distancing and safety masks will be worn

by GPT personnel and applicants.

Applications are due Saturday, April 17, and may be sent to emteagan@aol.com or put in the mail slot at Grosse Pointe Theatre, 315 Fisher Road, Grosse Pointe.

For more information, call Linda Zublick at (313) 320-4325 or Scholarship Chair Beth Teagan at (313) 421-6363.

The Helm's March for Meals ends March 28

The Helm, in partnership with Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, presents its virtual 2021 March for Meals now through Sunday, March 28.

Participants in this third annual March for Meals are asked to march, walk, run, bike, skip, jump or hop on the sidewalk, a treadmill or in their backyard. Or they don't have to walk at all, rather simply show their support through pledges.

Those who want to make it an

actual walk are invited to visit The Helm's website for a listing of three-mile routes.

Walk proceeds benefit The Helm's Meals on Wheels program. In 2020, The Helm served 23,000 nutritious meals to homebound Harper Woods and Grosse Pointe residents unable to safely prepare meals for themselves.

For more information or to sign up and pledge, visit helm.life.org/march-for-meals.



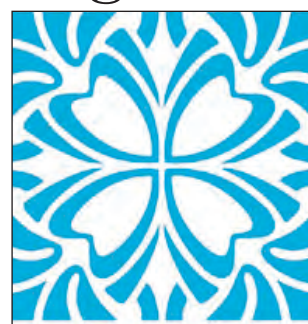
GPPL refinances 2012 refunding bonds

On March 16, the Grosse Pointe Public Library refinanced its 2012 bonds for a net savings of \$397,000.

"By refinancing our bonds, the library saves a substantial amount of money and maintains our ability to continue implementing our strategic plan initiatives," said Jessica Keyser, library director.

Raymond James & Associates purchased the bonds. The final maturity on the new bonds is April 1, 2029. The bonds were rated AA+ by S&P Global Ratings.

Miller, Canfield, Paddock & Stone acted as bond counsel and Bendzinski & Co. Municipal Finance Advisors acted as municipal advisor to the Grosse Pointe Public Library.



GROSSE
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PHOTOS COURTESY OF TONY VOLPE

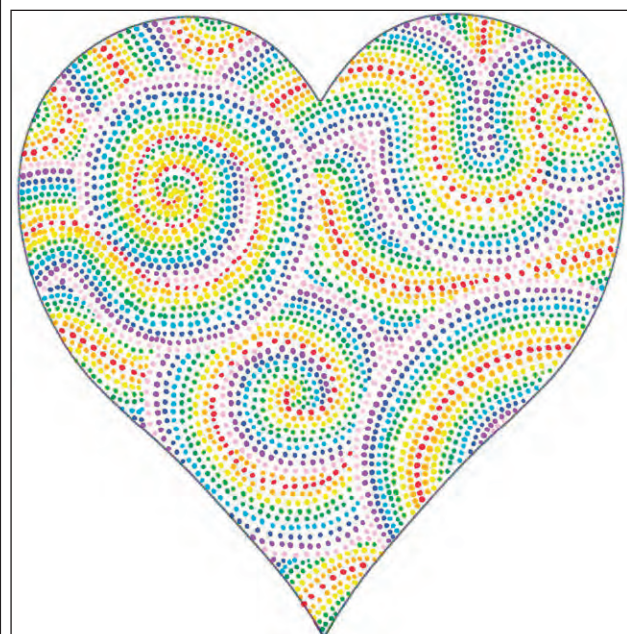
Nicolas Volpe currently is stationed in Baltimore on a search-and-rescue team.

Recent grad

Harper Woods resident Nicolas Volpe recently graduated from basic training through U.S. Coast Guard recruit company Yankee 199. Volpe, a Grosse Pointe North High School graduate, earned a degree in industrial sciences and currently is stationed in Baltimore as a fireman on a search-and-rescue team on the Chesapeake Bay.



Nicolas Volpe, second from right, during his graduation ceremony in January in Cape May.



This Iyla O'Connor sketch is among more than 100 possibilities from which to choose as a sponsor of the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce's "The Heartbeat of Grosse Pointe" community art project. For more information or to become a sponsor, visit grossepointechamber.com

ASK JEFF AND DEBRA By Jeff and Debra Jay

How much can I take?

Q: I'm married with three children under the age of 10, and I'm at the end of my rope. My husband is an alcoholic and our family life is disintegrating. He comes home from work, starts a fight or just disappears to the basement and drinks vodka. He doesn't even try to hide it anymore. People keep telling me there's nothing I can do unless he wants to get help — that I have to let him hit bottom. But the kids and I are going through hell and it's just not OK. What can I do?

A: When well-meaning people tell you, "There's nothing you can do — you just have to let him hit bottom," they don't mention that everyone

will be going to the bottom with him. Even the smallest children.

This is a myth of inaction. When we say, "Just let him hit bottom," we take ourselves off the hook. There's nothing more we need to do. And it's not helpful. In fact, for the family members around the alcoholic, it's hurtful. They are the ones who will suffer the emotional abuse and perhaps physical abuse. They are the ones who will endure endless nights of worry and fear. They are the ones being psychologically scarred. And you're right: It's just not OK.

The family isn't the only one being held hostage by the disease of alcoholism. The alco-

holic is a hostage, too. There are probably many mornings he wakes up and doesn't remember what he's done. Then, when he learns the truth, he'll be overcome with remorse. He will promise to change and he will mean it. But even if he's successful in making changes, they won't last. If he is really alcoholic, he will not find relief until he gets meaningful treatment and begins working a program of recovery.

The problem, of course, is that he will not accept treatment easily. Most families make the mistake of trying to reason with their addicted loved one. This tactic doesn't work because we

see alcohol as a problem, while he sees alcohol as a solution. The two viewpoints will never meet. Families also think he will do better talking privately with someone, perhaps an uncle or an old friend, but this won't create lasting change either.

Addiction is like fungus in that it grows best in the dark. Only when we bring the problem into the light, with a well-developed plan, can we expect to make any progress. The best strategy is to bring together the most important people in his life, train and rehearse them very thoroughly and prepare for a conversation filled with care and love. It is not a confrontation, but more like a care-frontation.

The normal outcome is to go to a residential treatment program,

where the patient can be medically detoxed and brought back down to earth. He will then be assessed by a multi-disciplinary team, who will determine the barriers to his successful recovery — and help him devise strategies to overcome those barriers.

Most importantly, after treatment, he must come home and become involved in the local 12-step community. There are many people in every city and town who have overcome the same problems he is facing. They will show him how to live a new life — and a happier life — without alcohol. The problems he thinks are insurmountable will fade away and he will begin to get a new perspective.

The best way to support the process after

treatment is for the closest family members to begin their own recovery process in Al-Anon. Everyone has been affected by the alcoholism, whether they realize it or not. If they begin working their own program of recovery, they will set a powerful example for him. The companion books "Love First" and "It Takes a Family" present all these ideas in more detail. If you don't want to take a trip to the bottom, they are a good place to get off the train.

Jeff and Debra Jay have been helping families overcome addiction more than 30 years. Their best-selling books are standards in the field of addiction recovery. The Jays live in Grosse Pointe Farms and their website is lovefirst.net.

LIFE & ENTERTAINMENT

2C DEAR ABBY | 4-5C YOUNG AT ART | 6C MOVIE JUNKIE MARK | 7-8C COMICS & PUZZLES

The Finer Pointes: Meet Kathleen McNamee

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

This series profiles the finalists of the Grosse Pointe News' "The Finer Pointes" art contest. Due to a tie, 11 finalists have been selected to compete for a \$5,000 prize. Artwork must be submitted by April 30, at which time Grosse Pointe News subscribers will have the opportunity to vote for their favorite entry.

When she was in second grade, Kathleen McNamee placed second in an art contest for a drawing of a dogwood tree in front of her family home. The honor, she said, made her feel certain "I was going to be a great artist like my grandmother, who was not a great artist."

Her love of art stayed simmering on the backburner over the years as the Grosse Pointe Farms resident went on to earn a Ph.D., then became a Greek and Latin teacher. Toward the end of her teaching career,

she decided to start drawing and painting again.

"I realized I was not going to get anywhere unless I took formal classes," she said. "I hooked up with a friend in the art department at Wayne State, where I was teaching. ... I freeloaded off my colleagues for five years. I took courses for three semesters a year. I was having so much fun."

Along with making good friends, McNamee made great strides in drawing, painting, printmaking and encaustic art, among other media.

Her preferred medium currently is watercolor.

"The older I get, the more things inspire me," she said. "I love color, beautiful landscapes, the enormous kick I get out of the shenanigans of my two grandchildren, who are under 4."

For her entry in "The Finer Pointes," McNamee plans to create a pen and ink drawing with a watercolor wash. Her subject? Grosse Pointe South High School.

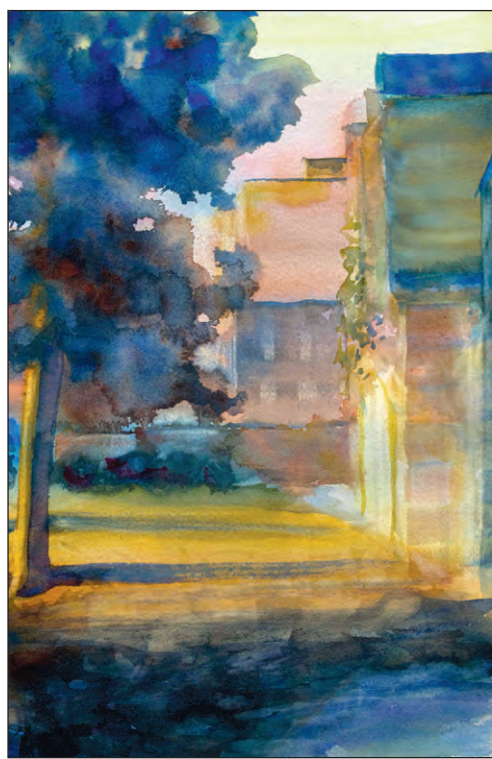
"In my vision, Grosse Pointe is a beacon in education, poised to assume leadership in the state and in the nation and to help make our country competitive with the rest of the world," she wrote in her contest artist's statement. "In the 21st century, competition will be based on innovation and creativity. Nurturing both in our schools should be our most important focus, for although the U.S. has the best universities in the world, we are falling behind in K-12 education. Grosse Pointe has one of the best public

schools in the state. We also have excellent private school systems and graduates of both go on to tertiary education and leadership in the state and country. We need to continue and improve this tradition and become a shining example of excellence nationally.

"I think the beautiful Grosse Pointe South High School building, from which both of my daughters graduated, can be a perfect symbol of the importance of education to Grosse Pointers," she continued. "Rather than make a photo-realistic image that a camera can do better, I will paint a part of the school -- I am thinking of the graceful doors at the center for their symbolic power -- in order to emphasize education's importance as the entry point into the world for our children."

McNamee considered painting a view from inside Cleminson Hall looking out, but is leaning more toward focusing on "the center portal, the doors outside of Cleminson Hall," she said, noting her love of the building's architectural detail. "It's incredibly precise and ornate and classical, and right up my alley."

McNamee, who is no stranger to entering contests, is a member of the



Samples of Kathleen McNamee's work.

Detroit Artists Market, Grosse Pointe Artists Association and Detroit Society of Women Painters and Sculptors. She has shown her work widely in juried competitions and has won several prizes.

Winning, however, isn't her only goal for entering "The Finer Pointes."

"My goal is to do a painting that I really like," she said. "I've won already as far as I'm concerned."

View more of her work at kathleenmcnamee.com.

The Finer Pointes finalists

In alphabetical order

Linda Boyle
Scott Brown
Callie Lewicki
Sue Majewski
Jane McFeely
Kathleen McNamee
Hugh O'Connor
Rachel Quinlan
Leslie Rabaut
Sarah Stahl
Basil Zaviski

ASK THE EXPERTS By Sarah Emmerson

Learn to support children's mental health

Q: How can parents support the mental health of their children?

A: With youth suicide on the rise over the last decade, the mental health of children and adolescents is of the utmost importance. The need for them to be seen and heard is crucial. Often kids are asked to shut down their emotional responses or made to see that their big feelings are bad behavior. And often these feelings are pushed under the surface only to resurface in behaviors including suicidal ideation or attempts, eating disorders, sexual behavior, drug and alcohol use, oppositional behavior, bullying and the list goes on. They learn to mask their feelings through various outlets, some adaptive others maladaptive, and escape through dreams of popularity, social media and images of themselves, all of which takes them farther and farther away from getting to know their true selves. Their true self could be angry, sad, disappointed, proud, happy -- all of the emotions we are so fortunate to be able to feel and express as human beings.

We have to ask ourselves what is behind these suicidal thoughts, the roots of these weeds in our societal garden? Were we conditioned in childhood that emotions

are to be felt inside and not to inconvenience others? Was there a childhood abuse that was never told or processed? Is it the human experience that we were never taught how to sit with our discomforts, our truths of the moment, and learn to love ourselves, feelings and all?

I believe what they say is true: kids are resilient. Humans are resilient. But those adaptive, resilient behaviors may not take us to a higher place of living and being. What if kids put down their phones and tablets, stopped looking for the answer in a celebrity or an accomplishment and learned to listen to themselves, to be seen and heard by adults who are also willing to hold and witness their truth of the moment, and allow them to see that they can heal from whatever this life has offered them.

As parents, we can work to improve our connection with ourselves and our children and to know when to seek help and provide our children with the space to heal. Parents can provide a space for listening. Don't be afraid to ask direct questions if you are concerned your child has had thoughts of harming themselves. Ask them. If this is too difficult or you know your child has had these thoughts, you can

seek professional help by connecting with their doctor or a therapist. It's vitally important for kids to know they have trusted adults to go to for age-appropriate, open conversations regarding suicide, eating disorders, drug and alcohol use and sex, etc., instead of turning to the internet or other sources of information that may not align with their family's values, beliefs and cultural practices.

Sarah Emmerson provides a space for children, adults and families to connect with themselves, work on their struggles and build resiliency. She is trained in Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavior Therapy and incorporates other modalities including mindfulness, relational and attachment-based therapies. For more information, visit sarahemerson.com.

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

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The Science Advice Goddess

by Amy Alkon

The blurt locker

My boyfriend and I broke up during a nasty fight. I (rashly and immaturely) blurted out that we should just break up. He blurted out, "Fine!" and asked to stop talking for a while. Ugh. I still want to be with him. Dating coaches advise a "no contact" rule post-breakup (cutting off communication for 21 to 45 days). Do you agree? Is this a way to give him a chance to miss me, reset, and get back together in a healthy way?

—Distressed

If you broke up by accident and still want to be with the person, there's something you should do, and it isn't spending a month and a half being all "My spirit animal is a 3,000-year-old crustacean fossilized in rock."

Breaking up because you hit an impasse in an argument is like abandoning your apartment because your toilet's clogged. Chances are you

exploded because you "reasoned" with part of the brain not equipped for the job. Psychologist Daniel Kahneman explains that our brain has two information-processing systems: System 1, our instinctive, fast-responding emotional system that jumps into action automatically; and System 2, our slow-to-awaken reasoning system that we have to force to do its job.

System 1 (automatic emotion!) drove you to blurt your way into breaking up. Possibly getting back together takes hauling your System 2 reasoning out of bed and making it process whether you, as a couple, are irretrievably broken or just need to learn healthy conflict resolution techniques.

You resolve conflict not through fighting to win -- hammering the other person until they give in -- but through listening with an open mind: putting in the effort to understand and empathize and then work-

ing to solve problems as a we instead of a you versus me. (This takes practice, and psychologist John Gottman's "The Seven Principles for Making Marriage Work" is a helpful guide, but in the meantime, a clue: If the volume goes up, you're doing it wrong.)

Since the guy was in a relationship with you until you accidentally blew it up, he probably cares about you and doesn't need to be psychologically manipulated into wanting you with some "no contact" crapfest. Ultimately, if you love something and accidentally set it free, go after it and tell it you were an idiot: "If I'm gonna have fights about underwear used for a coffee table coaster, I want them to be with you."

Stalk of shame

I'm a 34-year-old woman seeking a relationship. Last week, I went to dinner with a man. We had an instant-

aneous connection and ended up having sex. I haven't heard from him since. I've always believed sex on a first date doesn't matter if there's a connection. Now I'm worried I moved too quickly. I'm tempted to call him. Any advice on what to say?

—Disappointed

Chasing a man into wanting you is usually about as successful as trying to split atoms with small household tools.

You may believe sex on the first date "doesn't matter," but our genes (the source of our psychology) have not heard of the women's movement and do not drink out of an "ovaries before brovaries!" coffee mug. Women and men are more alike than different, physically and psychologically, but the physical differences we do have (like how only women get pregnant) led to the evolution of psychological sex differences. For example, evolutionary psychologists Martie Haselton and David Buss

find that heterosexual men and women having sex with someone for the first time experience differing "affective shifts" -- shifts in feelings -- afterward.

In the afterglow, women felt more emotionally attached and more attracted to their partner (a "positive affective shift"). These commitment-fostering feelings align with how, for a woman, sex "signals the possibility of pregnancy" (and daddy shoes in need of filling).

On the male side, immediately after the first sexperience with a new woman, men who've had a lot of sex partners (six-plus as college undergrads, suggesting a short-term sexual strategy) experienced a "negative affective shift": finding a woman "less physically attractive and sexy." (This effect didn't show up in men with fewer sex partners or in women, no matter how many sex partners they'd had.) Haselton speculates that for hookup-meister men, the negative

affective shift signals game over -- sex goal achieved -- and pushes them to move on lest they get "entangled in an unwanted long-term relationship."

If this guy wanted to see you again, he'd be blowing up your phone. To help yourself accept that, recycle him from a current goal to an ongoing reminder: Whenever you might want more than a hookup with a particular guy, wait till he's emotionally attached before having sex with him. How many dates, calls, and texts this takes will vary, but basically, a man needs to care about you enough to weather how your sex face makes you look like a mortally wounded hamster.

Got a problem? Write Amy Alkon, 171 Pier Ave, #280, Santa Monica, CA 90405, or e-mail AdviceAmy@aol.com. @amyalkon on Twitter. Weekly podcast: blogtalkradio.com/amyalkon.

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At Work

by Lindsey Novak



Intentional infliction

People have heard of and often use the term "hostile work environment" as if it were an easy condition to identify in a workplace. Many employees would like to think anything from ill-tempered conversation to harsh criticism could be considered a hostile work environment. While this type of behavior is unpleasant, and for many, it is hard to ignore, it does not usually meet the legal standards needed to become an actionable legal claim.

In no way does that mean an employee was not and is not affected by rude, harshly authoritative and unprofessional behavior. It simply means that employees may not find the legal support for their claims.

According to Jason

Krellenstein, an attorney with The Boyd Law Group, most states also recognize a category of extreme and abusive conduct in the workplace based on a civil law model called "intentional infliction of emotional distress." This kind of hostile work environment need not involve attacks on a constitutionally protected class; that is, no discrimination need be present or alleged. Instead, it requires intentional or reckless, and entirely outrageous, conduct toward another employee. This is the rarest form of hostile work claims because the conduct must be so extreme, alarming, daunting, menacing, disturbing -- and deliberate -- as to adversely affect the victim's psyche. This is an

extremely high, almost unattainable, threshold to pass. State laws acknowledge that workplaces may, without court regulation or interference, be difficult or stressful, disputatious, pressure-charged or unpleasant. Only purposefully or recklessly inflicted abusive behavior resulting in severe emotional damage will suffice under this legal theory.

One court has framed the threshold as "so outrageous in character, and so extreme in degree, as to go beyond all possible bounds of decency and to be regarded as atrocious." Another court referred to behavior as "utterly intolerable in a civilized society." A successful claim for "intentional infliction of emotional distress" by means of a hostile work

environment will involve specific, unusual and shocking facts, without the requirement of a constitutional or discriminatory component. Highly unprofessional and improper behavior without such shocking or extreme additional elements will not hold up under this high standard.

For example, as New York and Connecticut licensed attorney Stephen Bourtin states, even highly objectionable conduct or treatment, such as an employer rudely reprimanding or terminating an employee in the presence of co-workers, even in a grossly humiliating or embarrassing way, without such shocking or extreme additional elements is still not enough to state an actionable intentional infliction claim. The standard for intentional infliction of emotional distress is quite different. Rather than consider the abuser's impetus (disdain for a protected class), the victim's emotional trauma is measured. This more nuanced inquiry empha-

sizes how the victim has been affected instead of the attacker's motivation. It is not uncommon for Texas or New York courts to cite external manifestation of the distress such as weight loss or other physical symptoms as evidence of intense emotional trauma.

Federal law is clearly not



the only law to consider. State laws vary, which can make filing charges for a hostile work environment daunting, requiring experienced law firms to avoid any missteps in an employee's career. Some states' laws are more tolerant in accepting actions most would recognize as bad or toxic behavior, while other states take a more protective approach to employees. Often times, local municipal employment discrimination

laws, such as the New York City Human Rights Law, offer a much broader range of protection against workplace misconduct of significantly less severity.

The bottom line is when an employee is in a situation he or she thinks in intolerable, sometimes the only alternative is to find

another job and quit as soon as possible. When in one of those situations, keep notes on the words, conversations and actions (and the dates they occurred) of the bosses or co-workers involved and consult with an attorney experienced in employment law. For example: Don't ask a lawyer friend who focuses on real estate closings for an opinion. In the field of law, experience within a specific area matters greatly.

Email career and life coach: Lindsey@LindseyNovak.com with your workplace problems and issues. Ms. Novak responds to all emails. For more information, visit www.lindseynovak.com.

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New hire is woman who wrecked neighbor's car

DEAR ABBY: Last year, my across-the-street neighbor backed into my car. At least, that's what I think happened.

My car was parked legally on the street, and there was a huge dent in it. I called the police and, based on the location of the dent and the neighbor's driveway, the officer determined that the neighbor had backed into it. Furthermore, light blue paint from my car was on her car's bumper.

When the officer went across the street, the neighbor came running out screaming at him. She was hysterical and belligerent, and she denied it. Eventually, the officer told me that even

though he was certain she did it, there was nothing he could do since it was her word against mine.

I had never met this woman before, but she is mean, and I often hear her screaming and cussing at her small children. Last week, I arrived at work to discover that my company had hired a new clerk. I'll give you one guess who it is. I don't think she realizes I'm her neighbor. I must interact with her often at work, and so far, I've been professional but chilly toward her.

At some point, she's going to see me in my yard and realize I'm her neighbor. Should I clear the air now, or should I

pretend it never happened? I'm still angry because she cost me a lot of money. -- ANGRY NEIGHBOR

DEAR NEIGHBOR: I see nothing to be gained by "clearing the air" with someone you know is emotionally unstable. Let it ride, keep your distance and remain cool. If her problems manifest at the office, she may not be there long. And at home, stay away from her AND her driveway.

DEAR ABBY: I have been in a relationship with my boyfriend for almost four years. We live together along with my two older sons, ages 30 and 33.



Dear Abby

by Abigail Van Buren

He doesn't spend much time with me because he's either working or hanging out with the guys at the bar. I do have jealousy issues. He looks at and talks to other women when I am with him.

My former husband used to be out every day until late in the evenings until I caught him cheating with my best friend. It's hard for me to trust again. I truly love my boyfriend, and I don't want to lose him. Should I be jealous or let it go? -- UNDERVALUED IN INDIANA

DEAR INDIANA: Your

insecurity is something you need to work on because your jealousy could drive a wedge between you and your boyfriend. If his looking at and conversing with women were a threat to your relationship, it's likely something would already have happened.

Did your former husband look at women and engage them in conversation? I have a hunch he didn't do it openly. That your best friend helped him cheat was another betrayal, for which you have my sympathy. But please don't project their sins onto your boyfriend.

Talk to him. Tell him you need more time together. Make plans for a regular date night and arrange for your sons to be absent. If you still don't have enough of his company and he likes hanging out with his guy friends at the bar, consider tagging along occasionally.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



Frederick Childe Hassam, 1859-1935
IN CENTRAL PARK, Executed circa 1898

The Dawn Of Seasons

The morning drops of a spring rain gently caress the hidden beauty of a new season

Rising from the chilling grasp of winter are the buds and blooms of nature's spirit

The precious flutter of pedals places an air of renewal upon the landscape as her fragrance gives rise to the welcome passions of life

Her scent missed for so long has come yet again

The hardships of life, like the chill of winter, gently fade with her touch of warmth and drops of hope

Nature's colors shall soon fill her canvass with shades of pink, yellows and reds

A light breeze hastens her arrival as I fill my spirit with it's kiss and my soul awakens from its slumber

Spring

The dawn of seasons a new chapter begins

Mr. Hobbs

Classic Ann Landers

Dear Ann Landers: I ran across this article in the Denver Post and thought you might like it for your stupid-crook collection. -- J.T., Evergreen, Colorado

Dear J.T.: Thanks for your contribution.

Here's the story:

A sheriff's deputy found a bank robber's note in a dry-cleaning customer's pants pocket. The note read, "Put the money in the bag and don't say a word, or I will kill you." The note was traced to one of three suspects in the robbery of a local bank and nailed the case.

Dear Ann Landers: Nine years ago, I found a litter of pups that appeared to be about a month old. They were in pretty sad shape. I gave five pups to a friend and kept the runt of the litter and named her Jessica. I fed her with a teaspoon every two hours around the clock, and she survived.

Last year, I had to have a pacemaker installed, but it malfunctioned,

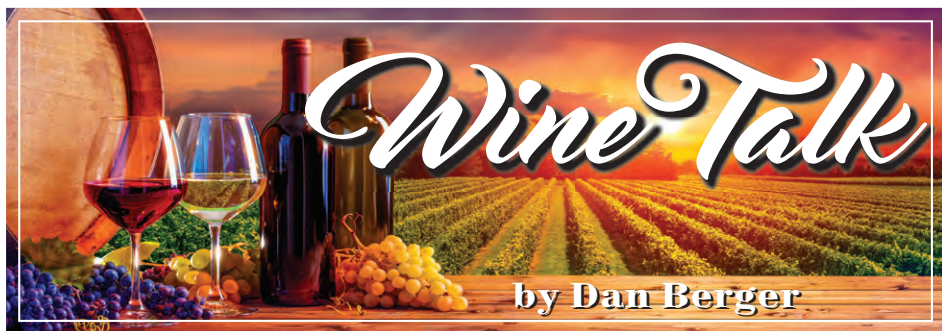
and I needed an operation to replace it. I was transferred to another hospital, and when I awoke, Jessica was at my feet. My doctor had brought her to aid in my recovery.

Little did I know nine years ago, when I fought to save that little dog's life, that the day would come when she would save mine. -- M.M., Reel Heights, South Dakota

Dear M.M.: What a heartwarming story. I hope you and Jessica will have many more healthy years together.

To find out more about Ann Landers and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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Clearly, not all winemaking procedures are necessary

Fine wine is a product of two disciplines, growing grapes and turning their juice into a more sublime potable.

To maximize the quality of the wine, each task must be done with a degree of precision. And to many wine people, each requires an opposite action.

To farm grapes you need to know what to do to maximize quality. And to make great wine, you need to know what not to do.

Or as an Aussie colleague told me two decades ago, "To make a great wine, get great grapes and don't trip on the mat." He explained that with the best wines, the less you do to it the better.

What that means is that whatever procedure a winemaker chooses to employ on a wine should be only to improve it. So when a winemaker chooses to filter a wine, the task should be chosen because it makes the wine better.

But then there are some tasks that are done that do not improve the wine as much as make it look better, which means it can be sold faster. That way, fewer people will see something wrong with the wine, which could hurt its sales.

The classic case in point is when a wine displays tiny crystals, which some people say is ground glass. That's just before they head back to the shop to return the wine.

This is particularly noticeable in white wines that are typically chilled. What the crystals are, simply, are tartrates that naturally occur in wines,

and which (because the wine was chilled) fell out of solution.

Almost all wines contain tartaric acid. This acid is in solution and isn't seen in most wine.

Many wineries are fearful that excessive chilling of a white or pink wine could cause some of the crystals to appear, making it look like there's glass at the bottom of the bottle. So they take the precaution of chilling the wine at the winery in a large tank.

This is called "cold stabilization" and it removes some of the tartrate crystals. The crystals are found at the bottom of the tank and can be turned into cream of tartar, which is used in baking.

When little or no cold stabilization is done, the wine will throw more tartrates (that's how winemakers say it), and this can be part of the sediment we find in older red wines.

These crystals and its related sediment are not harmful, just not very nice looking and they can be bitter.

Earlier this week I met with Fred Holloway, wine maker for Justin Vineyards in Paso Robles, Calif., to try his red wines from the 2006 vintage. Even though the wines were very young, just released in fact, most of them had some sediment in the bottom of the bottles.

"I don't cold stabilize my reds," said Holloway, a longtime winemaker with excellent credentials. "I don't think it makes them smell and taste better, so I avoid it."

I agreed. I'm not generally in favor of the pro-

cedure, but noted that some people might see sediment and assume something is wrong with the wine.

His reply was simple: Justin's wines are among the best in the Paso Robles region, and have a track record of tasting great when young and aging nicely for a decade or more.

And most people who are willing to pay the \$45 to \$60 for most of the winery's reds deserve to get a wine that was not pushed through a procedure the winemaker believes only detracts from it.

That doesn't mean to say cold stabilization is a bad procedure. Done carefully, it can make a wine look pristine.

But I respect winemakers willing to avoid a process aimed mainly at a wine's appearance.

Wine of the Week: 2008 Justin Sauvignon Blanc, Paso Robles (\$15) -- A very stylish white wine with a fresh grapefruit and melon aroma, a trace of kiwi fruit in the mouth, and bracing acidity that works brilliantly with seafood. It is screw-capped for freshness.

Dan Berger resides in Sonoma County, Calif. Berger publishes a weekly newsletter on wine and can be reached at danberger@VintageExperiences.com. To find out more about Dan Berger and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at www.creators.com.

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Steak Fajitas on the grill Courtesy of Mombeau's Table

Spring is here! I finally filled my propane tank up and am ready to grill. This meal gets you outside, some much needed Vitamin D, and simply enjoying making dinner. My son came up with the salsa recipe and I think he did great. Make it spicy by leaving in the jalapeno seeds. Cocktail recommended while grilling. Let your kids chop, juice, mix and stir. Trust me they eat it if they help.

- 1 1/2-2lb flank steak
- 2 bell peppers
- 1 red onion (1/4 reserved for salsa below)
- 2 ripe avocados, sliced
- Fresh lime wedges
- Extra cilantro leaves
- Steak Marinade
- Juice of 1 lime
- Juice of 1 orange
- 2 minced garlic cloves

1 tsp each of cumin, smoked paprika, chili powder, salt and pepper

2 tbsp chopped fresh cilantro

1/3 cup canola oil

Start by making the marinade. Whisk all ingredients together in a medium bowl. Reserve 1/4 cup of marinade to use for later. Put the steak in a zip lock bag with the rest of the marinade. Marinate in the fridge for 30 mins, up to 4 hours. Take the steak out and let sit on the counter for 20 mins, to take the chill off the meat before cooking. When your grill is hot, put the sliced onions, peppers and remaining marinade into a cast iron skillet. Put on the hot part of the grill and stir occasionally until soft and charred. Meanwhile grill the steak for 6-7 mins on each side depending on the thickness. When the steak is resting, grill about a minute per side. Slice steak into

thin strips against the grain. Serve with pineapple salsa, lime wedges, avocado slices and extra cilantro.

Grilled Corn and Pineapple Salsa

2 ears of corn, husks removed

2 cups diced, fresh pineapple

Juice of 1 lime

1 jalapeno diced and seeded

1/4 of remaining red onion diced finely

2 tbsp cilantro

1 tsp salt

Place a large pot of water on the stove and bring to a boil. Boil corn for 5 minutes and take out. Bring the corn to the grill and char for about 7 mins turning every few minutes. Cut the kernels off the cob.

Add remaining ingredients and stir.

Let sit for at least 10 minutes.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LISA VREEDE

YOUNG *at* ART

Junior Art Contest in full swing, with work displayed at Rainy Day April 2-10

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

More than 20 young artists met the March 18 deadline to submit their artwork to the Grosse Pointe News' inaugural Junior Art Contest. In recognition of the community's talented youth, students in eighth through 12th grade were invited to submit artwork in any visual medium. A grand prize of \$500 cash will be awarded to the top choice, as voted by Grosse Pointe News subscribers. "My wife Nancy and I believe that young artists have the power to play a role in shaping the future and are proud to sponsor this event along with the Grosse Pointe News," owner Sean Cotton said. "We hope this annual contest will inspire many for years to come."

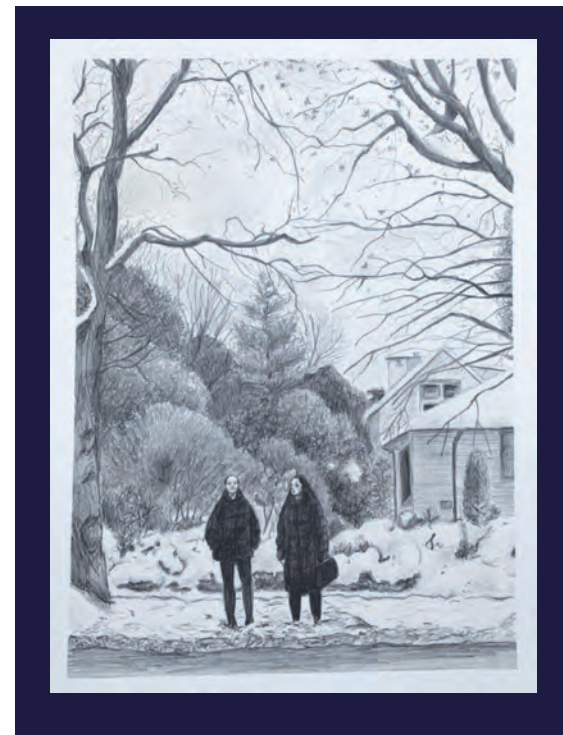
A \$250 gift certificate from co-sponsor Rainy Day Art Supplies and Custom Framing, will be the second place prize. Rainy Day is located at 20507 Mack Avenue, Grosse Pointe Woods, where every entry will be displayed in person from Friday, April 2, to Saturday, April 10.

Grosse Pointe News
FIRST ANNUAL
THE FINER POINTES
ART CONTEST
JUNIOR DIVISION

"We want to support young people and art," said Lisa Amori, owner of Rainy Day. "We're glad to see kids get away from screens and use their own imagination and cre-

ativity. ... And it's important that kids are proud of their work. They like to see their things displayed." The public is welcome to view the artwork; Grosse Pointe News subscribers are responsible for the official vote. Voting takes place online at grossepointenews.com/art/jr/ vote. The artists' statements are also posted online. "We want people to see the work of the talented young artists in the community," Rainy Day retail manager Veronica Williams said. "And we definitely want to encourage the next generation to see art as a viable task. ... Creative thinking is valuable; it's important in all aspects of life". Along with the student artwork, Rainy Day has added new consignors to the store, Williams said, offering new pottery, jewelry and candles.

For more information, call (313) 881-6305.



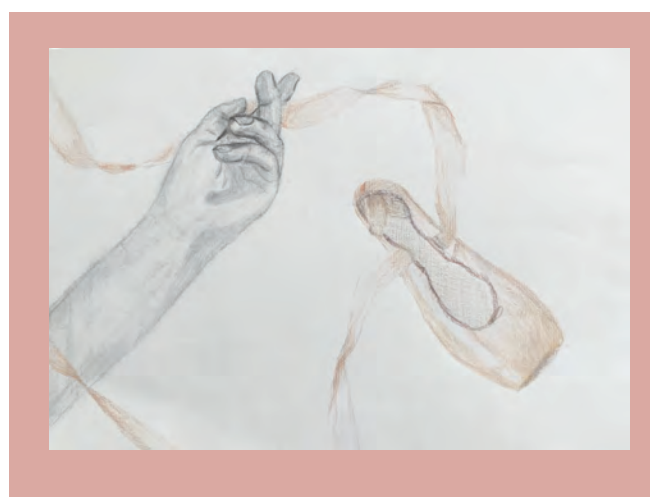
Friends
Pencil drawing by Maria R., Harper Woods



Tufts of Gold
Digital photograph by Katherine K., Grosse Pointe Farms



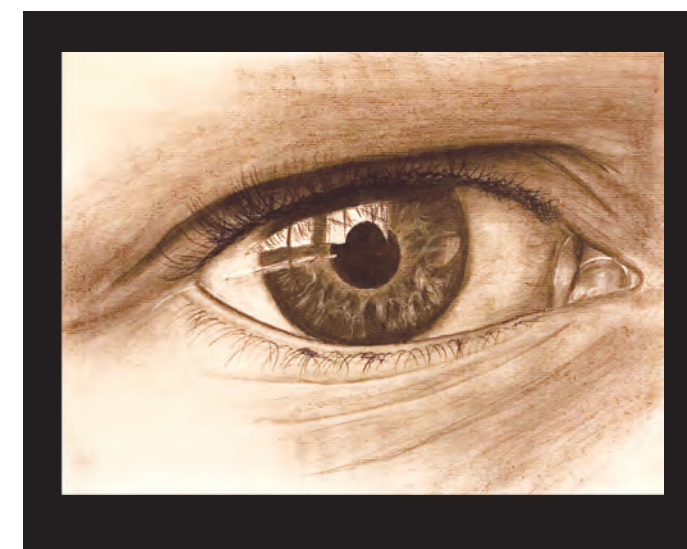
The Climb
Digital drawing by Giacobi B., Grosse Pointe Woods



Dance
Colored pencil/charcoal drawing by Gigi N., Grosse Pointe Woods



The Charcuterie Tray
Colored pencil drawing by Jilliana P., Grosse Pointe Farms



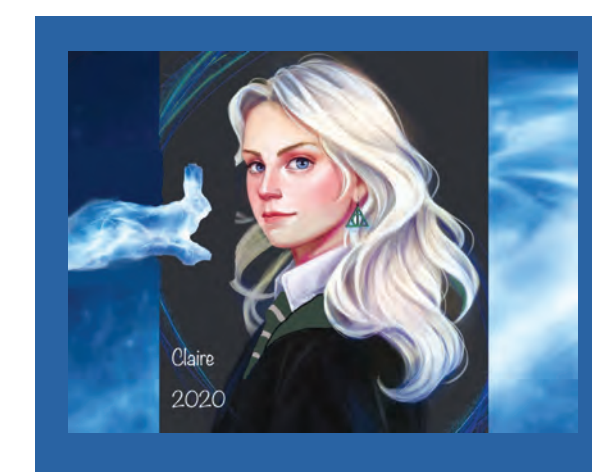
Vision
Pencil drawing by Scarlett D., Grosse Pointe



Happy
Acrylic painting by Lexi B., Grosse Pointe



Will
Acrylic painting by Kiera R., Harper Woods



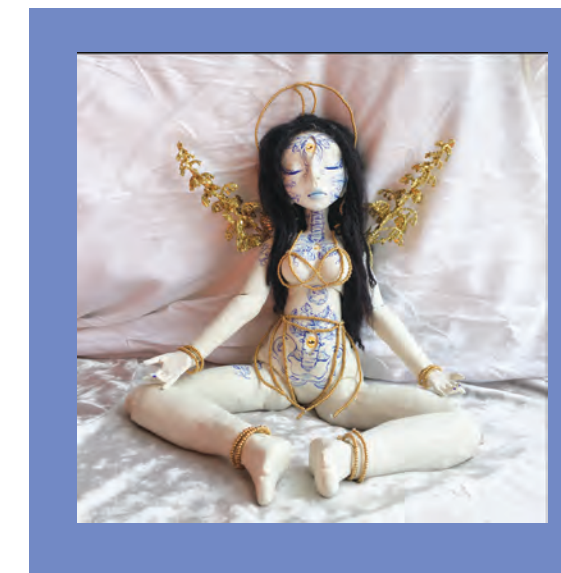
Luna Lovegood
Digital painting by Clare N., Grosse Pointe Woods



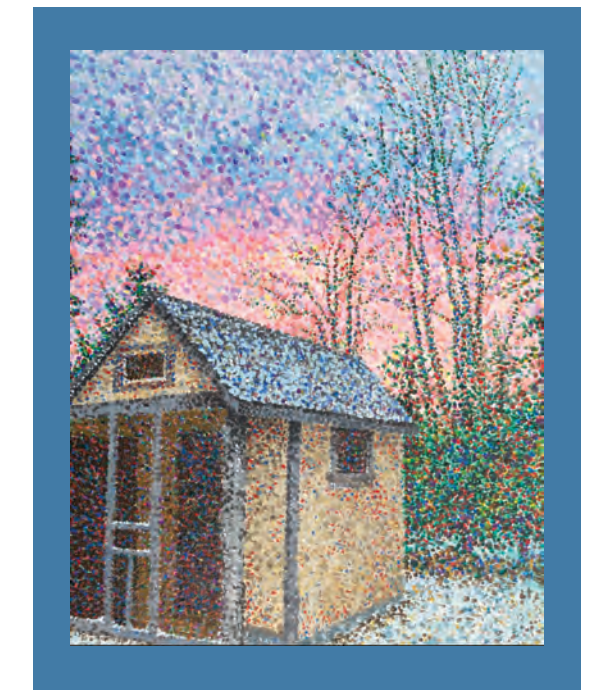
Clutch
Mixed media art by Jackson M., Grosse Pointe Farms



Knight and Princess
Digital drawing by Catherine R., Grosse Pointe Woods



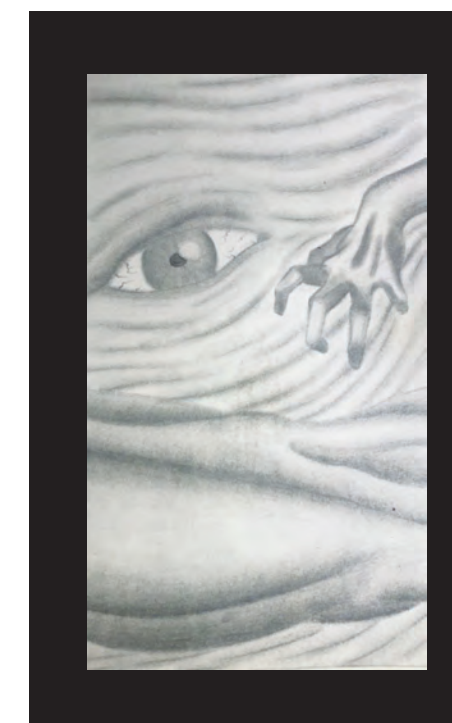
The Moon
Mixed media sculpture by Elizabeth M., Grosse Pointe Woods



December Sky
Painting by Ellie M., Grosse Pointe Park



Original Character
Digital drawing by Savannah S., Grosse Pointe Farms



Fleshman
Pencil drawing by Dean P., Grosse Pointe Woods



Beautiful Lies
Acrylic painting by Sam C., St. Clair Shores



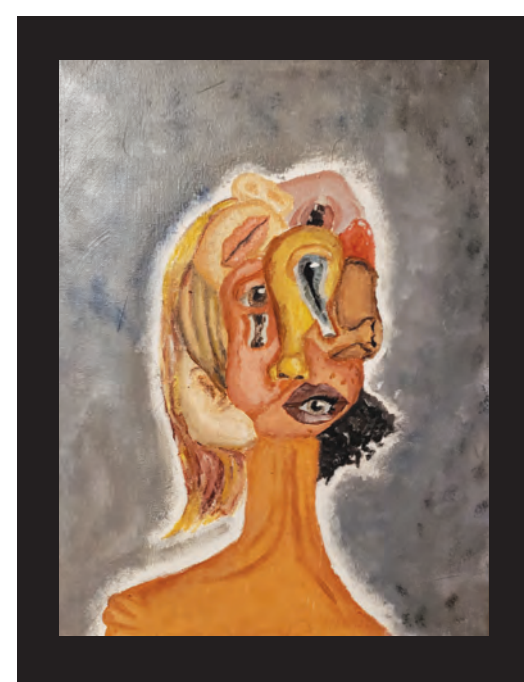
Flamenco Flame
Digital painting by Benjamin Bartolotta, Grosse Pointe Woods



Gross Beauty
Watercolor painting by Lydia S., Grosse Pointe Park



Bell Tower
Copper relief drawing by Lillian G., Grosse Pointe Woods



The Collective Thought
Acrylic painting by Adelina P., Grosse Pointe Farms



Teapot
Ceramic ware by Bridget C., Grosse Pointe Park

Sponsored by Rainy Day
Art Supply.

The artwork will be displayed at
the store, located at 20507 Mack,
Grosse Pointe Woods.

Rainy Day Art Supply is open 10
a.m. - 6 p.m. Monday and Thurs-
day, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Tuesday and
Wednesday, and 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Friday and Saturday.



Movie Junkie Mark

by Mark Domin

MOVIE REVIEW
"The Sweet Life"

He's a downtrodden and disillusioned ice cream vendor. She's a cynical insurance actuary. They're both in therapy for various issues and they happen to meet on a bridge in Chicago and form a tenuous bond when they get handed the keys to a Mercedes Benz and begin their quest to travel across the country to commit suicide by jumping off the Golden Gate Bridge.

That's just the first five minutes of this, shall we say, very different kind of adventure film.

It stars Chris Messina and Abigail Spencer who have incredible chemistry together, which is one of the main reasons this movie works so well. The other is the witty and slightly off-kilter dialogue.

I'm a big fan of the road trip genre and I must say, this is definitely on my top ten list.

On their adventure they come across several unique characters and the plot takes some very unexpected twists and turns. That's what I loved about this movie—you just never know what's going to happen next.



So many films of this ilk are so predictable I often say to myself, "Haven't I seen this one before?"

Not "The Sweet Life." In addition to some scenery that'll make you want to take a road trip of your own, the tango-themed soundtrack adds to the wacky nature of this film.

If you're looking for a shoot-em-up action movie, you may want to take a pass. But if you're in the mood for an indie gem, give it a try.

★★★★☆

My rating system:

★ A real stinker. A movie that is so bad, you're embarrassed to admit you've seen it, but you have to rate it nonetheless.

★★ So-so. Not a total waste of time, but you would have been better off reading a good book.

★★★ Pretty good. In fact, if there weren't any other movies in your queue, you might watch it again.

★★★★ One you'd recommend to friends.

★★★★★ So good you'd actually go out and buy it!

About this column:

While I watch a lot of streaming movies, this column will feature those offered by Kanopy.com. If you're not familiar with this great service, it's offered through the Grosse Pointe Public Library system with your library card. Sign up online in less than a minute, then stream six movies a month for free.

These are high-quality movies you'll have a hard time finding elsewhere, and include a ton of indie gems I'd never heard of.

For movie trailers, visit youtube.com. If you have any recommendations, feel free to email me at dominmark@yahoo.com. Also, if you're looking for more movies, be sure to check out my blog: moviejunkiemark.blogspot.com.

Car Connection picks 2021 Chrysler Pacifica as best minivan to purchase

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. — The Car Connection is recognizing the new 2021 Chrysler Pacifica as its Best Minivan to Buy 2021, marking the fifth consecutive year Pacifica has earned Best Minivan to Buy honors.

The Chrysler Pacifica is the most awarded minivan over the last four years, with more than 140 honors and industry accolades.

"No other vehicle does utility like the 2021 Chrysler Pacifica, especially now that it comes with all-wheel drive," said Martin Padgett, editorial director of Internet Brands Automotive, publishers of The Car Connection. "It's elegant, spacious, flexible and it's offered in plug-in hybrid form."

The new 2021 Chrysler Pacifica is redesigned with a more deeply sculpted, athletic and modern exterior expression and utility-vehicle-inspired design cues on the inside and out. The 2021 Pacifica offers the most advanced all-wheel-drive (AWD) system in its class and is the

only one to deliver AWD along with Stow 'n Go seating, as well as 97 standard safety features — the most standard safety features in the industry.

The Pacifica Hybrid, the first hybrid minivan and still the only plug-in hybrid in the class, delivers more than 80 miles per gallon equivalent (MPGe) in electric-only mode, an all-electric range of more than 30 miles and a total range of more than 500 miles. The Pacifica Hybrid continues to be eligible for a \$7,500 federal tax credit, as well as any state and local credits.

A new top-of-the line Pinnacle model delivers the most luxurious interior in its class and comes equipped with a new integrated Ultra console, premium quilted Nappa Caramel leather seats and unique, new, matching, second-row, lumbar comfort pillows.

The most technologically advanced minivan in its class, the new Pacifica also features the all-new Uconnect 5 system with the largest stan-

dard touchscreen in its class, a new FamCAM interior camera that allows parents to view child seat occupants in the rear and zoom in on passengers, available Uconnect Theater that offers the most built-in games, new segment-first USB Type C ports that charge devices up to four times faster and much more.

The Car Connection

The Car Connection is the easiest place to research and shop for cars online. The site makes car research easy with its unique "TCC Rating," a clear numeric rating value based on a 10-point scale that reflects the overall opinion of our automotive experts on any vehicle. The Car Connection is part of the Internet Brands Automotive Group, one of the largest collections of automotive properties on the Internet, including pioneering car-buying website CarsDirect.com and a collection of more than 130 auto enthusiast websites.



Royal Stars

Weekly Horoscopes

A baby born today has a Sun in Aries and a Moon in Leo until 11:25 p.m., when the Moon enters Virgo.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, March 25, 2021:

Entrepreneurial, passionate and direct, expressing your creative voice is high on your priority list. This year, you connect with artistic groups through the magic of technology without sidestepping professional obligations. Continue to keep a watchful eye on your finances. When life gets tough, your optimism infects those around you. If single, online dating sites may intrigue you. If attached, carve time in your schedule for romantic date nights. **SAGITTARIUS** challenges you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

Today, share spare time with a friend who makes you laugh and smile. Avoid religious and political topics. Try walking, biking, dancing or any other physical activity that you can enjoy doing together. Tonight: Send family a photo collage.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

A piece of furniture or decorative art may tempt you to overspend. Watch your impulses. What you love today you might not like tomorrow. Show your family in words and action how much you appreciate them. Tonight: Answer texts and email.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

Catch up on reading. If the sun is shining, take your book or device outside. Return communication you may have forgotten about. Meet up with friends who love stimulating conversation and a friendly debate about hot topics. Tonight: Vegetarian meal.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

Walk where you can smell fresh flowers. That may remind you to buy a bouquet for your home or office. Treat yourself to a frivolous item that won't impact your finances but you will enjoy. Tonight: Start a mystery novel.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

Pat yourself on the back. A project you have been working on will reach its conclusion. Attend a gathering where you can network with people whose interests mirror your own. An important contact might emerge. Tonight: An emotional discussion brings closure.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Today might bring vacillating moods. Excuse yourself politely from an appointment and take alone time. Your imagination may be especially active. Catch up on journal entries and jot down creative ideas you want to run by your team. Tonight: Dance movements.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Plan to visit a friend who lives out of town. In the meantime, set a time to connect online. Someone you did a favor for may write a note that could bring a tear to your eye. Tonight: Calm your nerves.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Expect the unexpected in all areas of life. Your career may take a surprising new turn. Adapt to current trends, and you will fit right in. Stay focused and continue to be a

team player. Tonight: Add to your playlist.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Someone might ask you to mentor them. Accept the challenge. You may discover teaching skills you doubted you had. Talk to people from other cultures. Learn a language online through lectures and recordings. Tonight: Dinner will be waiting for you

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Today you want to be where the action is, whether at home or work. Enter an online game or tournament. You are a healthy competitor, so anyone who stands in your way better watch out. Tonight: Invite friends to dinner.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Someone might break a promise or cancel an appointment without notice. Be compassionate rather than judgmental. There may be extenuating circumstances. Make the first move to get in touch. You always know the right things to say. Tonight: Sweet-smelling incense.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

Strong opinions could get you in hot water. Keep provocative ideas to yourself for now and you will succeed. Show others by example how to be diplomatic and charming. You will get rewarded for your efforts. Tonight: Pet love.

BORN TODAY

Broadcaster Howard Cosell (1918), singer Aretha Franklin (1942), race car driver Danica Patrick (1982).

Contract Bridge

WHERE THERE'S LIFE THERE'S HOPE

North dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ Q 7
♥ K 8 5 4
♦ J 9 5 2
♣ K 6 3

WEST
♠ 9 5 4
♥ A J 9 3
♦ 8 7 4 3
♣ 7 5

EAST
♠ A 3 2
♥ 10 6 2
♦ A K Q 10
♣ 9 4 2

SOUTH
♠ K J 10 8 6
♥ Q 7
♦ 6
♣ A Q J 10 8

The bidding:
North East South West
Pass 1♦ 1♠ 2♦
2♠ 3♦ 4♠

Opening lead — three of diamonds.

There are times when declarer sees he cannot make his contract if the opponents defend correctly. But at the same time, he has the great advantage of knowing that his opponents do not know what he knows.

Here is a typical case. West led a diamond against four spades. East won with the ten and continued with the king, ruffed by South.

Declarer realized that he could not make the contract against proper defense, even if the opposing trumps

were divided 3-3. Thus, suppose he had led a trump to dummy's queen at trick three. In that case, East would take the ace and play another diamond, ruffed again by South.

Declarer would now have only two trumps left, the king and jack. After he played them, exhausting everyone of trumps, the best he could do would be to cash five club tricks and go down one. The defenders would score the last two tricks with the heart and diamond aces.

So, to give himself at least some chance to make the contract, South led a low heart toward dummy at trick three! Fortunately for declarer, West followed low, no doubt allowing for the possibility that declarer might have three hearts to the queen. In that case, playing low on South's heart lead would limit South to one heart trick.

But West soon found out that his seemingly innocent play had cost him the contract. After declarer won the heart with dummy's king, he played the queen of spades.

East took the queen with the ace and returned a diamond, forcing South to ruff, but declarer then cashed the K-J of spades and all of his clubs to finish with 10 tricks.

Of course, had West been able to see South's hand — especially the concealed five-card club suit — he would have put up the ace of hearts and led another diamond, leaving declarer no way to get home safely.

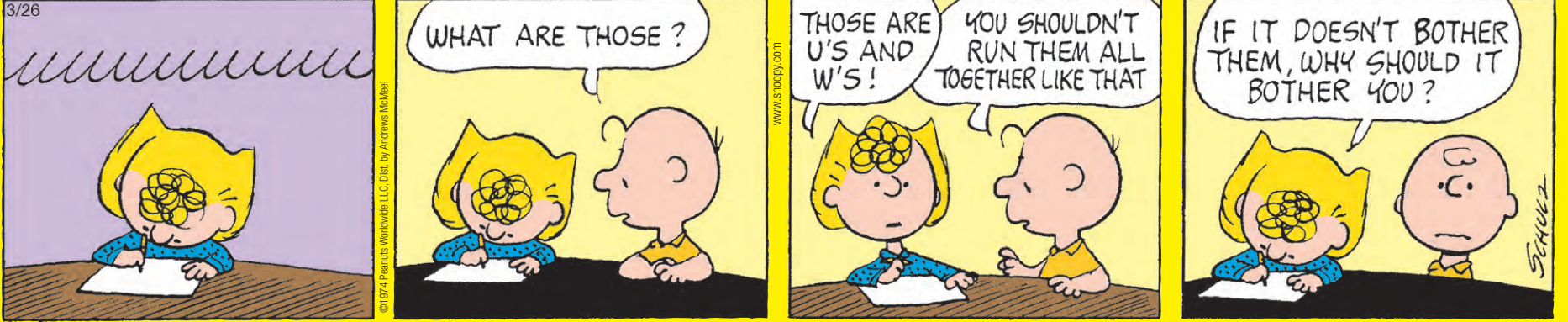
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by Steve Becker

Comics

Peanuts

Charles M. Schulz

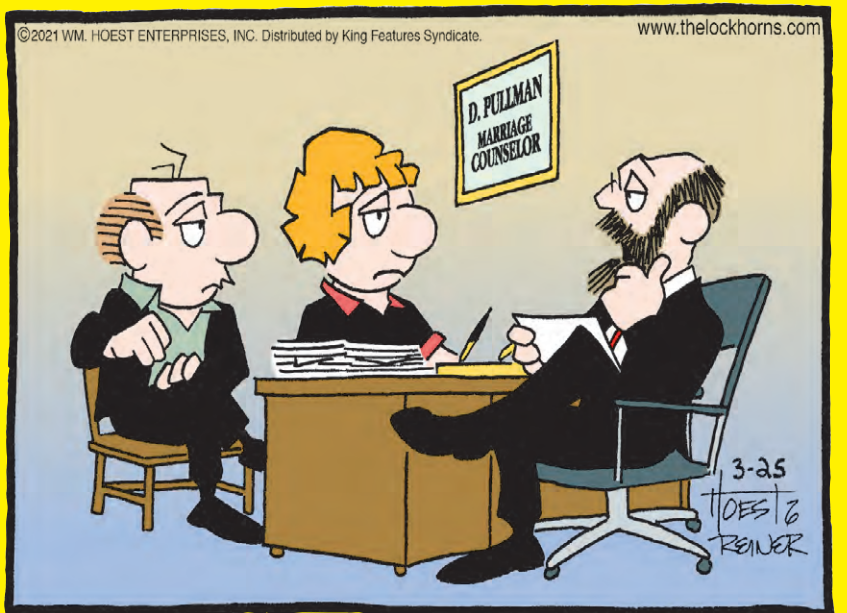
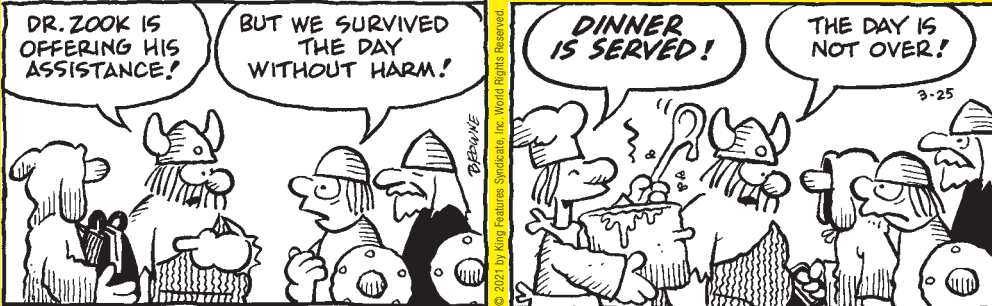


Hagar The Horrible

Dik Browne and Chris Browne

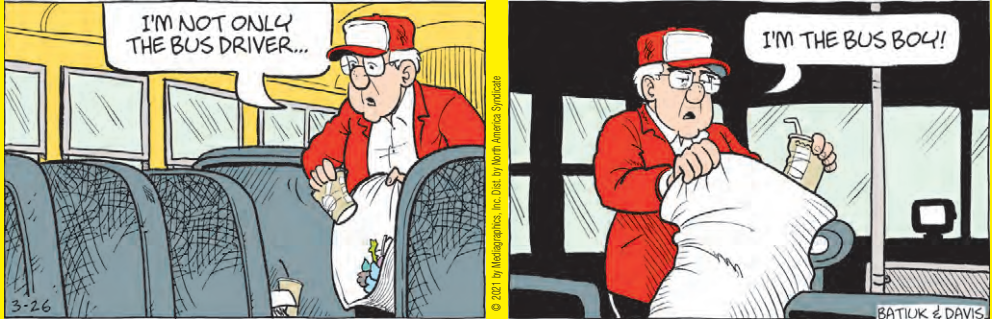
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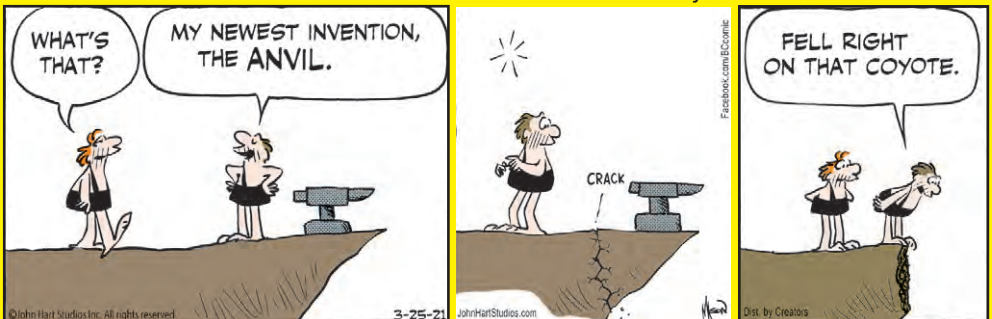
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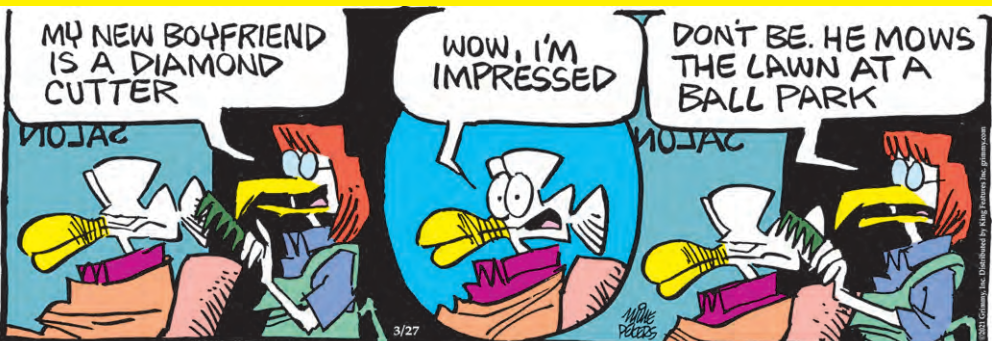
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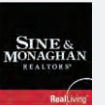
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PHOTO COURTESY OF LEON HALIP PHOTOGRAPHY

The University Liggett Knights girls hockey team captured the CHSL championship Saturday with a win over Mercy High School.

Knights girls hockey wins CHSL title

By Alexis Bohlinger
Staff Writer

The University Liggett School Knights girls varsity hockey team won the Catholic League Championship in a 3-2 overtime win versus the defending champions, the Mercy Marlins. After being postponed and rescheduled, both teams showed up healthy and ready to play at McCann Ice Arena Saturday, March 20, in what turned out to be a close, competitive game.

There were 13 penalties logged between both

teams that led to four power-play goals in regulation play.

“It was a tough, physical game that certainly pushed our girls,” Liggett head coach Greg Paddison said. “Although I thought we controlled the play, Mercy did an excellent job of capitalizing on their opportunities when they did get them.”

The Knights took a 1-0 lead just 5 minutes into the first period with a power-play goal from Allyson Doppke, assisted by Emmalyn Stahl. The Marlins tied

the game 1-1 with just seconds remaining in the first with a rebound goal from Ashley Manning, assisted by Allison Fergin and Elise Brown.

Entering the third period still tied, the Marlins capitalized on a Knight’s penalty and took the 2-1 lead on a power-play goal from Brown, assisted by Riley Hollis and Fergin.

The Knights continued to pressure the Marlins and were able to tie the game 2-2 on an unassisted power-play goal from Estes Sullivan with

5 minutes remaining in the game.

The Marlins grew exhausted having a short bench of only 10 players while the Knights continued to build steam. The overtime winning goal came from Sofie Ancona on a top-shelf slap shot ending the game 3-2 in the Knights favor.

“Ultimately, I think our depth was the deciding factor,” Paddison said. “As the game wore on, we continued to lean on Mercy with a mindset of making them earn every inch of ice and by

the start of the third period, we could see their players getting tired. It was an excellent shot in the third after a bit of a fluke play gave them the lead, but our girls maintained their focus and never stopped believing in themselves.”

Paddison commented that Mercy goaltender Daria Rorick played an outstanding game, controlling rebounds and seeing shot after shot.

“There were a few occasions where our girls had their hands in the air thinking they had scored, only to have

their goalie make an unbelievable stop,” he said.

The Knights begin their state championship playoffs this week and hope the momentum built from the Catholic League victory will prepare them to face their upcoming competition.

“I really think that this game was ideal leading into playoffs,” Paddison said. “We were able to pull off the victory, but I think this game sent our girls a bit of a wakeup call. Now is the time when we really need to dial it up.”



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

South sophomore Anthony Benard attempts a three-pointer from the corner

South tops North in rivalry showdown

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

With state playoffs on the horizon, the Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South boys basketball teams met Thursday in the final week of the regular season. Both teams were able to start fast and did not have much trouble when it came to scoring, but the Blue Devils ended up victorious 62-51.

“We knocked down shots today. That’s just the difference,” South coach Stephen Benard said after the win. “We knocked down some threes and when we’re not scoring a lot of points in the first or second quarter, it’s because we’re not knocking down our shots.”

The Blue Devils did

have an exceptional night when it came to shooting, especially for Anthony Benard. The sophomore led all scorers with 23 points, 15 of which came from beyond the three-point line.

“We lean on him a lot,” Benard said. “He’s a very good player and he’s getting a lot of good looks at the basket and he’s knocking them down. He’s had to do a lot of different things this year as far as defense and sharing the ball and different things. ... If he knocks down shots, it’s contagious for the rest of the group.”

South had a couple other players finish in double digits. Junior Will Johnson finished with 10 points and senior Jacob Harris had 11. For the Norsemen, sophomore Adam Ayrault had

16 points and senior Jordan Shepherd tallied 12.

For North coach Andy Ayrault, he feels that some defensive lapses and not taking care of the basketball hurt his team in the rivalry showdown.

“Turnovers have kind of been our nemesis this year,” he said. “They got a lot of easy baskets on backdoor plays. That’s something we’ve got to work on and we didn’t take advantage of our defense as much as we probably could have today.”

MHSAA district playoffs begin March 23, and will be hosted at North. The Norsemen take on Cass Tech in their first game, while the Blue Devils face King High School in their first playoff game.

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High schools prepare for baseball season

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

With the 2020 season canceled, it's been nearly two years since Grosse Pointe's high school baseball teams have competed on the diamond. With opening day getting closer, here's what to know about the Blue Devils, Norsemen and Knights baseball squads for 2021.

G.P. South

Blue Devils head coach Dan Griesbaum, who has been at the helm of South's baseball program since 1984, believed his 2020 squad could have been one of his best team's ever. With a revamped roster for 2021, Griesbaum knows his team is eager to compete at a high level.

"We're just chomping at the bit, everybody is, to get started," he said. "I think people realized and appreciate the game more than they ever did, coaches and players alike. We certainly won't take the game for granted anymore."

After an entire year off, it might take time for a largely inexperienced team to get used to competing at the varsity level. Ryker Mazy and Liam Kaiser are the only two South players on this year's team who will have significant varsity level experience according to Griesbaum. With most of the roster on an even playing field when it comes to experience, Griesbaum knows figuring out his starters could be a long process.

"In terms of starting lineup, it's going to be a matter of fighting it out in the first few weeks before the league starts," he said.

With plenty of players stepping up to the varsity squad for the first time, there are a couple expected to make a major impact for the Blue Devils. Senior Jacob Harris was a standout on South's JV squad two years ago and is expected to be a key piece of the Blue Devils' batting lineup and infield. Griesbaum also is looking to sophomore Wells Graham to be a large factor in the team's pitching



PHOTO COURTESY OF DAN CIMINI

The University Liggett Knights baseball team traveled to Florida for spring training at IMG Academy.

rotation.

There's plenty of uncertainty surrounding this year's baseball season after not playing in 2020, and the early part of the season will be crucial to see how teams fit together. Even with that uncertainty, the Blue Devils' mentality is to strive for success no matter what.

"Our motto is 'Tradition never graduates,'" Griesbaum said. "Our expectations and our goals don't change at any time. They're always the same. ... We just feel that the culture is there and that we're going to be successful and we're going to win and give a lot of kids the opportunity to play."

The Blue Devils open their season April 3, with a double-header against Detroit Public Safety Academy.

G.P. North

2020 was a year during which the Norsemen looked to continue their success from 2019, when they were MAC White division champions. After last season's cancellation, North coach David Martin knows his team is, like so many others across the state, more than ready to return to the diamond.

"Enthusiasm is extremely high," Martin said. "We've been very fortunate to have a great crop of young men coming our way. ... Last year with the season not being played, it gave us the opportunity as a staff to continue to build our pro-

gram up."

North has two senior captains who were standouts as sophomores on the 2019 varsity squad that could have a big impact this year. Left-hander Nick Good finished his sophomore year with a 0.95 ERA and is expected to be a focal point for the Norsemen's pitching rotation in his senior year. Another senior captain expected to play a big role for the Norsemen this season is outfielder Chris Marshall.

When it comes to this year's team, Martin thinks speed and depth could be the keys to North's success.

"At all of our positions, all the way around, I think we're in great shape with the talent we have. Now we just need to put the cast together," he said. "I think we have the potential to have a very successful season because the talent is there for sure and the culture is there."

North also has a couple of players making their varsity squad debuts who could make their mark right away, including freshman Brennan Hill and sophomore Jordan Arsenault. North has been building a team culture of intelligent, passionate baseball players and this year they feel that no goal is too high.

"We set our goals pretty high and pretty lofty and we certainly want our young men to reach for the stars," Martin said. "We look at making it to Lansing and playing for a championship. ... We

want to have a successful season and we want to grow."

North begins the season April 6, in a showdown with University Liggett.

University Liggett

The University Liggett Knights are, like all spring teams, as enthusiastic as ever to get the season underway. Knights coach Dan Cimini thinks 2021 might be the most highly anticipated season he has ever experienced.

"They're rejuvenated. I think there's more excitement now to play their sports than they ever had in their lifetime," Cimini said. "To miss a season like that, you realize how

much you really miss it and how much it means to you."

The Knights have plenty of impact players ready to go this year, both seniors and underclassmen. Seniors Michael Clark and Alec Leonard will bring an experienced presence to the mound for Liggett's pitching staff. Sophomore Ryan Jones is expected to be the main man behind the plate at catcher.

Sophomores Jarren Purify and Jack Jones are a couple of players who highlight the younger talent on this year's Knights team. Another young player looking to make an impact is freshman Reggie Sharpe.

With a team that includes a lot of young talent, Cimini is not worried about his players having much trouble when it comes to adjusting to the varsity level.

"They have baseball in their blood; they're very, very seasoned," he said. "They love the game and they're going to want to win state championships and battle for championships. ... We're looking to go out there and have fun and we have a real tough schedule and I hold them to high standards."

The Knights have high expectations for this season, coming into 2021 ranked as the No. 1 Division 3 team in the state in the MHSBCA pre-season poll. With high expectations to uphold, the Knights are certainly a team with a culture of meeting those high standards.

"Our motto is 'Everything counts' and I brought that to the program and I expect them to do everything as well as they possibly can on and off the baseball field," Cimini said. "We really focus on fundamentals and being prepared for anything you can possibly see on a baseball field. I don't want these guys to be surprised."

Liggett opens the season April 6, hosting Grosse Pointe North.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GROSSE POINTE NORTH BASEBALL

Grosse Pointe North baseball is the No. 13 Division 1 team in the MHSBCA's pre-season rankings.



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

The University Liggett Knights were eliminated from MHSAA regional playoffs Friday.

North, Liggett see hockey seasons come to an end in regional semifinals

By Mike Adzima
Staff Writer

The Grosse Pointe North and University Liggett School boys hockey teams were in action Friday night in the MHSAA Region 22 semifinals. Both teams fought hard in their respective matchups, but in the end, both saw their seasons come to a close.

The first matchup of the evening was Grosse Pointe North taking on the region's top seed, U of D Jesuit. The first two periods, the Norsemen looked as though they could pull off an impressive upset. A pair of goals from Ian McCormick in the second period put North in the lead 2-1 after 34 minutes.

The third period, however, was a much different story. Two quick

goals by U of D's Max Marquette put the Cubs in the lead and the Norsemen failed to comeback as U of D went on to win 6-2.

"I can't ask any more of them; they gave everything they had and just ran out of gas because that's a great team," North coach Rob Blum said after the game. "To be leading them after two periods is a testament to the boys and their hard work."

Many people in the arena were surprised the Norsemen managed to fight so hard and even take the lead against a U of D team that is widely considered one of the best in the state. For Blum, he knows the way his team played Friday night was a testament to their hard work and dedication all season long.

"We weren't intimidated by them. We made

them play the way we wanted to play and when we got some chances we put the puck in the net," he said. "We got to play a full season and the boys did everything we asked of them with COVID protocols and all that stuff. They did everything we asked and I'm proud of the way they handled themselves."

Friday's second semifinal featured the Liggett Knights facing off against the Pilots of De La Salle. The Pilots jumped out to an early lead and never looked back as the Knights saw their season conclude in a 6-1 loss.

"I think it's just one of those hockey games where just a couple bounces really didn't go our way," Liggett coach Mike Maltese said. "They capitalized on all of our mistakes early and that kind of put us being the

eight ball."

The Knights struggled to generate much of anything in the offensive zone. Their only goal came in the third period by sophomore Ian Gudenu. With his team's season coming to an end, Maltese said he is proud of the hustle his squad showed day in and day out.

"It was a crazy year. We didn't even know we were going to have a season two months ago," he said. "Cramming in three or four games a week with not a lot of practice ... it was more heart and determination and I think that's where our senior class, that I've been with for four years now, really led the way all season."

U of D Jesuit went on to defeat De La Salle 3-2 in Saturday's regional finals to advance to the state quarterfinals.

Blue Devils celebrate Senior Night with family

By Alexis Bohlinger
Staff Writer

The Grosse Pointe South girls varsity hockey team celebrated Senior Night this past Friday at their home arena, ESH. It was unlike any other game, however, as the girls were unable to play an opponent in their league due to the recent quarantine and the cancellation of their originally planned Senior Night game.

Wanting to honor these players on their special night, parents pulled out the old gear and siblings stepped up to the plate for a family-friendly, yet competitive game versus the girls.

"It was so much fun to see everyone out there having a great time," Grosse Pointe South head coach Hailee Craig said. "After the season we've had, we were glad that we could honor these seniors and do it in a special way."

The Blue Devils celebrated three seniors: Kamryn Shocker, Regan Sherry and Peyton Steinhebel.

This was Shocker's first season with the Blue Devils, having played for Little Caesars AAA her sophomore through junior years. Her senior year of high school she decided to transfer from Regina to Grosse Pointe

South so she could play on its hockey team and attend school with most of her friends.

"I've had a great experience playing for South and meeting new girls," Shocker said.

Shocker finished the regular season with 13 points (10 goals, 3 assists) in the four games the Grosse Pointe South team was able to play.

"Kam was a huge help to us this year," Craig said. "We lost a strong forward due to an injury and Kam definitely stepped in and filled that spot for our team."

Shocker will continue playing hockey at the University of Michigan-Dearborn in the fall.

Steinhebel also joined the team her senior year after playing travel hockey at Belle Tire. Steinhebel is a two-time MAHA AAA State Champion (16U and 19U). She currently is the only 2003 Michigan goalie to lead her team to a win at USA Hockey Nationals. An unfortunate knee injury put her on a 16-month recovery period from travel hockey, but her classmates and friends welcomed her to the Blue Devils team with open arms. She plans to attend Indiana University in the fall — her mother's alma mater — pursuing interests in sports media.

The final senior to be recognized, defenseman Regan Sherry, has been with the Blue Devils since freshman year. Sherry was a part of the 2018 State Championship team. She grew up playing for the Grosse Pointe Bulldogs and has many fond memories of years playing with girls she will always consider lifelong friends. Sherry plans to continue her hockey career in college and major in electrical engineering at either Lake Superior State University or Central Michigan University.

"I'm really proud of all three of our seniors," Craig said. "It hasn't been an easy year with all of the cancellations and rescheduling, but having these girls on the team has been incredible."

Craig is looking forward to the leadership from these seniors heading into the state tournament.

"Our team has really started to come together and I think we can do well this week," she said.

Craig added that all of her players feel fortunate to have the opportunity to end the season with a state tournament and determine a winner.

"These girls weren't sure they'd be able to finish their season, but they sure are excited to play this week."

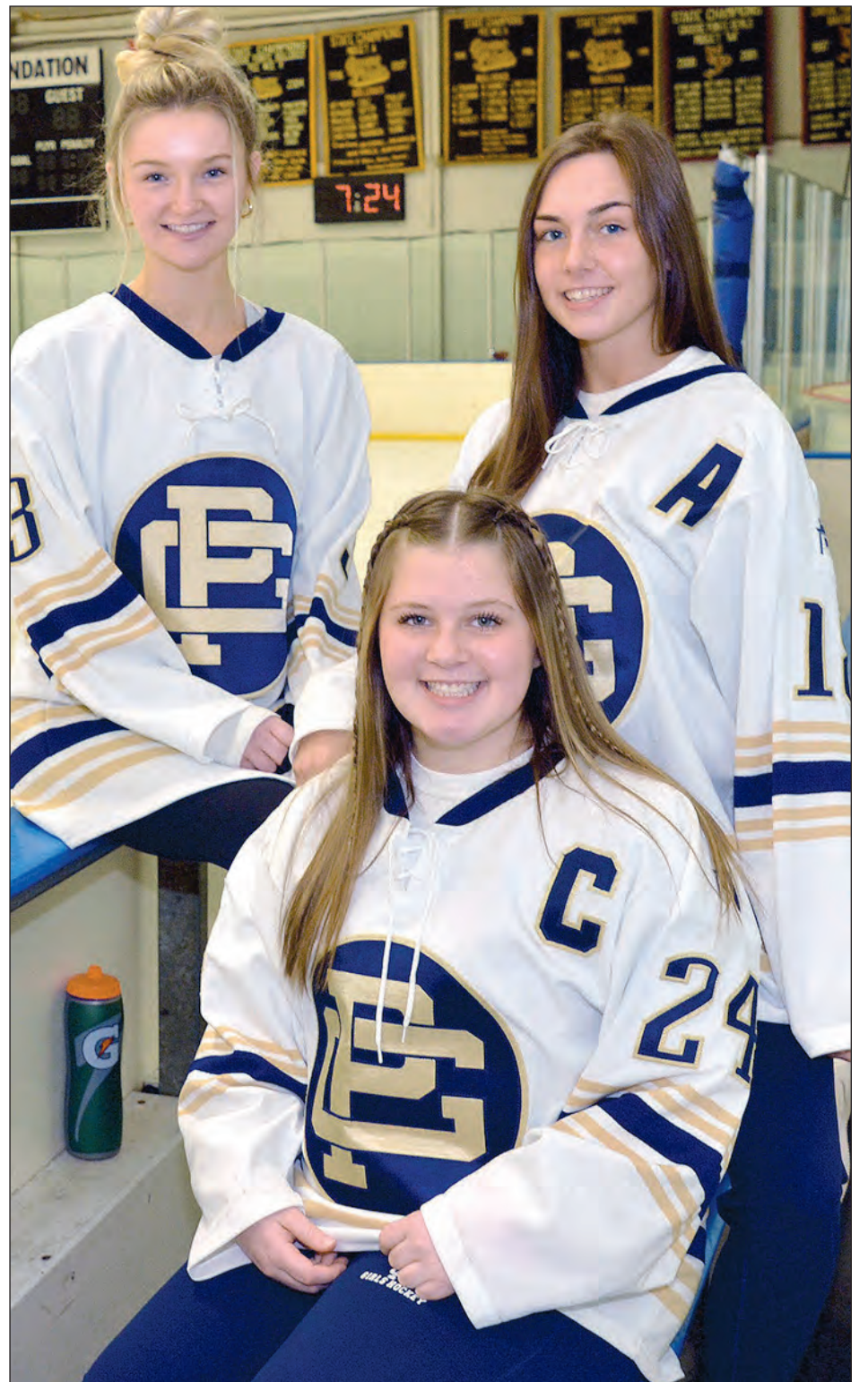


PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Grosse Pointe South girls hockey seniors, from left, Peyton Steinhebel, Regan Sherry and Kamryn Schocker.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARSHA ENNIS

The Grosse Pointe varsity gymnastics team finished fourth in their MHSAA regional finals meet, with three gymnasts qualifying for the state championships.

Three gymnasts advance to state finals

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The Grosse Pointe varsity gymnastics team competed at MHSAA regional championships Saturday. The team finished fourth overall, but three members scored high enough to advance to the MHSAA state finals.

Grosse Pointe North senior Cate Gagnier won her second Division I AA championship with a meet-high 36.4 points. Gagnier placed second on the floor and the beam, third on the vault and fourth on the bars, advancing to the individual state championship in each event.

Grosse Pointe South senior Kate Ennis will also head to the state finals. Ennis finished in fourth

place on the floor exercise with a score of 9.025. Ennis and Gagnier will be joined by South junior Maeve Jamieson, who scored 8.85 on the vault and 8.0 on the bars, qualifying for the state finals in both events.

"I'm proud of the entire team for how hard they worked all season and how they competed in the regional meet," said coach Courtney Hamidi. "We are so excited to have qualified three of our gymnasts to the individual state finals this weekend to compete alongside the best gymnasts in the state."

The MHSAA state championship meet is this Friday and Saturday and will be hosted at Rockford High School.

North falls to unbeaten Crusaders in MAC Championship game

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

After securing the MAC Red division title, the Grosse Pointe North girls basketball team faced off against MAC White division champions L'Anse Creuse North on Wednesday night for the MAC championship. The Norsemen faced a tough task against an undefeated Crusaders team and in the end, L'Anse Creuse North's record stayed perfect as they emerged MAC Red/White champions with a 47-32 win.

"In my opinion, we played tight and when we played tight, we didn't compete the way we needed to," North coach Gary Bennett said following the loss. "It's not

just on defense. A lot of it's on offense. We've got to compete on offense and we were just soft."

The Norsemen got off to an extremely slow start on offense Wednesday night, scoring only eight points the entire first half. Things finally started to come together for North offensively in the fourth quarter, where they scored 17 points, more than they had in the first three quarters combined. Even though things picked up toward the end, it was too late for Bennett's squad.

"Their mindset was different in the fourth quarter than it was earlier in the game," he said. "We played soft, we got the ball ripped out of our hands we got shots

blocked and we didn't play super, super tough."

L'Anse Creuse North's Brooke Daniels led all scorers with 19 points. For the Norsemen, sophomore Sophia Borowski finished with 17 points and fellow sophomore Annabel Ayrault scored 12, combining for 29 of North's 32 total points.

North now looks ahead to MHSAA playoffs in the near future. Bennett believes a meaningful game like this conference championship is good preparation for the important state playoff games that lie ahead.

"It certainly helps because it gets their attention and they know that was less than our best, so hopefully that'll help in practice and help us prepare," he said.

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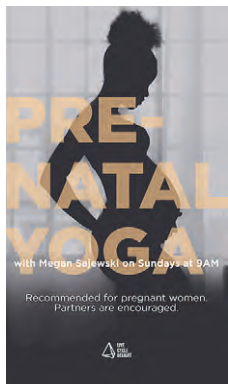
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