

COVID-19 CASES UPDATE - 5/3

	Cases	Deaths
All Pointes	3,309 (+56)	58 (+1)
Harper Woods	1,233 (+39)	47 (+0)

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Grosse Pointe News

VOL. 82, NO. 18, 32 PAGES ONE DOLLAR (DELIVERY 86¢) *Your community newspaper since 1940* MAY 6, 2021 GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

Dean, Bay City candidate are sup't finalists

By Peggy Walsh-Sarnecki
Staff Writer

THE GROSSE POINTES — The Grosse Pointe Board of Education has named Jon Dean, deputy superintendent of the Grosse Pointe Public School System, and Stephen Bigelow, superintendent of Bay City Public Schools, as its two

finalists to replace retiring Superintendent Gary Niehaus. Those two were supported by four members of the school board, including President Joseph Herd, Vice President Margaret Weertz and board members Lisa Pappas and Christopher Lee. Board member David

Brumbaugh voted for Bigelow and Ryan McLeod, superintendent of Eastpointe Community Schools. Board member Ahmed Ismail said he could not support any of the four semifinalists. That led Lee to suggest Ismail should recuse himself from further superintendent deliberations — a

suggestion Ismail adamantly rejected. Board members praised Bigelow for his experience, for the fact he is coming from a similar district and prepared well for his interview. “He appears to be transparent, open and engaged, (has) strong community engagement and talked about build-

ing relationships,” Brumbaugh said. Dean’s experience and knowledge of the district were among his strong points, according to the board. “Dean was active to get our bond issued and knows the district inside and out,” board member Christopher Lee said. Finalist interviews will

be May 11 and 12. Bigelow’s day is May 11. He will be accompanied by two board members on a tour of schools in the morning. There will be a public meet and greet from 3:30 to 5 p.m. at Brownell Middle School, 260 Chalfonte, Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan. See **FINALISTS**, page 8A

Ethics ordinance draft completed

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — After announcing the creation of an ethics committee in December 2019, a completed draft of the Grosse Pointe Shores ethics ordinance was submitted to city council April 20. The proposed ordinance would apply to elected and appointed city officials, city employees, committee members, advisors and candidates for office. Also drafted were an annual disclosure statement form, ethics complaint form and request for ethics guidance form. “We’ve had seven months of intense research, writing and communication among the members who produced this document,” said Dr. Janice Pemberton, chair of the Ethics Ordinance Drafting Committee.



COURTESY PHOTO

To moms, with love

We pass along our sincerest Mother’s Day wishes to the hard-working moms of Grosse Pointe and beyond — the moms always willing to share their patience and understanding, unconditional support and love, healing touch and words of wisdom. The tenderness reflected in Hamilton Hamilton’s “The Silver Rattle” makes us think of you. Happy Mother’s Day!

TIFA approves parking study

By Kate Vanderstelt
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — The Tax Increment Finance Authority board gave the OK for its director to pursue a parking study with MKSK in the TIFA business district at a meeting Wednesday, April 28. Parking has been a constant discussion point among residents, especially as the Park undergoes updates to its master plan. The parking study was not included on the board’s agenda; however, Chairman John Hughes made a motion before moving to public comment at the end of the meeting directing TIFA Director Nick Sizeland to

See **TIFA**, page 3A

War Memorial construction in demolition phase

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE FARMS — The \$20 million Grosse Pointe War Memorial campus improvement project is moving along steadily into its fourth month of construction. Demolition is now 90 percent complete on the upper level of the ballroom, with temporary walls installed around the ballroom until the new windows and walls arrive. The Patriot Theater also is awaiting minor demolition work for new mechanical, electrical and

plumbing to be installed. “It’s a very, very busy time, especially given our projected timeline of spring/summer (2022),” President and CEO Charles Burke said, “and we’re excited about the progress we’ve made.” With the site work currently 15 to 20 percent complete, the formal gardens and fountain in front of the ballroom have been removed to make room for the new addition and the promenade walkway has been demolished. Stormwater structures



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE WAR MEMORIAL

Demolition is 90 percent complete on the upper level of the ballroom.

See **PHASE**, page 4A

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Pointer of INTEREST

See story, page 4A

Meaghan Brewster
Home: Grosse Pointe Woods
Creator of Little Bee Book Club
wants to encourage young readers



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Survey says ...

10 percent of Park residents weigh in online

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Aaron Whittaker has a simple reason for leaving his native Australia to set up shop in Grosse Pointe Park.

"I met a girl," he said. One of his employees, Devin Clark, a Los Angeles transplant, has reasons more in line with what municipal officials want in a survey of community satisfaction.

"It seemed like a great place to live," Clark said while painting the exterior of the building from which Whittaker operates GPH Services construction and renovations on lower Charlevoix. "I'm an artist, sculptor and painter. Grosse Pointe has a lot of old houses with plaster work, which I specialize in refinishing."

Passion and profit. Sound inducements for migrating to a suburb 10,000 miles away for one and 2,300 for the

other.

"We asked why people chose to live or work in Grosse Pointe Park," said Ann Marie Kirby, a planner with MKSK-Detroit, contracted by Grosse Pointe Park officials to design a survey and assist updating the city's master plan.

Responses are being tallied, categorized and ranked to help members of the planning commission revise the plan, which at a minimum must be assessed every five years, according to state law. Although commissioners draft the plan, approval is by city council.

A master plan is a policy foundation on which to balance land use, economic development, zoning ordinances and unforeseen future projects.

"We're not doing a full parking study within the master plan," Commissioner Michele Lindsay said. "Hopefully that's something we'll talk about later."

"We submitted a proposal to the city," Kirby said. "Parking is a whole other animal. There's a lot that goes into it."

Though a parking study is not yet officially in the works for the master plan update, the TIFA board recently directed board Director and City Manager Nick Sizeland to pursue a parking study for the TIFA district with MKSK's help. Sizeland said at the board's meeting he expects to engage residents in discussion regarding city parking as a whole at the master plan update community open house Tuesday, May 25.

The breakdown

Slightly more than 60 percent of the 1,000 mainly online survey respondents so far rate the school system and community amenities as main inducements to live in the Park, according to Kirby.

Remaining top six reasons are, in order, walkability (40.8 percent), property values (36.6) and closeness to Detroit and Lake St. Clair (31.1 and 29.9, respectively).

Areas for improvement are parks and recreational opportunities (51.1), sidewalk maintenance (44.9), under-



PHOTO BY BRAD LINDBERG

Devin Clark, new to Grosse Pointe Park from Los Angeles, maintains his employer's renovation business in the Charlevoix commercial district.

ground infrastructure (44.9), stormwater management (38) and early childhood services (37.4).

Words most commonly appearing in survey responses consist of Mack Avenue, Kercheval, improved business districts, retail and restaurants. Least frequently mentioned were safety, police force diversity, taxes and childhood services percentage.

The online survey, launched in February,

was open approximately one month, Kirby said. A condensed paper survey generated 12 responses.

"Your response rate on the survey was really great, almost 10 percent of your population took the survey," she told planning commissioners April 21. "Usually, we're happy with a 5 percent return rate. This is a really great sample size of the community. We also received almost 250 comments from the interactive map on the project website."

The map, appearing at

gppmasterplan.com/telluswhatyouthink, was malfunctioning and inaccessible at press time.

Open house

Detailed summaries of the survey and master plan-in-progress are scheduled this month at the Windmill Pointe Park Tomkins Center. Two sessions are held 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 25.

Attendees will see survey recommendations for each commercial district.

Whittaker, the enamored Aussie, agreed with a combined 71.5 percent of respondents regarding property development and maintenance on lower Charlevoix.

"We need to upkeep the buildings," he said.

"Jefferson had the same answers," Kirby said. "For Mack Avenue, developing vacant properties was the overwhelming response. Almost 45 percent of those who did the survey said it was the top priority for Mack Avenue."

Nearly 25 percent of survey-takers found no improvements needed on Kercheval.

"Upgrades to the marina is the top priority for Windmill Pointe Park, then updating the kayak and canoe launch at Patterson Park," Kirby said.

'Interactive' survey security is suspect

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Online surveys are ripe for fraud by dissemblers and pranksters emboldened by the anonymity of the internet to taint findings.

In Grosse Pointe Park,

officials updating the municipal master plan are worried an interactive survey of community preferences and proposals could be compromised.

The usual suspects are people who skew results by taking the same survey numerous times.

Also suspect are bots, short for web robots, in this case a malicious software designed for automated actions on the internet.

"I share a concern I've heard consistently in the community," said Michele Hodges, a member of the planning commission. "I understand there were few controls over the number of times a person could submit a comment and not a clear understanding of the geography they might have hailed from."

Hodges wants to know if planners and the residents they represent can trust the survey data, much less use it to develop a master plan for

the future.

"This (master plan) is very important," she said. "It's going to guide and direct significant decisions. It's important we get it right."

An interactive map on the master plan website — gppmasterplan.com/telluswhatyouthink — registers comments from nearly 250 individuals. Some 95 percent are Park residents, according to Ann Marie Kirby, a planner with MKSK, retained by the Park to assist with the plan update.

Nearly half of respondents live in the area between Mack, Kercheval, Somerset and Cadieux.

Kirby said she checked survey data almost weekly. She's confident it is legitimate.

"I downloaded the data and looked to see if there

were repeats of IP addresses (a numeric designation identifying its location on the internet) and, if there were, did it look like responses were changing or similar," she said. "There were very few repeats. Most repeats likely were people from the same household taking the survey. There didn't seem to be evidence of multiple responses from the same person."

"MKSK led us to believe through their technical expertise that they're able to weed out bots and things like that," said Nick Sizeland, city manager. "That doesn't mean a husband, wife, son or daughter could all answer the same thing to make it seem as if there's more of an opinion."

Kirby and her survey team must balance soliciting information from

the public while blocking participants who may or may not be fraudulent.

"It's challenging because it is a public process," she said.

All but around 5 percent of survey comments were logged by Park residents, she said.

"Is that 100 percent accurate?" she said. "I don't know. But, I assure you for the most part, there's not going to be many people taking a 30-question survey for Grosse Pointe Park."

Opinions from people living outside city borders are welcome.

Sizeland said, "I don't imagine too many non-residents took the master plan survey, but certainly their voices should be heard, too, for the business districts about, for instance, if they want more parking or walkable space."

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<p>Grosse Pointe Farms (313) 885-6600 grossepointefarms.org Salary: Mayor, \$900, Council Members, \$600 4-year terms for Council Members; 2-year term for Mayor Filing deadline: April 20. *Terms expiring: Mayor: Louis Theros Council Members (vote for 3) Sierra Leone Donovan John Gillooly Beth Konrad-Wilberding Municipal Judge* 4-year term – salary \$30,000 Charles T. Berschback* Dean C. Metry* Kevin M. Smith* *Aug. 3 Primary</p>	<p>Grosse Pointe Shores (313) 881-6565 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. Sandra Cavataio Matthew Seely</p>	<p>Grosse Pointe Woods (313) 343-2440 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 Art W. Bryant (appointed) Council Members Angela Coletti Brown (appointed) Victoria Granger Todd A. McConaghy Thomas Vaughn (appointed)</p>
<p>City of Harper Woods (313) 343-2500 harperwoodscity.org Salary: Mayor, \$2,700, Council Mem- bers, \$2,400 4-year terms for Council Members; 2-year term for Mayor Filing deadline: April 20, 4 p.m. *Terms expiring: Mayor Valerie Kindle 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</p>		

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COURTESY PHOTOS

A 2012 Audi caught fire on Mack last week; the fire was extinguished by Woods fire personnel.

Cyclist spots car fire, helps driver to safety

By Kate Vanderstelt
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — John Winstanley was not expecting to save a woman's life when he was out for an afternoon bike ride Tuesday, April 27.

Winstanley was biking down Mack in the Woods when he saw smoke emerging from the hood of a parked car.

"As I started looking,

her car was on fire, her car was smoking," Winstanley recalled.

He hopped off his bike and went to the passenger-side window of the 2012 Audi. He knocked on the window, trying to encourage the driver to get out of her car — only to find that the woman was preoccupied with her cell phone.

"I jumped off my bike and I went to her window and she was just on her

cell phone, oblivious to what's going on," Winstanley said.

The woman eventually understood Winstanley's urgency and safely emerged from the Audi. She acknowledged she had smelled smoke, but was unaware it was coming from her own car.

Within three minutes, the front end of the Audi was engulfed in flames.

Woods public safety responded to the scene.

The fire was reportedly confined to the engine compartment, though no definite cause has been determined. No one was injured in the fire.

"I looked over and I saw her in the car and she had no idea what was going on," Winstanley recalled of his reaction to the incident. "It's like when they say you have no time to think; it's all on impulse. That's what it was. All on impulse and reaction."

City earns Sterling Community designation

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — Only seven Michigan communities have become a Sterling Community, as recognized by the National Arbor Day Foundation for 10 straight years of tree growth. The City of Grosse Pointe is now among them, after achieving the 10-year mark in 2020.

"Most cities are just Tree Cities; a small portion of them are Growth

Award cities in addition to Tree Cities; and very few have Growth Awards for 10 years," City Manager Pete Dame said, "so getting the Sterling award is quite an accomplishment."

The City also is celebrating its 35th year under the Tree City USA designation.

The City's Urban Forestry Commission was appointed by the mayor in 2017, at which time a gap survey and inventory of all city street trees determined there

were 100 spots in need of trees. A master plan, also created that year, led to 76 of the 100 trees being added to city property from 2017 to 2020.

Through 2021, the commission has the funding and plans to add the additional 24 trees, fulfilling the 100-tree goal.

"Unfortunately, since 2017 and the initial gap survey, we've lost an additional 30 trees and they've died and been removed," said Alaine Bush, member of the

Urban Forestry Commission, "so our ongoing new goal is to replace these trees and fill in any gaps that come up as necessary. And we'll continue that as time goes on."

Grosse Pointe Park, also under City Forester Brian Colter's leadership, earned the Sterling Community award in 2008.

The other Michigan cities awarded since 2004 are Berkley, Hillsdale, Oak Park, Frankfort and Novi.

Civil infractions once cause for arrest, now ticketable

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

MICHIGAN — Following a Michigan Supreme Court decision that went into effect April 1, offenses that previously were cause for arrest — civil infractions and most misdemeanors, unless they involve violence or drunken driving — now require officers to issue an appearance citation and let the offender go.

If the individual fails to call the court or make an appearance within a specified period of days, a no-show warrant will be issued, which then is cause for arrest.

Specific offenses affected under Public Act 393 of 2020, amend-

ing MCL 764.9c, include driving while license suspended — officers still can impound the vehicle — and trespassing.

Notable exceptions, under which arrests still will take place, include domestic violence, violation of a personal protection order, failure to comply with officer commands, serious misdemeanors and assaultive crimes.

"I think the thinking is they're trying to avoid cash bonds on some of these civil infractions and simple misdemeanors, so they're giving that person the opportunity to either make a court date and work with the court or pay the fine

instead," Farms Director of Public Safety Dan Jensen said. "Because what happens is sometimes you get a guy in here, he can't post the bond, he's got to see the judge, he misses a day at work (and) he ends up getting fired, so it's a snowball rolling downhill for some of these guys."

Unfortunately, he added, on the other side of the issue, there's very little accountability or responsibility for the offenders who decide not to show.

"When they have 19 or 35 suspensions, that's why," he explained. "They haven't been brought in and made to post bond, so now it'll be

36 suspensions. And they haven't had a warrant issued yet. There's so many of those out there that warrants don't get issued really fast by some cities, like Detroit."

The ruling also does not create a right to the issuance of an appearance ticket instead of an arrest and therefore, an arrested person cannot claim damages against an officer or agency for being arrested instead of issued an appearance ticket.

The new policy likely will not have a noticeable impact in the Pointes, according to Jensen.

"I don't think it's really going to create any more crime per se," he said.

TIFA:

Continued from page 1A

authorize the city's master plan partner, MKSK, to conduct a parking study in the business district.

"There have been a lot of discussions about parking in the district as the district has grown," Hughes said. "We did survey the businesses in the district. Eighteen of the 51 businesses responded and they were

unanimous in saying that either they needed more parking or more parking was needed in the district.

"... I know we have worked very hard to support our businesses," he added. "... Parking is a gift that keeps on giving. I believe we all want to be prudent and I think it makes sense to direct the TIFA director to pursue a parking study."

Some board members were concerned about how reliable the study

would be if conducted in the midst of the ongoing pandemic.

"If a study is impacted by COVID, then we probably just spent \$25,000 and flushed it down the drain," board member Arthur Mullen said.

Sizeland, also the Park city manager, said he believes the input from business owners and residents will help mitigate whatever differences the pandemic may be causing on the district's parking and traffic.

"We're hoping with the experience and help of the business owners, as well as residents that have seen and are visiting the area, that they can describe the parking situation and traffic in the area," Sizeland said.

The motion to conduct the parking study was approved by all board members present.

The parking study will be conducted by MKSK and is to be completed as soon as possible and within a rate of \$25,000.

Proclamation honors Woods public safety

By Kate Vanderstelt
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — The city of Grosse Pointe Woods designated Sunday, May 9, through Saturday, May 15, as National Police Week, with Saturday, May 15, designated as Peace Officers Memorial Day in a proclamation at the city council meeting Monday, May 3.

Police Commissioner and City Administrator Bruce Smith recognized law enforcement personnel before Mayor Arthur W. Bryant read the proclamation.

"As our country pays tribute to the law enforcement personnel during National Police Week, I would like to recognize the efforts of the Grosse Pointe Woods Department of Public Safety," Smith said. "Our officers have done a tremendous job performing their duties during this global pandemic and turbulent times. ... They are highly deserving of rec-

ognition for their job well done under difficult circumstances."

The proclamation called upon Woods citizens to observe National Police Week by remembering all law enforcement does for the community.

"Whereas, it is important that all citizens know and understand the problems, duties and responsibilities of their Public Safety Department," the proclamation reads, "and that members of our Public Safety Department recognize their duty to serve the people by safeguarding life and property, by protecting them against violence and disorder, and by protecting the innocent against deception and the weak against oppression and intimidation ..."

Peace Officers Memorial Day, to be observed Saturday, May 15, was designated by the proclamation to honor peace officers who lost their lives or became disabled in the line of duty.

The Week Ahead

MONDAY, MAY 10

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores Infrastructure Committee meeting, 10 a.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Park City Council meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ City of Grosse Pointe budget hearing, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores Improvement Foundation trustee meeting, 7 p.m.

TUESDAY, MAY 11

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Farms City Council meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Citizens' Recreation Commission meeting, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Beautification Commission meeting, 7 p.m.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Park Beautification Commission meeting, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, MAY 13

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Historical Commission meeting, 7:30 p.m.

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4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

GP mom encourages young readers

By Whitney McDonald
Staff Writer

A mom of three with a passion for children's literature, Meaghan Brewster bases sensory play, sing-along songs and other hands-on activities off of books to encourage young children to love reading.

She started the Little Bee Book Club in 2018, as a way to combine her passion for teaching and love for reading.

Her book club gives parents the tools they need to teach valuable lessons, like kindness and diversity, through children's books.

"I'm intentional about the books I share," she said. "I want my children to love reading and be lifelong learners, but my most important work is raising children who are kind and compassionate and who see and celebrate diversity."

From a young age, she knew she wanted to be an educator. She went to Western Michigan University for her bach-



COURTESY PHOTO

Meaghan Brewster is the creator of the Little Bee Book Club.

elor's degree in elementary education and Oakland University for graduate school.

She taught kindergarten and first grade before she made the decision to stay at home full time with her three children: Maxwell, 7, and twins Charlie and Jack, 5.

Little Bee Book Club came to Brewster as an idea after she started

volunteering with Mothers of Preschoolers. She worked with MOPS childcare, where she implemented themed crafts, story times and singing. MOPS was a way for Brewster to network within Grosse Pointe and it inspired her to start her own Mommy and Me book club out of her house.

Little Bee Book Club,

which first started as Busy Bees Book Club, allows children to gather for readings, book-related crafts and snacks, while moms use it as a time to form relationships with other moms.

Beyond in-home meetings, prior to the coronavirus pandemic, local businesses were hosting Brewster to do readings for children throughout

the community.

Amid the pandemic Brewster used her Instagram page to share fun reading ideas with parents and she started an Etsy shop where she sold book-inspired sensory play activities.

She said she is eagerly awaiting a time when she can get back into the community and share children's literature.

For now, to keep busy and spread her love of reading, she is having a 'Cuddle Bear Book Drive' for children at a local hospital. It is a way to bring joy to children through reading and put a smile on their faces.

The Grosse Pointe community is a place Brewster has wanted to live since her college days.

In 2015, she and her husband decided to move to Grosse Pointe Park and now they live in the Woods.

"I knew this would be a place I would like to grow our family," she said.

Her family of five

Tips to create a literacy-rich environment

- ◆ Keep baskets of books around your home so they are easily accessible.
- ◆ Allow your child to see you reading and writing for pleasure.
- ◆ Make up stories, sing together and write notes to your child.
- ◆ Look for parts of your day where you could add in sharing a story, like during breakfast or bath time.
- ◆ Take regular family trips to the library.

enjoys biking along Lakeshore and spending time at the Edsel and Eleanor Ford House. Her boys recently joined Little League.

She hopes to continue to spread her love for books throughout the Grosse Pointe community.

To learn more about the book drive or Little Bee Book Club, visit her Instagram @littlebeebookclub.

ETHICS:

Continued from page 1A

"... It has legal precedent and it has a very formal structure that has been patterned after the most successful ethics ordinances in the state, as well as the nation."

The language includes the ordinance's purpose to ensure the Shores is led and served with transparency and accountability, responsibilities of public office

and a significant section on conflicts of interest.

A section on social media use among city officials, a topic of ethical debate in the Shores in recent years, lays out specific rules for an official city account, a public official's account, political or campaign accounts and private accounts by city officials.

The requirements include whether the accounts can be used to present official city information, whether they

can be supported by city personnel or city financial resources and whether they can be set to private.

"Our committee has done extensive research on social media and recent court rulings regarding the limits for elected officials and municipal employees on how social media can be used," Pemberton said.

"The draft ethics ordinance reflects these legal changes and how other cities have incorporated

controls on social media use by elected officials and municipal employees. In other cities, in many of them, social media has become an important part of their ethics ordinance and I think it's going to be an important part of ours, as well."

By way of application, the draft proposes the creation of a three-member board of ethics, appointed by the mayor with confirmation from city council, to serve as

an advisory body when ethical complaints are brought forward.

Ethics complaint forms, or a request for guidance form, would first be filed with the city clerk before being forwarded to the board of ethics, which then would conduct a confidential review to determine if further proceedings are necessary. If so, the board would conduct hearings, subject to the Open Meetings Act, and issue an advisory opinion to city council. The council then would be responsible for acting on the advisory opinion as it deems appropriate.

The draft ethics ordinance currently is going through the legal review process. Once the city gets a report back from the legal review, city council will have open discussion on the proposal.

It likely will be a couple months until then, City Manager Stephen Poloni reported.

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Saturday: 10 - 3
Sunday: Closed

PHASE:

Continued from page 1A

will be placed in the ground once the concrete and steel foundations of the new addition are complete, while the asphalt of the drive leading to the back lawn and loading dock also will be removed soon.

As a way to honor its

programming agreements and operate safely under COVID-19 restrictions, a temporary outdoor tent has been constructed on the lakefront lawn.

"Our goal is to provide a safe and hospitable environment for all patrons for all manners of programming, given the limitations that we respect that the governor

has offered to all of us," Burke said.

Moving forward, construction will continue with foundation work, stonework and steel infrastructure. Soon, the community can expect to start seeing the framing of the new facility being constructed.

In collaboration with the Grosse Pointe Garden Center, The War Memorial also is working to get the backyard Trial Gardens ready for the community to enjoy this summer.

The gardens will be closed during private events, but otherwise open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

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City of Grosse Pointe

Unemployment fraud

A 64-year-old Grosse Pointe woman discovered an unknown person had applied for unemployment benefits in her name Monday, April 26.

Loan fraud

An unknown suspect attempted to use a 64-year-old Grosse Pointe man's personal information to apply for a small business loan Wednesday, April 28.

Gun threats

Upset over a canceled gas transaction, in which he thought he lost \$10, a 21-year-old Detroit man threatened a cashier with a gun at a business in the 17000 block of Mack Avenue Wednesday, April 28.

The man was caught by Farms officers for traffic violations two days later.

Account fraud

An unknown suspect used a 49-year-old Grosse Pointe man's Social Security number to attempt to open a checking and savings account Thursday, April 29.

Road rage

While exiting an area parking lot at 5:27 p.m. Thursday, April 29, a 54-year-old Clinton Township man began honking his car horn at the vehicle in front of him. When the vehicle pulled over to let him pass, he stopped his own car to go to the driver's window and scream profanities.

Drunken speeding

A 33-year-old Woods man was arrested for operating while intoxicated and obstructing police at 1:34 a.m. Friday, April 30, after being pulled over on Mack Avenue for driving 54 mph.

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

Grosse Pointe Farms

Cutting the line

A 21-year-old Detroit man was pulled over on Mack Avenue at Kerby Road after being seen driving recklessly to pass three vehicles in the parking lane at 1:26 p.m. Friday, April 30.

Through tattoos on the man's face, the officer then recognized him as a suspect wanted in the City of Grosse Pointe for threatening a cashier with a gun in the 17000 block of Mack Avenue.

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

Anti-masker threat

After being refused service at a business in the 18000 block of Mack Avenue for refusing to wear a mask at 1:46 p.m. Friday, April 30, an approximately 50-year-old man threatened to "shoot up" and blow up the building.

Driving while license suspended

Pulled over at Moross Road and Grosse Pointe Boulevard for not having a visible license plate, a 61-year-old Detroit man then was cited for driving while license suspended at 3:53 p.m. Friday, April 30, and his car was impounded.

Stolen bike

A white, girls bicycle with a basket was stolen from in front of a business in the 100 block of Kercheval Avenue at 8:29 p.m. Friday, April 30.

The bicycle had been left unsecured while the owner went into the business.

Red light runner

After being seen disobeying two solid red lights on Mack Avenue at 2:52 a.m. Sunday, May 2, a 21-year-old Romulus woman was pulled over and received citations for driving while license suspended, improper plate and disobeying a traffic control device. Her vehicle was impounded.

Running into the law

After nearly striking a patrol car at Moross Road and Mack Avenue at 3:19 a.m. Sunday, May 2, a 49-year-old Detroit man was arrested for operating under the influence.

A preliminary breath test showed his blood alcohol content to be .19 percent.

Making a run for it

A 28-year-old Detroit man was pulled over at Mack Avenue and Canyon at 10:29 a.m. Sunday, May 2, after he accelerated to nearly 50 mph when the spotlight turned amber.

The man was issued a

citation for speeding and driving while license suspended, and the vehicle was towed. He has five prior suspensions.

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

Grosse Pointe Shores

Driving while license suspended

A 25-year-old Warren man was cited at 10:37 p.m. Wednesday, April 28, for driving while license suspended.

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

Grosse Pointe Woods

Suspicious sweepstakes

A resident reported an unknown caller claimed he was from Publishers Clearing House Monday, April 26.

The caller said if the resident gave him \$500, he would give her a \$5 million check in return for her sweepstakes winning. He wanted to come to her house so she could follow him to the bank.

The man put a woman on the phone to try to convince the resident to provide them with the check. They claimed they would be in a white Publishers Clearing House van with balloons and the \$5 million check ready.

Money was never exchanged between the two.

Car rocks

A woman parked her car in a parking lot on the 900 block of Cook at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, April 27.

She returned to the car at 5:30 p.m. and, upon entry, the rear window shattered.

Rocks from a nearby flower bed were found on the car's hood and trunk.

The suspect is yet unknown.

Sexual comments

A 19-year-old Harper Woods man driving an

orange car near Morningside and Renaud at 7:07 p.m. Wednesday, April 28, pulled up next to a woman and made a sexual comment while pointing to his groin area, then drove off.

Officers were able to locate the orange car and identify the driver. Because he did not have vehicular insurance, the car was impounded.

The man stated he was delivering pizzas in the area.

The investigation is still ongoing to see if this incident can be linked to a similar incident that occurred several weeks ago.

Singing stealer

A 36-year-old Saline man was arrested for stealing an iPhone 11 from an employee at a business in the 19000 block of Mack at 5:27 p.m. Thursday, April 29.

The man reportedly walked into the store and started singing to employees. After walking to the back of the store, he left without buying anything.

An employee went to the back of the store and noticed her cell phone missing.

The singing man was caught on camera taking the phone and putting it in his pocket before leaving.

An officer located the suspect at Mack and Torrey.

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

Grosse Pointe Park

Turns self in

A 27-year-old Dearborn man turned himself in at 6 p.m. Monday, April 26, on a warrant for his arrest for operating while intoxicated in 2017.

Leasing cars

An unknown person

used a resident's identity in an attempt to lease vehicles at two car dealerships midday Monday, April 26.

Parole absconder

A 40-year-old Detroit man came into the station to secure a ride to a homeless shelter.

The man had a warrant due to his failure to respond to his parole officer. He had committed second-degree murder.

Park public safety arrested him and turned him over to the Michigan Department of Corrections.

Suspicious sweepstakes

An elderly woman was almost duped out of \$5,000 Wednesday, April 28.

An unknown suspect told the woman she had won the Publisher's Clearing House sweepstakes and needed to pay taxes on her winnings upfront.

Park officers assisted the woman in canceling the transaction before money was transferred to the suspect.

Gift card payment

In order to pay his AT&T balance, a Park man purchased \$80 in gift cards before AT&T told the man the call was not from their business.

Flat fire

A fire occurred in the 1200 block of Beaconsfield at 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 28.

The fire started in an unattended oven in an upstairs flat.

The flat was filled with smoke, but the fire was contained.

Home invasion arrest

A 32-year-old Eastpointe man was arrested Wednesday,

April 28, for a home invasion in the 600 block of Balfour Saturday, April 24.

The suspect was identified as a man in the custody of the Woodhaven Police Department. He was arraigned in the Park Friday, April 30.

Stolen bike

At 10 a.m. Tuesday, April 27, a blue and silver DBX bike was reported missing from an unlocked garage in the 1300 block of Whittier. The homeowner believes the bike was stolen sometime overnight Monday, April 26.

57 in a 30

A 22-year-old Detroit man was issued a citation at 2 a.m. Saturday, May 1, at Mack and Maryland.

The man was stopped for driving 57 mph in a 30 mph zone. Upon stopping, officers found he had a suspended license. He was issued a citation and released.

His vehicle was impounded.

Erratic driving

A 22-year-old Warren man was issued a citation at 12:15 p.m. Friday, April 30, in the 800 block of Ashland for a suspended license.

The man was stopped for driving erratically around Barrington and Avondale. He was found to have a suspended license, so he was issued a citation and released. His vehicle was impounded.

Fraud

An unknown suspect cashed a check as part of a fake "Kroger shopping experience" at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 1.

The check was fraudulent.

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



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Wayne County vaccinations*

As of 5/4	Initiation**	Completions***
Vaccinations	482,644	357,765
% of residents 16+	55.9	41.4
% 16-64	49.9	33.9
% 65+	78.7	70.1

*Excluding Detroit **1 of 2 doses *** 2 doses or J&J

OUR VIEW

Superintendent decision nigh

Now is the time for paying attention to the finalists in the selection of a new superintendent for the Grosse Pointe Public School System.

Last week the Board of Education narrowed the field to two men, Stephen Bigelow, currently superintendent of the Bay City Public Schools, and M. Jon Dean, deputy superintendent for educational services here in Grosse Pointe. The district's website has their resumes and links to their initial board interviews; go to the Superintendent Search box on the district's website, gpschools.org.

Next week, each candidate will spend a day in the district, ending with a meet-and-greet session for the community and a final interview. Then, the board is scheduled to deliberate and presumably vote on whom to select or, possibly, whether to continue the search.

Unless the board changes its mind, interested residents can only see the interviews — scheduled for 6 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday — if they attend in person at Brownell Middle School before the board deliberates at 7 p.m. Wednesday. But the board should be encouraged to broadcast the interviews this time around. Given that the second candidate is the local one, it seems easy enough for him to learn of the questions asked the first candidate if he chooses.

Grosse Pointe is not the only district seeking a superintendent this spring and probably not the only one nursing its wounds that it hasn't attracted anyone from out of state who might have a broader perspective. Michigan's school financing system — and at least a decade of crimped funding from the state Legislature — apparently don't make any Michigan district inviting.

District residents also may have to consider that its current superintendent compensation, a package worth \$280,590, is 54th in the state. That may be a bit of a low ranking when considering the district is among a select group that is still able to levy extra millage under the hold-harmless provision created when Michigan last revised its school financing system in 1994. (Bay City's superintendent compensation was listed in the same survey as \$208,546; Mr. Dean's salary — not counting additional benefits — has been given as \$151,567 for this year.)

The transition to a new superintendent involves many such aspects. It's worth watching the first set of interviews both men did if only to compare how their priorities align with the district's and the community's. Both men discussed cultural competency, for example, and the work each believes is needed to make progress on equity and inclusion. Both have experience with bond and sinking fund millages and with declining enrollment, a problem in most Michigan districts. Both believe all classes should be taught as if they were gifted and talented.

Both Bay City and Grosse Pointe have roughly the same student count and number of buildings, although Bay City covers far more square miles.

In many respects, the decision may come down to nuances of style and how the board members perceive themselves relating to a new superintendent, both individually and collectively.

Grosse Pointers often tout the schools as adding value to the community, making the selection of a new superintendent important whether or not residents have children or grandchildren in the schools. It's worth staying up-to-date on the search process.

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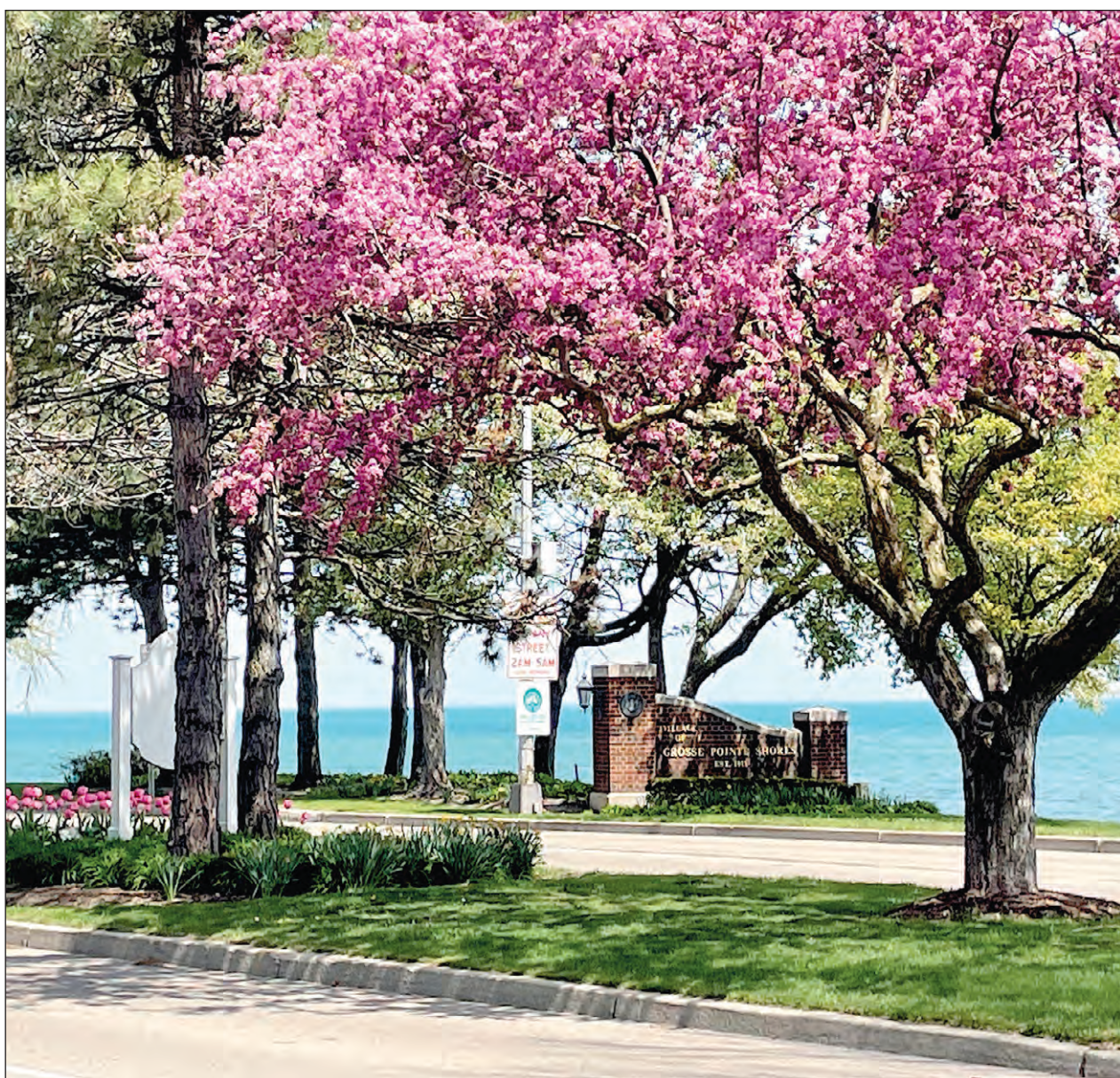


PHOTO BY DAVID GALBENSKI

Pure Grosse Pointe

David Galbenski is justifiably proud of the entryway to his hometown, Grosse Pointe Shores. In fact, all the Pointe municipalities along Lake St. Clair should take a bow for all their hard work in maintaining the medians along Lakeshore Road, especially this time of year when all is abloom. Thank you for making our day!

OUR VIEW

'Flushable wipes' causing havoc

Flushable" is not truly flushable — at least in the sense of breaking down properly on the way through the sewer system — when it comes to so-called "flushable wipes."

This isn't just a Grosse Pointe problem, although the City of Grosse Pointe included a flushable wipes warning in its April 30 email update. In fact, the accumulation of wipes and the clogs they cause is probably at least a decade old. Macomb County has had its own horrid and expensive experience with a "fatberg" — wipes congealed with grease that can block even the biggest sewer pipes.

What's different now is what happens in a pandemic: more people staying home. More people at home has meant more disposable wipes going down the toilet. Personal hygiene wipes, baby wipes, dis-

infectant wipes — there's just more of them going down the toilet. An April 23 Washington Post story noted the same problem, adding that masks and gloves are ending up in the sewers, too.

Peter Dame, Grosse Pointe city manager, said that the wipes problem first surfaced several years back, requiring special work two times on city pumps. Now the city does extra maintenance on the pumps twice a year.

But the new increase in wipes has become increasingly visible when routine sewer work is underway, hence the plea to dispose of wipes in the trash, not the toilet. "PLEASE DO NOT FLUSH THEM ... They clog up pipes and also the pumps that empty the City's sewage into the Connor Creek treatment station," the city's email noted. That's the message, short if not sweet, and it applies everywhere.

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.

WE GP being misunderstood

To the Editor:
WE GP is a local, grassroots 501(c)3 organization committed to protecting civil rights and promoting justice and equity.

We believe in building bridges, not walls, between communities. We believe in environmental justice. We believe in voting rights. We believe in immigrant rights and that families belong together. We believe in women's rights. We believe in full equality before the law for our LGBTQ+ community, and believe our disabled neighbors deserve access and equi-

table treatment. We believe the lives of our Black friends and neighbors matter.

Unfortunately, there is a fear-based misinformation campaign attacking WE GP in the community. So let us be perfectly clear: WE GP has no position on the arts center in Grosse Pointe Park. We know of no organized effort to "open" the parks and we have never taken a position on that. We have never received any support, financial or otherwise, from George Soros. We are not outsiders sent or "planted" here. We are simply your neighbors, united in supporting the values, beliefs and people

we hold dear.

We've organized vigils for victims of gun violence, helped organize the Hate Has No Home Here rally in February in support of the Dinges family, hosted lemonade stands in support of immigrant families, helped build a powerful coalition to host the vigil after the white supremacist violence in Charlottesville; built garden beds with neighbors at the Community Treehouse in Jefferson-Chalmers and co-hosted voter education panels, along with a number of other events aimed at open-hearted dialogue within our community. Since 2017 we have organized the annual Pride March in solidarity with our LGBTQ+ friends, families and neighbors — an event anticipated and attended by thousands, supported by numerous local businesses and churches, in which we make it clear that Grosse Pointe truly welcomes our LGBTQ+ community.

While we have helped organize many large events, our work is ongoing and personal as

well. Currently over 100 of our neighbors are participating in a 21 Day Racial Equity Challenge through WE GP to work on undoing racism and building personal awareness. Hundreds of community members have participated in workshops, town halls and facilitated conversations on racism and bias that WE GP co-hosted in collaboration with local organizations like the Grosse Pointes & Harper Woods NAACP, The War Memorial and several of our local churches.

Our only aim is to improve our community. Bringing people together and building bridges is core to our work. We may differ on some issues. We may not always agree on everything ... but where we do, we hope you will join us! If you have questions about our goals, just ask us. We're happy to talk to you about what we do. Find out more about what we do at we-gp.org.

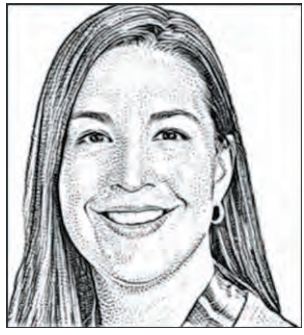
SHANNON BYRNE
Grosse Pointe Park

See LETTERS, page 7A

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

I SAY By Jody McVeigh

Thinking of spring — and Mom



Thank God for springtime. Is it just me or does it seem like we've been cooped up far too long this winter?

As of this writing, it's still a little chilly out — not quite open-the-windows-and-let-in-fresh-air weather. But that time is just around the corner and I feel a little more antsy than usual for it to

arrive.

There are so many things to look forward to with spring.

I'm ready to enjoy the deck we had installed in the backyard last year. The plan is to put a roof on it this year and, if that's the case, I might make the back deck my new office space when the time comes. Aside from craving the fresh air, it likely will be the only place I'll be able to work without my cat climbing on my keyboard.

I'm also ready for golf season to go into full swing. I'm not a golfer, but my husband is and I think it's fair to say we are both anxious for him to get out of the house. After this particularly grueling winter, we're

ready to resume our separate warm-weather activities so we can stop annoying each other with our Netflix picks and fighting for space in front of the fireplace.

But mainly I'm ready for spring because of the flowers.

I'm not a gardener; I raise indoor plants. I must be good at it, too, because they keep multiplying. I have more philodendrons and succulents than I know what to do with. Anyone need an aloe?

I'm not much of an outdoor gardener though. I do have a mom who makes it her mission every spring and summer to plant and weed and beautify the front of my house. She's been doing

it since she and my dad downsized to a condo several years ago. There's only so much planting space at her place, so I share my garden with her. I did not inherit her green thumb, but I love reaping the benefits of hers.

It reminds me of my childhood, when my dad would take my brothers and me to a little nursery near our house the day before Mother's Day and we'd each pick our favorites for Mom. I remember snapdragons, Echinacea, petunias and Dad's favorite — orange carnations — among the selections. She planted chives at one point, too, and I remember racing to the back of the yard where the raspberry bush was and

plucking off a sweet treat on warm summer days. But it was those Mother's Day flowers I remember best.

I remember Mom always acting surprised when we'd return with a trunk full of flowers; I remember all the time she spent in our yard, digging and planting and weeding and watering. But mostly, I remember how beautiful our garden always looked, because she knew a thing or two about gardening, but also because she put her heart into it.

I guess it's natural to think about moms this time of year, but for me it's not Mother's Day, rather the flowers that bring her to mind. And though I thank her every

year for her contributions — as do my neighbors, offering compliments on their walks by the house — I don't think she fully understands how appreciative I am of her efforts. Not just in the garden, but in my life. She always goes the extra mile for me and it's one of a million reasons why I love her.

I wonder what sort of variety she'll plant this year — or if this will be the year she finally throws in the gardening gloves. If that's the case, I can still be grateful for the variety of perennials she began planting a couple years ago, so for the next several months I'll be able to see her handiwork come to life and think of her.

LETTERS:

Continued from page 6A

Ignoring facts on COVID-19 risk

To the Editor:

This is a letter to the nearly 120 teachers who took a day off to “mentally recharge” after the Grosse Pointe public schools voted to relax the COVID-19 guidelines in accordance with CDC recommendations.

It became obvious many months ago that COVID is less dangerous to children than the flu and that keeping schools open poses minimal risk of spreading infections.

The universities of Stockholm and Uppsala in Sweden undertook a nationwide experiment by switching its high schools to online instruction while keeping younger students in classrooms with no size reduction, quarantining, or masks.

The results? None of the children who kept going to school died of COVID and there was little effect on the adults. The parents whose children were kept going to school were slightly more likely to test positive for COVID, but no more likely to be treated or hospitalized for it. The unmasked teachers in classrooms were more likely to be hospitalized for COVID, but the difference was minor: 0.09 percent. That extra risk might warrant some precautions, such as excusing older teachers from classroom duties, but, in my opinion, does not justify closing schools or forcing children to wear masks.

The New England Journal of Medicine (Jan. 6 at NEJM.org) published an article citing another study from Sweden that put the danger to teachers in perspective. Even after researchers excluded healthcare workers from the comparison, this study found that teachers' risk of winding up in the ICU last spring was less than half the risk for the rest of the workforce.

We are now only beginning to reckon with the devastating effect closing schools has had on learning. Researchers at Stanford University (National Academy of Sciences, February 2021) have found that “children studying remotely make little or no academic

progress, and that the “learning loss” is most pronounced among those from disadvantaged homes.”

In August 2020, UNICEF and the World Health Organization both agreed that children 5 years and under should not be required to wear masks. For children aged 6 to 11, both organizations recommended masks only if the school is in a locality with “widespread transmission,” and then only after consulting with parents and weighing the potential impact on “learning and psychosocial development.”

Here are just a few facts about masks to consider:

- In June 2020, the U.S. National Library of Medicine warned of physical ear deformation in pre-adolescents due to mask straps.

- Harmful learning effects include hindering young children's linguistic skills due to masks hiding teachers' lips and muffling their speech.

- Social development is being impeded as children (especially those with Autism Spectrum Disorder) are unable to rely on facial cues.

For the teachers who are now vaccinated, the risk of teaching in a room of unmasked students is essentially nil, as is the risk to both students and their parents. Yet teachers, parents, public health officials, politicians, and journalists persist in ignoring these facts — and the lasting damage that their irrational fears are doing to our children.

JODY BRUCE
Grosse Pointe Park

Support our police

To the Editor:

I am placing a request to ALL Grosse Pointers to

YESTERDAY'S HEADLINES

1946

75 years ago this week

POINTE URGED TO PLANT OWN GARDEN PLOTS:

The desperate worldwide food situation has called for a victory garden movement as strong or stronger this year than at any time since the war in Europe started. This situation is well-appreciated here in Grosse Pointe. The accumulating appalling stories of the food situation in Europe and China awakened the local Garden Council to the need of continuing the fine work it carried on during the actual war years.

Obituaries: Elvin Hoffman, Myron A. Dreher

put a yard sign, fly a flag with the thin blue line, etc., in the front yards of your homes. Whether you own or rent, you're still apart of our wonderful community.

What the police are going through across the country, whether it is losing their lives or being physically attacked by “haters” is just not right at all! In every occupation that individuals work in there are always going to be shady people who want to do things that are unethical and unacceptable to a peaceful work environment and the way we stand up to that shade is to “stand up to it.”

We have a great community and country and we can't let the unkind and uninformed people take us down. So, again, I am asking for the support of the police from the Pointes to show we care. Do you understand what a positive re-enforcement that will be to each officer who sees that?

I want ALL police to feel proud that they chose public service as a career. Please stand up to what is right and fair for ALL of us. One more thing, Chief Craig of Detroit, you and your officers are doing a “super” job.

MARSHA PONKEY
Grosse Pointe Park

Wetzel, Jacob Gitzen, Frank L. Voorwerk, Elizabeth Edwards Weisgerber, James E. McTague, Joseph D. Lenahan, Leonora Herbert, Elizabeth H. Koch, Gladys A. Nelson

1996

25 years ago this week

SCHOOLS EVALUATE FIRST HIGH SCHOOL PROFICIENCY TESTS:

Now that the frenzy of the first high school proficiency testing period is over, teachers and administrators in Grosse Pointe's two public high schools are evaluating the experience and sending their comments to Lansing. The controver-

sial new tests involved a three-part writing exam, a two-part math exam, one science exam and one reading exam.

Obituaries: Laura Laethem Richer, Virginia Vernor Collins, Michael G. Kelly, Elizabeth Grace Schall, Helen Hicks Hanna, Violette E. Wehby

2011

10 years ago this week

Obituaries: Raymond W. Gault, Joseph J. Palker, Margaret Anne Bartush, Christine Pruitt, Mary Carolyn Harms, Alice Mary Coen Robison, Mary M. Segner, Andrew “Scotty” Stoddart

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National superintendent search: No women, no out-of-state candidates

By Peggy Walsh-Sarnecki
Staff Writer

After conducting a national search for candidates for superintendent of the Grosse Pointe public schools, there were no women as semifinalists. And none of the candidates are from outside of Michigan.

The semifinalist candidates were Stephen Bigelow, superintendent of Bay City Public Schools; Jon Dean, deputy superintendent of GPPSS; Ryan McLeod, superintendent of Eastpointe Community Schools; and Lawrence Rudolph, assistant superintendent of high schools, Detroit Public Schools Community District. All candidates hold doctorate degrees.

(On Wednesday night, April 28, after the Grosse Pointe News went to press, the school board picked Bigelow and Dean as the two remaining finalists.)

Dean also is a finalist for superintendent in Anchor Bay Schools. Anchor Bay did not have any women or candidates from outside southeast Michigan among its semifinalists.

"I was a little surprised by the results we received," said board member Ahmed Ismail, who stressed he was speaking for himself, not the board. "I think the board is going to have to do some soul searching on this one."

Board President Joseph Herd said the search firm, Schools Exec Connect from Oak Park, Ill., was instructed to conduct a national search and seek a diverse array of candidates. There was one woman who applied who would certainly have been a semifinalist, Herd said, but she withdrew her name.

"The search firm reached out to many women and minorities as possible candidates,"

board Vice President Margaret Weertz said in an email. "We cannot interview candidates if they don't apply."

About 70 percent of Grosse Pointe's teachers are women, said Chris Pratt, president of the Grosse Pointe Education Association.

"I think we need to hear from female candidates, from candidates that are representative of our district," Pratt said. "I think it was surprising that for a national search, there were no candidates from outside of Michigan."

As is typical in these searches, the school board is only told the names of the recommended candidates. The privacy of those who apply but are not semifinalists is protected so their reputation in their current school districts is not diminished.

"One of the disadvantages of these kind of searches is you don't get to see the candidates

they're not bringing forward," Ismail said. "Once their name is out, they're in trouble with their current school district."

The lack of women and candidates from out of state did not surprise Jay Bennett, assistant director of search services for the Michigan Association of School Boards.

"The fact is, the majority of candidates who apply for these positions are male," Bennett said.

He added Michigan is not a particularly attractive relocation destination for many candidates.

"Michigan funds schools differently," Bennett said. Michigan primarily funds schools on a per-pupil basis. "If you're familiar with how Michigan funds schools, you may not be interested."

Also, Michigan's retirement system is not as good as in many other states, Bennett said.

The majority of out-of-state candidates for simi-

lar positions have been people who either were from Michigan or had family or other ties to Michigan, Bennett said.

"They're coming back home," he said.

The board was surprised by the lack of women and out-of-state candidates, board member David Brumbaugh said.

"We picked a national firm with the explicit intent of trying to recruit candidates from across the U.S. that would come from diverse backgrounds," he said.

"We did push them to try to get as diverse a candidate pool as possible," Brumbaugh said. "The candidates that we pursued for that either weren't able to relocate at this time or weren't ready for other reasons."

One person who isn't buying the lack of diverse candidates is Carrie Pryor of the City of Grosse Pointe, who is the managing director of the

search firm Greenwich Harbor Partners. Pryor said she has done more than 800 employee searches.

"In the last few years, I would never think of putting an all-male slate forward for any search project that we were working on," Pryor said.

"I know it's very tough given the pressures school districts are facing with COVID-related issues and distance learning, but I think Grosse Pointe's a very attractive school district for the right person and I believe they could get a more diverse slate of candidates," Pryor said. "I'm happy to provide any informal help that they might need on the project."

The search firm, School Exec Connect, was paid a \$23,500 consulting fee and could be reimbursed for expenses up to \$7,500, although expenses are not expected to reach that maximum.

Ismail elected to WCASB board

Grosse Pointe Woods resident Ahmed Ismail recently was elected to serve on the Board of Trustees of the Wayne County Association of School Boards, or WCASB.

The purpose of WCASB is to improve the services rendered by the 33 school districts of Wayne County through cooperative efforts, such as discussion of common problems, research activities, coordination of legislative activities and the fostering of a greater civic and school consciousness and board member education.

"I am extremely honored to have been elected to the WCASB Board of Trustees," Ismail said. "My work with them dur-



Ahmed Ismail

ing my prior tenure on our school board putting together educational programs for school board members throughout Wayne County was some of the most rewarding work I have done in public education. We have a great Board of Trustees. I am confident that pandemic or no pandemic, we will be able to be a

great resource for every school board member in Wayne County."

Charles Kaminski, president of WCASB, said he is excited to have Ismail back on the Board of Trustees.

"Ahmed's wealth of knowledge in school district governance and operation, as well as his real-world knowledge of the construction and bonding process, offers all of our board members an incredible resource. His willingness to help out members throughout the county with their questions and concerns makes him a go-to resource for our member districts," Kaminski said.

Ismail's term as a member of the WCASB Board of Trustees expires in 2024.

North junior earns prestigious Madame Curie Award

Grosse Pointe North High School junior Ana Todesco recently was awarded the Society of Women Engineers Madame Curie Award.

Her counselor, Kimberly Deptula, nominated her for the award, which goes to a student with outstanding abilities in science and math.

"It's an honor to get the award," said Todesco, a Grosse Pointe Woods resident.

"I feel really good about it."

She said she's always gravitated to science and math.



Ana Todesco

"I think it's because with science, you can better understand the world through experiments, creating your own hypothesis and such," Todesco said. "And with math, I've always been pretty good with math. Numbers have always been easy for me; getting a definitive answer has always been great."

She has a 4.367 grade-point average and has taken six AP classes. She plans to pursue either biomedical engineering or premed in college.

— Peggy Walsh-Sarnecki

Candidate resumes, interviews available online

The Grosse Pointe Public Schools System has posted the resumes of the two finalists for superintendent on its website.

The website also

includes viewable recordings of the two candidates' interviews.

The finalists are Jon Dean, assistant superintendent of Grosse Pointe schools, and Stephen

Bigelow, superintendent of Bay City Public Schools.

The interviews and resumes are available at gpschools.org under Superintendent Search.

FINALISTS:

Continued from page 1A

followed by another interview at 6 p.m. at Brownell.

On May 12, it will be Dean's turn. The format is the same: a school tour with two board members in the morning, a public meet and greet at Brownell from

3:30 to 5 p.m. and his interview there at 6 p.m. Final deliberations begin at 7 p.m. at Brownell.

Interviews, the meet and greet and the deliberations are open to the public. Social distancing and masks will be required. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services limits participation to no more than 300 people.

The interviews will be televised and posted on the district's website after both interviews are completed.

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Foundation announces more than \$35K in spring grants

The Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education recently announced more than \$35,000 in grants for programs and initiatives within the Grosse Pointe Public School System for spring 2021. GPFPE Vice President Christie Scoggin presented the grants to the GPPSS Board of Education at its April 26 meeting.

Grant recipients are as follows:

- ◆ Early Childhood Hands-On (E.C.H.O.) Library and Resource Center (preschool) Trombly Early Childhood Center (\$2,000)
- ◆ Engaging Preschoolers in Movement (preschool) Barnes (\$2,319)
- ◆ Moving to the Beat of My Own Drum (Y5-grade 4) Defer (\$2,775)
- ◆ Richard Elementary Playground Replacement (Y5-grade 4) Richard (\$10,000)
- ◆ Inchy's Bookworm Vending Machine (grade 5) Parcels (\$5,050)
- ◆ Harmony Directors to Help Retrain Ensemble Skills (grades 5-12) Brownell, Pierce, Parcels, South and North (\$4,775)
- ◆ iPad Cart and 20 iPads (grades 9-10) South (\$8,359)
- ◆ Peer to Peer Program Funds (grades 9-12) North (\$500)

Scoggin also announced a new initiative for the GPFPE — funding grants focused on social emotional encouragement and development, or SEED. The GPFPE will launch fundraising for this specific category of grants at its upcoming benefit June 3, and students, teachers and parents will be able to apply for grants year-round for programs that support the social and emotional health of students and teachers in the district.



COURTESY PHOTO

Pictured front row, from left, are Kathy Fisk, GPFPE board member and grants committee co-chair; Courtney Kliman, Defer Elementary School; Karen Gallagher, Parcels Middle School; Erika Stout-Kirck, Parcels; and Christie Scoggin, GPFPE vice president and grants committee co-chair. Pictured back row, from left, are Tom Torrento, Parcels and Grosse Pointe North High School; Richard Elementary School Principal John Kernan; and Nicholas Symonette Jr., Parcels.

“After a year-plus of pandemic-related issues and beyond, the GPFPE feels there is a real need to directly support programs that fit the SEED profile,” Scoggin said. “The Peer to Peer program, awarded a grant this spring, is a great example of an initiative that would fall into this category and we look forward to supporting existing mental health programs, as well as aiding in the development of new ideas to support our school community in this essential way.”

More information on the grant recipients is below. The first four grants were funded through the Lois J. Warden Fund, established to support early learner programs.

◆ **E.C.H.O. Library and Resource Center at Trombly Early Childhood Center (\$2,000)**

This grant partners with the district and many other resources in helping fund learning supplies for preschool teachers and young families to use at Trombly. E.C.H.O. Library and Resource

Center will become the district's first early childhood resource center and will provide a safe and nurturing environment for ages 2.5 to 5 to explore and learn using hands-on materials, manipulatives and age-appropriate books.

Submitted by *Betina Davis and Cate Williams*

◆ **Engaging Preschoolers in Movement at Barnes (\$2,319)**

This grant will provide hands-on materials to promote movement and help preschoolers with motor skills. Research indicates that 80 percent of all children entering kindergarten will present with delays in motor skill development. In this grant, occupational therapy equipment like stepping stones and balance beams will entice movement and balance, which in turn accelerates cognitive and social/emotional development.

Submitted by *Kelly Vess, Victoria Armenio, and Michelle Satler*

◆ **Moving to the Beat of My Own Drum at Defer (\$2,775)**

This grant will benefit all of the students at Defer Elementary as a result of their creative PE teacher and her idea to keep the kids physically active, getting their heart rates up while keeping a rhythmic beat. The DrumFIT program provided by this grant gives each student during PE class a fitness ball, a stand and two drumsticks to follow the teacher's lead and move to the beat of the different songs at appropriate age levels.

Submitted by *Courtney Kliman*

◆ **Richard Elementary Playground Replacement at Richard (\$10,000)**

The GPFPE joins many businesses and donors committed to replacing and updating the 26-year-old playground equipment at the school. The funds gifted here will aid in the purchase of a variety of playground equipment used for recess, extracurricular supplies and to give the community a place to interact, play, build cooperative skills and spend time with each other.

Submitted by *Dr. John*

Kernan

◆ **Inchy's Bookworm Vending Machine at Parcels (\$5,050)**

This grant funds a vending machine that will hold 150 grade-appropriate books that will be available to students earning credits for good work and behavior. A creative incentive program, tying in with the Parcels PBIS, reading goals and Leader In Me, will help build excitement and enthusiasm for reading. The teachers requesting this grant hope the vending machine program can eventually be run by the students, adding real-life experiences in running a business, economics and fundraising to their learned skill sets.

Submitted by *Karen Gallagher, Kim Hool, Erica Stout-Kirck, Christine Porada and Nicholas Symonette*

◆ **Harmony Directors to Help Retrain Ensemble Skills at Brownell, Pierce, Parcels, South and North (\$4,775)**

Connecting with existing classroom technology, this grant will provide musical instrumental instruction at the middle and high school level to better teach tone, intonation, rhythm and ensemble blend with the use of Yamaha Harmony Directors. As instrumental students return to face-to-face ensemble instruction, this technology will facilitate working together, building confidence and performing at a high level for years to come.

Submitted by *Tom Torrento*

◆ **iPad Cart and 20 iPads at South (\$8,359)**

This technology grant coordinates with the Next Generation Science Standards, approved by GPPSS last year. The teacher requesting iPads for her high school science students envisions

them using multiple free apps and programs to interact and manipulate simulations, explore labs and document their work through images and videos. This inquiry-based instruction will use technology to allow students to have a new experience with science and engineering practices.

Submitted by *Claire Sobolak*

◆ **Peer to Peer Program Funds at North (\$500)**

As cited on a University of Michigan website, “The Peer to Peer program was built on the premise that many mental health disorders first present themselves during adolescence, and teens are more likely to listen to other teens than well-meaning adults.” Funding this grant will allow North's mental health team to expand outreach, raise awareness, reduce stigma and promote social/emotional health at North. Led by 24 students, this mentoring program will bring in pertinent speakers to address good emotional health, engage the student population through social media and interaction, and promote the value of counseling and/or help available to students.

Submitted by *Kelly Osborne*

“The GPFPE grant cycle allows us to address areas of need and interest throughout the public-school system,” said Bob Bury, GPFPE board president. “Despite the challenges over the past year, the GPFPE is pleased to continue to be able to provide robust support to our school system. We are grateful for the community's continued support of the GPFPE, so that we can continue to fund programs and initiatives that support our students, despite these challenging times.”

PRIDE OF THE POINTES

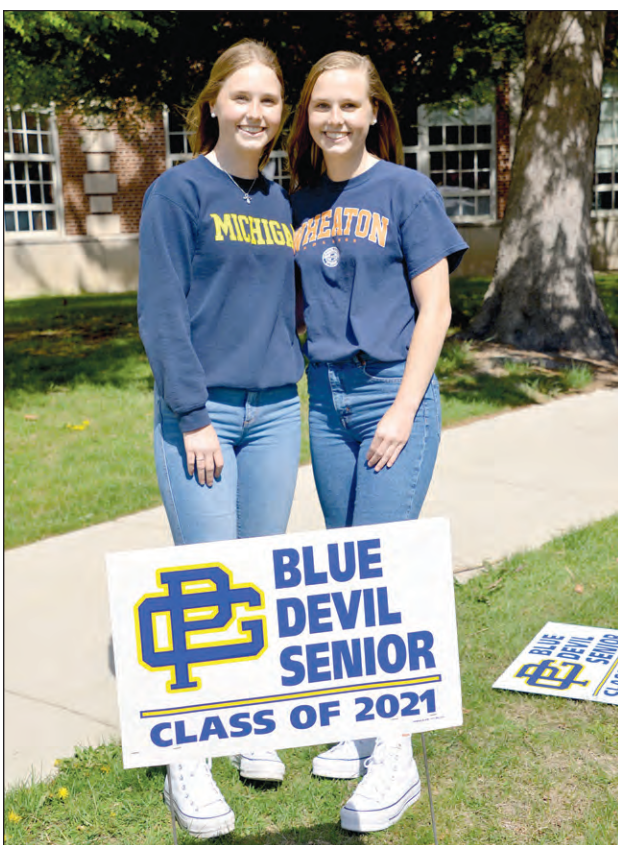


Anna Johnson

Anna Rose Johnson of Grosse Pointe Park earned the prestigious Martha Bell Sanders Excellence Scholarship offered by The Cleveland Institute of Music and will begin her journey toward a Bachelor of Music degree in flute performance this fall.



Gavin Hamilton of Grosse Pointe Park, a sophomore studying at Iowa State University's College of Engineering, ranked among the top 2 percent of students at the college.



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Grosse Pointe South seniors Claire Beardslee is going to Michigan and Kate Beardslee is going to Wheaton.



School spirit

National College Decision Day for high school seniors is May 1, a day they make public their decision of the college they'll attend in the fall. Part of a long-standing tradition, seniors wear the T-shirt or sweatshirt of the school where they plan to spend the next four years or more. Grosse Pointe South seniors Nina Simon is going to Kings College London; Daphne Irby, Michigan State University; Katie Bennert, University of Michigan; Jacquelyn Wang, Cornell.

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Fashion-forward boutique opens in The Village

By Whitney McDonald
Staff Writer

Mother-daughter duo Mary and Madeleine Mancus have always dreamed of opening their own clothing store together.

After a few hiccups with a potential partner and the loss of the perfect space, the pair decided not to force it, but wait for the right moment.

The beginning of March, everything started falling into place and Glitter & Scotch was born.

The original storefront they fell in love with was available yet again and they jumped at the opportunity.

"This space just felt right," Madeleine Mancus said.

Glitter & Scotch

offers women's apparel, accessories, sassy gifts and a touch of men's items.

Madeleine Mancus said, "Coming into the store will be like walking into your best friend's closet," which their friends have done with them over the years — shared.

The mission of the store is to appeal to a range of ages, sizes and styles that look good on anyone.

"It's a place where everyone can shop," Mary Mancus said.

The retail gene runs in their family and "We both got bit by the bug," she added.

They both studied fashion in college and worked retail over the years.

Along with roots in retail, they both have

deep roots in Grosse Pointe.

Mary Mancus grew up in Grosse Pointe and graduated from Grosse Pointe South High School. She eventually raised her children, who also attended South, in the community.

"We are loyal to the community," Mary Mancus said.

Glitter & Scotch adds diversity to The Village and offers a new place locals can shop and help the community flourish.

To start, the business will remain a family affair with mother-daughter duo solely working retail.

They also hired Mary's other daughter, Caroline Mancus, a student at Western Michigan University, to be their marketing intern this summer.

When the family matriarch shared what it's like to go into business with her daughter, fighting back tears, she said, "We are really fortunate."

Madeleine Mancus added, "It's like going into business with your best friend."

They were encouraged by friends and family to open a store for several years and are looking forward to welcoming the Grosse Pointe community into Glitter & Scotch.

The store officially opened to the public Saturday, May 1. Store hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday; the business is closed Mondays.

Glitter & Scotch is located in The Village at 16906 Kercheval.



COURTESY PHOTO

Mary and Madeleine Mancus at the Dallas Market Center buying inventory for Glitter & Scotch.

The Bricks Pizzeria adds more outdoor seating

By Whitney McDonald
Staff Writer

The Bricks Pizzeria is in the final stages of its outdoor deck and patio expansion.

The Grosse Pointe Park restaurant is adding an awning to its existing patio complete with side coverage and permanent heating.

"It's going to allow us to seat customers outside a lot longer throughout the year," Executive Chef Trenton Chamberlain said.

The project also includes a brand new deck across the sidewalk, which offers 20 to 24 additional seats.

The deck consists of hexagon picnic tables and umbrellas for customers



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

The Bricks Pizzeria recently expanded its outdoor deck and patio.

to enjoy the full services of the restaurant outside.

During the past year, patio extensions were approved throughout the

city to accommodate outdoor dining options amid the pandemic.

Chamberlain said the outdoor expansion was

inspired by restaurants in Italy he visited prior to the pandemic.

He also said that along with approval from the

city, the space for the project was available because two parking spots outside the restaurant no longer were in use

because of the installation of a fire hydrant.

Chamberlain said the business is "in the home-stretch" of completing the buildout. Tables are arriving and he expects everything to be done in the next two to four weeks.

The Bricks Pizzeria offers a fresh menu with everything in house made from scratch.

"We are farm to pizza," Chamberlain said.

Chamberlain is excited to offer more outdoor seating, especially as the summer months get closer.

Reservations may be made on Resy or at thebricksizzeria.com

The Bricks Pizzeria is located at 15201 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Park.

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City to update master plan

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — As the City continues to work toward its goal of becoming a Redevelopment Ready Community certified under the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, a significant upcoming step will consist of a five-year review and update of its master plan.

With the process expected to take six months to a year once it commences, city council approved up to \$25,000 for the project to be added into planning funds for the 2021-22 fiscal year budget, during the meeting Monday, April 19.

"In my review of the master plan, I think what really works about it is that it's written very broadly," City Planner Julie Connochie said. "A lot of plans that I've seen, they get really, really specific and I think that's where you need to update your master plan really rigorously every five years. In my view, we're leaving kind of the bones of the master plan in place and then updating some of the finer details as we need to, but still trying to keep that long vehi-

cle."

At a minimum, the draft amendments will address updating the land use policies and creating a zoning plan; identifying priority redevelopment area strategies; revising the plan to meet economic development strategy requirements of the MEDC; and removing any goals, objectives or projects that have been completed since the last master plan, then adding to or modifying these lists based on public engagement.

"The master plan is still really reflective of the community and is written broadly enough that we can update these other parts of the plan and still be in line with the overall vision," Connochie said.

Council also strongly expressed the need for public participation and engagement once the process begins, ensuring the master plan vision is aligned with the current attitudes of residents and businesses.

With the Michigan Planning Enabling Act requiring municipalities to at least review and reaffirm master plans every five years, Connochie said, the City's master plan is due for an update.

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Downsized

Couple create miniature rooms in honor of childhood home

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Charles D. K. Brown and Mary L. Brown built their house on Sunningdale in Grosse Pointe Woods in early 1952. They raised five children in the home, which served as the backdrop for many fond memories.

The Brown family patriarch passed away in 2010, followed by his wife in 2017, and their children were left with no choice but to sell the house in which they spent their childhood.

Since the sale, John F.

K. Brown and his wife, Lisa, have figured out a way for the home of their past to play a role in their future.

“When my mother-in-law passed away, my sisters-in-law had a hard time letting go of everything, primarily the house,” Lisa Brown said. “It was so hard. They just couldn’t let it go. They felt they were letting go of a part of their life.”

“My parents built that house and had been there 64 years when my mom died,” John Brown added. “Lisa came up with an idea that would help them get closure.”

A little brainstorming led the Grosse Pointe Park residents to a creative solution.

“Maybe it was a God thing, but it came to me,” Lisa Brown said. “Why don’t we create a miniature version of one of the rooms?”

The project was inspired by Narcissa Niblack Thorne’s Thorne Rooms at the Art Institute of Chicago.

“She had the idea to create these tiny rooms,” Lisa Brown said. “That made a big impact on me when I was a kid.”

The first room was created for John Brown’s sister, Anne Detamore.

“The focal point was the family room, which we called the activities room,” he explained.

Working at 1:12 scale, Lisa Brown began making miniature furniture, “pine paneling” for the walls, “flagstones” to surround the fireplace and other features. John Brown built the walls and structured the room, as well as installed electrical wiring. It took them a couple months from start to finish, they said.

Presenting the 24-inch wide by 15-inch deep by 9-inch high room to Detamore in her East Grand Rapids home was emotional for all.

“There were a lot of tears,” Lisa Brown said.

It was such a hit, the Browns decided to make a miniature kitchen for another sister, Kathryn Effinger. This one measured 26 by 17 by 11 inches.

“As our mom got older, I remember going to her house to see her and my younger sister would be sitting at the kitchen table with Mom having tea,” John Brown said. “That one took a couple months, too. She was flabbergasted.”

Of course, a third sister couldn’t be left out, so the Browns constructed



COURTESY PHOTOS

The replica sun porch measures 16.5 inches wide, 15.5 inches deep and 14.5 inches high.

a 20-by-24-by-12-inch replica living room for Martha Barlow.

“There was a lot of precision in that,” John Brown said.

Added Lisa Brown, “The last one definitely looks better than the first one.”

Since the gifts were presented, the Browns also decided to make themselves a room to remember: the sun porch, measuring 16.5 by 15.5 by 14.5 inches.

Online tutorials helped inspire Lisa Brown’s portion of the projects.

“If I can see someone do it, I can copy it,” she said. “But there was a lot of trial and error. A lot of tiny chairs were thrown in the trash.”

Added John Brown, “Lisa would go to JoAnn’s and buy fabric similar to what was on my parents’ chairs. The organ is made of little blocks of wood. For the flagstone around the fireplace, she used cork. We were trying to find the right materials for what we were trying to do. She made little books and stacks of newspapers — mini Grosse Pointe Newses.”

While some pieces of furniture came from X-acto kits, Lisa Brown used card stock, foam core, paper, wood, polymer clay, cork — “different materials and different techniques,” she said — to make her contributions. While she painted the lamps, her husband made sure they were operational. Some of them run on batteries, but John Brown, a retired radiologist who currently helps run the family business, New Method Steel Stamps, also wired each room so some lamps are electric.

“I made a lot of trips to the craft store,” Lisa Brown said. “I wanted to find if I could mimic what we would see.”

Though the Browns used some photos, they mostly relied on their memories to create the miniatures.

“We remember when



The kitchen features Kathryn Effinger’s dog hungrily eyeing a turkey.



The living room was created for Brown’s sister Martha Barlow.



The activities room was the first miniature the Browns built, for Anne Detamore.

we were there, what we saw, and were able to bring elements into it to make it homey,” Lisa Brown said. “John’s dad was an artist, so we added a sketch book. ... I wanted to make each room seem like someone was just in there, so it’s not sterile.”

“My mom loved doing crossword puzzles when she was in her chair,” John Brown added. “Lisa made reproductions of them. My dad, when we were younger, made bronze faces of us kids ... and put them on the fireplace, attached to the wall. Lisa made those and affixed them to the wall. Lisa made curtains, I made doors. There was lots of planning, changing and fixing.”

Other personal touches, including pets, may be found throughout the rooms. Detamore’s family room

See MINIS, page 6B



COURTESY PHOTOS

John F. K. Brown and his wife, Lisa.



The sun porch the Browns created for their home.



Another angle of the living room.

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Celebrating a century

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Grosse Pointe Farms resident Jean Hodges stepped onto her driveway last Friday to a big surprise.

A parade of friends and family — led by a Farms fire truck — drove by her house in honor of her 100th birthday April 30.

Friend and neighbor Ruth Ellen Mayhall organized the effort.

“Every one of us love and respect that lady,” Mayhall said. “She’s a very special human being. ... She’s very inquisitive and interesting and always interested in other people.”

“It was a surprise,” Hodges said. “It was very nice. ... There was a fire truck leading and one in



A Grosse Pointe Farms fire truck leads the parade while Jean Hodges and her daughter, Judy Hodges, wait in anticipation.

the rear. It was very exciting. I just sat out on the driveway and waved to them all. My caregivers were there. It was fun to have all of that excitement.”

Added Mayhall, “When

that siren went off and that truck went by, you should have seen her face.”

Hodges and Mayhall are members of the Grosse Pointe Shores Garden Club. Many of its

members joined the parade.

“They’re a lovely group of ladies,” Hodges said. “It was certainly nice to have a parade.”

Some of Hodges’ children and grandchildren participated, as did her neighbors on Barclay. Even a few of her sorority sisters showed up.

“It was lovely because I live on a street that is not a main street,” Hodges said. “The people in the cars were able to go around the block and back.”

Thirteen cars were part of the effort.

Hodges moved to Grosse Pointe in 1950, after her husband, Ted, completed four years of service with the U.S. Army. Both east siders, they grew up not far from the Pointes, in Indian Village.

The couple had four children; seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Aside from family, another of Hodges’ great loves is baseball.

“I’ve always loved the Tigers and I still follow them,” she said. “The other thing I love and follow is Michigan State.”

Hodges graduated from MSU in 1943, with a Master of Science degree in medical tech-



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Jean Hodges celebrated her 100th birthday in a big way.

nology.

She said she owes her longevity to genetics.

“I have no secret,” she said. “I just have gone along. I have been very fortunate in that I was the eldest of four children and I am the only one that has survived. I guess I’m just lucky, but I had a grandfather who lived to

be 94. I’m taking after him.”

She also credits her “very, very happy marriage and wonderful family” to her centenarian status.

“I also have felt lucky to have some wonderful caregivers these last few years,” she added. “And I love living on Barclay.”



Hodges is all smiles surrounded by her Grosse Pointe Shores Garden Club friends.



Jean Hodges and her children, from left, Judy Hodges, Ted Hodges, Betsy Hodges and George Hodges.



Garden club members, friends and family filtered by in their cars to wish Hodges a happy 100th birthday.



Hodges waves at the Grosse Pointe Farms fire truck as it passed her by during the parade.



FACEBOOK LIVE Q&A!

Ask the Therapist:
Every Wednesday from 1:30-2:00 PM
Ramy Yacoub, Administrator from Sphinx Home Care

Q. How do I know if my loved one needs home care?
My mother has declined drastically during the pandemic at home, what now?
Does someone need to fall in order to qualify for physical and occupational therapy?

Coffee Break Chat with Rachel:
Every Thursday from 1:30-2:00 PM
Rachel Nagorsen, Sales and Marketing Manager at Lakeshore Senior Living


Q. How do I know when it is time to move my loved one from their home?
Senior Living is so expensive, why would I move them from a paid off house?
My father refuses to move even though I know it is needed, what can I do?



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Woods resident, Red Wings superfan, seeks votes

By Mike Adzima
Staff Writer

Some might know him as Grosse Pointe Woods resident Mark Decker, but more may know him as Red Wings superfan “Stan Ley Cup.” Since 1994, Decker has been cheering on the Red Wings in his customized goalie mask and jersey bearing the nickname and now he has a shot at some national recognition for his fandom.



Mark Decker is in the running for Upper Deck’s NHL MVP contest to be crowned one of hockey’s best superfans.

Decker currently is in the running for Upper Deck’s NHL MVP (Most Valuable Person) contest to be crowned one of hockey’s best superfans and receive his very own trading card. With the hockey community around the country and world now recognizing Decker’s fandom, the character of Stan Ley Cup has come a long way from its humble beginnings in Grosse Pointe.

“We were at Marge’s Bar actually the first time I ever wore this and ABC News happened to be in there filming a thing,” Decker said. “One thing led to another and we did some promo for them and ESPN picked up on it after that. It was probably like an hour decision. The very first mask was a little plastic mask with stuff we wrote on it and probably just cost a couple bucks. The rest was just hockey equipment and my dad made this fake Stanley Cup.”

During the Red Wings’ Stanley Cup championship runs in the late 1990s and early 2000s, the legend of Stan Ley Cup continued to grow. Decker helped open CBC’s Hockey Night in Canada before game four of the 1997 Stanley Cup Finals and also was featured on NHL.com, helping Stan Ley Cup become the face of Wings fans everywhere.

“They identified this character as the Mayor of Hockeytown,” Decker said, “... but the big thing was nobody really knows who it was. ... Even some of my neighbors didn’t know.”

Through his decades of fandom and being a Red Wings season ticketholder, Decker also has used his hockey community connections to help make memories for other fans. A former employee of Ascension Health, Decker also served as chairman of the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Michigan, helping other hockey superfans meet their heroes.

“I used to be very involved with the players and coaches, taking kids down to the locker room very incognito, no media or anything, just an in for them to meet players,” Decker said.

Decker currently is one of five Red Wings fans in the running to be the Upper Deck MVP. Being recognized as a superfan and getting his own trading card would help Decker continue spreading his love of hockey to others.

“It’s just a chance to promote some of the charities I’ve been involved with and the people I’ve helped over the years, like Make-A-Wish, Autism Society,



COURTESY PHOTOS

Mark Decker, aka “Stan Ley Cup,” poses in his superfan attire, complete with replica Stanley Cup and personalized license plate.

Special Olympics,” he said. “All those places are areas I feel very strongly about in my heart, because these people need a lot of help. And it’s a chance to pump up the Detroit Red Wings, because they need some help right now too.” To learn more about the contest and how to vote for Stan Ley Cup, visit upperdeck.com/mymvp.

AREA ACTIVITIES

Lakeshore

Lakeshore Senior Living hosts the Facebook Live Q&A, “Ask the Therapist,” with Ramy Yacoub of Sphinx Home Care, from 1:30 to 2 p.m. Wednesdays, and “Coffee Break Chat with Rachel,” with Sales and Marketing Manager Rachel Nagorsen, 1:30 to 2 p.m. Thursdays. For more information, call (586) 218-6228.

Blood drives

The American Red Cross hosts the following blood drives:
◆ 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 8, Crosspointe Christian Church, 21336 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.
◆ 1:30 to 7:15 p.m. Wednesday, May 12, Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church, 211 Moross, Grosse Pointe Farms.
Register at redcross.blood.org.

Men’s Club

The Grosse Pointe Men’s Club hosts its next meeting at 11 a.m. Tuesday, May 11, at The ARK at St. Ambrose Catholic Church, 15020 Hampton, Grosse Pointe Park. Scotch expert Elliot McFarlane speaks via Zoom.
The Grosse Pointe Men’s Club hosts a meeting at 11 a.m. Tuesday, May 25, with Dan Aitken of Aitken & Ormond Insurance. He will discuss changes in no-fault auto insurance.

Gilda’s Club Lake House

The Gilda’s Club Lake House location, 23500 Pare, St. Clair Shores, hosts the following vir-

tual programs:

- ◆ 5:30 p.m. Monday, May 10, Family Bereavement.
 - ◆ 4 p.m. Tuesday, May 11, Gentle Mat Yoga.
 - ◆ 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 12, Breast Group.
 - ◆ 6 p.m. Wednesday, May 12, Chair Yoga.
 - ◆ 6 p.m. Thursday, May 13, Pancreatic Cancer Support Group.
- Register at gildasclubdetroit.org/events/calendar.

The Helm

The Helm at the Boll Life Center, 158 Ridge, Grosse Pointe Farms, offers the following programs.
◆ Powerful Tools for Caregivers, 1 to 3:30 p.m. Wednesdays, May 12 to June 16, with Margaret Cooper and Allie Short.
◆ The ABCs of CBD, 1 to 2 p.m. Monday, May 17, with facilitator Kathy

Housey.

- ◆ BBQ on the Lawn, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, May 21. Cost is \$12 for members, \$18 for non-members.
- ◆ Intergenerational Garden, begins Saturday, May 29. This program is facilitated by the Grosse Pointe Garden Center.
- ◆ Outdoor lawn games, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays. Corn hole, croquet and ring toss, among others, are free for members to play.
- ◆ 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 non-members. 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 disabled may schedule a ride for shopping or appointments. Call (313) 343-2580.

Library

The Grosse Pointe Public Library hosts the following virtual programs:
◆ Read, Rhyme & Play on Zoom, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Tuesdays.
◆ Book and Wine Pairing, 7 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, May 19.
◆ Dealing with Pandemic Stress, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Thursday, May 20.
◆ Nonfiction Book Club, 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday, May 20.
Register on grossepointelibrary.org or call (313) 640-4775.

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.

Toastmasters

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



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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.

Androniky C. Pappas

Androniky C. Pappas passed away Thursday, April 8, 2021, at her home in St. Clair Shores. Born in Detroit to Christos and Panagiota Pappas, she was 91.

A graduate of Southeastern High School, Androniky was a Wayne County records clerk.

She is survived by her sisters, Constantia Mentis

and Olympia Koutsoudas. She was predeceased by her brother, Theophanis.

A funeral service will be held at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, May 6, at Assumption Greek Orthodox Church, 21800 Marter, St. Clair Shores. Visitation begins at 9:30 a.m. Interment will take place at Forest Lawn Cemetery in Detroit.

Memorial contributions may be made to Assumption Greek Orthodox Church, 21800

Marter Rd., St. Clair Shores, MI 48080; or goassumption.org.

William M. Collins, D.D.S.

Grosse Pointe Woods resident William Matthew Collins, 86, passed away Sunday, May 2, 2021.

William was the beloved husband of D. Jeanne; loving father of the late William Michael

Collins and Dr. Elizabeth Ann Collins; grandfather of William Isaac Collins; step-grandfather of Jacqueline Sloan; father-in-law of Melissa W. Collins; brother of Norma J. Kropf and Terrence P. Collins; and proud uncle of many nephews, nieces, great-grandnephews and great-nieces.

William served as a captain in the U.S. Army. He was a former faculty member at the University of Detroit School of Dentistry and University of Kentucky College of Allied Health and associate dean of health and human services at Macomb Community College.

A parishioner at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church, he was



Androniky C. Pappas



Dr. William M. Collins

a Knights of Columbus member, former cantor and usher. He also was a Cub Scout troop leader.

Visitation took place Wednesday, May 5, at A.H. Peters Funeral Home, Grosse Pointe Woods. A funeral Mass will be celebrated at noon Thursday, May 6, at Our

Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church, 467 Fairford, Grosse Pointe Woods.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church, membership.faithdirect.net; or The Helm, helmlife.org.

Henry Ford's Grub with Gratitude supports restaurants, celebrates healthcare workers

Henry Ford Health System has launched an appreciation and giveback program dubbed Grub with Gratitude that will support multiple restaurants across Michigan that have donated meals to its hospitals and facilities throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, while celebrating its team members for their heroic efforts caring for patients.

Henry Ford has purchased

500 \$50 gift cards from 25 restaurants that will randomly be awarded to its team members from a weekly drawing. The names of team members will be drawn to receive a gift card to one of the participating restaurants.

"We are eternally grateful to our team members who, despite exhaustion from the ongoing pandemic, continue to give their absolute all car-

ing for patients under conditions that we have never seen in our lifetime," said Bob Riney, Henry Ford's president of healthcare operations and chief operating officer. "This is also an opportunity to show our appreciation and support for our local restaurants who have generously donated food for our team members throughout the pandemic."

The participating restau-

rants from metro Detroit and the Jackson area are locally owned and operated and feature a variety of cuisine ranging from Italian and Polish to Middle Eastern and American. Henry Ford plans to expand Grub with Gratitude, adding additional restaurants in the future.

Gift card winners will be randomly selected from a drawing of Henry Ford team members who are nomi-

nated by a coworker or self-nominated. Grub with Gratitude kicks off May 7, and continues for at least 10 weeks.

Customers of the restaurants and the general public may donate to Grub with Gratitude at henryford.com/grubwithgratitude.

They also may show their support on social media using #GrubWithGratitude or @HenryFordHealthSystem.

Young Life Grosse Pointe spring fundraiser planned

Young Life Grosse Pointe will host its annual spring fundraiser at 6 p.m. Wednesday, May 12, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

"Live Life in Full Bloom," an outdoor, tented event, includes dinner and a silent auction, the proceeds from which support Young Life's operations and summer camp.

Individual tickets are \$75 for adults and include dinner. Sponsorship level tickets are \$5,000 for a table of 10, \$2,500 for a table of six and \$1,000 for a table of four. All sponsorship levels include dinner and drinks for the table, special sponsor gifts and recognition at the event and in the program. Parking is

free. Ages 21 and older are welcome.

For more information or reservations, call Mary Guevara at (313) 702-7893.

Young Life is a worldwide nondenominational organization for middle, high school and college students. Its staff and volunteers enter the world of kids, focusing on what matters to them — fun, adventure and friendship — and by doing so, talk to them about God and His love.

Founded in 1941, Young Life has more than 5,000 staff and 65,000 volunteers and is active in more than 100 countries, reaching more than two million kids annually. Young Life Grosse Pointe has served area middle school and high school students since 2002.



Nice catch!

City of Grosse Pointe resident Alex Blythe, a 16-year-old Grosse Pointe South student, shows off the smallmouth bass he landed from the Neff Park pier April 13.

Be sure to keep an eye out for next week's Grosse Pointe News, which features a special boating and fishing section, along with a fishing-related announcement for the community.

PHOTO COURTESY OF GEORGE "BUZZ" YOUNG

Grosse Pointe Congregational Church
(United Church of Christ)
www.gpccong.org
Sunday 10AM services are on Zoom Meeting online and phone
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4105997963>
415-762-9988, then enter 4105997963
AND with a Drive-in service in the parking lot

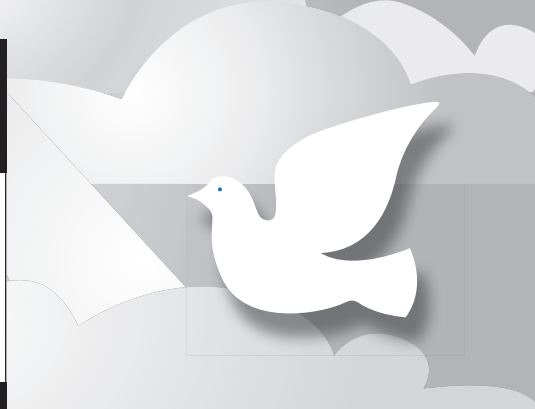
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9:30 am - Worship Service
9:30 am - Spark Church
11:00 am - Worship Service
Service on youtube at FEELC-GPW and on our facebook page First English Lutheran Church.
Rev. Sean Motley, Senior Pastor
~ "Go Make Disciples" ~
www.feelc.org

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](https://www.facebook.com/stambroseparish)

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9:30 a.m. - Bible Study
10:45 a.m. - Sunday School
MONDAY
7 p.m. - Worship Service
2nd & 4th Monday of the Month
WEDNESDAY
10 a.m. - Bible Study
Randy S. Boelter, Pastor
Building New Disciples - Building Stronger Ones

Worship Service



Young entrepreneur brings new service to Grosse Pointe

By Whitney McDonald
Staff Writer

Grosse Pointe native, entrepreneur and business student Charlie Ramsdell has had a passion for business his whole life.

He sold candy at school, started e-commerce stores and even dabbled in the NFT market.

His latest venture is EMtoGP, or Eastern Market to Grosse Pointe.

The delivery service brings Eastern Market goods to the front steps of Grosse Pointe homes.

He came up with the idea during this school year as a freshman at the University of Michigan.

His mother orders from specific vendors at Eastern Market and they deliver right to her home, but when Ramsdell looked further into deliv-

ery services at Eastern Market he found there wasn't a service that offered delivery for all vendors.

"I think that there is a need for a delivery service (at Eastern Market)," he said.

As a young entrepreneur, his biggest goal is to gain experience.

"I'm not afraid to fail," he said.

Ramsdell said if he fails, he takes it as a learning experience and moves on to the next idea.

He described the delivery service as not only a benefit for customers, but as an opportunity for vendors to get their products out into a new community.

For now, he is a one-man show, doing the shopping, delivery and running the website.

He hopes as the busi-

ness grows he will be able to take on new hires.

He said this service is a way to bring something new to Grosse Pointe, the community in which he grew up.

Ramsdell graduated from Grosse Pointe North High School in 2020, and is pursuing a business degree at the Ross College of Business at U of M.

He is working on creating social media pages for EMtoGP, but in the meantime orders may be placed at his website, emtoggp.com. Shopping and delivery take place Saturdays, beginning with the official kickoff of business Saturday, May 8.

For questions or ordering information, Ramsdell may be contacted by email at emtoggp@gmail.com or phone at (313) 212-4116.



COURTESY PHOTO

Charlie Ramsdell did his first EMtoGP dry run Saturday, May 1.

Woods Mother's Day weekend flower sale set

In honor of Mother's Day, the Woods Beautification Commission will host its annual flower sale onsite at the Robert E. Novitke Municipal Center from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, May 7, and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 8.

A variety of high-quality

Proven Winners annuals and perennials, hanging baskets, patio pots and compost from Indian Summer Recycling will be available for purchase. The commission partnered with Otherworld GP, a local nursery, to source the flowers.

Contactless pickup options were promoted for the event to allow participation for all during the pandemic. A preorder sale ran from April 8 to 21.

"The preorder sales were great," Commission Chairwoman Debbie McCarthy said. "It was

the first time since a number of years."

Cash, credit and check are acceptable forms of payment at the onsite event. All patrons visiting will be asked to abide by COVID-19 safety guidelines.

— Kate Vanderstelt



Students create, paint, donate flower pots to Wigs 4 Kids

Maggie's Wigs 4 Kids of Michigan, a local 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, provides wigs and support services at no charge to children ages 3 to 18 throughout the state of Michigan who are experiencing hair loss. Founded in 2003, the organization has served more than 4,800 children referred by hospitals, dermatologists, pediatricians and burn centers.

Wig recipients soon

will be able to enjoy a nature sanctuary at the nonprofit's new Wellness Center. A raised therapy garden is being installed this spring for them to grow and harvest their own vegetables and herbs, which will be cooked in a farm-to-table nutrition class.

To prepare for this new addition, Sharada Sharp, an art teacher at Lakeview High School in St. Clair Shores organized a group of student

volunteers who hand-painted flower pots for the garden spaces.

The pots will be delivered to Maggie's Wigs 4 Kids of Michigan at 12:30 p.m. Friday, May 7. When students arrive, they will plant flowers for the pots in honor of Mother's Day. Afterward, students will tour the state-of-the-art facility and see firsthand the programming Wigs 4 Kids offers to every Michigan child in need of its services.



Drive-thru shred day set

All Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods residents are invited to a drive-thru shred day at Grosse Pointe Shores Osius Park from 9:15 to 11:30 a.m. Saturday, May 8.

"We do advise people to come on the early side," said Helen Bai, Grosse Pointe Shores Beautification Committee chair. "We have a big shred truck set aside for us and two years ago, in 2019, we came very close to filling up that entire shred truck by the time 11:30 came around."

The cost is \$5 for each banker-size box or grocery-sized bag of documents to be shredded. Paper documents are

welcome, including mail, letters, canceled checks, bank statements and confidential information.

Not welcome are plastics, CDs, credit cards, floppy disks, cardboard, tissue paper or paper towels.

Masks are required for all participants.

The event will be hosted by the Grosse Pointe Shores Beautification Committee in conjunction with Keep America Beautiful's Great American Clean-Up, while volunteers from Grosse Pointe North's National Honors Society will unload the boxes and bags from cars.



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6B | FEATURES

Central branch on National Historic Register

The Grosse Pointe Public Library Central Branch is now listed on the National Register of Historic Places by the Department of the Interior. Built in 1953, the library is located at 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms.

“We are honored to receive this designation for our iconic Marcel Breuer-designed building,” said Library Director Jessica Keyser.

Born in Hungary in 1902, Breuer is a Bauhaus-trained architect and designer whose career spanned from the 1920s until his death in 1981.

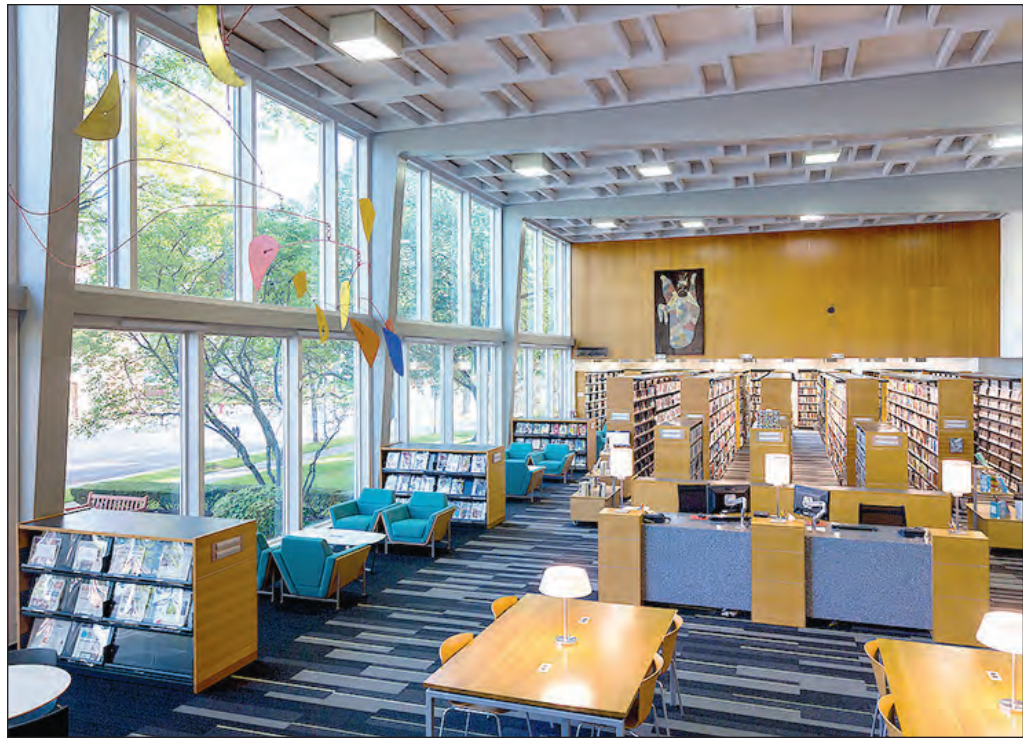
The Central branch is one of the architect’s first major public commissions in the United States and the only one of his buildings in the Detroit area. The library stands as an important piece of American architectural history and embodies Breuer’s design principles as an ambassador of Bauhaus ideologies and recognized master of the Modern

Movement.

Breuer designed only a handful of libraries in the U.S. Among them are the Atlanta Central Public Library in Georgia, Clarksburg Harrison Public Library in West Virginia and Hunter College Library in New York.

In 2013, the Grosse Pointe Public Library established the Breuer Preservation Fund to preserve and maintain the art and architectural integrity of the Central branch. Breuer and W. Hawkins Ferry selected the original art in the building, including the large Alexander Calder mobile and the Kandinsky inspired tapestry. Ferry was a resident of Grosse Pointe Shores and one of the original founders of the Detroit Institute of Arts. He was an important art collector and donor.

A dedication ceremony will be held this summer. Watch for more information on the library’s website, grossepointelibrary.org/.



Above, famed Bauhaus architect and designer, Marcel Breuer, designed the Grosse Pointe Public Library Central Branch in 1951. Left, the interior of the Central Branch still reflects the original Mid-Century Modern design and its Alexander Calder mobile.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE GPPL

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A night of healing and rejuvenation planned

Local “mompreneur” Betsy Styles is ushering in the coming new moon with a celebration of healing and rejuvenation.

The evening, offered “in the spirit of light and love,” features personally led meditation, art therapy, shopping and more.

Participants should bring a yoga mat, mask and open mind to the Cadieux Cafe, 4300 Cadieux, Detroit, from 5 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, May 11. Included with the price of admission are a beverage, painting materials, positive affirma-

tions and the opportunity to be with friends and like-minded community members.

Local vendors will offer hair braiding, custom woodworking pieces, framed art, jewelry, candles and more.

Tickets are \$40 and may be purchased at EventBrite. The first 15 people to purchase tickets will receive a gift from Elizabeth Maryland Apothecary.

Styles began her career at Lamia and Lamia Salon in Grosse Pointe Woods. She joined the staff at Collab Salon in Grosse Pointe Farms in 2019.

MINIS:

Continued from page 1B

includes her two dogs, while Effinger’s “slightly overweight golden retriever” is portrayed in the kitchen, staring at a turkey on a butcher block table. Barlow’s dog gets to enjoy a seat on the living room couch, “where he never would have been allowed,” John Brown said, noting their dogs also make an

appearance in the sun porch.

“It’s a fun pastime,” Lisa Brown said. “Given the last year we’ve had, it was a way to disconnect and forget about the stresses we’ve been going through.”

Next up, the Browns are contemplating creating a miniature room from their own home, though Detamore is pushing for a replica of her old bedroom and John Brown is contem-

plating a miniature version of the foyer and staircase from his parents’ house.

The project was so much fun and such a hit with family members, the Browns said they’d consider commission work.

“We thought it may be a good venture to try,” John Brown said. “It would help keep the creative mind going and gives us a project to work on together.”

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Exhibits showcase new, established artists

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

“If heaven would only grant me 10 more years, I might still become a great artist.”

These were the words of Japanese master artist Hokusai, spoken on his deathbed at age 88. Fans of the painter and printmaker’s work believe he was a genius since childhood, but he was convinced nothing he created before age 70 was any good.

Creations from both ends of the spectrum — dozens of young artists with the Grosse Pointe Artists Association’s Promising Artists program and the works of 11 established artists in the Grosse Pointe News’ “The Finer Pointes” art contest — grace The War



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE GPAA

“Walking in Someone Else’s Shoes” by student artist Sarah Riashi

Memorial, now through June 3.

Thirty-six students submitted 68 pieces to the fifth annual Promising Artists exhibition. Young artists hail from Grosse Pointe North, Grosse Pointe

South, University Liggett, Regina and Cass Technical high schools, among others. One budding artist attends school in Indiana.

“We did it different this year,” GPAA President Karen Pope said. “We opened it up to students from area high schools who have participated in Promising Artists exhibitions in the past, because so many of them are going to school from home now, so (we included) even college kids. ... It’s a real celebration of young talent.”

The Promising Artists got creative with their entries, which include a pair of Monet-inspired water lily-painted sneakers, a series of land-

scapes painted on ceiling fan blades and mosaic and glass panels.

“We have a great variety,” Pope said. “Their approach to things is really great.”

“These are very difficult times,” she added. “The artwork, in some instances, the young artists seem to be working through some complicated emotions. Art is a real vehicle for people to work through their emotions. It’s always exciting to see, but it’s also clear what a wonderful tool it is to see people express themselves, especially in times like this.”

The Promising Artists exhibition was juried by Carol Morisseau, who retired from teaching art at Cass Tech.

“While she was an art teacher, Scholastic magazine named her one of the best in the country,” Pope said. “Now she has a studio at the Scarab Club. She’s a teacher, but an artist as well. She’s so generous with her time and enthusiasm for the young artist. It takes a special person to nurture young artists and she’s been fantastic.”

The Promising Artists exhibition will be displayed in the GPAA’s gal-



“The Journey of Ideas” by student artist Victoria Wheeler

ery at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, through June 3. Its run corresponds with an exhibition featuring the 11 finalists of “The Finer Pointes” art contest.

Hours for both exhibitions are 2 to 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

“The Finer Pointes,” in

its first year, welcomed established artists from Grosse Pointe, Harper Woods and St. Clair Shores to submit their work. Of the 30 hopefuls, 11 were voted into the top spots and last week, their final entries were delivered to The

See EXHIBITS, page 8C



“Fast Life” by student artist Bryan Wilson

ASK THE EXPERTS By Kaitlin Arnold

Ways to help a child who is self-harming

Q: Why is my child self-harming and what can I do to help them?

A: When someone self-harms, they are often feeling flooded or overwhelmed with negative emotions. They may not have the experience or capacity to self-soothe. Instead, they take actions to feel something and get some relief in the moment.

Self-harm often is characterized by someone cutting or burning themselves. While it is not necessarily an attempt to end one’s life, it should be taken seriously as it can result in fatal injuries and is a predictor for suicide attempts.

If your child, or anyone you care about, discloses they are self-harming, you are likely to be shocked, concerned and scared. It is important to respond with compassion and empathy, to help them feel less guilt and shame. Thank them for telling you. Tell them you understand it was not easy for them to share. Ask how you can best support them. Help them seek out professional help so they can find alternative coping mechanisms. Continue to check-in, compassionately, to keep the lines of



communication open and make it more likely they will approach you immediately if they are considering or engaging in self-harm again.

While seeking professional help immediately is important, there are a couple of simple tools that can be useful even as help is arranged. I encourage my clients to create a “self-soothe” box, something that contains five objects, each one eliciting one of the senses. I ask them to keep the box easily accessible and look at it often, so they can readily recall the items. Changing the physical sensations in one’s body also can help regulate emotions. Holding a handful of ice cubes or a frozen orange, or placing warm towels on different parts of the body can create the change. When feeling distressed, rather than turn to physical pain to relieve a high state of emotions, looking at or recalling the objects in their box or quickly changing the physical sensations they are experiencing can ground the

person, bring them back to the present moment and allow the emotions to abate.

Self-harming can be scary, but recovery is possible, especially with the support of others and effective coping mechanisms. As you help your child, or anyone you care about, go through a difficult time, remember to be kind to yourself and seek your own sources of support.

Kaitlin Arnold is the founder and therapist at Finding Your Balance Therapy. She helps individuals and families dealing with depression, anxiety, other mental health issues and stress stemming from life challenges. For more information, visit findingyourbalancetherapy.com or call (313) 408-2180.

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

Dear in headlights

I'm a girl in my 20s. I recently started dating a guy I'm falling in love with.

He invited me to a party to meet his friends, and I'm nervous.

He's "objectively" more attractive than I am (6-foot-2, brawny, and incredibly handsome) and very successful. I'm attractive, but I see the looks women give him, and I can't help but feel his friends will question why he's interested in me.

I'm thinking of backing out of the party, but maybe I should back out of dating him entirely, given the pressure.

—Freaking

The other guests are going to a party; as you see it, you're on trial, and they're the jury.

The invite: "Drinks, tunes, and executing the borderline attractive girl at dawn."

Tell somebody you might end it with this guy because you're afraid his friends will be all "Eew, why's he with her?" and they're sure to scold you that you shouldn't care what other people think of

you. They mean well, but this is ridiculous advice -- akin to telling you not to get hungry.

We evolved to be people who care what other people think. That's built into our psychology, same as the urge that drives us to nab a burrito, which keeps us from passing out, dying, and being eaten by raccoons.

Successfully handling other people's appraisals of you starts with throwing out everything most of us believe about self-esteem.

I explain that this "I like me!" state we've been told to strive for "makes little functional sense.

Psychology researchers and therapists far and wide failed to ask the 'why?' question that evolutionary psychology demands: Why would it be evolutionarily advantageous for you to like yourself -- for you to sit around saying, 'I'm fabulous! Kiss the royal hand!'"

What would've helped our ancestors survive and mate is other people liking them: respecting them, wanting to get it on

with them, and sneaking them seconds on the bison frittatas. Accordingly, psychologist Mark Leary explains that we developed an internal monitoring system that tracks "the degree to which other people accept versus reject" us.



Our resulting feelgood or feelbad (erroneously called "self-esteem") is actually part of a three-part process: 1. Our perception of what other people think of us, which leads to 2. Feelings in us (from happy to fearful), which motivate us to 3. Maintain our social position or try to repair it.

So, "self-esteem" is really "what other people think of us"--esteem -- a measurement of our social standing -- triggering emotions that drive us to preserve or fix it

In light of that, advice to "raise" your self-esteem makes no sense, because how you feel about yourself isn't the problem, and changing that fixes nothing. (It's like trying to feel better about your over-

tent band of people.

We now live in vast cities teeming with strangers. If somebody in our social circle decides we've got adult cooties, we can pretty easily slide into a whole new social circle simply by hanging out at different bars.

So, your terror about meeting his friends -- "LIFE OR DEATH, GIRLIE!" -- is driven by psychology that's seriously outdated: mismatched with our modern environment.

Recognizing this can help you put your yearning to be liked into a more modern perspective: Great when it happens but merely a major bummer, not a death sentence, if it doesn't.

Lowering the stakes like this should be helpful because pressure to excel could cause you to overfocus on your performance.

This can lead to clutching anxiety that impairs your ability to perform ("choking under pressure"). Amazingly, research by Harvard Business School's Alison Wood Brooks suggests a way to prevent choking is "reappraising" the pounding heart of anxiety as the pounding heart of excitement.

Say to yourself repeatedly, "I'm so excited to go to this party and meet his friends!"

It should also help to approach the evening with a relaxed set of goals: 1. Having fun. 2. Getting to know his friends. Because you're with him, they'll probably assume you're special -- which is surely why he's with you. (A handsome, high-status guy doesn't get involved with a woman he finds physically and otherwise meh.)

At the party, instead of trying really hard to be liked -- a surefire way to be instantly unlikeable -- ask people about themselves, and listen with genuine interest. They'll warm to you, probably without knowing why.

Sure, some hearts might remain hardened, but it's the rare person who'll cut themselves off, mid-"me, me, me!" to pelt you with canapes and chase you out of the party with a broom.

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: blog-talkradio.com/amyalakon.

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At Work

by Lindsey Novak



Don't wait for friend to be a partner

Q: I had a perfect idea for a friend and I to start a business together. We are both very organized, methodical, research-oriented and energetic.

We went to local colleges and are not using our degrees for anything special.

When we talk about college, we agree it seemed like a waste of time and money. We both have regular office jobs.

I have heard local people talk about clearing out things (not junk, but not super expensive items either), but they are afraid of selling through online companies because of scammers.

My idea is for us to help people sell everything they want out of their homes -- like estate sales managers, but their homes are not estates.

I am good at researching prices for used items, and I know people who have had bad experiences selling online with people buying and complaining about the item, and then demanding refunds. The companies seem to always back the purchasers.

This is completely avoidable through in-person sales. The trouble is that my friend is afraid to commit to starting this as a business. I think we live in a perfect area for this to

be a success.

I don't know what she is afraid of, but I don't want to do this alone. How do I convince her to try it?

A: The art of persuasion is a useful talent and skill, but your friend may not have the same dreams and goals as you, so your effort may be futile.

Start with what you have in common: that neither of you feel your degrees helped you with your future.

Your business idea does not have to start with a written commitment and a list of rigid rules.

Create attractive and informative flyers about

conducting house and garage sales.

Charge a small fee in the beginning. After all, you are just getting started and you will soon see if it ends up being worth your time.

Don't ask your friend for a time commitment. Try out your idea as a weekend gig -- starting early Saturday to dinnertime and from noon on Sunday. This will show respect for all churchgoers. Also, a short time period will capture the audience that is truly interested.

Since you and your friend are organized types, ask the homeowners (or renters) for the Friday after work to label and price items.

Since you are targeting local people, post "for sale" signs covering neighboring areas. Professionally worded signs will convey to people this is not a junk sale with items are under \$1. Of course, you can always have a few "junk" boxes for such items; just keep them separate from the better things.

Instead of presenting the

idea as a business to your friend, sell her on trying something new that might or might not be a lot of work, but will also give you two the opportunity to meet people in the area.

Let the event flow naturally and be open to the various directions it could take. Your friend may not want to feel trapped into estate sales as a business, and she may be afraid of disappointing you if she does not enjoy it enough to participate a second time.

Let her feel it is her choice. No guilt or begging about how you cannot do it alone.

You may have an image in your mind of becoming estate sales managers, but you can convince your friend to help under the guise that it will be fun and a different way to spend the weekend.

If you present yourselves as professionals regardless of the items for sale, you might appeal to homeowners who are willing to try your services.

The first time will be a

dry run so you and your friend can see what works and whether you want to repeat it.

If you discover you love this kind of work, with or without your friend as a partner, people might ask you to organize their rooms at home even though they do not intend on selling anything. Think ahead about what fee you would charge for home organization without a sale. You never know what can develop when you remain open to the possibilities.

If your friend chooses not to be involved, you can ask her for help on a per-diem basis. If the plan takes off and turns into a formal business, you will be proud you did it on your own.

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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Couple clashes over time spent with sons

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I have been married five years and are raising four children. One is from my previous relationship, one is from her previous relationship and two are ours. We both have joint custody.

My son goes to school near his mom. My wife's son goes to school where we live. They are 9 and 8.

There's a lot of tension between us because my stepson's father isn't the greatest parent. He never comes to school events or sporting events, so he misses half of everything.

I regularly attend my son's events, which are a couple of hours away

and take time away from my stepson. I put my 9-year-old first because he's my firstborn, and I have him less.

My wife disagrees with this, and we fight about it constantly. I believe I am doing the right thing. Advice, please. -- WONDERING IN WISCONSIN

DEAR WONDERING: I'm sorry your wife's son's father hasn't stepped up to the plate. But please do not allow your wife to interfere with your relationship with your son.

You ARE doing the right thing by showing an interest in what he's doing and supporting him emotionally.

DEAR ABBY: I have been married nine years. My husband doesn't allow me to leave the house without him. He makes sure I don't have a car or access to the one we have.

He tells me he doesn't mean anything by it, but if I try to take a walk alone, he is right on my heels.

If I go anywhere with my sister or a friend, I must wait until he is gone. If he gets home before I do, he's sitting on the porch waiting for me.

He is not physically abusive, but I feel like a prisoner. I have told him several times how it makes me feel, but he doesn't seem to get it. I really need some advice. -- TRAPPED IN GEORGIA

DEAR TRAPPED: Your husband doesn't get it because he doesn't



Dear Abby

by Abigail Van Buren

WANT to. What he is doing is NOT a demonstration of love or concern for your safety.

It's an example of his own insecurity and need to control you. This is a big red flag, and my advice is to call the National Domestic Violence Hotline and discuss this with someone there because what's happening could escalate into abuse. The toll-free phone number is: (800) 799-7233.

DEAR ABBY: I love my grown children and grandchildren, but I hate it when they come

"home" for a week or more. My house gets turned upside down and inside out, and I end up losing my temper.

Then I feel like an awful mother. I suggested we all meet somewhere else, but it didn't go over well. Help! -- INVADED IN NORTH DAKOTA

DEAR INVADED: Your suggestion may not have gone over well with your children and grandchildren, but that doesn't mean you shouldn't "suggest" it again.

And when you do, make sure they understand you

are saying it because when they visit they leave your home in disarray, which creates more work for you than you are comfortable doing.

Unless they are willing to make sure your home is as neat when they leave as when they arrived, enough is enough.

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.

Dear Ann Landers: I am a 26-year-old woman with a problem.

When I was in high school, I cheated on my steady boyfriend with an older man. I discovered I was pregnant and was sure the older man was the father of the baby.

Last December, after eight years of paying child support, the man requested a DNA test to determine paternity. I was stunned when it turned out that my daughter isn't his after all.

Here's the real problem. When I found out I was pregnant, my boyfriend asked if the baby was his, and I assured him it was not.

That boyfriend is now happily married and has children. I have been married to a wonderful man for almost six years, and

he wants to adopt my daughter.

Should I try to contact my old boyfriend and disrupt his life by telling him he has a daughter?

Part of me feels he is entitled to know, but another part worries that I would only mess up more lives. Please tell me what to do. -- Kitty in K.C.

Dear Kitty in K.C.: I'm with the part of you that says leave it alone. If any of my readers think otherwise, I would like to hear their reasoning.

Dear Ann Landers: You have printed several letters from lonely grandparents who wonder why they never hear from their grandchildren. I'm a man who has the reverse of that problem.

Classic Ann Landers

I've been happily married for 21 years and have a teenage daughter and son.

Since the day our children were born, my widowed mother has shown absolutely no interest in them whatsoever. I cannot understand this.

Our children are every parent's dream. They are bright, well-mannered, respectful and a joy to be around.

When the kids were young, my mother made it clear she did not want to babysit, so we never asked her. When we make the 200-mile trip to her

town, it's as if my wife and kids are invisible. She talks incessantly about her friends and social activities but never directs any conversation toward our children. The only acknowledgment she has ever given them is an annual birthday card. The one time she came to our home, she sat on the edge of the sofa and kept saying she needed to leave as soon as possible. She went home the next morning.

Am I expecting too much? My mother is in her 70s and is an intelligent woman.

My children would love to have a caring grandmother, and I wish I could

find a stand-in for them.

At this point, I no longer want to visit my mother and subject my children to her indifference. Do you have any ideas on how to get her to warm up? -- Sad Son in N.C.

Dear N.C.: You might as well try to warm up Siberia. Have you told her how much it would mean to you if she took an interest in your children?

If she is willing to discuss it, you might be able to turn things around. If not, leave the family at home when you visit your mother, and spare everyone the aggravation.

Dear Ann Landers: I am a 28-year-old mother of one lovely child.

After a long and costly divorce, now broke but happy, I find myself in love with a wonderful man -- my Prince Charming. We

both fantasize about getting married in a beautiful church wedding with ushers, bridesmaids, organ music, etc., but as a divorced Catholic, can this be a reality?

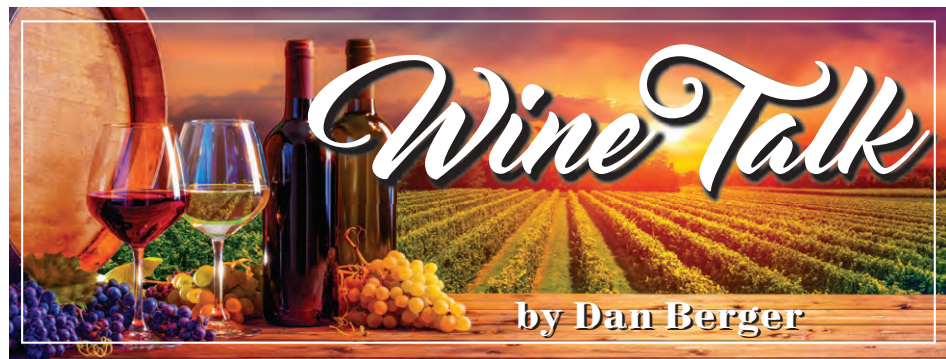
If so, what are the steps we must take to make it happen? If not, what are my options? Please help my dream come true. -- Cinderella Hopeful

Dear Hopeful: Yes, it's possible for your dream to become a reality.

Contact your local pastor, and he or she will instruct you about the steps needed to get an annulment. Happy wedding bells.

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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Tips for serving wine with food

Wine purists will tell you that the wine you choose for a dinner should match the food that's on the table. Others say, "Poppycock! Drink anything you like with any food." Riesling with steak? Hey, if you like it, go for it.

It certainly would challenge the wine, though. I can't imagine riesling with steak, but I did know a man some years ago who always had a dry gewurztraminer from the Alsace

context can help the wine show best.

For instance, if you're serving a red wine with dinner and the room is warm, try chilling the wine. I'm not suggesting serving red wines cold. But cool wines usually taste better than warm ones, especially when the temperature is 80 degrees Fahrenheit or higher.

Don't like the initial aroma of a wine? Don't assume it's bad. Perhaps it is very young and still

Sure, some purist may squawk, but it's your wine, and if it tastes good to you, the ice cube will only offend the other guy.

Picking the wine to pair with the food can also enhance how the wine tastes. My old friend who liked the gewurztraminer with veal would only serve a mature wine with that dish. He said young gewurztraminer was too fragile to stand up to the veal.

And he rarely served his white wines very cold. He liked them mature and cool, not near frozen.

Wine of the Week: 2020 Balletto Rose, Russian River Valley (\$20) -- A striking aroma of strawberries and cherries marks the nose of this delightful, basically dry rose wine from one of Sonoma County's top producers. Made exclusively of pinot noir and just released, it is a joy to sip on a patio and consume with dips and cheeses. The 2019 vintage of it remains just as good as it was last year.

To find out more about Dan Berger and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate webpage at www.creators.com.

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region of France with veal. He had tasted that combination as a young man in Europe, and to him, it was a match of perfection. More about this later.

Then again, how you serve the wine could make a huge difference in its enjoyment.

Assume the owner of Chateau Margaux were to pour you his perfectly stored 1945 Margaux into crystal stemware in the dining room of the chateau. Under those conditions, the wine would certainly taste better than had it been poured into a cardboard coffee cup and served to you while changing a flat on the freeway.

Imagine how a wine tastes when you are standing in a chateau wine cellar. The winemaker draws out of the cask a sample of an as-yet-unbottled wine. It will taste pretty interesting since it is not only closer to the grape but also in the presence of the winemaker. A bit of gloss must rub off.

You're savoring the moment as much as you are the wine. Creating a

exhibits a bit of an "off" aroma. A few more months in the bottle would help, but you have already pulled the cork. What now?

Decant it. Simply splash the wine (white or red) into a decanter or clean water pitcher. The simple act of splashing it around could make it open up a lot faster.

This also works for imported wines that may still be suffering from a bit of a jolt from the journey to the United States.

Does the red wine seem a little alcoholic? Far too many wines are these days, and in this case, the decanter is really your friend. Splash the wine around for a while, pouring from one decanter to another for a few minutes. This actually allows some of the alcohol to evaporate. Some winemakers believe you can get rid of between a half percent and 1% of alcohol this way.

If that still doesn't do it, add an ice cube. Not only will it keep the wine a bit cooler but it'll also drop the alcohol a bit.

Breakfast in bed Courtesy of Mombeau's Table

This Mother's Day I'd love to wake up in Paris. Knowing that won't happen, I think the next best thing is breakfast in bed.

This casserole is made the night before. All you have to do is make the topping while the oven preheats.

I used challah bread but brioche is very similar and just as good if not better. It's decadent, sweet and comforting.

The dishes I used are from Pillivuyt. Atelier (atelier.com), in the Village, carries their Plisse line. Plisse means "pleated" in French. And these plates have a stunning pleated design.

They would make anyone feel like they were waking up somewhere in France.

Let your family bring you breakfast on a fancy tray with flowers so you can spend the morning relaxing. Happy Mother's Day!

Streusel Topping

1/2 cup flour

1/2 cup brown sugar

1/2 cup finely chopped pecans

1 stick cold butter

Start by greasing a 13-by-9 inch baking dish with butter. Cut the bread into 1 inch cubes and place in the dish.

a spoon so each piece gets wet. Cover with aluminum foil and place in the fridge overnight.

The next morning, take the casserole out of the fridge and set on the counter for 30 mins.

Preheat the oven to 350. While the oven is preheating, make the topping.

Cut the cold butter into small cubes.

Add all ingredients to a medium size bowl. Using a pastry cutter or



PHOTO COURTESY OF LISA VREEDE

Overnight French Toast Casserole

1 loaf of challah or brioche bread

8 oz cream cheese, softened

8 large eggs

1 1/2 cups whole milk

2/3 cups half-and half

1/2 cup maple syrup

1 tsp vanilla

1 tsp cinnamon

1/4 tsp nutmeg

Pinch of salt

Beat the cream cheese on medium speed until smooth. Add eggs one at a time and mix well after each egg. Add all the other ingredients and mix until well combined.

Pour the mixture over the bread. Gently press down on the bread with

your clean fingers, break up the butter into the flour and sugar until the topping is crumbly. Sprinkle over the top of the casserole.

Place in the oven for 50 mins. Serve with a drizzle of maple syrup and fruit.

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Grosse Pointe News

FIRST ANNUAL

THE FINER POINTES ART CONTEST

Finalists

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

In January, the Grosse Pointe News put a call out to local artists for its inaugural "The Finer Pointes" art contest. Eleven established artists were selected from a pool of 30 applicants to create a new work of art and compete for a \$5,000 grand prize. The finalists' entries may be viewed on the following pages.

From the start, it was important to contest creator and Grosse Pointe News owner, Sean Cotton that subscribers select the winner. Beginning today, subscribers may vote using one of these options:

- Online at grossepointenews.com/art/vote
- In person or via postal mail at 16980 Kercheval Place, City of Grosse Pointe, MI 48230
- Via phone at (313) 882-6900

Written and telephonic votes must be received by Friday, May 14. Online voting ends Saturday, May 15.

The winner will be announced in the May 20 edition of the Grosse Pointe News. The winning artwork will be donated to a public location for permanent display.



Grosse Pointe War Memorial

Stained glass mosaic, size: 36"x48" (above)

Artist's statement:

"The War memorial represents so many memories from my past. Youth Council, Battle of the Bands, weddings, proms, showers...This fabulous place is a comfortable, familiar piece of home."



Entranced by the Michigan Woods

Oil on canvas, size: 36"x30" (at left)

Artist's statement:

"This painting is based off of a pandemic walk through the woods of northern Michigan, and it reflects the wonder and inspiration that nature instilled on me this day."

Red Right Return

Oil on canvas, size: 48"x36" (at right)

Artist's statement:

"(Inspiration for the painting came) from years of walking, biking and dreaming along Lake Shore. Life gets out of whack, that lil' red boat guides me back."





Jewels of Detroit

Knife-painted oil on canvas, size: 31"x 27" (at left)

Artist's statement:

"The inspiration (for this piece) came from the renaissance of our waterfront, and the transformation of this little park with its joyful view."



Dodge Passing Ford

Acrylic on canvas, size: 14"x 26" (above)

Artist's statement:

"As the Dodge yacht Delphine steams for Rose Terrace, she passes a Ford Motor freighter on Lake St. Clair, summer 1940."



Wednesday Afternoon

Oil on wood panel, size: 48"x72" (at left)

Artist's statement:

"This painting is inspired by pandemic/winter daydreams of boating with friends on Lake St. Clair."

Motor City Diversity

Oil on linen canvas, size: 48"x 36" (at right)

Artist's statement:

"A painting depicting the irony of progress, when the past meets the future in downtown Detroit."



Vote online at grossepointenews.com/art/vote by May 15, 2021



Gossamer Flight

Watercolor, ink, gouache and 24k gold leaf, size: 16"x20" (at left)

Artist's statement:

"A selection of butterflies and flora native to southeast Michigan."

Morning in Cleminson Hall

Pen and ink with watercolor, size: 22"x 11" (below)

Artist's statement:

"I wanted to celebrate the tradition of excellence in the Grosse Pointe schools. My painting suggests the solidarity of the education our children receive, and the burst of promise they face as they leave high school and go out into the wide world."

The Alger Estate

Oil, glaze and acrylic on canvas, size: 24"x36" (bottom left)

Artist's statement:

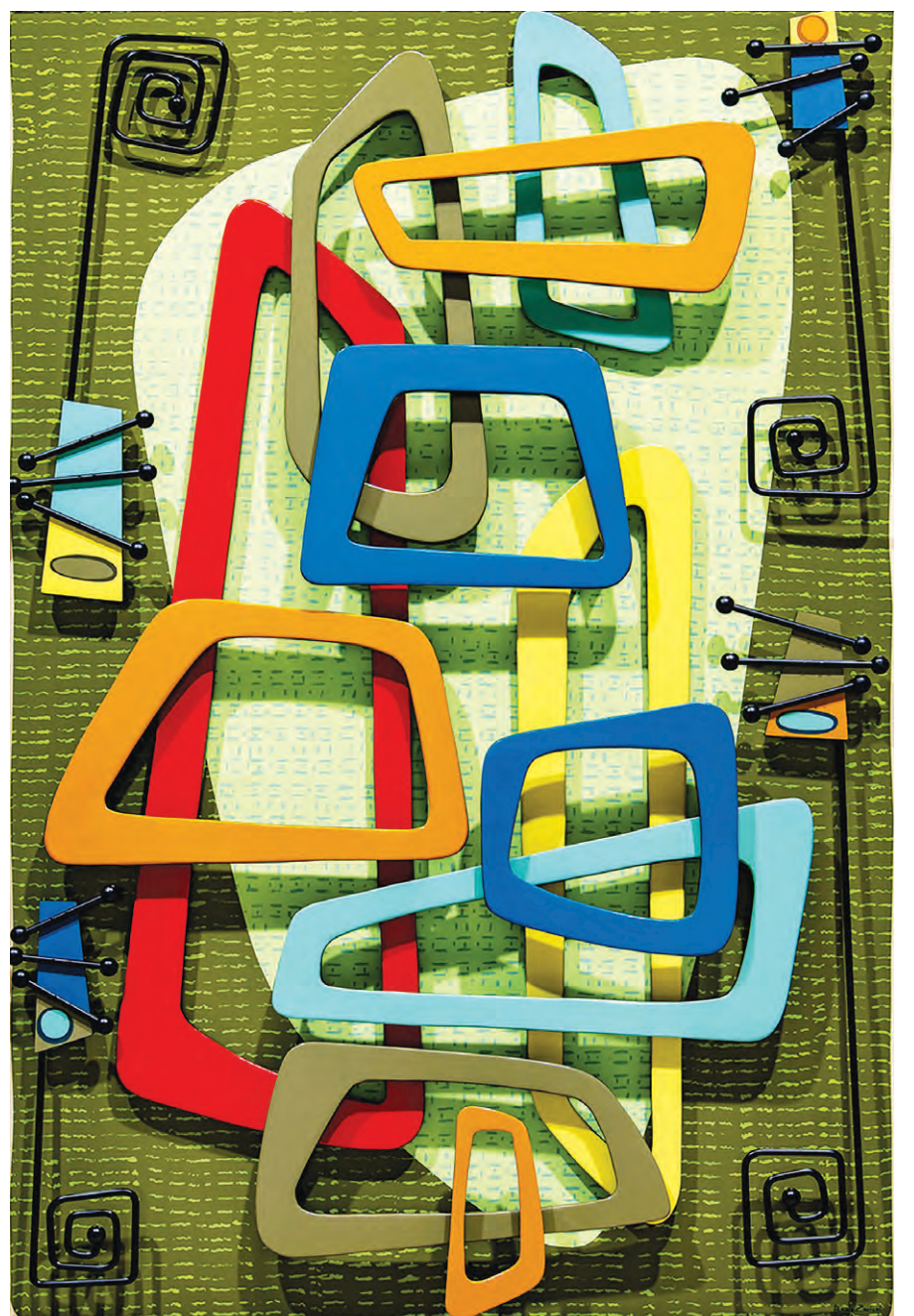
"Because of my family's love of art, architecture, classic cars and the history of Grosse Pointe, I decided to paint the Alger Estate, now the War Memorial, featuring a 1930s Packard in front. Russell A. Alger, Jr., a Packard VP and investor, was responsible for moving the Packard headquarters to Detroit."

Mouse Trap

Wooden sculpture with metal accents, size: 48"x 72" (bottom right)

Artist's statement:

"See the piece differently from every angle, let it command the space, and reintroduce itself each time seen."



Grosse Pointe News

FIRST ANNUAL

THE FINER POINTES ART CONTEST



\$5000 GRAND PRIZE

*The Grosse Pointe News is proud to support
the arts in our community!*

Your vote counts!

One talented artist will be selected by Grosse Pointe News subscribers to win the grand prize.

The 11 finalists' artwork will be available for viewing at the following locations:

- **In-person at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial** at 32 Lake Shore Drive, May 6- June 3
Open 2:00-6:30 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays thru June 3

*Thursday, May 13, the Grosse Pointe News is hosting a reception from 4 - 6 pm
at The War Memorial for the public to meet the artists*

- **Reproductions can be viewed at the Grosse Pointe Public Library**
at 10 Kercheval Avenue, May 6-27

- **View and vote online** beginning May 6 at www.grossepointenews.com/art/vote

The winning piece of art will be permanently installed in a prominent public Grosse Pointe location (to be announced).

VOTING DEADLINE: May 15, 2021

Must be a Grosse Pointe News subscriber to vote
Subscribe at www.grossepointenews.com/subscribe

The grand prize winner will be announced on May 20, 2021 in the Grosse Pointe News.

8C | FEATURES

Movie Junkie Mark by Mark Domin

MOVIE REVIEW
“Liars, Fires and Bears”
2012 - 1hr 39min

I've learned a few things on my many trips around the sun. Among them are: Sometimes you really CAN judge a book by its cover, and often you CAN judge a movie by its title.

In this case, how can you not love a film called “Liars, Fires and Bears”?

It's the perfect embodiment of the term Indie Film in that it has a relatively small budget, is well written, and features great performance by some talented and relatively unknown actors.

Meet Dave, played Landon Boyd. He reminds me a bit of Seth Rogan minus the voice and laugh.

Let's just say Dave enjoys his cocktails, which ends up getting him into a bit of trouble.



It's the beginning of an interesting and tenuous relationship. Eve, (Megli Micek) is a precocious young girl who wants to run away and find her older brother in Colorado.

After a series of mishaps and misunderstandings, Dave decides to take her there.

The film evolves into one of my favorite genres, the road trip movie.

Both actors are absolutely charming and have great chemistry together as they embark on their adventure. Their trip includes a series of amusing scenes and the film provides several unexpected plot twists.

It's one of those rare movies where you simply

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.

want to spend a little more time with the lead characters.

If you're looking for something a bit different give this one a shot.

Based on their performances here, I just have to wonder why the world hasn't heard of these two gifted actors.

Streaming n Kanopy.com.

★★★★☆

My rating system:
★ A real stinker. A

EXHIBITS:

Continued from page 1C

Clair Shores to submit their work. Of the 30 hopefuls, 11 were voted into the top spots and last week, their final entries were delivered to The War Memorial for display.

During the next week, Grosse Pointe News subscribers are asked to vote for their favorite work in “The Finer Pointes.” Readers may find photos of the entries on pages C4 to C6 in this newspaper.

Of course, a visit to The War Memorial to see the works in person during exhibition hours is encouraged. Voting slips for subscribers will be available throughout the exhibition.

Additionally, an artists' reception is planned from 4 to 6 p.m. Thursday, May 13, in the front courtyard at The War Memorial. The event will include wine, refreshments and light hors d'oeuvres. Several of the contest finalists will be in attendance.

The Grosse Pointe Artists Association is helping coordinate the effort.

Community members also may check out the finalists' entries in the windows of the Grosse Pointe Public Library Central branch, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms, where posters of the works will be displayed beginning May 6. The art-

work also may be viewed on the Grosse Pointe News Facebook and Instagram pages.

Voting is open through May 15. Artists' names will not be associated with entries, so it will be a “blind” judging.

Subscribers may cast their votes online at grossepointenews.com/art/vote. Subscribers also may call in their vote to (313) 882-6900



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE GPAA

“Thoughts and Memories” by student artist Maria Garcia Rivera

Royal Stars Weekly Horoscopes

Moon Alert: There are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions today. The Moon is in Pisces.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, May 6, 2021:

You are warm, charming and sociable. You are also eloquent and persuasive! As your new year begins, you're entering a year of learning and teaching. This is why you will expand your world through reading, studying and travel. However, you also might train or teach others as well. Whatever you learn now will boost your success for the coming year!

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

Today you have strong feelings about your finances and your belongings. You might want to explore new uses for something you own. You will certainly feel attached to what you own. (“My precious!”) You also might be excited about a moneymaking idea. If shopping, you'll want to buy pretty things.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

Your relationships with others are intense today. In fact, you might be surprised at how emotionally intense they are! Possibly, you will attract someone to you who is also emotionally intense, and this leads to a new romance. This will be a memorable day for you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

Some of you will be involved in a passionate, secret love affair today. Many of you will be involved in something that is secretive. Whatever is happening, it's as if this situation, or another person, has a magical hold over you. (Pretty heady stuff.)

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

Your relations with a friend or a member of a group will be powerful today. In fact, for some of you, a friend will become a lover. Whatever the case, your involvement with others might be life-changing or transformative in some way. It will be a learning experience.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

Some of you might develop a deep crush on a boss or a member of authority today. No matter how hard you try to shake it, you can't. You admire this person because of his or her power, knowledge or influence. Meanwhile, others will be asked for their creative advice on something.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

You might fall in love with someone who is “different” today. Others will passionately want to travel somewhere, especially someplace beautiful. Or perhaps you will delight in seeing art exhibits because your appreciation of beauty is heightened.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Your physical passions are strong today. (It's a memorable day for some couples.) However, you will feel just as passionate about financial matters, especially regarding shared property or the wealth of someone else -- perhaps even envy.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Today you will attract someone strong and powerful to you. (“Hi Darth.”) You might want to express your feelings to this person. You also might have deep, profound insights into the relationship. Or a new relationship might flourish that is almost magical.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Today you might have strong ideas about how to improve your health or possibly how to introduce reforms and improvements to your job.

Either way, these ideas are important to you. You intend to follow through on them because you want to do things in a better way.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

This is a passionate day for romance, definitely. Actually, it's a passionate day for all aspects of your world.

You have strong feelings about children, the arts and sports, as well as strong feelings about demanding your own freedom and independence. (Wow.)

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Family discussions will be intense today. In all likelihood, you will come up with improvements on how to make your home more beautiful. You might even come up with ways to improve family relationships.

People are more ready to express their affection for each other today.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

This is a powerful day because something will happen that makes you truly appreciate your surroundings. You appreciate who you are and where you are. You also appreciate the people in your life.

It's so easy to get lost in what you want in the future and fail to appreciate what you have right now.

BORN TODAY

Actor George Clooney (1961), actress Adrienne Palicki (1983), actor Lars Mikkelsen (1964).

Contract Bridge

FAMOUS HAND

North dealer.
East-West vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A J 5
♥ Q 10 9 6
♦ A 4
♣ K J 8 7

WEST
♠ 8 2
♥ J 8 7 5 3
♦ 10 6 3
♣ 6 5 2

EAST
♠ K 10 7 6 4
♥ 4 2
♦ J 7 5 2
♣ 4 3

SOUTH
♠ Q 9 3
♥ A K
♦ K Q 9 8
♣ A Q 10 9

The bidding:

North	East	South	West
1 NT	Pass	4 ♣	Pass
4 ♣	Pass	5 NT	Pass
6 ♣	Pass	7 ♣	

Opening lead — five of hearts.

Not much is written about “table feel” — the ability to sense where certain missing key cards are located. Nevertheless, it is a fact of bridge life that all players try to draw inferences from the actions of their opponents — and that some players are much better at it than others.

Take this case from the 1996 Spingold Teams. South — Bart Bramley and his partner, Sidney Lazard — reached seven clubs as shown, and it was up to Bramley to find the way to make it. His only problem was how to avoid a spade loser. With the king

of spades offside, it might appear that Bramley was destined to go down one, but he proved otherwise.

He won the heart lead with the ace, drew three rounds of trump, East discarding a spade, and cashed the heart king. This was followed by a diamond to the ace and the queen of hearts, East and declarer each discarding a spade. Bramley then ruffed the ten of hearts, East discarding a third spade, and led the queen of spades, on which West followed low.

At this point, Bramley stopped to review all the accumulated information — including what his “table feel” told him. From the standpoint of pure probabilities, East was far more likely to hold the spade king, since he had started with only two clubs and two hearts. This left him with nine cards in spades and diamonds as opposed to only five cards in those suits for West. Also, West might have covered the queen of spades with the king if he had it.

But on top of this, East had shown increasing signs of distress in choosing his three discards, and this made Bramley even more certain that East had the spade king.

So Bramley put up the ace of spades and cashed dummy's last trump, discarding his remaining spade. East, who at this point had the J-7-5 of diamonds and lone king of spades guarding against dummy's jack, elected to let go of a diamond, and declarer's K-Q-9 of diamonds took the last three tricks.

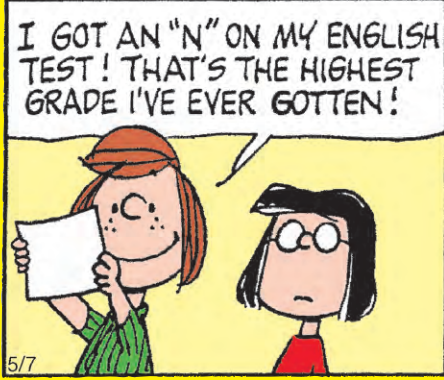
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by Steve Becker

Comics

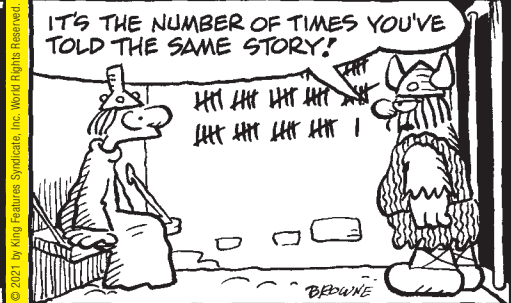
Peanuts

Charles M. Schulz



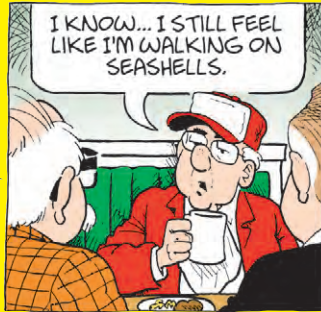
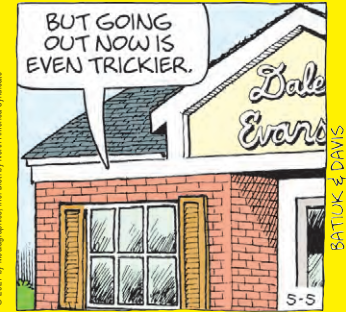
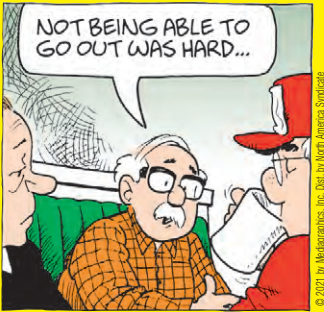
Hagar The Horrible

Dik Browne and Chris Browne



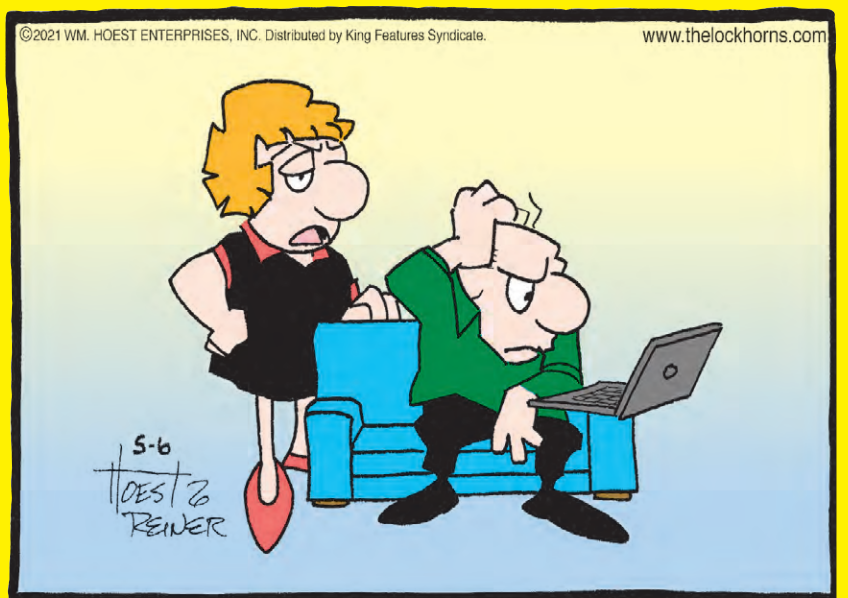
Crankshaft

Tom Batiuk and Dan Davis



The Lockhorns

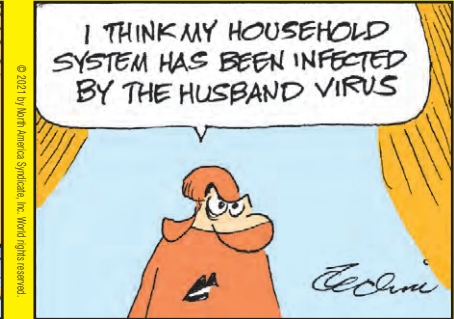
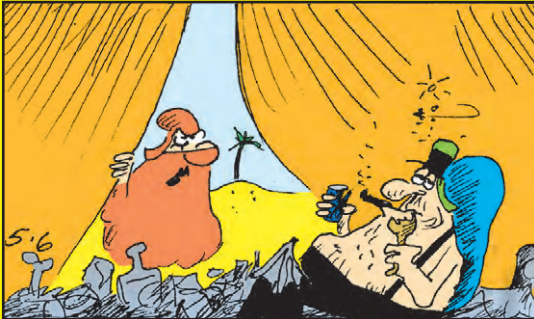
Bill Hoest, Bunny Hoest and John Reiner



"THE COMPUTER LOCKED YOU OUT? THE PASSWORD IS OUR ANNIVERSARY."

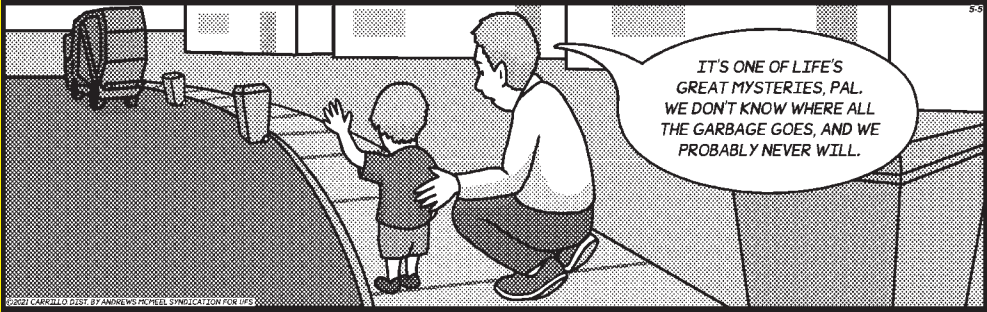
Crock

Created by Bill Rechin and Brant Parker



F Minus

Tony Carrilo



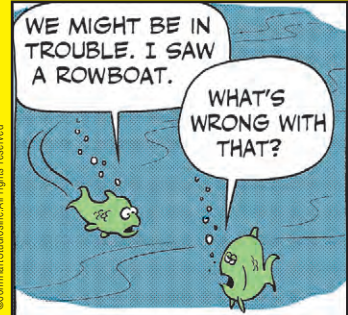
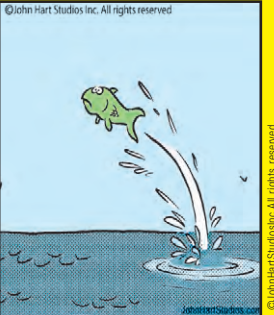
Wumo

Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler



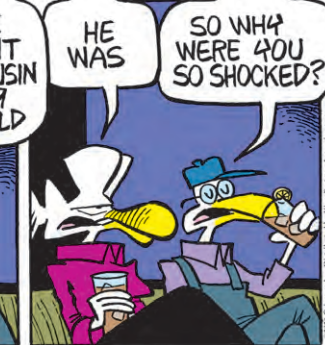
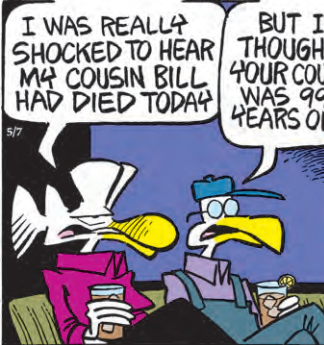
B.C.

Johnny Hart and Mason Mastroianni



Mother Goose and Grim

Mike Peters



Reality Check

Dave Whamond



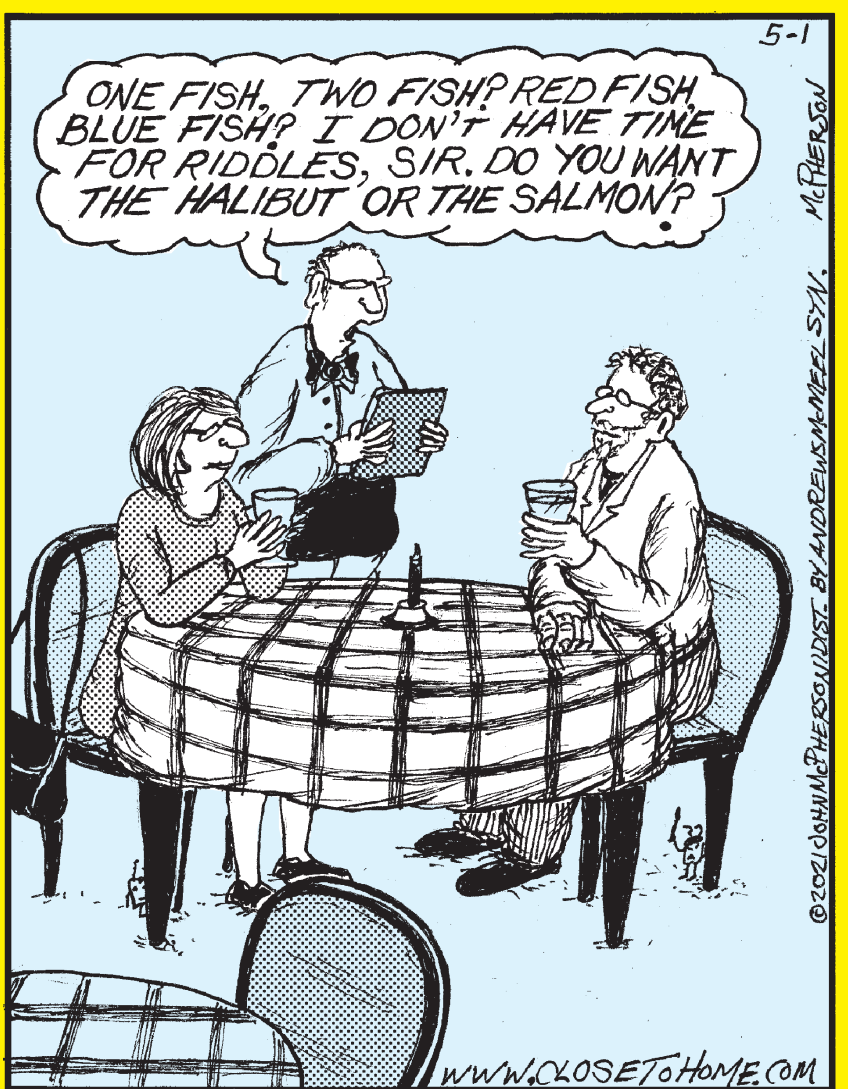
Bizarro

Dan Piraro and Wayno



Close To Home

John McPherson



"Dr. Seuss dines out."

Marmaduke

Paul & Brad Anderson



"Plain water is enough. You don't need a slice of lemon."

SPORTS

SPORTS

New Home

Little League Softball opens new diamond at Elworthy PAGE 3D

3D KNIGHTS' STREAK CONTINUES | 5D AROUND LITTLE LEAGUE | 6D CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Late-game heroics lift North over South

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South girls soccer teams met Monday for their first of two rivalry matches this season. The tightly contested matchup needed a goal in the closing moments to decide a winner, with North coming out on top 2-1.

The Blue Devils struck first, with a goal by Lauren Carron in the 33rd minute giving them the lead. North quickly answered in the closing moment of the first half on a goal by Meadow Venet.

In the second half, it was Venet again who would be the hero in the 78th minute, getting another past South keeper Rachel Altland for what would be the game's deciding goal.

"It's a tough rivalry game; both teams played hard," Norsemen coach Olivia Dallaire said after the win. "We finished on a few of the opportunities we got and put together a full game."

The game was tightly contested the whole way through, with both teams seeing opportunities to take the lead. In the end, the Blue Devils believe they simply

were outworked.

"They just came out with more heart," South coach Chris Bolio said. "... It's tough to see my group get into a spot like that and I'm hoping that's a wake-up call for the rest of the year."

For the Norsemen, goals in the closing moments of both halves were exactly what Dallaire was looking for so her squad could finish strong.

"We've been really focusing on finishing halves strong and starting games strong," she said. "We scored both our goals in the last five minutes of the half, which was one of our

goals, so I'm proud of our girls and the effort they put out."

The win was North's second of the season, bringing its overall record to 2-8-0. Up next for the Norsemen is a road game against Eisenhower Wednesday before returning home to take on Chippewa Valley Friday.

The Blue Devils drop to 3-4-1 on the season following the loss and are still looking for their first MAC Red Division win. South hosts Anchor Bay for a match Wednesday before heading on the road against Henry Ford II Friday.



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Meadow Venet was the hero for the Norsemen scoring both goals in a 2-1 win.

Blue Devils bounce back with win at Comerica

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The Grosse Pointe South Blue Devils baseball team saw some highs and lows in the last week of play. South claimed a win over Romeo last Monday, but then dropped the second and third games of the series to the Bulldogs, both by a score of 3-1.

South took the early lead in Wednesday's game as Cameron Braithwaite came in to score on an error. However, it would be the only run the Blue Devils would manage to scratch across. Quentin Dennis allowed three runs on four hits through six

innings, with Bobby Kelly coming in to toss one scoreless inning of relief.

South hosted the Bulldogs again Friday and once again fell after getting on the scoreboard first. Ryker Mazey reached on an error that resulted in an RBI in the bottom of the first inning, but the Blue Devils' bats went dry after that. A three-run seventh inning for Romeo would help give the Bulldogs another win.

Things turned around for the Blue Devils Saturday night as they took the field at Comerica Park under the lights for a special

showdown against the Shorians of Lake Shore High School. With the lights shining brightest, South was able to capture a 4-3 win on the big league field.

Mazey kicked off the scoring on the night with a two-run home run in the bottom of the first. Wells Graham added an RBI on a sacrifice fly in the third inning, with Braithwaite bringing in a run on a sacrifice later in the inning as well.

The biggest highlight of the night for the Blue Devils was the pitching performance from the major league mound. Eight pitchers for South got the chance to take the hill at Comerica,



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Chase Campbell was one of eight pitchers who took the mound for South at Comerica Park on Saturday.

including James Armstrong, Robbie Leonard, Jonathan Drake, Jordan Breutsch, Chase Campbell, Josh Kahn, Holden Novak and Liam Kaiser. Those

eight arms for the Blue Devils managed a combined no-hitter, walking a combined six batters while Lake Shore's runs came off of fielder's choice and errors.

South travels on the road to Utica Eisenhower Thursday before a doubleheader rivalry matchup hosted by Grosse Pointe North Saturday.



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

South's Miles Wujek led the offense for the Blue Devils with six goals.

South tops North in rivalry matchup

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

The Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South boys lacrosse teams had their first rivalry meeting of the season Thursday. On a chilly and wet night, this clash of crosstown rivals was largely lopsided, as the Blue Devils emerged with a dominant 20-2 win.

The Blue Devils jumped out to an early lead, scoring three goals in the first two minutes and leading 10-0 at the end of the first quarter. For South, setting the tempo and establishing its style of play from the beginning was a major factor in getting the win.

"You want to do that because you've got to play these guys twice, so in the first meeting ... you want to put down the other team right away and set that tone," South

coach Justin Macksound said. "It shows that everybody's together. We've got the same mindset and the same goals going on."

North's Jason Michalski helped the Norsemen break onto the scoreboard in the second quarter. Massimo Todesco netted the only other goal for North.

It was far from an ideal outing for the Norsemen, but head coach Mark Seppala knows there's plenty to learn from a game like that.

"You just want to work on the aspects of the game you can control, like running your offense the right way and running your defense the correct way," Seppala said. "When you're getting outscored like this, there's still little things you can work on to get better."

On a night that brought plenty of offense for the Blue Devils, it was the

seniors who stepped up to lead the scoring charge. Aaron Vyletel finished with three goals while midfielder and captain Henry Shields netted four. Leading all scorers again was senior attack man Miles Wujek, who finished with six goals in another impressive performance.

"He's turning into more of an all-around attack man where he's able to feed and get assists too, but he really is a finisher," Macksound said about Wujek. "He is our go-to guy. ... We really do have a full team and a full complement of players, but Miles is the centerpiece."

This week, South faces off against Romeo Thursday, then hosts Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard Friday. The Norsemen visit Eisenhower Thursday before a rematch with the Blue Devils Tuesday, May 11.

2D | SPORTS



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Craig Engel, one of Bud Engel's sons, throwing a ceremonial first pitch.

Woods-Shores Little League takes the field

By Kate Vanderstelt
Staff Writer

The Grosse Pointe Woods-Shores Little League season kicked off with an opening ceremony Tuesday, April 27, which included the dedication of the 2021 season to Coach Earl "Bud" Engel, who died last fall.

Four generations of Engel's family took to the field before the first pitch ceremony for the dedication. Woods-Shores Little League Vice President Drew McSkimming gave a speech commemorating the relationship with Engel formed when his father suddenly passed away and he continued to play in a basketball tournament with Brownell Middle School. Engel showed up to the tournament and cheered him on, despite the fact his own sons were not participating in the tournament.

"Bud found the kid after each game and told him, 'You played great,'" McSkimming recalled of his childhood. "Bud was lying, as that kid stunk

up the gym. Bud Engel was there to support a kid he never had on his team."

Engel's dedication to Little League was evident in the work he put in day in and day out to make the organization flourish.

"What most people didn't know about Bud Engel is that behind the scenes, Bud was the grounds crew, the landscaper, the construction crew and maintenance man here at Ghesquiere Park," McSkimming said. "Bud would go to work at 5 a.m. so he could get to Ghesquiere at 3 p.m. to dump dirt, rake, fix whatever needed to be fixed so that all four fields were ready for play that night, regardless of weather."

"With the help of others, Coach Engel led the rebuild of the diamonds, built new drainage systems, rebuilt dugouts and the press box. For Coach Engel, Grosse Pointe Woods-Shores Little League was a labor of love."

The major league players' jerseys have a logo on their sleeves this year

that read "BUD." Little League administrators presented Engel's family with a jersey in his honor.

Engel's three sons, Craig, Brian and Scott Engel, threw out three first pitches to start off the 2021 season.

"One of the cool things about Little League, especially in the Grosse Pointes, is there's a story," Woods-Shores Little League President Paul Summers said. "And it's not just one generation. It's generational. They had (four) generations of people out there. To see that, and then to see the impact that this league has on families, it's pretty cool. It's really exciting to be a part of that."

New improvements

The beginning of the season also came with revealing great improvements to one field, made possible by donations and a newly introduced banner sale fundraiser. The organization was able to install new red dirt on the fields and bullpen, extend foul lines and fix fences.



PHOTO COURTESY OF STEVE ZARANEK

Grace Winger and Kloie Roy running in the 1600 for South.

South edges by North, remains undefeated

By Steve Zaraneck
Guest Writer

The Grosse Pointe South High School girls track team recently defeated Grosse Pointe North 79-58 in MAC Red dual meet action. South moved to 4-0 on the season with the win. Both South and North had been undefeated going into this meet.

South managed only one win in the field events, but dominated on the track.

In the field, South's Katy Griffin and Megan DeGrand went 1-2 in the long jump with leaps of 14'11" and 14'4" to start things off. DeGrand also gave South a third in the pole vault with teammate Peyton Lancaster finishing second.

South also went 2-3 in

the high jump with Ahyana Villanueva and Lilah Supino giving South valuable points. Maeve Waterston and Malvina Lubanski also contributed points in the shotput and discus.

South shined on the track, winning three of the four relays along with six of the individual events. Sophomore Selga Jansons had a banner day, winning both hurdle races along with the 100-meter dash. In the 400-meter dash, South junior Katy Griffin took first in 62 seconds, followed by Jansons in 63.5 seconds. Griffin came back two events later to win the 800-meter and then teamed up with Grace Winger, Ella Pazuchowski and DeGrand to win the final 1600-meter relay event.

With three events to go, South needed one point to clinch the victory and sophomore Claire Zurowick came through with a five-point first place finish in the 200-meter dash to secure the win. Zurowick, along with teammates Pazuchowski, O'hara Diamond and Villanueva, won both the 400-meter and 800-meter sprint relays. Additional points came from Scarlett Draper in the 100 hurdles, Villanueva in the 100-meter dash, Winger and Kloie Roy in the 1600-meter run and 3200-meter run, and Hannah Przybylski in the 300-meter hurdles.

Steve Zaraneck is the track and cross country coach at Grosse Pointe South High School.



PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVID MARTIN

North's Nic Good has put together some impressive mound performances this season despite the team's weekend struggles.

North's win streak ends with disappointing doubleheader

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

After winning four games in a row, the Grosse Pointe North varsity baseball squad looked to be hitting its stride. Following strong performances against Grand Blanc, St. Clair and L'Anse Creuse, the Norsemen came out flat in this weekend's doubleheader against Dakota, losing both games.

"It was funny because I thought we were playing well," North coach David Martin said. "... We came out and were swinging the bat really well and then we just came out flat. We certainly didn't hit well or pitch well or really do much of anything well."

Saturday's first game was a 5-2 loss for North. The Norsemen did jump out to an early lead, going up 1-0 when Ethan LaCroix stole home plate in the bottom of the second inning. A solo home-run by Drew Hill in the

third would be the only other run for North in the loss.

Brennan Hill started on the mound, surrendering three runs on six hits with six strikeouts in six innings. Jordan Aresenau pitched an inning of relief, allowing two runs on two hits.

Game two Saturday ended up an 8-2 loss for the Norsemen as the Cougars finished up the sweep of the doubleheader. James Macauley and Matt Mourad were the only ones to bring in RBI for North in the second loss.

Despite his team's struggles over the weekend, Martin said he finds some comfort in knowing his guys still have a bit of way to go to play at their best.

"We're certainly not peaking yet, which is good," he said. "In 2019, I was always worried because we went on that big undefeated run. ... I was always worried about peaking too soon and this year we aren't

peaking too soon. ... At the end of the day, I think we're in a good space."

The struggles for the Norsemen over the weekend mostly were apparent at the plate. When the offense seemed to be clicking during the short win streak, the bats were largely silenced Saturday for North. Martin believes in order to get back on track, it all comes down to having the right mindset.

"Just having some personal responsibility for each player and understanding what the game means," Martin said. "Not everybody needs to hit a homerun at a certain time or how far we can drive the ball and be a hero. Sometimes we just need to put the ball in play."

The Norsemen host Anchor Bay Wednesday, then face Anchor Bay again Thursday on the road. On Saturday, North hosts a doubleheader rivalry meeting with Grosse Pointe South.

City of Grosse Pointe, Michigan

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED 2021 CITY PROPERTY TAXES AND 2021-2022 BUDGET

The City Council of the City of Grosse Pointe, Michigan, 17147 Maumee Avenue, Grosse Pointe, Michigan 48230, 313-885-5800, will hold a Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, May 10, 2021 on the proposed 2021 City tax levy and on the proposed 2021-2022 City Budget. Due to the current State of Emergency and to minimize the spread of COVID-19, this meeting will be held electronically. Copies of the proposed budget will be available for public inspection during regular business hours at the City Hall front desk, 17147 Maumee, beginning May 7, 2021.

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.

Public comments, oral or written, are welcome at the public hearing on the proposed millage rate and the proposed City budget. Public comments for a virtual meeting may be made in accordance with the Instructions for Public Comment that will be posted online with the Meeting Agenda and City Budget beginning on May 7, 2021.

Julie E. Arthurs,
City Clerk

Hot bats help Knights extend streak

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Ever since starting the season 0-2 with losses to Grosse Pointe North and Orchard Lake St. Mary's, the University Liggett Knights baseball team has yet to see the loss column. Another pair of doubleheader sweeps last week brought Liggett's current win streak to 16 in a row and with big performances at the plate and on the mound, the streak looks poised to continue.

It was the offense that really shined for the Knights Tuesday, earning two wins in a doubleheader against the Ventures of Bishop Foley. Over the two games, Liggett outscored Bishop Foley 26-1, with 10-0 and 16-1 victories.

"The bats are always

the last to come, especially up here in the north, because you can get the pitching going and the defense, but the bats are usually the last to come around," Liggett coach Dan Cimini said. "If we can hit like we did this past week, then we're going to be tough to beat."

Jack Jones led the way in the first win against Bishop Foley with three RBI. Jarren Purify, Alec Leonard, Oliver Service and Preston Barr all brought in a pair of runs as well. Leonard added three more RBI in game two, while Service also knocked in a couple more.

The second game against the Ventures, a 10-0 win, was punctuated by a complete game shut-out performance on the mound by Mikey Clark.

Through six innings of work, Clark allowed just one hit and one walk while striking out 13 batters.

"He pounds the strike zone and he's got a great curveball," Cimini said. "He moves the ball around and he's very confident in himself, which I love. He's been a great team leader all year long and we're going to need him going forward."

The Knights hosted another doubleheader Friday, this time welcoming Portage Northern. Once again, Liggett's bats were on fire as they added two more to the win column with 11-0 and 15-2 victories.

Jones added three more RBI to the stat sheet in game one against Portage Northern in the form of a three-run homer. Matthew Greene



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Liggett's Joey Randazzo at the plate during Friday's doubleheader against Portage Northern.

brought in three RBI as well, while Purify knocked in two more. Kurt Barr pitched a complete game on the mound, allowing no runs on three hits with six Ks in five innings.

Purify added three RBI once again in the second win Friday, including a solo home run. Greene

brought in three more RBI, bringing his total to six for the day, along with Jones adding three RBI to his stat sheet again also.

With plenty of players stepping up with big performances at the plate recently, Cimini can tell everyone wants to contribute to the team's suc-

cess. "It pushes everybody to do better and they see their buddies all hitting and they want to hit too and it is contagious and I can feel it," he said.

The Knights travel to Country Day Thursday before hosting Plymouth Christian for a Friday doubleheader this week.

Little League softball opens new diamond

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Grosse Pointe Little League Softball opened the season last Friday night with a special opening day game. The start of the new season also brought the official debut to the new home of Little League softball, with Field 2 at Elworthy officially opened as the newest state-of-the-art softball diamond in the Pointes.

"Because we're the only program that covers all of the Pointes, we wanted to make sure that we had one of those gem fields in every one of the district areas," Grosse Pointe Little League Softball President Nathan Dodson said. "The most important thing is we always want to do what's good for the kids."

Elworthy's Field 2 was formerly a grass-infield baseball diamond. After searching for an area in the Farms-City district to become a new home for softball, approval was given by the Grosse Pointe Farms-City Little League and the City of Grosse Pointe to convert Field 2 at Elworthy into a new home for softball.



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Elworthy Field 2 was formerly a grass-infield baseball diamond, but was "skinned" and converted into a brand new softball diamond.

Over the winter, the baseball diamond was "skinned" and transformed into a brand new softball field. The job

was taken on by Backer Landscaping Inc., working around the snow and winter weather, the "skinning" was com-

plete in March, with the new field ready to go for the beginning of the softball season.

"Every time the girls

come on this field for the first time, it literally is like they're going to Comerica," Dodson

said. "One girl actually said this is like Comerica Park. To any kid this age, this is something special and that's what this program is all about."

The new field was open for teams to begin practices early April, giving players and coaches a first opportunity to try out the new diamond. On Friday, the diamond hosted its first official game on the opening day of softball season, with members of the Little League baseball and softball communities there to dedicate the newest home for Little League softball.

"We are excited about it because we have brothers and sisters playing next to each other," Grosse Pointe Little League Softball board member Tim Lindow said. "We still have the baseball diamond at Elworthy. Now we have the softball diamond with games going on simultaneously."

The conversion of the field was helped by contributors such as the City of Grosse Pointe Foundation, the Babe Ruth League Foundation and Mertz-Casazza.



PHOTO BY MIKE ADZIMA

Grosse Pointe Little League softball held the first official game on the newly renovated Elworthy Field 2. From left: Bill Crandall, Stephanie Harris, Andrew Taylor, Stacey Allemon, Amanda Pata, Liz Wakefield, Nathan Dodson, Dan Shine, Andy Harr, Tim Lindow, Tony Agosta, Jon Kalmink and Adam Stemmler.

CITY OF HARPER WOODS POLICE DEPARTMENT WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN NOTICE AUCTION OF IMPOUNDED/ABANDONED VEHICLES

Pursuant to PA 104, an auction will be held on May 12, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. at Woods Towing, located at 22755 Lexington, Eastpointe, MI. The following impounded/abandoned vehicles will be auctioned:

2003 FORD FOCUS	1FAFP34323W162084
2009 JEEP PATRIOT	1J8FF48B89D171891
2013 CHEVY SUBURBAN	1GNSKJE75DR290050
2008 CHEVY MALIBU	1G1ZH57B48F169931

The above vehicles can be viewed 1/2 hour prior to the auction, at Woods Towing. Payment by cash or certified check only. Cars listed may be pulled or released prior to the auction by the Harper Woods Police Department.

Lt. Thomas Teatsorth
Traffic Safety Section

POSTED: April 30, 2021
PUBLISHED: May 06, 2021

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

4D | SPORTS

Liggett baseball, hoops star signs with Albion College

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

A standout on both the basketball court and baseball diamond, University Liggett School senior Michael Clark has officially signed with his future college team. This weekend, Clark signed his letter to play baseball for the Britons at Albion College.

"I went to a baseball showcase and I just went there to throw," he said. "When I was pitching there, the Albion coach talked to me a little bit. I went out to visit ... and I just fell in love with the campus right away and knew it was the right fit for me."

It was not easy for Clark to decide between playing basketball or baseball in college, but he may end up getting the best of both worlds in college. While he signed his scholarship to join the baseball program at Albion, Clark is looking to be a walk-on for the basketball team as well.

"I started to talk to the basketball coaches there and the assistant coach came to some of our home games at the end of the year and they made an offer for a walk on, so around

Christmastime I fully decided to go there and knew that was the place," Clark said.

Despite being a talented baseball pitcher, Clark admits he always focused more on the basketball side of his athletic career. Although he can end up playing both sports in college, Clark claims the culture of Albion's baseball program is what drew him to sign on for baseball.

"All my life, basically as long as I can remember, I always put a lot of work into just basketball and when baseball season came around, I'd practice there, but all year round I was always putting work into the basketball side of it," he said. "I was always expecting a basketball offer and not really expecting a baseball one. ... After talking to the coach, I really fell in love with the coaching style at Albion for the baseball side of it."

Known for his talents on the mound, Clark is one of the centerpieces of Liggett's pitching rotation. As a senior, he also plays an important role as a leader for what is a mostly young Knights baseball squad and it is that leadership Clark's

coaches admire.

"He's like another coach and I call him coach," Liggett baseball coach Dan Cimini said. "He's just a great leader and the younger guys really look up to him. He's fun loving and he really loves his team and I can't ask any more of him from what he's already done. I'm super proud of him."

Without his coaches, Clark knows his opportunities to play at the next level would not have been possible. Both his basketball and baseball coaches at Liggett have helped him become noticed and build him into the athlete and person he is.

"Coach Spann for basketball all summer was always texting and reaching out to me," Clark said. "... He was really a big help when it finally came to getting the Albion coach out to some of our games."

"Coach Cimini always wants perfection and that really trained me to try and be perfect and it really helped my mental space, especially going to college to be mentally strong no matter what."

Clark plans on studying computer science when he gets to college.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MICHAEL CLARK

Michael Clark signed his letter to play baseball at Albion College. Pictured with dad Doug Clark and mom Kris Clark.



PHOTO COURTESY OF KRISTE KAROLAK

The Liggett Knights' girls lacrosse team seniors. From left: Aidan McFarlane, Gabby Anusbigian, Kendall Zinn, Ella Karolak, Delaney Garvey, Courtney Mecke and Sophia Ma.

Liggett earns big win over Regina on senior night

By Alexis Bohlinger
Staff Writer

The University Liggett School girls varsity lacrosse team is making strides this season with a current record of 8-1-0. Having lost numerous senior players the previous year, head coach Jennifer Larson was pleased to see a team of hard workers and well-rounded athletes step onto the field for the first day of practice.

The team locked in its latest victory at senior night Monday, May 3, against Regina. The final score was 14-4.

"It was a really great game all around and we were able to get in a lot of our newer players, which is always fun to watch," Larson said.

Goaltender Tory Roth made nine saves. Liggett goals were scored by Ella Karolak (3), Delaney Garvey (2), Elese Kogel, Courtney Mecke, Frannie Rinke, Ally Doppke, Chloe McFarlane, Helen Wujek, Brooklyn Peshl, Izzy Fruehauf and Sophia Ma. Assists were earned by Karolak and Garvey.

Larson commented on

the fact that over half of the team has never played lacrosse, but she has a group of multi-sport athletes.

"Their skills from other sports are allowing them to pick up the game quickly," she said. "I noticed that if the girls are hockey players, they will try more creative plays than a traditional lacrosse player might try. It's been interesting to see the translational skills that are coming over from other sports."

In addition to being athletes, Larson said she is pleased with the dynamic and heart of the team.

"We are a very fast team and we are good at the things you can't teach," she said. "These girls hustle to the ball and play a physical game."

Larson believes their tenacity and sense of urgency is what gives them the advantage against other teams.

"We've been able to keep possession of the ball and this gives us more chances to make things happen on the offensive end."

Larson also complimented her upperclass-

men this season on being excellent leaders to the younger players.

"Our captains, Ella Karolak, Delaney Garvey, Aidan McFarlane and Kendall Zinn, are all phenomenal athletes and leaders," she said. "They have taken the younger players under their wings and really showed them the sport."

"Overall, I am impressed with how they keep improving," she added. "We have girls who are brand new to the sport but have worked their way into starting positions. As a coach that's really rewarding to see."

The team is looking ahead to some challenging matches and cross-town rivalries coming in the next week. They will face Grosse Pointe South at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, May 6, at Liggett. They will see Grosse Pointe North away at 7 p.m. Monday, May 10.

"The team overall is a great group of girls," Larson said. "They are funny and silly and they just enjoy being around each other. I think all of that goodwill off the field translates to on the field."

City of Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan Notice of Public Hearing On the Proposed 2021-22 General Budget And Various Other Fund Budgets

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Mayor and the City Council of the City of Grosse Pointe Woods will be meeting electronically on May 17, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on the proposed 2021-22 General Fund Budget as well as the various other Fund Budgets of the said City. The agenda and remote meeting accessibility instruction will be available on the on-line calendar at www.gpwmi.us.

The subject of this hearing is the property tax millage rate of 17.2043 proposed to be levied on July 1, 2021 to support the proposed General Fund, Public Relations, Solid Waste and Road Budgets. If adopted, the proposed millage will generate \$13,198,055 in operating revenue from ad valorem property taxes for all funds, which is a \$407,515 or a 3% increase compared to the 2020-21 total collection of \$12,790,540. It is anticipated that the winter millage levied for the Milk River Drainage tax will be 3.9550 mills.

Purpose of Millage	Millage Rate	Revenue Generated
General Operating	13.1293	\$10,071,954
Road Bond Debt	1.5000	\$1,150,712
Act 359 – Public Relations	.0651	\$49,941
Act 298 – Solid Waste	2.5099	\$1,925,448
Total Special Acts Millage	2.5750	\$1,946,284
TOTAL GENERAL, PUBLIC RELATIONS SOLID WASTE & ROAD DEBT MILLAGE	17.2043	\$13,198,055

The City Council expects to take action on the proposed millage rates as well as taking action to approve the aforementioned budgets at the Council meeting immediately following the public hearing. The taxing unit publishing this notice, identified above, has complete authority to establish the number of mills to be levied from within its authorized millage rate.

2021 - 22 PROPOSED BUDGET SUMMARY City of Grosse Pointe Woods

	2021-22 PROPOSED
GENERAL FUND	
General Government	\$3,786,151
Public Safety	\$6,737,511
Public Works	\$2,127,779
Management Info. Systems	\$560,125
Parks & Recreation	\$1,848,028
Total General Fund	\$15,059,594
SPECIAL REVENUE	
Major Street	\$1,389,241
Local Street	\$1,600,804
Parkway Beautification	\$55,500
Cable Fund	-
Act 302 Training	\$5,000
Solid Waste	\$1,896,164
CDBG	20,000
911 Service Fund	\$121,671
Drug Forfeiture	\$6,000
SOM MIDC Grant	\$21,148
Total Special Revenue	\$5,115,528
DEBT SERVICE FUND	
Grosse Gratiot Drain (Milk River)	
Road Bond Debt	\$1,033,544
Capital Improvement Debt	\$222,363
Total Debt Funds	\$1,255,907
CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	
Municipal Improvement	\$30,000
Total Capital Projects Fund	\$30,000
INTERNAL SERVICE FUNDS	
Workmen's Compensation	\$130,149
Motor Vehicle Fund	\$1,189,461
Total Internal Service Funds	\$1,319,610
ENTERPRISE FUNDS	
Water & Sewer	\$9,168,484
Parking	\$658,277
Boat Dock	\$205,867
Commodity Sales	\$151,000
Total Enterprise Funds	\$10,183,628
FIDUCIARY FUNDS	
Supplemental Annuity	\$274,290
Pension Trust Funds	\$3,617,171
Total Fiduciary Funds	\$3,891,461
Budget Total	\$36,855,727

A copy of the proposed budget will be available for inspection during regular business hours at the office of the City Administrator. Public comments, oral and/or written, will be welcome at the public hearing on the aforesaid proposed General Fund Budget and the various other Fund Budgets.

Bruce J. Smith
City Administrator

Home game round up around the Pointes

Varsity Baseball		
Grosse Pointe North		Record (9-6)
Date	Opponent (DH = Doubleheader)	Result
4/6	@ University Liggett	7-4 W
4/7	@ Rochester Adams	14-9 W
4/9	@ Brother Rice	9-1 L
4/10	Berkley (@Comerica)	10-0 W
4/13	Detroit Edison	11-7 L
4/15	@ Bloomfield Hills	11-4 W
4/17	Lake Orion (DH)	6-4 W, 6-5 W
4/19	@ St Clair	3-2 L
4/21	St Clair	12-5 L
4/22	@ St Clair	5-1 W
4/24	Grand Blanc	15-4 W
4/26	L'Anse Creuse	5-2 W
4/28	@ L'Anse Creuse	11-0 W
4/29	L'Anse Creuse	PPD
5/1	Dakota (DH)	5-2 L, 8-2 L
5/3	@ Anchor Bay	PPD
5/5	Anchor Bay	
5/6	@ Anchor Bay	
5/8	Grosse Pointe South (DH)	
5/10	Henry Ford	
5/12	@ Henry Ford	
5/13	Henry Ford	
5/15	Berkley (DH)	
5/17	@ L'Anse Creuse North	
5/18	@ Orchard Lake St. Mary	
5/19	L'Anse Creuse North	
5/20	@ L'Anse Creuse North	
5/21	@ Grand Blanc	
5/22	De LaSalle (DH)	
5/25	@ Cranbrook	
5/27	Cranbrook	
Grosse Pointe South		Record (4-5)
Date	Opponent	Result
4/3	Detroit Edison (DH)	11-1 L, 13-1 L
4/22	@ Stevenson	12-1 W
4/23	Henry Ford II (DH)	8-6 W, 12-5 L
4/24	@ Stevenson	PPD
4/26	Romeo	12-6 W
4/28	@ Romeo	3-1 L
4/30	Romeo	3-1 L
5/1	Lake Shore (@Comerica)	4-3 W
5/4	@ Eisenhower	
5/5	Eisenhower	
5/6	@ Eisenhower	
5/8	@ Grosse Pointe North (DH)	
5/10	@ Chippewa Valley	
5/12	Chippewa Valley	
5/13	@ Chippewa Valley	
5/15	Grosse Pointe South Invitational	
5/17	Dakota	
5/19	@ Dakota	
5/20	Dakota	
5/22	Grosse Pointe South Invitational	
5/25	@ Brother Rice	
5/28	@ University Liggett	
5/29	Grosse Pointe Invitational	
University Liggett		Record (16-2)
Date	Opponent	Result
4/6	Grosse Pointe North	7-4 L
4/9	@ Orchard Lake St Mary	12-6 L
4/10	U of D Jesuit (DH)	4-2 W, 5-0 W
4/12	Oakland Christian (DH)	16-0 W, 4-1 W
4/15	@ Bishop Foley (DH)	17-0 W, 11-0 W
4/17	@ Riverview Gabriel Richard (DH)	4-1 W, 3-1 W
4/22	Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard (DH)	3-1 W, 4-2 W
4/24	Lutheran Northern (DH)	8-0 W, 3-0 W
4/27	Bishop Foley (DH)	16-1 W, 10-0 W
4/30	Portage Northern (DH)	11-0 W, 15-2 W
5/4	Riverview Gabriel Richard (DH)	
5/6	@ Country Day	
5/7	Plymouth Christian (DH)	
5/10	@ Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard (DH)	
5/11	@ Lutheran Northern (DH)	
5/15	CHSL Semifinals	
5/17	Brother Rice (DH)	
5/20	CHSL Championship (@Comerica)	
5/24	De LaSalle	
5/28	Grosse Pointe South	
5/29	Orchard Lake St Mary	
5/29	Detroit Western	

MAC Baseball Standings as of 5/6					
	Division			Overall	
Red Division	W	L	GB	W	L
Eisenhower	3	0		9	6
Dakota	5	1	0.5	14	1
Romeo	3	3	2	8	5
Gr Pt South	2	2	2	4	5
Stevenson	0	1	2.5	5	4
Chippewa Valley	0	6	5	1	17
White Division	W	L	GB	W	L
Ford II	6	0		15	2
St. Clair	5	1	1	8	3
Gr Pt North	3	2	2.5	9	6
Anchor Bay	3	3	3	7	5
L'Anse Creuse	0	5	5.5	10	10
L'Anse Cr North	0	6	6	4	8

Thursday, May 6

Grosse Pointe South
Girls JV tennis vs. Detroit Country Day School, 4 p.m. @ Elworthy
Boys JV baseball vs. Eisenhower, 4:30 pm
Boys JV "B" baseball vs. GP North, 4:30 pm @ Elworthy

Grosse Pointe North
Boys JV baseball vs. Anchor Bay, 4 p.m.

University Liggett School
Girls varsity tennis vs. Regina, 4 p.m.
Girls varsity lacrosse vs. GP South, 4:30 p.m.
Girls varsity soccer vs. Everest, 4:30 p.m.
Girls varsity softball vs. Cranbrook, 4:30 p.m.

Friday, May 7

Grosse Pointe South
Boys & Girls varsity track vs. University Liggett School, 3:30 p.m.
Boys JV lacrosse vs. Gabriel Richard, 6 p.m.
Boys varsity lacrosse vs. Gabriel Richard, 7:30 p.m.

Grosse Pointe North
Girls varsity soccer vs. Chippewa Valley, 4 p.m.

@ Morningside
Girls JV lacrosse vs. Divine Child, 5:30 p.m.
Girls varsity lacrosse senior night vs. Ford, 7 p.m.

University Liggett School
Boys varsity baseball vs. Plymouth Christian, 4 and 6 p.m.
Girls varsity soccer vs. Summit, 4:30 p.m.
Girls varsity tennis vs. Clawson, 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 8

Grosse Pointe South
Girls varsity tennis vs. multiple opponents, 8 a.m. @ Elworthy and Liggett
Girls varsity softball vs. multiple opponents, 10 a.m. noon and 2 p.m. @ South and Messner
Girls JV soccer vs. St. Clair, 10:30 a.m.
Boys JV baseball vs. GP North, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. DH
Boys JV "B" baseball vs. GP North, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. DH @ Elworthy

Grosse Pointe North
Girls varsity tennis quad, 8 a.m.
Boys varsity baseball DH vs. GP South, 11

a.m. and 1 p.m.

University Liggett School
Boys JV baseball vs. Gabriel Richard, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. DH
Boys varsity lacrosse vs. Port Huron, noon

Monday, May 10

Grosse Pointe South
Boys JV baseball vs. Chippewa Valley, 4:30 p.m.
Girls JV lacrosse vs. Chippewa Valley, 6 p.m.
Girls varsity lacrosse vs. Chippewa Valley, 7:30 p.m.

Grosse Pointe North
Boys varsity baseball vs. Henry Ford, 4:30 p.m.
Girls JV softball vs. L'Anse Creuse, 4:30 p.m.
Girls JV lacrosse vs. Divine Child, 5:30 p.m.
Girls varsity lacrosse vs. ULS, 7 p.m.

University Liggett School
Boys varsity lacrosse vs. Greenhills, 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 11

Grosse Pointe South
Girls varsity tennis vs.

Mercy, 4 p.m. @Elworthy
Boys varsity lacrosse vs. GP North, 6 p.m.

Grosse Pointe North
Girls varsity tennis MAC tournament, 8 a.m.
Girls varsity softball vs. Lakeview, 4:30 p.m.

University Liggett School
Boys JV baseball vs. Lutheran North, 4:30 and 6 p.m. DH

Girls varsity soccer vs. TBD, 4:30 p.m.
Girls varsity softball vs. Bishop Foley, 4:30 and 6 p.m. DH
Girls varsity tennis vs. Greenhills, 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 12

Grosse Pointe South
Boys varsity baseball vs. Chippewa Valley, 4:30 p.m.

Grosse Pointe North
Boys varsity golf vs. Henry Ford, 3 p.m. @ Lochmoor

Girls varsity tennis vs. Stoney Creek, 4 p.m.
Boys JV baseball vs. Henry Ford, 4:30 p.m.
Boys JV "B" baseball vs. University of Detroit, 4:30 p.m. @ Ghesquiere
Girls varsity soccer vs. Anchor Bay, 6 p.m.



PHOTO COURTESY OF HOLLY RUTHERFORD

Jackson Miller on the mound for the Padres.

Around Little League

By Mike Adzima
Sports Reporter

Baseball season for the Farms-City and Woods-Shores Little Leagues are officially underway. As games have begun in recent weeks, here are some of the top scores and highlights from around Little League in the Pointes.

Farms-City

In the Majors, the Padres pulled off an incredible comeback Sunday to defeat the Cubs 6-5. The Padres were down 5-1 in the bottom of the sixth inning and down to their last out when they started an unlikely rally. A three-run double by Jack Babcock for the Padres helped tie the game at 5-5, with the win coming in extra innings. Charlie Michelotti started on the mound for the Cubs and recorded 11 Ks in 5 innings of work.

In AAA, the Bats

defeated the Knights in a high-scoring 17-16 matchup Sunday. An RBI double by Joseph Fodell tied the game for the Bats in the bottom of the sixth and he would come in to score the winning run. The Mudhens defeated the Bulls 10-7 Sunday, with Lukas Ferguson for the Mudhens and Brady Cooper for the Bulls both having solid performances on the mound.

Sunday's AA games saw the Storm victorious 9-0 over the Yard Goats and the Thunder winning 6-2 over the Raptors. William Kowal had two extra-base hits for the Raptors, while the Thunder saw great work on the mound from Henry Schmitt, David Hindelang and Conrad Casby. The Storm were led by two hits from Nicolas Provenzano in their win, with RBI from Kevin Agnone and Teddy Cotton.

Woods-Shores

On Saturday, the Bulls came back from an 8-2 deficit to defeat the Iron Birds 10-8. Sam Loflin took the mound for the Bulls and struck out eight batters. Jake Totin had a homerun for the

Iron Birds while Corbin Ruttan hit one over the fence for the Bulls.

On Sunday, the A's defeated the Angels 17-1. The Dodgers edged out a close 5-4 win over the Tigers and the Angels defeated the Nats 9-7.



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Charlie Michelotti pitching for the Cubs.

