

Grosse Pointe News

VOL. 81, NO. 18, 14 PAGES
ONE DOLLAR (DELIVERY 86¢) MAY 7, 2020
GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

Construction gets go-ahead

By Mary Anne Brush
Staff Writer

THE GROSSE POINTE — A May 1 executive order from Gov. Gretchen Whitmer gives the green light for construction to commence on Grosse Pointe Public School System summer bond projects.

construction projects could resume Thursday, May 7. The order requires construction companies to follow safe workplace requirements as necessary. GPPSS Superintendent Gary Niehaus sent an email to members of the GPPSS Board of

See GPPSS, page 3A



PHOTO BY JACK RYAN

More than 150 Grosse Pointe Farms, Park and City employees received COVID-19 testing May 1.

Employees tested for virus, antibodies

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE CITY, FARMS & PARK — Through ACCESS, a group associated with Wayne State University School of Medicine, 170 City, Farms and Park employees received COVID-19 testing at Windmill Pointe Park Friday, May 1. “We just thought it was important that as testing became available, that we test our essential workers,” said Stephen Poloni, City and Park director of public safety.

vided to each employee. The first tested whether the person currently was under any effects of COVID-19, while the second looked to see whether the person had the virus previously and if his or her body was building up any antibodies toward it. “They’re only required to reveal the information to us if they tested positive,” Poloni said. “We don’t have anyone (in the City or Park) that reported to us that they were positive with the virus. Some people did have some antibodies.”

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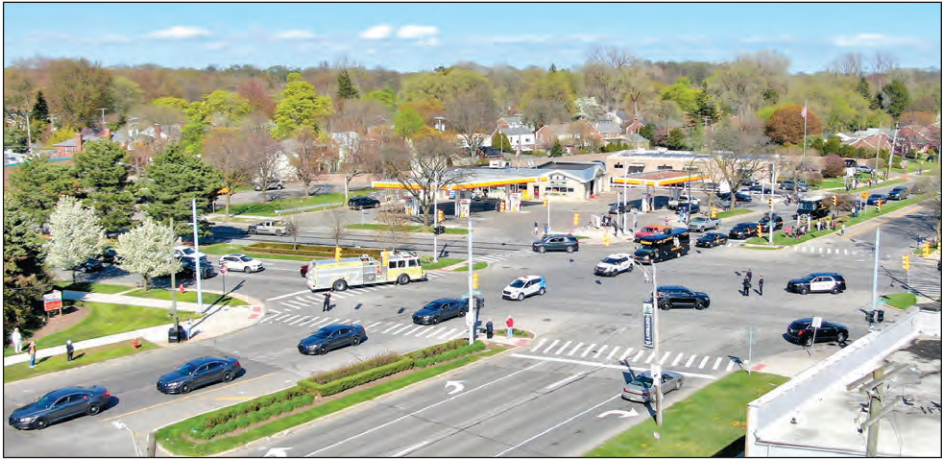
PHOTO COURTESY OF RENEE LANDUYT

Grosse Pointe Farms K-9 Officer Tim Harris and K-9 Officer Duke led the May 4 parade, followed by an officer with the Detroit Mounted Police.

First responders process by Ascension

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

DETROIT — A procession stretching from Kerby Field to I-94 and led by the Farms K-9 unit, as well as the Detroit Mounted Police passed by the Ascension St. John Hospital campus at 5 p.m. Monday, May 4, in an effort to honor both hospital personnel and first responders. “What we’re looking to do is we want to continue with morale boosters for the hospital employees,” said Sean Lane, vice president of the St. John Guild, based out of the Moross campus, and organizer of the event. The procession was made up specifically of law enforcement, emergency medical services and fire department personnel, many of whom turned on their vehicles’ lights and sirens as they passed the hospital. “It was a good turn-



DRONE PHOTO BY JACK RYAN/SKYVIEW AERIAL PRODUCTIONS

A long line of first responders show their support of healthcare workers at Ascension St. John Hospital Monday evening.

out,” Lane said. “There was a good showing of hospital staff out in front of the hospital, cheering it on. There was a good return from the public standing on Mack and Moross in front of the hospital or at the corners.” More than 20 departments and organizations participated, including those from Grosse Pointe Farms, Shores and

Woods, as well as Detroit police and fire, Wayne County Sheriff’s road patrol and auxiliary unit, St. John Security Police, U.S. Marshal Service and Homeland Security. A MedStar helicopter also flew overhead. “(St. John employees) were clearly in shock and very appreciative,” Lane said. “I was getting text messages, ‘Thank you very much, excellent

job.” Many of the first responders participating in the procession were honored and even surprised, Lane explained, because they hadn’t realized the event was meant to honor them as well. “This goes both ways, because if you’re at home with COVID, one of them, being an EMT, See PROCESS, page 3A

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Victory blooms in community garden

By Eddie B. Allen Jr.
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Waiting for the problem to arise just didn’t seem smart. For Elisa Gurule, the early weeks of an ongoing worldwide health crisis forecast the potential of another problem — the shortage of food. While panicked shoppers fre-

quently cleared market shelves of non-perishables and household items as they prepared to retreat indoors, Gurule pondered the need for community-based sources of nutrition. In the few weeks since identifying her goal, Gurule and other Park residents joined Detroiters in taking action. Around 80 volunteers began preparing the East Side/ Grosse Pointe Park Victory

Garden at Detroit Abloom. Borrowing its name from a 1942 article, “Nature’s Garden for Victory and Peace,” written by Dr. George Washington Carver, the victory garden concept emerged during World Wars as civilians feared battle might impact food supplies. Supported by Park residents Wendy Relan, Michelle Roberts, Andrea Daniell and Carly Copus,

Gurule sought to launch a similar project. “There’s been a huge response from the Grosse Pointe Park community,” said Gurule, a pre-certified Master Gardener. “People have been really on board.” A location in the Park near the library on Jefferson was her first site preference, but the city expressed concerns about maintenance and liability. Word See GARDEN, page 2A

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Carly Copus
Home: Grosse Pointe Park
Manages one of the Pointes’ most visible online communities



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Crowd-sourcing could reopen popular Park eatery

By Eddie B. Allen Jr.
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Melanie Schridde's loss led to a rewarding gain.

Her father's death came with an inheritance that let her invest in a longtime goal almost six years ago when she started Mimi's Bistro.

"This has been my dream since I was 9 years old," Schridde said, "to open a restaurant."

Located on Jefferson, the breakfast and lunch eatery has gained a loyal customer base. So loyal, in fact, that helping out has become their habit. With the restaurant's doors closed since March and staff unemployed amid health and safety concerns, Schridde hopes public support will revive her dream again.

Having been turned down for financial assistance available to struggling small businesses, Mimi's launched a GoFundMe campaign that's generated \$8,000



PHOTO BY JACK RYAN

Mimi's Bistro owner Melanie Schridde seeks the public's help to reopen its doors.

of the \$25,000 goal.

"I felt it necessary, but it wasn't my first choice," Schridde said.

Customers have contributed equipment to the restaurant and made generous gestures that led to bonds more familial than formal, but asking for help makes Schridde uncomfortable,

she said.

Kathy Loren, a Farms resident, said she was glad to donate to the fund, having regularly frequented Mimi's Sunday brunch with friends. She was disappointed to see the restaurant's doors closed, without even carryout service available.

"It's a wonderful place and the people are great," Loren said. "I just thought it was really sad."

Schridde said she closed the business out of concern for her eight-person staff and their health, along with that of patrons. She thinks Mimi's has been passed

Hospitable coffee house helps local businesses

Using philanthropy as its special blend has helped a local java roaster raise \$10,000 to support 50 temporarily closed Detroit-area shops and restaurants. Coffeehaus, owned by Luke Kirtley and operated by Jack Glover, both Park residents, has partnered with Mimi's Bistro and several dozen other temporarily shuttered establishments to distribute a coffee flavor that generates sales for businesses identified on each bag of the product.

Half the proceeds from each purchase of Hospitality Support Blend from Coffeehaus' website Coffeeha.us/shop will assist neighborhood establishments like Mimi's with reopening expenses, Kirtley said. Coffeehaus also has joined Mimi's by donating coffee to local healthcare employees who receive the gift of Mimi's fudge brownies.

over for financial assistance due to its relatively small payroll and lean operation, compared to other businesses, she said. While still seeking government relief to reopen, she said meeting the \$25,000 goal would help pay delinquent bills and sustain the restaurant's reboot. Potential donors can access the fund and make online donations by visiting mimisonjefferson.com, the "Mimi's Bistro" Facebook page or Mimi's Bistro on Instagram.

In the face of her own challenges, Schridde still gives to others. Among baked goods sold at Mimi's is a popular brownie that has been donated to staff at health facilities from metro Detroit to Ann Arbor. While the brownie donation is referenced on the website, Schridde stresses that GoFundMe donations will be applied solely toward reopening Mimi's.

"I want our patrons to know what we're trying to do," she said.

GARDEN:

Continued from page 1A

leaked just across the Detroit border into the Jefferson Chalmers neighborhood and Tom Milano, co-founder and director of Detroit Abloom, showed up, literally, at Gurule's door.

"If anybody's reaching out to grow food, that melts my heart immediately," Milano said.

An urban agricultural enterprise located at 248 Manistique, Detroit Abloom offered two lots

where the East Side/Victory Garden will grow lettuce, spinach, potatoes, tomatoes, winter squash, cabbage, cauliflower and other foods for distribution to Park and Detroit residents. The produce will be freely given to those in need, but recipients will be asked to assist in maintaining the garden, Gurule said.

While Michigan government food assistance has increased, she expects the price of produce to increase with

potential scarcity, affecting overall economic stability.

"This is not charity; this is solidarity," Gurule said.

While the garden's land is in Detroit, the initiative can serve as a suburban-urban bridge, she added: "So it's actually more of a community-building exercise than what I had envisioned."

"This whole notion of middle-class security, it's a myth," she added. "People who were small business owners are seeing their whole livelihood blown apart."

Milano, who has overseen both floral and food growth at Detroit Abloom, said the effort can double as a service to neighborhood residents and a stride forward in the organization's mission.

"At the crux of it, Detroit Abloom is all about community revitalization," Milano said.

Victory garden vegetables are expected to be



PHOTOS BY JACK RYAN

Volunteers work to start a victory garden at Detroit Abloom.

available in 2020. Gurule's vision of two communities growing together is both literal

and symbolic, she said. Milano is hopeful. "That word 'victory' also has connotations that

might apply to some of the barriers between Detroit and the Grosse Pointes," he said.



An aerial view of the new East Side/Grosse Pointe Park Victory Garden.

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Jennifer Palms Boettcher

"Chamber Chat"

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Sinkhole threatening sewer system is fixed

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — In the next stage of the ongoing saga that is the crumbling seawall along Lakeshore, the Shores finished repairs early this week on a particular sinkhole that was endangering the sanitary sewer system.

“What we did is we put a steel sheet directly behind the seawall to keep the waves out and to hold any fill that we put in and Wayne County did donate stone to back-fill the hole and then we’re putting concrete over that,” Shores Director of Public Works Brett Smith explained.

The concern surrounding this particular sinkhole, located near the Woodland crossroad, has been ongoing for years.

“As a matter of fact, in 2018, I spent \$119,000 to line that sewer there because the ground was moving, causing the lake water to enter my sanitary sewer system and now that erosion got so bad, it was threatening



COURTESY PHOTOS

The sinkhole on Lakeshore before the project began.

the integrity of the manhole that we have right there,” Smith reported.

While the issue is technically the county’s responsibility, the Shores was told the county cannot fix it due to finances, Smith reported.

“It is Wayne County seawall, but that would be very bad if we got the lake water into our system or if that was to fail,



Wayne County provided stone to fill the sinkhole. The Shores then poured cement over it as the final step in the temporary repair.

so we have to protect our infrastructure. It’s that simple,” he said.

No other sinkhole repairs currently are scheduled in the Shores.

“This is a one off only because we’re trying to protect our critical infrastructure,” Smith reported. “I mean, it’s sanitary sewage. The possibility would be, if worse comes to worst, we could flood basements in that whole subdivision.”

This is no longer a concern due to the repairs, which should hold until the seawall is fixed.

“We’ve had our construction engineers observing,” Smith said. “This was an emergency repair. It was not something that was scheduled. Once we found that the integrity of that manhole was compromised, we had to act right away.

“ And that’s not the worst sinkhole along Lakeshore Road,” he continued. “I realize that; however, in that particular area, we have critical infrastructure.”

An engineering study, which is considered to be the first significant step toward a complete seawall repair project, currently is waiting on completion of bore samples, Farms City Manager Shane Reeside reported.

“Keep in mind, there’s sinkholes all over that (seawall),” Smith said. “I have one I could put two garbage trucks in and it still wouldn’t fill it up.”



PHOTO COURTESY OF RENEE LANDUYT

Ascension St. John healthcare workers wave to the first responders as they drive by with lights and sirens.

PROCESS:
Continued from page 1A

firefighter or police officer, is generally coming to your house, then

they’re taking you to the hospital,” he said. “So they actually touch these patients first, when you think about it. Not everybody’s walking into St. John or Beaumont on

their own or being driven by a family member, so I wanted to make sure that they were being honored and that’s what really threw them off.”

Ascension St. John affiliates plan to create additional events and programs in the coming weeks to continue to motivate and support hospital staff.



DRONE PHOTO BY JACK RYAN/SKYVIEW AERIAL PRODUCTIONS

A parade of city employees lined up to receive COVID-19 testing May 1.

TESTS:
Continued from page 1A

The ACCESS team was only scheduled for four hours, so a limited number of Shores employees were able to be tested as well.

“We put (the Shores and Woods) in contact with a group to set up a time for them to do theirs also, so I anticipate they would probably be doing it sometime in the near future,” Poloni said.

GPPSS:
Continued from page 1A

Education and administrative team confirming the go-ahead for construction to begin on the five schools slated for renovations this summer — Defer, Ferry and Monteith elementary schools, Parcels Middle School and Grosse Pointe South High School.

In November 2018, voters approved a \$111 million bond, issued in two series, to address critical needs — roofs, mechanical systems and finishes for facilities averaging 78 years in age; technology infrastructure and instructional technology for classrooms; reduction of energy costs through upgrades; and an increase in school building longevity.

“The Return to Work Task Force will be working with the teachers in the five buildings under construction this summer to pack and box up their classrooms and empty student lockers,” Niehaus wrote. “Roofing and asbestos abatement contractors will be able to get to work shortly

thereafter. Summer construction should be in full swing before June 1, 2020.”

According to a letter from Robert McCann, executive director of Tri-County Alliance for Public Education, to its members, TCA has been working with the governor’s office on developing guidelines for safely reopening schools this fall “and the urgency surrounding answering how to best do that so that schools can use the summer months to make necessary changes and, of course, we can work to secure funding that may be needed to implement those changes.”

Assisting the governor’s office, according to McCann’s letter, is Opportunity Labs, a national organization led by Andrew Buher, a former White House official and chief operating officer of The New York City Department of Education who led the city’s efforts to reopen schools following Hurricane Sandy, and Mario Ramirez, former acting director for the Office of Pandemic and Emerging Threats under President Obama, to lead

this effort along with their team of health and education experts.

“Together, they will quickly get to work with the governor’s office, MDE (Michigan Department of

Education) and school officials from across Michigan to develop guidelines for safely reopening schools with a goal of having those recommendations complete by July 1,” Buher wrote.



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Neighborhood advocate builds community from within

By Eddie B. Allen Jr.
Staff Writer

Carly Copus is building a community inside her community.

Since launching a popular Facebook group in 2016, her vision to provide a few neighborly resources has grown into an online source connecting residents along civic and social lines. “The GPP Community Page” exploded from a few hundred participants to the most recent number of around 3,400 members.

“I never imagined it growing into this whole ball of wax,” Copus said.

A lifelong resident of the area, she lived throughout the Pointes before briefly moving to Florida with her husband Patrick around 10 years ago. The couple decided to move to a home in the Park to be back on familiar ground for the birth of their first son.

Noticing limited social media that represented the Pointes and soon finding herself mostly home caring for school-aged children, she began

to fill a void Park residents from various backgrounds have come to appreciate.

“There was another community page that was very conservative that really would just remove anyone who said something against whoever was running the page,” Copus recalled.

Although the aim was non-political and non-controversial, her decision to start a public group where neighborhood referrals and recommendations could be shared became one of the Park’s most influential online gathering places. Residents like Vikas Relan and Aimeé Rogers Fluitt, whose ideas gained exposure on the page in the months before their November city council victories, helped prove that online communities influence life beyond cyberspace, Copus said.

“I think that was really shown in the elections last year. The people that won were the people that were there (on the page) answering questions,” she added.

But while there have been productive developments and dialogue, participants and discussions sometimes stray from the group’s neighborly direction.

“I really work hard at maintaining a positive space, which doesn’t always make a lot of people happy,” she said of contributors whose comments are removed. “I get a lot of angry direct messages.”

Copus tries to literally drive home the point that “the person you’re calling names is the person you might be sitting next to at a restaurant next week,” she said, “or your kid might be in the same class as theirs next year.”

“Neighbor shaming,” such as photos of the overgrown lawn next door, is strictly prohibited, Copus said. The page moderator favors communication over humiliation.

“It’s like, ‘Go talk to your neighbor,’” she said. “What’s wrong with you?”

Additional efforts to keep residents abreast of city events and decisions



COURTESY PHOTO

Carly Copus manages one of the Pointes’ most visible online communities.

made by elected officials require balance.

“This is where people feel comfortable and feel they’re being heard, so I think it’s really important for them to understand

what’s going on,” Copus said. “And it can be a double-edged sword, because people kind of feel comfortable being jerks.”

But insulting language and personal attacks posted on “The GPP Community Page” can earn one a spot on the naughty list.

“I will delete stuff I agree with,” Copus said.

The flip side of unpleasant exchanges is friendship that extends beyond computer keyboards and mobile devices, she added. In the recent weeks of limited face-to-face interaction with neighbors, Copus said few days pass without a bottle of wine or snacks dropped off on her porch. Between managing the page and looking after children — Benjamin, 9, Marshall, 5, and Piper, 1 — she works part-time at Steiner Printing, but still manages to pick up occasional groceries for those living nearby.

“I want it to be a village,” Copus said. “We have this beautiful community and we have the ability to help each other so often.”

“It’s so important that we take care of each other and, as much of a bummer as it gets to be when people fight on the page, kindness restores my faith in humanity.”



PHOTO COURTESY OF STU ALDERMAN

Sign salutation

The Neighborhood Club posted a sign in front of its building, temporarily closed amid COVID-19 concerns, “saluting all frontline heroes,” said Executive Director Stu Alderman.

Wayne County leads Mack/Moross construction project

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

THE GROSSE POINTES & DETROIT — Wayne County began its Mack Avenue and Moross Road preventive maintenance rehabilitation project, which is expected to bring few disruptions to area residents, Monday, April 27.

The project is set to be completed this fall and includes more than six miles of asphalt pavement resurfacing and concrete pavement repair, split into three segments.

“I think what they’re doing is there were some areas where the seams of the pavement have started to peel back a little bit ... and so my understanding is they’re going in and making spot repairs along Mack Avenue with an emphasis on repairing some of the seams,” Farms City Manager Shane Reeside said.

Segment one includes Mack Avenue from Wayburn Street to Cadieux Road, segment two includes Mack Avenue from Moross Road to Eight Mile Road

and segment three consists of Moross Road from Kelly Road to Mack Avenue.

“There is some work being done on Moross, but in Detroit, (not) in the Farms,” Reeside said. “It’s between Mack Avenue and I-94, including some repairs near the entrance and exit ramp to 94, which tend to rattle your fillings when you go through there.”

Sections of the Mack Avenue parking lane may be closed occasionally for pavement joint repairs, but will be lim-

ited to one mile at a time.

“It’s kind of a fluid repair,” Reeside said. “As they work their way down, there might be some temporary barricaded parking areas, but it should be limited and temporary in nature.”

At the least, one lane of traffic in each direction will remain open throughout the duration of construction and consecutive turnarounds will not be closed at the same time.

“I wouldn’t expect any significant disruption at all,” Reeside said.

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G.P. Dems issue racial disparity resolution

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

THE GROSSE POINTES — Citing statistics as of Sunday, April 26, that African Americans make up approximately 40 percent of COVID-19 deaths in Michigan despite only

accounting for about 14 percent of the population, the Grosse Pointe Democratic Club partnered with the Grosse Pointes-Harper Woods NAACP Branch, Welcoming Everyone Grosse Pointe and

Macomb County Young Democrats to create a resolution in response to the disparity Monday, April 27.

“I think the inspiration for this (resolution) in particular was obviously we’ve seen not just the crisis in general happening around us, but Detroit being hit really hard,” said Colton Dale, second vice president of GPDC. “African American people are getting hit really hard and having a much higher case count in their community and also death rate as well.”

ence some policy because, while we do believe Gov. (Gretchen) Whitmer is doing a pretty good job, we do also think that the state legislature could be helping a little bit more and doing more to help the most hard-hit communities during this crisis,” Dale said.

The resolution has been sent to the governor’s office, lieutenant governor’s office, state party and democratic clubs across the state.

“Some of the response we have gotten was mostly, I think, from other democratic clubs across the state saying, ‘Hey, great job taking this initiative,’ and all that sort of thing,” Dale said.

The club has yet to hear back from any state departments or the governor’s office.

“We’re going to look to do more things like this in the future and use our influence the best we can, not just to organize and knock doors and things like that so we can help Democrats win, but also to hopefully influence good policy in our state,” Dale said.

Grosse Pointe News

USPS 230-400

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY BY
POINTE NEWS INCORPORATED

16980 KERCHEVAL AVE.
GROSSE POINTE, MI 48230
PHONE: (313) 882-6900

PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID at Detroit, Michigan and additional mailing offices.

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PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Getting prepared

Sandbags are being deployed at Grosse Pointe Woods Lake Front Park to help minimize the potential for park flooding if the lake level reaches an all-time record high. For the bags to function properly, it is critical that boaters and others visiting the park do not step on the sandbags. The Department of Public Works is constructing bridges to assist boaters over the sandbags.

High water levels remain an issue, the city said. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' forecast shows Lake St. Clair cresting May through June, with a possible level 2 to 6 inches higher than last July's record high. While the city isn't sure if the marina will close, the possibility of a closure is under review and changes in marina policies are being assessed. Boaters will be notified when a policies decision has been made.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LISA FRANCIS

Scholar-athlete

The Grosse Pointe Bulldogs hockey club would like to congratulate Grosse Pointe North senior Michael Burns, second from left, as the 2019-20 recipient of the \$2,000 Jack R. McSorley Scholarship. Burns was awarded the scholarship during the Eastside Youth Sports Foundation Bulldog Hockey 2019-20 season closing and award presentations at the end of March. For each season of the Grosse Pointe Hockey Association and now Bulldog Hockey since the 1982-83 season, it honors local student-athletes in the hockey program who excelled as athletes and also achieved a 3.2 grade-point average during the hockey season. The purpose of the award is to recognize excellent achievement by the student-athlete in the classroom and the hockey program. Each awardee receives both a Jack McSorley Scholastic Achievement certificate and a commemorative medal award. Seventy Bulldog hockey players received the Scholastic Award this season and each of their names will be posted on the ESYSF Bulldog website. Also pictured are Burns' parents, Steve and Diane, and John McSorley, Jack's father.

City of Grosse Pointe

Beware of SS scams

An unknown person claiming to be with the Social Security Administration attempted to get personal information from a Grosse Pointe resident over the phone Tuesday, April 28. When the resident refused to give their full Social Security number, the caller hung up. Public safety is asking residents to be aware of an uptick in scam calls during this time.

Catalytic converter theft

A Grosse Pointe man discovered the catalytic converter had been cut off his vehicle when he went to start it Thursday, April 30, after it had been parked in front of his home the past five days.

Speeding without a license

After being seen traveling 55 mph in a 35 mph zone at Mack Avenue and Lakeland Street Sunday, May 3, the driver's vehicle was impounded due to driving while license suspended.

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

Grosse Pointe Shores

Bicycle accident

A 66-year-old Woods man riding a bicycle was struck by a motor vehicle driven by a 23-year-old St. Clair Shores man at Lakeshore Road and Fontana Lane at 4:26 p.m. Friday, May 1. The victim was transported to Ascension St. John Hospital due to his injuries.

Operating while intoxicated

After traveling more than 60 mph on Lakeshore Road at 12:45

PUBLIC SAFETY

a.m. Sunday, May 3, a 21-year-old Okemos woman was pulled over and arrested for operating while intoxicated.

Preliminary breath test results showed her blood alcohol content at .17 percent.
— Laurel Kraus
Report information about these and other crimes to Grosse Pointe Shores Public Safety, (313) 881-5500.

Grosse Pointe Farms

Another catalytic converter theft

The catalytic converter was stolen from a 50-year-old Farms woman's vehicle while it was parked in the 300 block of Fisher between Tuesday, April 28, and Friday, May 1.

Porch pirate

A delivery of AirPods was stolen from a 30-year-old Farms man's Hall Place porch at 11:30 a.m. Friday, May 1.

Shoe deal gone wrong

Two Park 20-year-olds assaulted a 19-year-old Farms man with a plastic bat at 5:40 p.m. Friday, May 1, over a shoe deal that went bad. No significant injuries were reported.

Driving under the influence of marijuana

After being found passed out behind the wheel with his foot on the brake at 4 p.m. Saturday, May 2, on Mack Avenue, a 27-year-old Harper Woods man was arrested for driving under the influence of marijuana.

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

Grosse Pointe Woods

Public safety reports were not available.

— Eddie B. Allen Jr.
Report information about crimes to Grosse Pointe Woods Public Safety, (313) 343-2400.

Grosse Pointe Park

Hondas hit

Catalytic converters were stolen in separate incidents from a Honda in the 1400 block of Maryland between 6 p.m. Saturday, April 25, and 7 a.m. Monday, April 27, and from a second Honda in the 1300 block of Bedford between Monday, April 27, and 6:30 p.m. Friday, May 1. The suspect in both

thefts was unknown.

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



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Grosse Pointe News

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY POINTE NEWS INCORPORATED
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OUR VIEW

Pointers easing back outdoors

The gardening centers probably opened just in time for Grosse Pointers and others in southeastern Michigan. Combined with the warm glories of the past weekend, new flowers helped a lot of people work the cabin fever out of their systems. Let a thousand porch pots bloom!

This, now, is the true test of Michiganders reeling from the ravages of the COVID-19 pandemic. Warm, sunny days have finally arrived after a period even more emotionally fraught than the typical cold, short days of late winter. If a month could feel embraceable, it would be May.

Yet the COVID-19 rules from Gov. Gretchen Whitmer put a premium on distance — the six feet or so that forms the standard these days — plus a mask for encounters that may breach the benchmark. (And if you’ve watched some of the coughing and sneezing demonstrations done on television, a six-foot guideline doesn’t always look like enough.)

For the most part, Grosse Pointers seem to be in the groove, stepping far aside when they meet on sidewalks, wearing masks and holding their distances in stores. But stories abound, nonetheless, about careless shoppers creeping up on others.

And it’s clear, especially with continuing demonstrations in Lansing, some in Michigan don’t want to even go along with the governor’s less restrictive measures she has put in place. Gov. Whitmer wisely backed off her bans on gardening and paint sales, landscaping services, boating and a few other activities. In neighboring Ohio, Gov. Mike DeWine abandoned an order requiring customers to wear face masks in stores — a move he deemed as a “step too far.” We disagree.

Nationwide, the muddle is even worse. States that still have rising caseloads of COVID-19 are easing off some of their most protective measures; that includes nearby states such as Indiana and Illinois. Gov. Whitmer’s plans include easing back into construction, outdoor work and real estate activities this week.

Yet Michigan’s status remains uncertain. The Pointes, like most communities in southeast Michigan, are still losing residents to COVID-19. According to the dashboard at waynecounty.com, 26 Pointers in total have died from the disease. But new cases are tapering off in this part of the state, even as the statistics suggest more cases are showing up in western Michigan.

And it’s quite possible that the medical community has learned enough to cope with this level of disease. Hospitals also have begun aggressively putting out the word that people who suffer from other symptoms — such as from a stroke or heart attack — need to get themselves to an ER.

“Other emergencies continue to occur, whether it’s cardiovascular, strokes, serious abdominal pain, trauma (or) the need for urgent surgeries,” Dr. Robert Takla, chief of emergency medicine at Ascension St. John, told the Grosse Pointe News for its April 30 edition. “... Ignoring the symptoms is definitely dangerous.”

Yet even as the medical community gets COVID-19 worked into a seemingly normal routine, the region, state and country as a whole seem to be casting about for their next steps.

It’s worth remembering that Michigan remained third highest among states for its number of deaths, at least as of the start of this week, and 80 percent of those have been in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties.

It may be no wonder that the rest of the state views the tri-county area as foreign. Yet Michigan’s economy is enormously dependent on what happens here — including whether vacationers can spread out across the state this summer without also injecting the disease into places ill-equipped to manage an outbreak.

So if gardening and boating and home improvement projects help ease the pressure that has built over the past two months, all the better. Grosse Pointers can surely meet the challenges ahead, just as they manage to stay well spaced on the sidewalks.



PHOTO COURTESY OF RENEE LANDUYT

Pure Grosse Pointe

While those at the Sunrise senior community on Mack Avenue in Grosse Pointe Woods thank our first responders for all they do, we would also like them to take a bow as well for their heroic efforts on behalf of our elderly and their families.

OUR VIEW

Seawall days are numbered

As cars wove around repairs on Lakeshore Road in Grosse Pointe Shores this week, it was yet another reminder that a solution is too long in coming for the seawall that braces the road in the Shores and the Farms.

High water continues to threaten the seawall, as levels drift up again this year. So far, Lake St. Clair has exceeded its year-ago measurements and is poised to set new monthly records. That could also position the lake to set a new all-time record, exceeding last summer’s new high.

Lake St. Clair’s May 1 water level, according to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, was estimated to be two inches above its year-ago level and is expected to rise another inch as the month progresses. But even if the current levels begin to level off once summer kicks in, as the forecast suggests, the aged seawall isn’t going to get a new lease on life.

Nothing is certain, of course, with water levels on the Great Lakes. And at this point it probably doesn’t take record levels to damage the seawall, especially considering what is surely becoming a patchwork of repairs.

This particular job became necessary to keep lake water from entering the Shores’ sanitary sewer system and causing basement flooding in nearby homes. It is by no means the only problem area along the seawall, but most do not threaten other parts of either Shores or Farms infrastructure.

The seawall is generally believed to be Wayne County’s, yet progress toward replacing it has been slow and uncertain. An engineering study, considered the first step, awaits completion of bore samples.

High water also has forced the various Pointes to take steps to protect other parts of their properties, including the City of Grosse Pointe’s recent decision to install a Tiger Dam in Neff Park to hold back water. The dam system complements the use of sandbags, which serve as a barrier against wave action but don’t keep everything behind them dry.

Cities also continue to keep a watchful eye on

their marinas. Most have piers of varying heights, some of which might have to close if levels go much higher. City workers also are keeping a close eye on the electrical systems in the marinas, to make sure they remain safe for boaters.

And the high water serves as a reminder that not everything pauses just because a new disease emerges — a crumbling seawall being perhaps the foremost example around here.

OUR VIEW

Call mom

Sunday has the potential to be one of the most awkward Mother’s Days in memory.

No sit-down restaurants are open in Michigan because of the COVID-19 pandemic and some of the carry-out restaurants don’t open on Sunday. You may be able to find flowers at local grocery stores or arrange a delivery from a local florist, but you can’t send Mom to church even if you can find her a corsage to wear there.

The big family dinner generally works for Mother’s Day because there are often multiple generations to honor; many a mother wants to see her grandchildren and great-grandchildren too. But following Michigan rules for staying safe means even a family group can’t get too big these days, and who meets up with whom may depend a lot on who’s going where and getting exposed to what in their daily lives.

So for young moms, this year will probably bring a creative breakfast and a homemade card, if there’s any paper left in the house. And adult children need only remember that a phone call need not be perfect to be meaningful.

So make a card for Mom. Call Mom. In a time of unusual stress, it matters.

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.

Thank you, City of Grosse Pointe

To the Editor:

Thank you, City of Grosse Pointe for:

- ◆ Resident access to Neff Park
- ◆ The Tiger Dam at Neff Park

- ◆ Approving street-light upgrades
- ◆ Waiving fees for late payments on water billing
- ◆ Supporting COVID-19 through the Grosse Pointe Boat Club donations to Beaumont Hospital and City

employees

- ◆ Balanced COVID-19 guidance.

The level of effort is exceptional. I am so grateful to be living in the City of Grosse Pointe.

DAVE FRIES
City of Grosse Pointe

Thank you, too

To the Editor:

I just want to voice our appreciation to the Grosse Pointe Boat Club for their generosity and thoughtfulness.

They have fed the Henry Ford Cottage Emergency Room the last three Saturdays, going so far as to make two separate deliveries at noon and again at 8 p.m. to ensure the mid-

night staff was not left out. All this, while supporting our incredible local restaurants we all hold close to our hearts.

Words cannot express our gratitude in the Cottage ER for the outpouring of love from our wonderful Grosse Pointe community. So many others have provided meals/treats to Cottage ER too — Redefined Church, Grosse Pointe Mom’s Swap, Racing for Kids, Shorewood Kiwanis, Elisa Gurule “Feed the Frontlines,” just to name a few. I do not wish to leave anyone out, so thank you ALL.

While we may be social-distanced, having

See LETTERS, page 7A

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I SAY By John Minnis

Social isolation on the farm



Being isolated at home with no one other than your family members to interact with was the way of life for our pioneers — and for me and my siblings during summers on the farm. After the last day of school in June, with the nearest children our age miles away, we did not see another schoolmate until after Labor Day. Because of the distances involved, we did not participate in Little League, which was held “in town.” Fortunately, there were eight children in

our family, the four oldest only a few years apart. So we could play some baseball, when not doing chores. Most days, Dad left a list of chores for us to do before he got home from work “in the city.” These were in addition to the feeding and watering of the animals. We spent a lot of days mucking the barn. But we also spent a lot of hours exploring, picking berries, building “forts” in the woods, climbing trees and examining badger holes. I was lucky, though, in that I had a built-in playmate my own age — my twin brother, Doug. Fortunately, we liked the same things and were roughly equal in sports and other pursuits. We were “chums,” as Mark Twain would say,

and seldom were we apart. We all had our chores. Doug raised the pigs, I the beef cattle. Older brother Mark took care of the horses and ponies, Steve, the rabbits, and David, the chickens. The youngest three — Lisa, Paul and Matt —were too little to do chores, at least until we older ones got into high school and had other interests. When we turned 12, we joined the Boy Scouts, which got us away from the farm — and chores — for one week of summer camp. It was a great opportunity to make outside friendships and learn things — canoeing, woodcarving, swimming, archery and even marksmanship. Our dad didn’t like the timing of summer camp, though, because it coin-

cided with his company’s two-week shutdown. (In those days, all the auto suppliers shutdown the same two weeks as the auto plants.) But summer camp was just for one of those two weeks, so Dad had his “laborers” back for a good week. During that time, we moved barns, rolling them on wooden fence posts Egyptian style, baling hay, excavating a septic field, building fences, you name it. Life on the farm. As an adult, I discovered a book, “Diary of an Early American Boy” by Eric Sloane, at Greenfield Village. It featured the life of a young boy on a farm in 1805. I was fascinated with the book because so much of it resonated with me and my time as

a boy on a farm — some 80 years later. The author also illustrated the book with drawings of the buildings, sheds, fencing, bridges and tools he and his father built right on the farm. I still have that book and thumb through it time to time. By now, many people are beginning to suffer “quarantine fatigue.” That’s understandable. My best cure is keeping busy, “doing a project.” Last Saturday I broke self-quarantine by going to Lowe’s to buy 24 box-woods to begin a border hedge in front of our house. Donning a mask and gloves, I was able to safely navigate the garden center and maintain social distancing. Later in the afternoon, Terry drove me to Lowe’s to pick up a soaker hose

inside the store. When she saw the number of people streaming in and out of the store, she commented, “There’s going to be a spike.” While more crowded than I would have liked, the store did have the floors marked for social distancing, everyone wore a mask, including the workers, and there was Plexiglas between the checkout clerk and customer. I think I got in and out without exposure, but it is not a trip I would like to do too often. It is way too early to “open up” the state or country in the manner some people are calling for. So hunker down at home and find a project to do if or when you are not “working from home” as we are. Good luck and be safe!

YESTERDAY’S HEADLINES

1945

75 years ago this week

POINTE QUIET ON ‘V-E’ DAY: Grosse Pointe observed “V-E” Day Tuesday with solemnity and restraint. There was no celebration. There was no noise. There were prayers and pledges of renewed effort to hasten the end of the war with Japan. Many churches held special services. Those that had set no special observance were visited by many who dropped in to say a special thanks that one phase of the war had ended. **WAR DECLARED ON DOGS:** The police of Grosse Pointe City have long maintained that their bailiwick seemed to be infested with more dogs than any other place on the earth’s surface. Now the fact is coming home in a tide of complaints of dogs destroying victory gardens. Police say it is

1970

50 years ago this week

WOODS BOOSTS WATER RATES: Faced with the prospect of continuing to operate its water and sewage system in the red, the Woods City Council at its regular meeting May 4, reluctantly agreed to hike its water and sewage rates to comply with those rates in effect in Detroit. **BRAVE EMPLOYEE THWARTS HOLDUP:** A holdup was thwarted on May 4, at Watson’s Pointe Service Neff and Mack, when an employee at the station, Ben Mason, bravely refused to empty the cash register at knife-point. On that date, at 8:45 p.m., a young man about 18 years old, entered the station. He pulled an eight-inch

knife from his pocket and demanded that Mason open the register. Mason refused and instead called out to another employee who was in back of the station. At this, the would-be holdup man fled south on Neff. **Obituaries:** Helen Bozimowski, Joseph Zimmerman, Sarah Snyder, Mary O. Lynch, Jules A. Guertin, Cora Mary Kennedy, Louis C. Miller

1995

25 years ago this week

S. T. JOHN, NEIGHBORS MEND FENCES OVER LOT IMPROVEMENTS: In sharp contrast to previous construction proposals, St. John Hospital officials and area residents were able to quickly settle their differences. As a result the hospital received permission from the Grosse Pointe Woods City Council to proceed with

a new lighting plan for the hospital parking lot. St. John officials told the council the hospital agreed to build a 6-foot brick and mortar fence along the border of the parking lot and the homes off Raymond and Bournemouthe, removing a major neighborhood objection to the project. **PARK CONDO PROJECT STALLED:** After reaching an impasse, Grosse Pointe Park officials believe that they have come up with a solution that will get the proposed condominium project at Jefferson and Lakepointe moving again. City council, at the request of restaurant owner and developer Diamond Phillips, approved the rezoning of several lots in the area of Jefferson, between Beaconsfield and Lakepointe. To complete the project, Phillips needed the rezone, but he also must purchase the site where Lakepointe Olds used to be.

Obituaries: Alfred L. Gostow, John Sidney Nash, Grace E. Mertins

2010

10 years ago this week

DOWNED LINES SPARK FIRES: A downed wire sparked a four-alarm fire in the City of Grosse Pointe. Public safety called four alarms to handle five garages either fully aflame, smoldering or charged with electricity in the 300 blocks of Neff and Lakeland on a stormy May 11. High winds are believed to have snapped two power poles located about 200 yards apart along the rear fence-line between the two streets. A power line landed on garages at each end and some in between. **DEPUTY CHIEF**

RETIRES AFTER 32 YEARS: When Deputy Chief of Police John Schulte turned in his badge two weeks ago, Grosse Pointe Park lost more than a police officer. “This department is losing a true professional,” said Director of Public Safety David Hiller. “He’s one of the best officers I have ever had the pleasure to work with.” Schulte, 55, has retired after 32 years of service; he began as a patrolman in 1978, shortly after his graduation from Wayne State University. **Obituaries:** Edward “Edoardo” Barbieri Sr., M. Robert Chandler, Jeanette DeHayes, Jerry J. Kulaja, Harold “Hal” Lanstra, Roy E. O’Brien Jr., the Rev. Dr. Robert H. Whitaker, Amalia Theresa Wysocki, Hazen G. Ziegler, Peter Charles Mullikin, Lorraine B. Kirchner Scott

LETTERS

Continued from page 6A

the community come together reflects what Grosse Pointe is truly about — caring for, and being there, for one another. It is our pleasure and privilege to care for and serve this community. **LISA SUE MORRISON**
BSNRN
Henry Ford Cottage
Medical Center

Last plea, pause reconfiguration

To the Editor: I am writing in regards to the last virtual meeting of the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education held last week. I am shocked and dismayed at the BoE decision to continue with the reconfiguration of our school buildings for the coming school year. There were many unanswered questions prior to the COVID closures of our Michigan schools in March.

As a district, we will not know for some time if learning will return to what it was previously. With old buildings that can have rooms that are very crowded, we may have some unique complications if we are faced with additional restrictions on class sizes and spaces. We have no idea if we will lose pupils due to families impacted financially by COVID-19. We might even gain some additional students if private school tuition becomes a factor financially. We just do not know. For those of us who lived through the market crash of 2008, there were many families impacted by that negatively. People lost their homes, divorces and sometimes suicides were the outcome. To continue with school reconfiguration at a crisis time like this shows that our current BoE and administration, far from being flexible, as was stated by one BoE member last week, are willing to continue driv-

ing a downsizing of our school district at all costs. For our district children who have now suddenly lost the last three months of their education this year, a move to yet a new physical building with a vastly different arrangement seems beyond foolish. Our teachers and building administrators should be focusing only on recovering and moving on from this sudden shut down of our physical buildings. One of the reasons stated for continuing had to do with contracts and bids. I find it hard to

believe that due to our current national crisis, one which has hit our state of Michigan particularly hard, that companies would not extend more time for contracts and bids. I suspect that there will be many projects that were intended prior to COVID-19 that will have to be put on hold or suspended. Put the health and safety of our Grosse Pointe school students first and pause the GPPSS reconfiguration for the coming school year 2020-21. **LISA PAPAS**
Grosse Pointe

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Getting goofy Park couple encourage silliness along the sidewalk

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

There’s a 30-foot stretch of sidewalk on Yorkshire in Grosse Pointe Park that has drawn quite a bit of atten-

tion lately. Homeowners Karl and Liz Koto have declared the space “The Ministry of Silly Walks,” requiring passersby to “commence silly walking immediately” while passing by

their house. Since posting entry and exit signs on either side of their property, the Kotos have seen an influx of walkers, each recorded on their Nest doorbell camera and many finding space on their Instagram account.

The idea stemmed from the couple’s youth watching Monty Python movies and skits.

“We were out on one of our quarantine walks, the kids were zooming blocks in front of us and Liz said she had been thinking of posting a sign out front asking people to do a silly walk,” Karl Koto said. “We talked and laughed about it during the walk, then a few days later the signs were up.”

The couple, who still regularly reference the British sketch comedy troupe, said the story of silly walks seemed a perfect fit because so many of their neighbors have been out walking. Posting them on Instagram seemed a natural next step.

“We thought it was a fun way to share some joy and hopefully people could have a good laugh,” Koto said.

Once the signs went up, the Kotos saw an increase



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

James and Valerie Koto practice their silly walks.

in the amount of foot traffic.

“Originally, we had a few people,” Koto said. “After the first weekend, we were averaging 10 to 12 a day. Honestly, it’s a little hard to know exactly (how many), because scanning a full day of video is very time-consuming and we unfortunately miss some of the clips. After the Facebook post went viral and so many media outlets have picked up the story, we are clipping 20-plus videos a day and there are plenty more we miss.”

Several people a day drive up just to take the silly walk, Koto said.

Activity on their Instagram page, Yorkshire.Silly.Walks, has seen an increase in activity, too.

“One night the comments on the page started exploding,” Koto said. “We were convinced there

was some bot posting to the page. That same night we started getting direct messages from people, including a woman in Australia. A few hours earlier we had something like 25 followers. By morning it was 100 and it keeps growing. Right now it’s 40k. We have received messages from Canada, England, France, Chile, South Africa, Kenya, Singapore, South Korea and Australia, just to name a few.”

The comments and direct messages are one of the driving factors for the Kotos keeping their signs up.

“People will tell us that they had a really bad day and this made them smile for the first time,” Koto said. “Another person said they had some health issues and this raised their spirits and was exactly what they needed. We have been

blown away to know that our little sign has had a positive impact. We can see and hear the people walking past laughing and enjoying coming up with fun and new ways to pass our house. That joy has been broadcast around the world and has had a positive impact.

“We didn’t know what we were doing when the signs went up,” he added. “At best, we thought a few people would find it funny and maybe put on a little show that we could share with them on Instagram. I think this has connected because it’s something simple that people around the world can share and relate to. It’s just 30 feet of letting it go and enjoying the moment. With all the stress and anxiety surrounding our disrupted lives, maybe 30 feet of freedom is all we need, even if just for a moment.”



PHOTO COURTESY OF LAURI READ

Katharine Kuhnlein celebrated her graduation from Michigan State University with a silly walk. While she expected to process with the Class of 2020, commencement exercises have been rescheduled and will be held virtually May 16.

Friends find way to feed the need

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Lately every time he turns on the news, Grosse Pointe Farms resident Todd Havern is bombarded with stories about struggling healthcare workers, first responders and the unemployed.

“I couldn’t watch the news anymore without thinking there must be something we could do during this time to help out,” he said.

So Havern reached out to his friend, Matt Adams, who owns the Buscemi’s in Grosse Pointe Park, to see if Adams would be interested in donating pizza and subs to those in need.

“With no hesitations,



Todd Havern organized the efforts and participated in lunch deliveries.



From left, Todd Havern, Kirk Persidskis and Matt Adams.

he was on board,” Havern said. “Next call was to Kirk Persidskis and Mike Tetrault, who work for Matt, to ask if they would help. Both had the same response, which was, ‘You know it.’”

Once a team was established, Havern set out seeking donations.

“I began texting away to friends and family,” he said. “I got an amazing response within minutes and decided not to stop there. I then continued on to my Hollywood family, who also jumped on board. Being an assistant director and working in the film/TV industry for 20 years, I have met some outstanding people. All of the people who have helped have one thing in

common — big hearts.”

Havern and friends went to work making bagged lunches that include an 8-inch sub, bag of chips, juice box, piece of fruit and bag of cookies. Pizza, of course, also is on the menu.

Since joining forces, the team has made and delivered lunches for two organizations a day, starting with Ascension St. John Hospital and St. John Community Center Church in Detroit. Other beneficiaries of the free lunches include Salvation Army Montrose, Engine House 50, Engine House 32 and Detroit Police Precinct 5, all in Detroit, as well as Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe and the public safety

departments in Grosse Pointe Park, Farms and City.

“When starting this, we figured we could do a week, but with so many people extremely generous, we see two weeks in our future for sure,” Havern said.

“The response from the establishments, as well as the recipients, has been outstanding,” he added. “(They’re) so appreciative and heartfelt. A lot of really amazing people out there are doing their part and want nothing in return. It’s great when people from all different communities can come together in a time of need and work as one. It is an unbelievable feeling.”

Havern said the team



Subs have been wrapped for donation.

had planned to deliver meals through the end of April.

“When the (month) comes to an end, we will be donating whatever amount of food we have left to shelters and the money left will be given to a particular or multiple organizations.”

Those who want to donate can Venmo Havern at ToddHavern@

todd-havern or write a check to Matt’s Buscemi’s LLC, or stop by the Pizza Shoppe, located at Buscemi’s, 15213 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Park.

Adams, Persidskis and Havern each post on their Instagram pages what they’ve delivered and to whom, so donors know where their money is going, Havern said.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF TODD HAVERN

Kirk Persidskis slices a pizza pre-delivery.

2B | SENIOR LIVING



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Birthday wishes

Guy and Marilyn Doyal, married 63 years, live at The Rivers in Grosse Pointe Woods. They governor’s stay-at-home orders prevented family members from visiting for their birthdays, which fall four days apart. Her’s was April 24; his was April 28. The Doyals’ four sons — Tom, Greg, Mark and Brian — created a birthday banner for their parents and hung it on the gazebo outside their parents’ window as a surprise. And surprised they were.

Five things an eye doctor wants people to know about COVID-19

By Dr. Monica Johnsonbaugh
Guest Writer

Caring for our eyes during a pandemic can be confusing. Although routine eye care is temporarily on hold per the CDC, it’s important to know

how to take care of your eyes during this time. Here are five important things to know:

1. Contact lens wear: The CDC states there is no evidence to suggest contact lens wearers are more at risk for acquiring COVID-19 than eyeglass

wearers. It is extremely important to wear contact lenses properly and wash your hands before and after inserting or removing them. If your prescription has expired and you need to order more contact lenses, many eye doctors are allowing their patients to get them through this time until routine care may resume.

2. Eye emergencies: If you have an urgent eye health concern, it’s important to call your eye doctor. This is always true but especially now that many emergency

See EYES, page 3B

Library cards unlock loads of opportunity

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

In a heartfelt video message to patrons of the Grosse Pointe Public Library, Director Jessica Keyser reminded viewers that a library is more than a building or books; it’s about the people.

The GPPL’s mission — to expand learning, inspire creativity and connect the community — has not been hindered by the temporary closure of Grosse Pointe’s three library buildings. Plenty of opportunities, educational and otherwise, await online.

“We have over 40 online resources,” Keyser said. “There’s Hoopla, which includes eBooks, audiobooks, digital comic books and music. Or Libby by OverDrive, which has eBooks and audiobooks. There are digital magazines on RBDigital. On Bookflix, kids can watch video storybooks, which is great for kids in early literacy or just learning to read because you can hear and see the words together.”

Other resources include online homework help and tutoring via Brainfuse, which should be especially helpful during these days of virtual learning, Keyser said. For adults, Lynda.com offers professional online tutorials that regularly cost a pretty penny, but are free

for GPPL cardholders.

“Mango Languages offers more than 70 languages for online learning,” she added. “We can’t travel now, but you can start planning ahead for when travel restrictions are lifted.”

A film collection on Kanopy and Novelist — where patrons enter the type of book they’re interested in and a list of titles is generated — also are among the library’s regular online resources. “That’s just a snippet,” Keyser said, noting the GPPL’s online activity has increased two and one-half times since the buildings closed.

In addition to its usual offerings, the GPPL has created expanded opportunities for library patrons. In recent weeks it has hosted a movie viewing party through Kanopy and weekly book discussions on its Facebook page. Online story time also is offered.

A recent book discussion with author Kelly Fordon was a hit, Keyser said.

“We had a great response,” she added. “We had more than 70 people in attendance via Zoom. ... We have book club meetings and a book discussion Fridays at 8 p.m. We’re focusing on classic books a lot of people have read, like ‘The Great Gatsby’ and ‘Pride & Prejudice.’ We’re offering a lot of book and movie recommendations

people can engage in.”

From virtual learning resources to stress relief via eBooks and audiobooks, the library has a wealth of materials for card-carrying patrons.

Don’t have a library card? Signing up for one online is a snap.

“It’s simple and easy,” Keyser said. “We’ve had more people sign up online in March than we did the previous six months combined. The link is grossepointe.library.org/get-a-card.

“It’s really great if you can take advantage of all we have to offer,” she added. “And we’re still responding to reference questions. Just email circulation@grossepointe.library.org.”

With “Stay Home, Stay Safe” measures in place and healthcare professionals encouraging physical distancing, staying connected is perhaps more important now than ever.

“Being engaged and continuing to learn are integral to mental health,” Keyser said. “If you don’t have something to keep your mind occupied, it can take a toll. For all the students learning from home, there are still a lot of rigorous expectations from the school district. We can help with resources.”

Keyser’s own experience participating in Fordon’s recent virtual

See LIBRARY, page 3B

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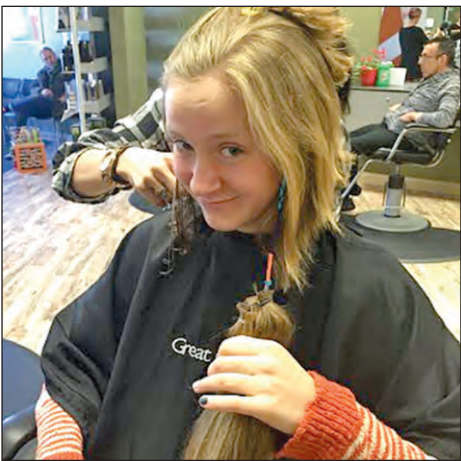
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Audrey Smihal's first haircut at Wigs4Kids was Dec. 29, 2015.



The second cut March 11, 2017.



The third cut Dec. 28, 2018.



The fourth cut Feb. 14, 2020.

Teen donates hair for fourth time

October 2015, Audrey Smihal's friend, Svea Swanson, was diagnosed with a rare and aggressive cancer called alveolar rhabdomyosarcoma, or RMS, which affects one in one million people each year.

In sixth grade at the time, Swanson had 43 weeks of chemotherapy and 28 rounds of radiation treatments on her hand and underarm. The treatment was going to make Swanson's hair fall out, so she decided to get her hair cut short before it was gone. She went to

Wigs4Kids for the cut, donated her hair and got fitted for her own wig.

Smihal learned about Wigs4Kids from Swanson and wanted to support her friend however she could. A month after Swanson got her hair cut and eventually lost all her hair, the girls went to Wigs4Kids to make another donation — Smihal's hair.

Since that first cut, Smihal has donated her hair three more times in her friend's honor. And Swanson is cancer free today.

LIBRARY:

Continued from page 2B

book discussion was eye-opening, she said.

"I found it very powerful ... being able to see the faces, to chat and see the online comments," she said. "It was heartwarming and life-affirming to see that people are still out there, they still care and that they're connecting in that way."

She noted the benefits for her 11-year-old son, too, who continues to

connect online with Miss Jane's Book Club.

"It's wonderful for him to see his friends at the library, to see Miss Jane," she said. "There's a social connection even if they can't be together. It's great that we can provide a venue for them so they can have that option."

While the reopening of the physical libraries has yet to be set, Keyser said she expects the GPPL to reopen in phases, beginning with the collection of materials that have

been loaned out. Once library shelves have been restocked, she said, the next phase could include curbside service.

In the meantime, Keyser voiced her appreciation for the community's support.

"We've gotten great feedback," she said. "We continue to serve and we look forward to seeing everyone again."

For updates, visit grossepointelibrary.org or the GPPL's social media pages.

EYES:

Continued from page 2B

rooms are inundated with COVID-19 cases. Our office is offering telemedicine to examine patients with ocular emergencies and determine if they need a medication prescribed or to be seen in person. This is a secure service that is billed through medical insurance similar to an in-person office visit.

3. COVID-19 eye infections: Coronavirus can cause a type of conjunctivitis or "pink eye" with symptoms of varying severity such as redness, eye irritation and watery eyes. If you develop these symptoms and are concerned you may have a COVID-19-related eye infection, contact your eye doctor for the best treatment plan.

4. Glasses wearing: If your glasses are broken, it is possible to order a replacement pair. We are available via phone and email to help if you should find yourself in this situation. Remember to clean your glasses daily. Although it may go unnoticed, many people touch their glasses multiple times throughout the day. It's important to wash them thoroughly with soap and water daily to remove any microorganisms.

5. Eye protection:

Research is showing it is possible to transmit COVID-19 to the ocular tissue by aerosol and respiratory droplets or hand-to-eye contact. If you are working in a hospital setting and caring for patients with COVID-19, wearing goggles is recommended among other personal protection equipment to decrease your exposure. Prescription safety goggles can be made to give

you increased coverage and allow for a better fit over masks/respirators.

Taking proper care of your eyes is essential during this pandemic. We are here to serve our local community and we are looking forward to brighter days ahead.

Johnsonbaugh is the owner of Focus 313 Eyecare in The Village. Visit focus313.com or call (313) 473-9339.



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ASK THE EXPERTS By Mary Beth Garvey, LMSW

Coping with death during COVID-19

Q: We have read and heard about so many deaths in recent weeks and nothing feels normal about how people have had to cope with these losses. What are alternatives to traditional funerals or rituals during this difficult time?

A: There are significant psychological, social and spiritual benefits of funeral services after a loss. The current restrictions due to COVID-19 can complicate the grief of survivors and leave many struggling to find a way to pay tribute or validate the importance of their loved ones, come together in an expression of support or place the loss in a spiritual context that provides comfort.

In addition to the deaths, people are grieving the loss of the rituals to say goodbye to their loved ones. While alternatives are being practiced all over the world, the biggest obstacle is that families want the support of loved ones and to come together to reflect. Despite this limitation, however, there is therapeutic value in finding other rituals to honor your loved one.

Livestreaming funerals or memorial services: Livestreaming offers family members and friends the chance to share in the collective experience of loss and healing. Livestreaming a service also creates a lasting memorial or digital time capsule of the event. With planning,

you can have friends or family members send in a pre-recorded video to watch as part of the service.

Website memorials: Online memorials are a way to share and preserve memories of loved ones and provide an opportunity for storytelling. Invite others to contribute memories, photographs, words of comfort or anything that reflects the deceased and share during a virtual service or pass on via email or social media.

Share a ritual: Invite others to honor your loved one at the same time, in whatever way is meaningful to them. This shared remembrance can bring connection and can be a simple prayer or favorite song, making a toast or doing an activity they loved.

Create a memorial: Create something personal in your home or a special place that reflects your loved one. It may be a memory box, letters or drawings, photographs or mementos, a collection of objects that were meaningful to them or planting a tree or flowers.

Two-part rituals: One option is to have a private burial or cremation with a memorial service in the future. The opportunity to remember and honor your loved one is not finite and you will be able to plan a service that is uniquely meaningful.

The absence of customs around losing someone we love is disorienting. It may help to

consider the spiritual and emotional functions of a funeral service — meaning, expression, support, recall and reality.

These functions guide whatever rituals we use to express our loss and begin to heal. Social psychologist Shira Gabriel suggests that rituals — choreographed events that produce an emotionally laden experience — create a feeling of unity and sacredness that bonds us together with others. With careful planning, creativity and intention, alternatives to traditional services can bring comfort and intimacy, even if it doesn't look how we expected.

More information on this topic can be found at familycenterweb.org.

Mary Beth Garvey, LMSW, is a therapist in private practice in Grosse Pointe. She may be reached at (313) 408-2180, mbgarvey@hotmail.com or marybethgarveytherapy.org. She is a member of The Family Center's Association of Professionals.

The Family Center is a nonprofit organization that provides resources and preventative 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, call (313) 447-1374 or email info@familycenterweb.org.

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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.

Elizabeth Frei

Grosse Pointe Woods resident Elizabeth “Betty” Frei, 96, passed away peacefully Thursday, April 2, 2020, after a short illness. The fourth of nine children, she was born Oct. 20, 1923, in East Falmouth, Cape Cod, Mass., to Joseph and Augusta Medeiros.

Betty met her future husband, Harvey, on a blind date in the midst of World War II. The couple married three months later, March 25, 1944, and returned to Detroit after the war. A wonderful wife and mother, Betty, together with Harvey, raised two daughters, Karen and Cynthia.

Betty lived at The Rivers Grosse Pointe the past four years. As the main joke teller and referred to as “Queen Elizabeth,” she will be missed by all.

Betty was predeceased by her husband, Harvey; parents, Joseph and Augusta; brothers, Joe, Sunny and Norman; and sisters, Alice and Lucille. She is survived by her daughters, Karen Wild (Eric) and Cynthia Gula (Gary) and grandchildren, Jason (fiancee Nicole Szymanski), Courtney and Michael Gula. Her surviving siblings include Margaret Hunter, Judy Baker and Marietta Mack (Dave).

Gladys Carle Hunter

Gladys Carle Hunter, 94, passed away Monday, April 6, 2020, in Phoenix, Ariz. She was born in 1926, in Detroit, to Heinrich and Mathilde Carle.

Gladys earned a Master of Arts degree at Wayne State University. She later taught German to undergraduate night students at WSU.

Gladys and her husband, Donald Hunter, met in Detroit; they married in 1950. Together they had four sons, Rick, Ken, Chuck and Jack. A loving mother, Gladys never missed a birthday, loved children and was a total “people person.” She sparked up conversations with strangers as if they were longtime friends.

She enjoyed sculpting and created many pieces that became memorable parts of her family’s home and garden. Gladys also was a docent at Detroit Institute of Arts; she especially enjoyed giving animated tours to children to pique their interest in museum exhibits. A volunteer in the St. John Hospital emergency department, she offered comfort to patients and families. Helping others brought her great joy and she received numerous service awards over the years. In addition, Gladys enjoyed tennis and traveling with her close circle of friends.

Gladys was predeceased by her husband, Donald, in 1988; brother, Henry Carle, in 2017; and sister, Dora Welch, in 2014. She is survived by her sons, Rick Hunter (Tina), Ken Hunter

(Marsha), Chuck Hunter and Jack Hunter (Karen); grandchildren, Nic Hunter (Katie), Lindsay Hunter (Vince), Alex Hunter (Amelia), Taylor Hunter and Layton Hunter; brother, Fred Luthardt (Nancy); and dear friends, Cathy and Howard. She also is survived by her great-grandsons and many nephews and nieces.

Gladys will be interred beside her husband, Donald, at the Grosse Pointe Memorial Church columbarium. A memorial service at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church will be scheduled at a later date.

Mary Ellen Cleary

Grosse Pointe Woods resident Mary Ellen Cleary, 87, died Wednesday, April 22, 2020. She was born Nov. 26, 1932, in Detroit, to Andrew “Ernie” and Rosalie (nee Kubinski) Cleary.

Mary Ellen was predeceased by her brother, Gerald A. Cleary. She is survived by her sister-in-law, Marge Cleary; nephews, Christopher Cleary (Nona) and Daniel Cleary (Jennifer); and nieces, Maureen Young (Andrew) and Anne Kassuba (Matt). She also will be lovingly remembered by 10 great-nieces and great-nephews.

A graduate of Dominican High School and University of Detroit, Mary Ellen taught at Lake Shore High School, St. Clair Shores, more than 30 years.

She had a lifelong love of dogs, especially golden retrievers.

Mary Ellen was a member of St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church, Grosse Pointe Park.

A memorial Mass and celebration of Mary Ellen’s life will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to Solanus Casey Center, solanuscenter.org; or Eggleston Memorial Foundation, Lake Shore High School, c/o Gloria Ehler, 7770 Phillips Dr., Algonac, MI 48001.

James Anthony Rosasco

Former Grosse Pointe Park resident James Anthony Rosasco, 80, died peacefully Friday, May 1, 2020, at home in Estero, Fla. Raised in Detroit, Jim was born Sept. 1, 1939, to Victor and Mary Rosasco.

Jim was the loving husband of Martha (nee Currier) Rosasco for 59 years. He is survived by his wife, Martha, and children, Jane (Daniel Lehman), Susan (Christopher Hastings), Anne (Brian Page), Mary (Edward Fritz), Carol (Daryl Colo), Kaye (Kurt Drettmann) and Joseph (Jennifer). He was predeceased by his parents.

Jim, affectionately called “Papa,” leaves behind his grandchildren, Christina and James Lehman; Katherine, Andrew and Patrick Hastings; Erin (Marc Cuddeback) and

Gregory Page; Leta (Alec Brassington), Nicholas and Adam Fritz; Grace, Therese and Henry Drettmann; and Anthony and Joseph Rosasco; and great-grandchildren, Brant Brassington and Jackson Cuddeback. Jim also is survived by his siblings, Victor Rosasco and Rosemary Nelson, and many nieces, nephews and cousins. He was predeceased by his brother, Andrew Rosasco.

Jim graduated from University of Detroit Jesuit High School and earned a degree in psychology from University of Detroit. He served with the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve.

Jim supported his loving family with his work in the automotive industry and as an entrepreneur. His businesses included a car wash in Madison Heights and a college text bookstore that served Macomb Community College, both of which he owned and operated.

A longtime member of Grosse Pointe Sail Club and a Grosse Pointe wine club, Jim always found time for friends. He cherished many summers spent with his family at their cottage in Sarnia, Ontario, Canada. Jim was active in retirement with Habitat for Humanity and many other pursuits. He loved travel, golf, fishing and playing cards with friends.

A memorial Mass will be held this summer at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, Grosse Pointe Farms.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Jim’s memory may be made to Hope Hospice Healthcare, Attn: Donations, 9470 HealthPark Circle, Fort Myers, FL 33908.

Judith Kathryn Curran Keating

Former Grosse Pointe resident Judith Kathryn Curran Keating, 81, passed away peacefully Monday, April 27, 2020, at home in Chesterfield. She was born Oct. 28, 1938, in Detroit, to George and Catherine Lucile (nee Walker) Curran.

Judy was nicknamed “The Duchess” by her older brother, because she was taken everywhere with her brothers as if she was royalty; also, she occasionally slept until early afternoon, a trait Judy passed along to most of her children.

Her early family life was filled with activity. Judy’s parents loved to entertain, with many friends and family always around and parties on a grand scale, a tradition Judy continued in her married life. As a child, she was on the swimming and diving team at Detroit Yacht Club. She also practiced ballet many years. As a teen, Judy spent a year acting with Will-O-Way Playhouse on the same stage as young George C. Scott.

Judy graduated from Pontiac High School in 1956, and worked as bookkeeper for a local newspaper and Michigan Life.



Elizabeth Frei



James Anthony Rosasco

She and her siblings were active at Detroit Yacht Club, where she met a young lawyer, Patrick Keating. Judith and Patrick married in February 1961. The couple moved to Grosse Pointe in 1965, where they raised their seven children. Each birthday, holiday and special event was celebrated with family and friends, complete with decorations, plenty of food and cocktails. As Judy’s children grew, so did the gatherings. The family home was a place where children and adults alike came to “hang out” due to the inclusive atmosphere Judy created. Everyone was welcome.

In addition to raising her children, Judy was an active volunteer at St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church, usually as treasurer of church committees. A regular participant in women’s retreats at Manresa Jesuit Retreat House, Judy also volunteered many years at the Bon Secours Hospital gift shop. Raising her children never stopped Judy from learning new things, such as attending classes to become a Realtor and taking flying lessons at Detroit City Airport. She once took two of her children out of school for an airplane ride. She also enjoyed bowling and playing cards with friends.

Judy loved to work at estate sales after her children were grown. She also counseled domestic and sexual abuse survivors as a volunteer at Turning Point.

When Judy moved to Marine City, it did not take long for everyone to know her. She was a regular for breakfast at various restaurants and sat for hours listening to other customers and offering bits of wisdom and humor. One of a kind, she will be missed tremendously.

Judith is survived by her sister, Candy Sandal of Kauai; children, Patrick (Roxann), Connie Leannais, Victoria (Chris Brady), Krystn McIntyre, Brendan (Christine), Sheridan and Alison (Sharon Spooner); grandchildren, Christina, Kaileigh, Kerry, Katie, JP, RJ and Claire; great-granddaughter, Leylah; and many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her former husband, Patrick; siblings, George, Robert, Beverly Grobbel, Sally Kasper, Constance Faber and Richard.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.



Gladys Carle Hunter



Judith K. Curran Keating

Memorial contributions in Judith’s name may be made to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, stjude.org.

Share a memory at verheyden.org.

Wendy Marie Cope

Lifelong Grosse Pointe resident Wendy Marie Cope passed away quietly Friday, April 24, 2020, two months shy of her 61st birthday.

Wendy always had a smile on her face and was a friend to everyone she met. She brightened and touched many lives. Wendy led a full, active life as a member of Teen Club, The ARC, Girl Scouts and Special Olympics. She enjoyed many activities, including bowling, Zumba fitness, swimming, dance recitals and rowing. Playing the piano, participating in Special Olympics events, needlework and attending Camp Fowler each summer were some of Wendy’s other favorite activities.

Wendy was a Pointer of Interest in The Grosse Pointe News in 1973; at age 13, she placed second in the freestyle at the annual statewide Special Olympics event. She continued as a Special Olympics participant until the last few years.

Wendy was a valued employee of the Cheesecake Shoppe for 30 years. She also operated a small catering company and baked the best cookies.

World travel was high on her list of fun activities and China remained the only country still on her wish list. Wendy traveled with her parents all over the world. She also traveled throughout the United States.

Her family noted there was nothing Wendy was not up for in life and she enjoyed life to its fullest.

She will be greatly missed by many surviving cousins, especially Liz Brown.

A celebration of Wendy’s life will take place in the near future. The family suggests donations in Wendy’s name be made to Camp Fowler, 2515 Harmon Lake Rd., Mayville, MI 48744; funding for local Special Olympics to Sport Inc., c/o Mark McLoughlin, 680 Rivard Blvd., Grosse Pointe, MI 48230; Full Circle Foundation, 17006 Mack Ave., Suite A, Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230; or The ARC, 20475 Sunningdale Park, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236.

Share a memory at verheyden.org



Mary Ellen Cleary



Wendy Marie Cope



Carl Hribar

Carl Hribar

Former Grosse Pointe resident Carl Hribar, 77, passed away Sunday, April 26, 2020, in Brookhaven, N.Y., due to lung issues. He was born Jan. 31, 1943, in Detroit, to Louis and Emilen (nee Schulz) Hribar.

At age 5, Carl drew his first house and declared his intention to become an architect so he could create homes for as many families as possible. He leaves nearly 100 homes in the Hamptons, plus a web of his designs along the East Coast and throughout the country.

Carl completed grade school in Grosse Pointe and graduated from the University of Michigan School of Architecture. He moved to New York City in the early 1960s where he worked for Skidmore, Owings and Merrill, an architecture, interior design, engineering and urban planning firm. Carl then opened his own practice, simply “Carl Hribar Architect,” on Union Square, from which he continued to work until his passing. Carl maintained a year-round satellite office in Sag Harbor, N.Y., in conjunction with the weekend house he and his family established in 1965.

In addition to his designs, Carl was recognized for his yummy pies and gardening; he carved bushes into whales facing either side of the porch steps to his Hampton Street house. Carl also was a collector of fashionably printed trousers.

Carl is survived by his former wife, Ki Hackney; daughters, Christina Hribar and Caroline Hribar (Mallon Fitzpatrick); grandchildren, Dylan and Renton “Ren” Fitzpatrick; and siblings, Louis Hribar and Ellen Smith.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Memorial contributions in Carl’s name may be made to Freedom Institute, freedominstitute.org/donate.

OBITS:

Continued from page 4B

John David Richardson

Grosse Pointe Farms resident John “Reed” David Richardson passed away suddenly Sunday, May 3, 2020, in Harrison, Mich. He was born Oct. 23, 1960, in Logan, W.V., to George and Maude Richardson.

John is survived by his loving wife and copilot of 33 years, Wendy; children, Jessica Bailiff (Robert), Reed, Joshua (Kristi Walker), Sarah (David Kracht) and Tristin Richardson; a soon-to-be grandchild; grand-pups, Marley, Sami, Hank and Ellie; and grand-cats, Marvin and Lil G. He also is survived by his sisters, Jean Hill (Gary), Kaye Barnes and Barbara Richardson;

brother, Sherman Crum; father-in-law, Herman “Sonny” Gorenflo; brother-in-law and best friend, Gary Gorenflo (Lisa); and sister-in-law, Jill Bunting (Andy).

In addition, John is survived by his niece, Cindy Vandermeiden (Rick) and her son, Travis, with whom he had an especially close relationship, such that Carl considered them as daughter and grandson. He is also survived by many other beloved nieces and nephews, as well as countless friends and coworkers he considered family. He was predeceased by his dearly missed parents, George and Maude; brothers, George “Brickey” and Dennis Richardson; brother-in-law, Tony Barnes; mother-in-law, Donna Gorenflo; great-aunt, Suzi Hicks; and many aunts, uncles, cousins and other relatives.

John was hardworking and recently retired after 35 years from Superior and Patrico Transit Mix. His passion in life was going for rides with his wife, being a devoted father to his five children, making people laugh uncontrollably, mostly by saying inappropriate things, hunting and sitting at bonfires with his sons, brothers and nephews, and anything pertaining to sports.

One of John’s great joys was coaching Michigan Heat Baseball for several years because of his love of the game and the children, their families and those with whom he coached. He will be missed by many, but his jokes and the love that he gave everyone will carry on.

A memorial service will be scheduled at a later date.

Janice Mathilde Janosi

Longtime Grosse Pointe Woods resident Janice Mathilde Janosi passed away Monday, April 20, 2020. She was born April 2, 1931, in Budapest, to Jozsef and Maria Pataki.

Janice met a young professor, Zoltan, as she earned a degree in agricultural engineering. She and her devoted husband, Zoltan, were married 66 years.

The couple’s life in Hungary was difficult due to poverty, repression under Soviet Communism and World War II. As a result, during the Hungarian Revolution in 1956, Janice and Zoltan left everything behind except the clothes on their backs and made a daring escape to pursue the American Dream.

Arriving as refugees by

boat to New York Harbor, Janice and Zoltan fortunately obtained jobs at the U.S. Army Tank Automotive & Armaments Command in Warren. The importance of education and hard work made a difference in Janice’s life as evidenced by her years teaching college prep biological sciences classes at Mumford High School and Grosse Pointe North High School. Her petite size, Hungarian accent, old-school personality and passion for teaching others made her a favorite of her students, many of whom were inspired to go into medical fields and continued to visit her well after her retirement in 1994. Janice and her former students usually exchanged funny stories about fetal pig dissections, class trips to places such as the city morgue, Detroit wastewater treatment centers and geological trips to excavation sites.

Janice was particularly proud of her female students who went on to success, since she herself successfully fought discrimination throughout her life and, despite her tough exterior, had a soft spot for those in need, quietly helping many outside the classroom.

In addition to family, Janice had a passion for gardening, Hungarian and “scientific” cooking and animal shelter pets. Her love of classical music was another important part of her life. She had season tickets to performances by the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and Michigan Opera Theatre for five decades. She also enjoyed world travel and exploring “new concepts,” such as plate tectonics, functional medicine diets and exercise, until her last



John David Richardson



Janice M. Janosi



John Arthur McMahon

days.

Janice is survived by her husband, Zoltan; son, Nicholas (Julia); grandchildren, Nicole and Alex; and dog, Buddy.

John Arthur McMahon Jr.

Former longtime Grosse Pointe resident John Arthur McMahon Jr., lately of Howell, passed away peacefully Thursday, April 30, 2020. He was 92. A son of Nora Grace and John Arthur McMahon Sr., John was born Feb. 21, 1928, in Detroit.

John is survived by his wife, Ann, and daughters, Cathy Hadden (Timothy) and Beth McMahon (Sam). He leaves behind devoted grandsons, Justin Hadden, Nicholas Loiacano and Spencer Loiacano. John also is survived by his sister, Lois Watson, and several nieces and nephews. John was predeceased by his parents; siblings, Harry McMahon and Jean Hall; and first wife, Rose McMahon.

A proud lifelong Spartan, John earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Michigan State University. He retired from a long successful career as teacher and elementary school principal in the Grosse Pointe Public School System.



Gilberta M. and Robert G. Carion

John was an avid tennis player, a world traveler and enjoyed many visits to Lake Michigan with his family.

In memory of John, his family encourages friends to make a donation to the Neighborhood Club in Grosse Pointe.

Robert G. Carion and Gilberta M. Carion

Robert G. Carion, 89, passed away Tuesday, Nov. 19, 2019. Gilberta M. Carion, 90, passed away Thursday, April 23, 2020. Together, Bob and Gil celebrated 64 years of wedded bliss.

Bob and Gil were predeceased by their parents, George and Margaret Carion, and Alfonse and Jeanne VanDoninck; siblings, Bill, Margie and Joe;

daughter, Barb; grandson, Kelsey; and best friends, Ken and Lois. They are survived by their children, Cathy Fielitz (Rob), Sue Hunt (Kim), Barb Ranoni (Don), Judy Simpson (Chris), Eileen Jakubiak (Gary), Brian Carion (Kellie), Patsy Kost (Bill) and Joe Carion (MaryBeth). Gilberta will be truly missed by 20 grandchildren and six great-grandsons; a seventh great-grandchild is expected in September.

Final inurnment for Gil and Bob will take place at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, Grosse Pointe Farms, at a later date.

Online links for obituary information are at youngcolonial.com/obituaries/Robert-Carion/#/ Obituary and youngcolonial.com/obituaries/Gilberta-Carion/#/ Obituary

Child Safe Michigan reimagines signature event as a ‘virtual gala’

Child Safe Michigan — an affiliate of social service agency Judson Center, providing foster care, adoption and mentoring services to neglected and abused children in south-east Michigan — announced it will pivot its annual Legends of Tomorrow gala to a virtual fundraising campaign this year amid ongoing COVID-19 precautions.

The signature gala, originally scheduled Friday, May 15, at the Townsend Hotel, is Child Safe Michigan’s primary fundraiser, with monies raised going directly to protect and support children who have suffered abuse and neglect and, through the efforts of Child Safe, are kept safe and placed in nurturing and loving homes.

Child Safe Michigan is offering three ways to support its Legends of Tomorrow campaign:

- ◆ Make an impactful donation that is 100 percent tax-deductible;
- ◆ Become a sponsor with an ad in the virtual program book and recognition on the website; or
- ◆ Bid on premium silent auction items. Bidding takes place through Friday,

May 15.

More information on providing support can be found at childsafemichigan.org/detroit-legends-ball.

Event co-chairs are Gretchen Gonzales Davidson and Shauna Diggs, M.D.

Gonzales Davidson has been a board member and advisor at Child Safe more than 10 years. She is a

local arts and education advocate and helps plan fundraising events for numerous organizations in metro Detroit.

Diggs, a resident of Grosse Pointe, is the founder of CosmedicDerm and a board-certified dermatologist practicing in Grosse Pointe. She has been involved with Child Safe as a volunteer since 2019.

Honorary chairs are active philanthropists, business owners and civic leaders David T. Fischer, United States ambassador to the Kingdom of Morocco, and his wife, Jennifer Fischer.

For more information, call Katie Groves at (248) 554-6435, email kgroves@childsafemichigan.org or visit childsafemichigan.org/detroit-legends-ball.

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9:30am - Early Service with Holy Communion
9:30am - Spark Church
11:00am - Late Service with Holy Communion

Rev. Sean Motley, Senior Pastor
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www.feelc.org

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(United Church of Christ)

We are unable to hold in-person services, but join us over the phone or online for 10am worship services
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<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/699547937>

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www.facebook.com/GrossePointeUMC

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Rev. Keith Lenard, Jr.
www.gpumc.org
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Mack at Lochmoor • 884-5090
www.christthekinggp.org

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

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

WEDNESDAY
10 a.m. - Bible Study

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

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Grosse Pointe News

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King Crossword

Solution for last week's puzzle 4/30/20

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

ACROSS

1 Kills, slangily

5 Make up your mind

8 Padlock fastener

12 Polio vaccine pioneer

13 Born

14 Sheltered, at sea

15 Reacted to sun glare

17 Hot dog holder

18 Sugar suffix

19 Charged bit

20 Chin indentation

21 Kreskin's claim

22 Montana or Namath

23 Baghdad resident

26 Feast

30 Frill for Fonteyn

31 Bear hair

32 Radius neighbor

33 In need of laundering

35 Bishop's head-dress

36 Present

37 Corral

38 Engine

41 Fish's flipper

42 Fire residue

45 Pinnacle

46 Hotel chain

48 Enticement

49 Ostrich's kin

50 A bit too tight

51 Doctrines

52 "Gosh!"

53 Skillet

DOWN

1 — buco

2 Webpage list, often

3 Chimney channel

4 Tackle the slopes

5 Winning

6 Hammerhead part

7 Slugger

8 Williams

9 Buffoon

10 Lotion additive

11 Ego

12 Hide

16 Unless, in law

20 Opposed

21 They occur in March and September

22 Pickle container

23 "Monty Python" opener

24 Trench

25 — standstill

26 Unopened flower

27 Last: Abbr.

28 Away from WSW

29 Pitch

31 Only a small number

34 Neither mate

35 Carte

37 Fit of resentment

38 Neighbor of Niger

39 Piece of work

40 Expression

41 Notoriety

42 Actress Paquin

43 Dazzle

44 Crones

46 Journey segment

47 AOL, for instance

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

Solution for last weeks puzzle 4/30/20

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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