

COVID-19 CASES UPDATE - 9/1

| | Cases | Deaths |
|--------------|-----------|---------|
| All Pointes | 641 (+22) | 35 (+0) |
| Harper Woods | 329 (+8) | 35 (+0) |

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SEPTEMBER 3, 2020
GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

Site recommended for dog park

By Eddie B. Allen Jr.
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Almost a year after city council passed a proposal to develop a dog recreation site at Patterson Park, administrators have recommended a location to build the attraction.

The dog park, which was pledged for funding by anonymous private

donors, drew a mix of concern and enthusiasm from residents in September 2019. Noise from barking canines and potential danger to other visitors at Patterson were among issues raised by opponents of the proposal, while others defended it as an asset to the city that would attract new residents.

Research, including a

series of dog park workshops and site tours, followed ongoing community debate that also included discussions by those favoring the proposal, but differing about Patterson's best location for it. The city released an analysis last month, identifying a location about 60 feet from Patterson's fence line and 130 feet from the rear of

three homes on adjacent Grand Marais.

"There were four sites originally considered and the city has proposed site A as the best site for the dog park," said Chad Craig, the city's recreation supervisor.

Craig was scheduled to present research and findings from the dog

See DOGS, page 3A



COURTESY PHOTOS

Eggs smashed on a picnic table are among the acts of recent vandalism at Chene Trombley Park.

Suspects sought in park vandalism

By Eddie B. Allen Jr.
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — Public safety is seeking the community's help identifying suspects in vandalism at Chene Trombley Park, reported to have occurred sometime during the weekend before Monday, Aug. 31.

Eggs were broken on a picnic table and anti-Donald Trump graffiti, using an expletive, along with other phrases, were spray painted in purple on another table. Letters also were spray painted in black on trees in the park.

Residents in the park's vicinity are being interviewed and neighbors are asked to share any home surveillance footage that might show activity leading to identification of suspects, Grosse Pointe Woods Public Safety Director John Kosanke said.

"We can't be everywhere 24-7, so I would

just like the residents to keep their eyes open for anyone who might not seem age-appropriate for the park," Kosanke said. "That would be helpful."

Noting the attraction of a children's Playscape at Chene Trombley, he said a group of congregating teenagers, for example, might be reason for neighbors or passersby to pay attention.

"It's what we do, too," Kosanke said of public safety officers. "We look for things that might be out of place."

Litter has been a more common complaint than vandalism at Chene Trombley, he added, especially vandalism to the degree of the recent incident, which was reported by a woman who took her 3-year-old niece there to play.

"Her aunt takes her to the park and that's what they find," Kosanke said.

See VANDAL, page 4A

Public safety opens Mack facility

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — Ninety-five years after the public safety building on Maumee was built, the city hosted a dedication of its new facility at 17320 Mack Saturday, Aug. 29, beginning with a ceremonial raising of the flag by the Grosse Pointe Honor Guard.

"What we have in all cities across the country right now is a relationship problem," said special guest Cmdr. Eric Ewing, 5th Precinct, Detroit. "Back when I first started the job 35 years ago, you had a lot of officers in the schools and you had your own community officer working the beat and things like that. We don't have that right now by virtue of the way policing is in America right now. We need to get back to that and I think this building in this particular location on Mack Avenue is a great start to that."

Mayor Sheila Tomkowiak added that this builds on the partnership between Detroit and the Pointes along



PHOTO BY JACK RYAN

Residents explore the new public safety building.

Mack and should spur further development along the corridor.

A moment of silence was held for two Grosse Pointe officers who have died in the line of duty: Richard Tucker, who passed in 1978, and Charles VanCollie, who passed in the 1950s.

The two are honored throughout the new facility, starting with a plaque on a memorial for fallen officers and firefighters that features the

Maumee building's "6 o'clock bell." The training room is named for VanCollie and the fire apparatus bay for Tucker.

Along with a significant number of other new features, the building boasts a three-floor fire training tower, to be completed within a few weeks.

A smoke generator will offer the ability to fill the tower completely in 4 minutes, to the point

where officers will be unable to see their hands in front of their faces, while screens mounted in different locations will simulate the sound and look of fire. A training officer monitoring and running the system can set it for different types of fires.

The department also has a smart dummy, which is the size and weight of a human being

See OPEN, page 2A

No-anchor zone put on hold

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — The Shores has consistently struggled in recent years with noise violation enforcement in regard to boaters anchoring close to residents' backyards, a prob-

lem that intensified during the pandemic when boating remained one of the few recreational activities still safe and allowed.

While public safety has been working to identify and ticket violators through use of a digital camera and telephoto lens from shore, city

council took additional measures at the meeting July 21, to begin the application process through the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for a six-month temporary local watercraft control in

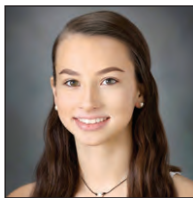
See ZONE, page 3A

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| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Week Ahead | 3A |
| Opinion | 6A |
| Sports | 8A |
| Schools | 10A |
| Features | 1B |
| Obituaries | 6B |
| Classified ads | 9B |

Pointer of INTEREST

See story, page 4A



Ally Saigh

Home: Grosse Pointe Woods College athlete is home for the semester, helping local high school field hockey team



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PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

After taking a group on a tour, City of Grosse Pointe Director of Public Safety Stephen Poloni spoke with Amy and Seth Sherry and their daughter, Emma, who asked Poloni for advice as she is interested in becoming a police officer. Poloni gave her some tips along with some of his own history of being a police officer.

OPEN:

Continued from page 1A

and can call out for help, as well as be set to 10 degrees hotter than the temperature in the tower, so officers can locate it with thermal image cameras.

“It’s cutting-edge technology,” Director of Public Safety Stephen Poloni said. “It’s just on the market.”

All the equipment for a workout room worth

\$40,000 was donated by a resident and is located near a mat room for when officers are doing defensive tactics training.

Building regulations dictated the need for a mothering room. Since the City currently does not have any female officers with young children, the space will be used as a place for officers to nap after extended shifts.

Locker rooms feature an ample amount of

space for each officer, including a pullout for boots, secure lockbox for weapons, power supply and air system running to each locker.

The new evidence storage room also is a significant upgrade from the closet with shelves the department used prior.

“Only one person in the building has access to it and that’s the property officer,” Poloni explained. “When we go to court we can testify that no one else had access to the property (and) it couldn’t have been tampered with.”

The facility also features a decontamination area for after fires and a sally port to securely transport prisoners.

It will be another three to four weeks before the building is complete, Poloni said.

The main phase of construction on the Maumee facility, converting it into the City’s new courthouse, now will begin.



Isabelle Mason helps her son, Henry Mason, 2, get a closer look at a fire truck.



PHOTO BY JACK RYAN

5th Precinct City of Detroit Cmdr. Eric Ewing addresses attendees while City Mayor Sheila Tomkowiak stands by.



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Simulator to aid in public safety training

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — Just in time for the transition to its new Mack Avenue facility, the City’s public safety department is rolling out an advanced police simulation training system, the likes of which only a few departments in Michigan have access to.

The VirTra Simulator, funded by a private donor, uses a large screen to show scenarios filmed by professional actors. Operated by a training officer, the scenarios change based on the actions and reactions of the officer. The officers also wear a monitor on their duty belts, which tases them if they don’t use proper force or deal with threats correctly.

“It is real-life training,” Director of Public Safety Stephen Poloni said.

“We’ll see how officers react in certain circumstances and (it’ll) allow training officers to improve on areas where officers may be lacking.”

Training scenarios offered through the simulation include de-escalation and judgment use of force, working with people with special needs, autism awareness, active shooters, ambush situations, COVID-19 interactions, dog encounters, emotionally disturbed persons, high-risk vehicle stops, hostage situations, suicidal subjects, suspicious subjects, firearms training and Taser training.

“Especially given that we don’t have a lot of serious crime, when something bad does happen, if you’ve had practice in all these different types of scenarios, you won’t panic,” City Manager Pete Dame said.



PHOTO BY JACK RYAN

The VirTra Simulator is an advanced police training system, the likes of which only a few departments in the state have access to.

“You’ll know how to handle it.”

The simulator also uses exact copies of the officers’ own weapons, simply without the ability to live fire.

“It carries the same,” Poloni explained. “It has

a kick in it, so they’re not training with toy guns. They’re training with their actual weapons that have been turned into simulators. It’s a pretty advanced system.”

The City’s public safety department is working

with the other Pointes and Harper Woods to train with the simulation, as well.

“We’re really pleased that some of the departments around us will be able to come in so that we will be able to work

together,” Poloni said. “We mutual aid with the Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods and they’ll be using it with us, so we’ll be kind of the hub of some of the training in the Grosse Pointes, so we’re very proud of that and excited about that.”

While the department’s simulator does not yet have this feature, an add-on program would allow video taken within Grosse Pointe institutions, such as the high schools, to be incorporated into the simulation, so the officers could then train in locations in the community.

The department plans to purchase this feature when budgeting allows.

“We’re a smaller community and to have access to this kind of equipment is just really exceptional,” Councilman Terence Thomas said.



PHOTOS BY JACK RYAN

Mayor Sheila Tomkowiak finishes her speech as former mayor Dale Scrace unveils the plaque that officially names the park’s marina in his honor.

Unveiled

In honor of Dale N. Scrace’s 28 years as councilman and mayor, and in recognition of his work to renovate and rehabilitate the Neff Park Marina in 2004, the City of Grosse Pointe recently unveiled a sign at its marina entrance officially naming it the Dale N. Scrace Marina.

The Aug. 22 ceremony included a celebration hosted by the Grosse Pointe Boat Club, as well as a food truck, ice cream, beverages and snacks.

Throughout his time of service, Scrace helped the City achieve many milestones, including the reconstruction of the Neff Park pool and bathhouse, closing down the incinerator and switching to the landfill agreement through his position as Grosse Pointe Solid Waste Authority chairman and turning the former Jacobson’s back into a mixed-use building for co-use.



Scrace and his wife, Mary.

As mayor, Scrace also formed and was a member of the facilities committee, which led to the construction of the new public safety and public works buildings.

The Week Ahead

- MONDAY, SEPT. 7**
- ◆ All city offices closed for Labor Day.
 - ◆ NAMI Metro peer-led support group for people living with mental health issues, 7 p.m. free virtual meeting. Call Lisa at (805) 450-1994 or email lisajonesmen talhealth@gmail.com.
- TUESDAY, SEPT. 8**
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores Finance Committee meeting, 10 a.m.
 - ◆ Doggie Days of Summer, 4 p.m. at the Osius Park pool.
 - ◆ Grosse Pointe Park TIFA Board meeting, 6 p.m.
 - ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores Harbor Committee meeting, 7 p.m. at the Osius Park pavilion.
 - ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Citizens Recreation Committee meeting, 7 p.m. via Zoom.
- WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 9**
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Beautification Commission meeting, 7 p.m. via Zoom.
- THURSDAY, SEPT. 10**
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Historical Commission meeting, 7:30 p.m. via Zoom.

Correction

The article “Main Street board appointed,” published in the Aug. 27 Grosse Pointe News, should have read that Alexis Deluca’s office is on The Hill and she lives in the City of Grosse Pointe.

ZONE:

Continued from page 1A

Lake St. Clair north of the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club to Ford Cove. If granted, the control would prevent boats from anchoring within approximately 300 feet of the seawall, but still would allow swimming, Jet Skis and boats in no-wake mode.

However, the approved resolution was withdrawn from any further action during the council meeting Tuesday, Aug. 18, following recommendations from Lt. Thomas Wanless, who is in charge of the local watercraft control application review and administrative process for the MDNR Law Enforcement

Division.

This essentially put the matter on hold until spring 2021, when Wanless suggested the city hold an independent hearing on the subject — the conversation arose ad hoc during the July council meeting — and then apply for the temporary control.

“His reasoning was if this were to go forward now, it would take the MDNR a fair bit of time to review the application that the city might submit, determine that it’s administratively complete and then implement it,” City Attorney Brian Renaud explained, “such that ... by the time it was implemented, the high traffic boating season would well be over. This is a six-month temporary

application, so we’d be having a no-anchor situation in the middle of winter when no boats anchor out there anyway.”

In waiting until spring and assuming the control is granted, the city will then have the next boating season to evaluate whether it wants to pursue an application for permanent control or make a different modified action.

The city also was told to definitively determine whether it is the Shores or Wayne County that has jurisdiction over the waters in question.

“The city has grappled in the past with questions of enforcement authority on the lake versus the nuisance violations, etc., but it’s not entirely clear

that the city doesn’t have jurisdiction over certain areas in the lake,” Renaud said.

If the city does not have jurisdiction, then Wayne County would need to apply for the temporary local control.

“Earlier when we conducted some research related to the seawall deterioration and who has the legal responsibility in repairing the seawall, which is Wayne County by the way, we came across a statute, I think it was a federal statute ... which suggested that all these contiguous lakefront communities have jurisdiction over certain activities out to the U.S. shipping lanes line that’s established by regulation,” Renaud said.

DOGS:

Continued from page 1A

park analysis at a Recreation Commission meeting Wednesday, Sept. 2.

Along with statistical research and background about dog parks and dog owners, the analysis cites metro

Detroit communities that have designated areas for canine socialization and recreation. Additional data published in the city’s summary includes details of why site A was recommended, such as its lack of drainage-related concerns associated with other proposed areas at Patterson. Other factors

include:

- ◆ The site allows the easiest access of vehicles into Patterson’s parking lot and also is a farther distance from the splash pad and play areas where children congregate — a safety concern voiced by some residents.
- ◆ The site fits the recommended half-acre

size of standard dog parks, compared to the quarter-acre size of site D, which had been a favored location.

- ◆ The site allows the “least amount of foot, vehicle and bike traffic around it,” preventing potential distractions that could entice pets to chase or frolic outside designated boundaries.

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4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

Canceled season allows student-athlete to use talents close to home

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

Molloy College sophomore Ally Saigh is making the most of an unusual situation. She would have been early in her second season as Molloy’s starting goalie on the field hockey team under head coach Trish Bonagura, but the school canceled the season due to COVID-19 concerns.

“It was expected, but nonetheless sad,” Saigh said. “I feel like my whole team has worked so hard, especially in the off-season, and now we don’t get to play a season this year so it’s upsetting that we don’t get to see it pay off this year.”

With classes held online, Saigh remains home in Grosse Pointe Woods instead of at her dorm at Molloy, which is just outside New York City.

She was proactive and sought a position with a local high school team as an assistant/goalie coach.

It didn’t work out with her alma mater, Grosse Pointe North, so she turned to another local high school, University Liggett School. She now is an assistant under head coach Amanda



Ally Saigh

Amine.

“I figured that if I wasn’t able to play a season, I want to still take part in the sport,” Saigh said. “And what better than to train and work out with girls who are able to still have a season.”

“I’m so grateful to have Ally on our staff this season,” Amine said. “I’m getting spoiled though, because I know next year she’ll (hopefully) be back playing at Molloy. In just a few short weeks, Ally has already made such a positive impact on the Liggett field hockey program.”

“Our goalies have been learning so much and it has been so great to watch her mold them into stronger players,” she continued. “As a cur-

rent college player and someone with so much knowledge of the game, it has been awesome to have Ally around, not just with our goalies, but our whole team. She brings such a positive attitude to practice every day and the girls really enjoy being around her.

“I remember coaching against her while I was at South and she was a player at North. She was such a great competitor and always stood out to me as one of the best goalies in the state during her time at North. We all have a great amount of respect for Ally and what she brings to the table to Liggett’s field hockey program as a coach and I’m just thankful to have her on our side this season.”

It took Saigh a little time to get used to being on her own in the Big Apple. She hit some speed bumps last year as a college freshman.

“My season didn’t really go as planned in terms of wins, but I think I grew as a player and was able to compete with some of the best athletes in the country,” she said. “Our division, the Northeast 10, has athletes from all over the world playing in it, so it’s very competitive.”

“Although we didn’t win many games, we grew as a program from competing for the first year in this conference.”

Saigh stepped up her game, adjusting to the increased speed and athleticism of field hockey at the college level compared to the high school level.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ALLY SAIGH

Local student-athlete Ally Saigh, left, made significant strides forward during her freshman year in college.

The adjustment from being away from home was a culture shock, but she soon fell into a rhythm that allowed her to shine on the field, as well as in the classroom.

She finished her freshman year with a 3.88 grade-point average. She was named to the Northeast 10 Academic Honor Roll with distinction, which means she finished with a GPA above 3.5. She also was on the National Field Hockey College Association National Academic Squad.

Saigh made the Dean’s List each semester. She is majoring in political science with a minor in business. She has maintained a high level of time-management skills,

getting everything done in her academic and athletic schedule.

She is following in the footsteps of her parents. Her father, Steve, has been in business since college and currently is an account executive with the Grosse Pointe News, while her mother, Wendy, is an attorney for the federal government.

Her love for field hockey has been a benefit for ULS. Adjusting to the limits put on the high school level due to COVID-19 has been a work in progress, but a learning experience. She gets to continue to work out in preparation to hit the college field a year from now as a junior.

Meanwhile, Saigh

works out with weights, works out with her younger brother Nick, a freshman at Grosse Pointe North, and uses her time with the ULS players to hone her skills in net.

Saigh also has an older sister, Samantha, who played sports at Grosse Pointe North.

She is hopeful to get back to Molloy for the second semester and hopeful the ULS field hockey season can start.

Saigh, who ranked eighth in Division 2 in saves per game at 7.64, will be ready for her junior year. Currently, she will conduct her classes online for Molloy and will be back on campus either in January or next August.



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COURTESY PHOTOS

Spray painted trees were among the vandalism reported.

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VANDAL:
Continued from page 1A

Department of Public Works employees were sent to remove the vandalism Monday morning, Aug. 31.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Grosse Pointe Woods Public Safety by telephone at (313) 343-2400.



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City of Grosse Pointe

Political sign destruction

An unknown person defaced political signs at Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church Friday, Aug. 28.

Making my own path

At approximately 5:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 28, an unknown person in a white vehicle drove around a construction barrier on southbound University Place and across two lawns before returning to the road.

A witness said it appeared the driver was attempting to circumvent the construction zone.

Stolen lights

Between 9 a.m. and noon Saturday, Aug. 29, four TomCare black metal solar torch lights were stolen from the front yard of a Neff Road residence.

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

Grosse Pointe Park

Stolen auto

A black 2013 Mercedes Benz was stolen from the 1100 block of

Beaconsfield between 8 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 26, and 12:30 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 27. The keys might have been left in the vehicle.

Stolen bikes

A blue girls Schwinn Beach Cruiser and a blue girls 12-speed Huffly were stolen, along with around \$2 in change from inside a parked vehicle, at a residence in the 1000 block of Kensington between 8 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 25, and 7 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 26.

The vehicle had been unlocked in the driveway where the bikes were nearby.

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

Grosse Pointe Farms

Mi casa, su casa

A 37-year-old Howell woman was discovered living on another person's yacht at the Grosse Pointe Little Club at 8:30 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 27, and was arrested for unauthorized entry.

Unemployment fraud

After being pulled over for defective equipment at 9:20 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 27, two Detroit residents and one person from Romulus were arrested after they admitted to being in possession of 11 fraudulently acquired unemployment debit cards.

Car thieves captured

Two men were arrested at 11:52 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 27, after a witness saw them going through a car on Lewiston Road before fleeing.

After a search of the area, both were found with materials stolen from two cars in the Farms and one from the City of Grosse Pointe.

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

Grosse Pointe Shores

Honestly illegal

After being pulled over for speeding at 12:55

p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 25, a 27-year-old Harper Woods woman admitted to not having insurance and that there was a firearm under her seat. She did not have a concealed carry license.

Driving under the influence with a high blood alcohol content also was added to the reasons for arrest when an open bottle of wine was discovered.

Driving while license suspended

A 19-year-old Detroit man parked on Lakeshore Road in a no-parking zone at 4:06 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 26, was arrested when it was found he was driving with a suspended license.

Credit card and registration

A 40-year-old St. Clair Shores woman was arrested for operating while intoxicated at 10:32 p.m. Friday, Aug. 28, after being pulled over for traveling on Lakeshore Road without headlights.

The woman gave the officer a credit card when asked for her license and

a preliminary breath test showed her blood alcohol content was .13 percent.

Never leave a man behind

A 26-year-old St. Clair Shores man was arrested for reckless driving and not having a motorcycle endorsement at 9:29 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 29, after driving past an officer on Lakeshore Road with five other motorcyclists at 80 mph.

A 20-year-old Roseville man, also in the group, was arrested for the same when he came back to check on the man who had been pulled over.

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

Grosse Pointe Woods

Good Samaritan

A wallet was returned containing all of its contents after a resident of the 2100 block of Brys

had last seen it in her unlocked vehicle Monday, Aug. 24. The citizen who discovered the wallet, a St. Clair Shores resident, contacted Grosse Pointe Woods Public Safety, who transferred it to the owner. About \$10 in loose change was discovered missing from the wallet owner's vehicle.

Supermarket suspect stopped

A 50-year-old Detroit man was arrested around 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 27, near Mack and Cook after reportedly taking almost \$500 in beer and groceries out of Kroger in a shopping cart without paying for the items.

When confronted by store employees, the suspect left the cart in front of a nearby pharmacy and walked away. Public safety officers took him into custody a short time later.

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

Gas line work to be done in The Village

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — DTE work in The Village set to begin Tuesday, Sept. 8, will mark the final phase of the project to install high-pressure gas lines throughout the entire City, which began in September 2017.

The work, expected to be complete Sept. 30, was pushed back from an original start date of Wednesday, Aug. 26, due to a sales event in The Village that weekend, followed by Labor Day.

The first six sections — between Neff and St. Clair on the north side of Kercheval; Cadieux to Notre Dame in the alley; the north side of Kercheval between Cadieux and Notre Dame; Kercheval to Waterloo; St. Clair and Notre Dame in the alley, continuing to St. Clair between the Neighborhood Club and the business district; and the south side of St. Clair between Kercheval and the City's municipal parking structure — will make up the most extensive part of the work, with new gas mains being installed.

"A lot of the one through six work, that's going to be more in depth where they have to actually go into the ground (and) run new piping in," Public Services Director Pete Randazzo explained.

DTE workers also will be moving meters from inside businesses to outside in these sections, if it already hasn't been done.

Sections seven through 12 won't require the installation of new lines because there already are lines in the ground in these areas that can handle the high-pressure gas.

Instead, work on these sections will involve elevating the pressure in the lines and testing them with air, before converting them to high pressure.

This encompasses Kercheval Place between Cadieux and Notre Dame; the south side of Kercheval between Cadieux and Notre Dame; between Kercheval and the alley behind Kroger; the south side of Kercheval between Notre Dame and St. Clair; St. Clair from Kercheval to Lot 2; and Kercheval between Neff and St. Clair.

The work should only create minor holes in the sidewalks, which will be repaired upon

completion of the project.

"For the most part, it shouldn't be too bad just based on what we've seen with the residential project," Randazzo said. "There's going to be some disruption, but it shouldn't affect the businesses in a way where they're going to be hurting."

The next and final stage of DTE's work on this project will be the decommissioning of the old gas lines, mains and vented vaults — old vaults are located at Fisher and Kercheval; Cadieux and Mack; and Jefferson and Cadieux — throughout the city.

Anyone with questions or concerns

regarding the project can reach DTE at (313) 270-9240 or Randazzo at (313) 885-5800.

Lake Front Park swimming reopens

Following tests and cleaning, the Aquatic Center at Lake Front Park reopened after the positive COVID-19 test of a staff member early last month.

The swimming area was closed as a public precaution to help prevent the possible further

spread of infection. Residents have resumed reserving hours in advance of swimming by visiting the city's recreation department online.

The Aquatic Center is scheduled to close for the season Monday, Sept. 7.



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Grosse Pointe News

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OUR VIEW

Wear masks,
socially distance
this Labor Day

Welcome to Labor Day 2020, another holiday weekend that will bear little resemblance to anything most people used to consider normal. The federal holiday itself dates back to 1894, when President Grover Cleveland signed it into law. Previously, various states had taken to celebrating labor on the first Monday in September, based on the date chosen for a New York City parade of 10,000 workers in 1882.

The worst abuses of workers from that era have long been remedied and the line between celebrating and/or lobbying for labor vs. giving workers a day off has become increasingly blurred. But in this year of pandemic, some of the workers most often taken for granted have proven to be the most essential — and particularly deserve a celebration.

Employees in grocery stores, gas stations and a few other retail categories, bus drivers and other transportation workers, people in skilled trades who had to be available for emergency repairs — all rose to the occasion and kept working, without the option to work from home as so many others could. They had to confront the world and its germs.

That included postal workers, who somehow managed to keep the lifeline of mail coming to and going from homes that were in lockdown. They and their compatriots at delivery companies kept online commerce — another sudden, and burgeoning, essential — flowing.

Here at the Grosse Pointe News, which is delivered via the U.S. mail, the local sorters and letter carriers have earned a lot of gratitude. Under extremely trying conditions, they largely got the newspaper into mailboxes on schedule. Yes, some disruptions — both serious and minor — occurred, but often due to forces beyond the scope of regular employees trying their hardest every day.

So this year on Labor Day, please pause enough to honor the postal workers and other employees throughout the economy who kept the world moving, especially during the worst days back in April.

But most people also can and will use Labor Day weekend as a marker for the end of summer and the start of school. Traditionally, that means picnics, sports, family get-togethers.

Those kinds of events require extra care this year, as Michigan appears to be finally adjusting to the COVID-19 outbreaks that reappeared after Memorial Day and notched up again after the Fourth of July. Labor Day is one holiday weekend that deserves attention to masks and distancing, even among families, to prevent a repeat of the previous two.

That’s because the school year starts the Tuesday after the holiday in many Michigan districts, including here with the Grosse Pointe Public School System. With a little caution, residents can maintain the current downward trend around here — and prevent outbreaks that will keep students out of their classrooms even longer.

In the Grosse Pointe district, the year starts with two different paths: a fully online program that will run for the entire school year and a program that will start online but gradually move students into classrooms. If case counts rocket back up, who knows when anyone will get back into a school building?

What this creates for students and parents, teachers and administrators, is massive uncertainty. Their future depends not just on their own actions but the support — or lack thereof — from the rest of the community. Everyone else has to help have their back.

As of now, parents have to brace their offspring and themselves for frequent change. It will be labor of a kind not typically celebrated this weekend — but it’s real work that also deserves to be acknowledged and supported.

That’s what Labor Day was made for: Recognize the work and the workers, then take some time to set day-to-day cares aside.



DRONE PHOTO BY JACK RYAN/SKYVIEW AERIAL PRODUCTIONS

Pure Grosse Pointe

Sadly, there won’t be any “Friday Night Lights” at the Blue Devils stadium this fall — nor at Grosse Pointe North or any other Michigan High School Athletic Association school due to the pandemic. Grosse Pointe South High School’s football stadium is among many athletic fields in the school district used by student-athletes, community groups and individual neighbors. In “normal years,” Grosse Pointe North and South high schools are among the conference and state leaders in academic All-State athletes, and MHSAA Scholar-Athletes Award qualifiers and recipients. Hopefully, those “glory days” will return soon.

OUR VIEW

Grosse Pointe historic district

Especially in these times of difficulty getting together in groups, the City of Grosse Pointe needs to make extra efforts to get the word out that it may designate some of its neighborhoods as historic districts.

The idea of a historic district or districts seems exciting, but it depends on widespread cooperation.

The city already has placed a six-month moratorium on both demolition and new building permits within its Estate Residential District, an area with the majority of its historical assets, according to City Planner Julie Connochie. Zoning documents online currently describe that district as areas, such as along the southern ends of Washington Road and Lakeland Avenue, that contain the largest lots.

But the city council also reached a consensus to research areas that appear to more than double the blocks beyond those identified now as Estate Residential, including a part of Lincoln that is adjacent to the end of Washington and more of the area south of Jefferson. Kristine Kidorf, a consultant to the city, noted that historic districts often have themes and that Grosse Pointe “may have more than one story to tell.”

The council’s consensus to move ahead was based

on a discussion, not a vote, so none of this is official. The administration will conduct research and then recommend specific boundaries to study further; all of this is a lead-up to creating a study committee and then proceeding through multiple steps and hearings.

Big homes are increasingly difficult to maintain, yet it is the nature of a neighborhood with older homes that gives it much of its character and builds the value of the individual properties. It is generally considered in owners’ best interest to stick together, support a historic district and maintain the setting for their homes.

So far, residents seem supportive, including those who spoke at a recent public hearing. But it’s essential, as soon as boundaries are more precise, that everyone understand what’s involved and what restrictions may be involved. The difficulties of meeting in-person because of the coronavirus pandemic cannot become an excuse for failing to draw in as many property owners as possible.

The rewards of a properly established historic district or districts are enticing enough that it is worth ensuring a thoughtful and inclusive process. Neighborhoods of the Pointes certainly seem to deserve such attention.

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.

Schaap Center:
An egg that
needs to hatch

To the Editor:

For two reasons we were pleased to read in last week’s Grosse Pointe News: “Council Seeks More Engagement with Center Developer.”

Reason No. 1: We had feared the “nays” might prevail based upon the many negatives cited in the Zoom hearings; reason No. 2: We had submitted some “Public Engagement” suggestions to the Grosse Pointe Park council and were disappointed they were not cited in the hearings.

We agree with the many comments lamenting the incomplete (and resulting misleading slant) of the issue the hearings were perceived to be about. We used the following analogy: In the movie “1776,” Franklin, Jefferson and Adams compare the Declaration of Independence to an egg, and they are anticipating the egg to crack open and to witness the birth of a new nation, which cannot yet be fully described or known.

The generous donation enabling the building of the Schaap Center should be judged like that: A promising egg, not yet alive nor fully

understood. The birth of this egg was not a clean process; neither the developers nor the GPP council did a good job of explaining the promise this egg holds.

The reactions by many in the public is understandable: The egg is ugly, in the wrong place for an egg, not in the Master Plan, etc. Also, many expressed the fear a baby bird may become dependent on taxpayer support. Most in the public see this as only two-dimensional, a home for Grosse Pointe Theatre and for a private art collection, because that’s all they have been told. Only a few residents involved in the arts see the vision of a beautiful bird that may evolve. They urge support, not for an ugly egg, but for that vision.

Now that the egg — in spite of the clumsy presentation — has gotten a (conditional) nod, the community should give that big egg a chance to hatch and give us a chance to see what evolves. Provide the fledgling a chance to

fully develop, because even after it hatches, if we do not nurture and support the ugly duckling, we may never know the swan.

With “nurture and support” we do NOT mean taxpayer money. We mean multi-discipline happenings (performing arts, representative arts, historical crafts, etc.) from the entire region. Please remember that a number of volunteer arts organizations like GPT, Grosse Pointe Artists Association, a number of music and choral groups, etc., have developed without any taxpayer support, just a little boost from The War Memorial. All these groups are now surviving just on volunteer participation (and membership dues) and, for some, ticket revenue.

In the early 1990s, a mixture of volunteer members from a number of arts organizations from all over the Pointes formed the “Grosse Pointe Arts Council” for the express purpose of

See LETTERS, page 7A

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

I SAY By Eddie B. Allen Jr.

Officer Ron’s greatest lesson



We called him “Officer Ron.” The tall, uniformed Detroit Police patrolman was a striking center of attention for kindergartners sitting cross-legged on the floor. I was among the students at Ilene Primary School who learned some basic rules of safety, like the difference between red and green traffic lights, from Officer Ron. A not coincidental lesson I learned, too, likely

by the design of Ilene’s administrators, was that police officers were my friends. That they cared about me and I could trust them were among messages communicated without the actual words. Acknowledging that those visits from Officer Ron took place decades ago, they still feel like much longer. At a time of ongoing nationwide discord between police and civilians, the tension is almost contagious. As I privately reflected on this crisis last week, I received two completely unsolicited suggestions of elements necessary for a meeting of minds that might be diametrically opposed about the subject of law enforcement. “I used to sit at council

meetings and the people next to me would say, ‘All the police want to do is give tickets,’” longtime Grosse Pointe Park resident Al Mazur told me. He had called the newsroom and left a voice message that he wanted to share some good news about his city’s public safety department. Among the positive stories he shared when I talked to him the next day was the incident when a homeless man found his way into the condos where Mazur and his wife live on Jefferson. What struck Mazur most, he said, was how “gentle” Park officers had been toward the fellow who’d camped out in the vestibule. Instead of

charging him with trespassing or vagrancy, they simply guided him out to a squad car and eventually worked to find him a temporary shelter. “Their long-term plan was to help him,” Mazur said, “not send him to jail.” The second endorsement I received came in an email from another Park resident, Ken Van Dellen, but his positive words were for a civilian he admires: Allan Watts has long had a vision of creating an inter-city chess league for youth and police officers in Detroit and the Pointes. If you’ve visited La Cina restaurant on Mack, you’ve likely met Watts, who is a friendly member of the hosting

staff. His passion for chess is one he shared during a demonstration at the City of Grosse Pointe Public Safety Department’s recent open house for its new headquarters. It simply doesn’t get much better than his kind of dedication to bridge-building. I don’t think it’s oversimplifying to say the compassion displayed by cops that Mazur praised and the creativity of Allan Watts are a vital combination for improving police-community relations in southeast Michigan and elsewhere. Without question there are also other essential measures, like increasing dialogue between police and citizens, as the Grosse Pointe-Harper Woods chapter of

the NAACP undertook this summer. But basic elements like creativity and compassion are significant forms of conversation. No, chess matches won’t sufficiently answer citizens’ concerns about excessive force and misconduct, but the creativity of visionaries like Watts can be starting points for cops and kids to better appreciate each other’s humanity. Meanwhile, wearing badges of compassion can do considerably more than wearing body cameras for officers looking to change negative public perceptions. In kindergarten I couldn’t have known I’d have a reason to ask him, but I’m sure Officer Ron would agree.

YESTERDAY’S HEADLINES

1945
75 years ago this week
GP WELCOMES METHODISTS: The newly organized Grosse Pointe Methodist church will hold its first services on next Sunday in the Kerby School. The church has acquired a fine plot on ground on

Moross near Kercheval where before long the Methodists hope to build a church edifice appropriate to the fine community in which it will stand. *Obituaries: Helen C. Barnard*

1970
50 years ago this week

EVERYONE HAPPY WITH MR. LEMANSKE: The Grosse Pointe Council of Better Literature for Youth has singled out Daniel Lemanske for his outstanding service to the community by maintaining a consistently high standard of business ethics for refraining from the sale of immoral material in the content of magazines sold in his

store, the Notre Dame Pharmacy. *Obituaries: Allan Sheldon IV, Catharine Youngblood, Walter J. Fetter, Philip Chapman Gibbs, Stella Angeline Pratt, Margaret C. Kramer, Kenelm E. Winslow*

1995
25 years ago this week

NO OUTDOOR DINING AT WOODS SHOP: A plan to create a bagel shop with outdoor

dining was shot full of holes last week when the Grosse Pointe Woods City Council learned the plan involved the use of city property. *Obituaries: Betty Kilcline, Hugo J. Schiavi, Arthur William Sempliner, Lena E. Bery, Hugh A. Delfs, Eleanor Wagner Maun, Katherine Evelyn Rossi, Gloria O. Kelly, Suzanne A. McGregor, Ann T. Powers*

BATTERY SPARKED CLUB FIRE: The fire that destroyed two storage buildings at the Country Club of Detroit started in a tractor battery and has been ruled accidental. Firefighters from six departments — Grosse Pointe Farms, Shores, City, Woods, Harper Woods and Detroit — fought the four-alarm blaze. *Obituaries: Richard H. Johnson, Madeline Elizabeth Russell, Alvin Lee Wagner, Marilyn L. Eddington, Margaret Cross, Shirley P. Williams, Florence A. Simon*

LETTERS:

Continued from page 6A

fostering interaction, cooperation and “cross-pollination” between those organizations. We managed to produce many events combining talent from different arts disciplines without ever needing taxpayer dollars. GPAC was entirely funded by volunteer membership dues and ticket revenue shared with The War Memorial or other performance venues (churches, schools, etc.). Based on that experience with GPAC, we would advise the formation of an independent, all-volunteer 501(c)3 membership organization with a specific “mission” very similar to the old GPAC mission cited above. From the hearings, we got the impression there is broad support for the arts in various forms (not just theater, music and exhibits). For our GPAC 501(c)3, we found such energy easy to harness and our task would have been even easier had we had a single center and focus. We hope the new center does everything in operation, publicity and marketing to “position” itself as a REGIONAL — not just GPP — operation. This will help get a broader all-volunteer involvement and will help allay fears the operation might become a GPP taxpayer burden. **BUNNY & JAN HOMAN** Grosse Pointe Park

Editor’s note: Ms. Homan is past president, Grosse Pointe Arts Council; member of Grosse Pointe Artists for 30 years; member of Portrait Society of America since inception in 1998; and Michigan

Ambassador to the Portrait Society for 20 years. Mr. Homan is a retired advertising/marketing executive; past treasurer, Grosse Pointe Arts Council; and past business partner, Ambleside Gallery.

Anonymous mailer
To the Editor: There is clearly a group of disaffected and critical residents who choose to cherry pick some questionable facts and print up a bright yellow oversized postcard with scare tactics. We choose to consider this inflammatory and unreasonable because the writers and senders

of this postcard choose to remain anonymous. If they are so sure of their facts and figures, why would they not include their names and/or the group they represent? The fact that our student population is shrinking (fact) requires many complicated strategies. Both professionals and dedicated volunteers have spent countless hours implementing some necessary but unpopular decisions to deal with reality. Unless these nay sayers are willing to share their names, we consider the yellow postcard totally useless. **ANNE AND JOHN ROBERTS** Grosse Pointe Farms

When Luke Schaupeter recommends a mask to friends or family, it’s always a KN95 mask from GP Masks Plus!



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Edwards heading to Indiana Tech

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

The hundreds of hours of practice paid off for Grosse Pointe South graduate Matt Edwards. The 18-year-old is heading to Indiana Tech on an athletic scholarship to play college basketball for head coach Ted Albert.

“It has a great engineering program,” Edwards said. “It also has a great coach who encourages playing team basketball. It also has been a very successful program, winning the WHAC regular season two times in a row and also went to the NAIA National Tournament three times in the past four years.”

Edwards also was interested in University of Michigan-Dearborn for basketball and, if he was just going to be a student, Michigan State, Wayne State and Dayton universities.

Edwards has played basketball since kindergarten. It’s his passion. He has worked hard to become the best player he can be.

His senior year, he averaged eight points, five rebounds and one block per game under



Matt Edwards signs his National Letter of Intent with parents, Mary and Jeff Edwards, offering support.

first-year head coach Steve Benard. Edwards made 61 percent of his two-point field goal attempts and 45 percent beyond the three-point arc. His season best was 16 points against Detroit

Edison near the end of the regular season. Edwards played a major role in helping the Blue Devils finish with one of their best seasons in school history, finishing 16-5 and winning the

Macomb Area Conference White Division with a 10-0 record.

He was a team captain his senior season.

“Matt was an integral part of our success this past season,” Benard said. “He played like a senior captain all season and is a multidimensional-type player that can shoot the three, run the floor, block shots and rebound. He will be missed next season.”

Edwards also played soccer at South. He made the All-District team for the Blue Devils.

“The group of guys I played with this year on both soccer and basketball were the best group of teammates I have been a part of,” he said. “With basketball, I was with them four hours each day. We would watch film for an hour, practice for two hours, then go to the weight room for an hour, so with that we were with each other a lot, but with these guys it made these long afterschool practices fun.”

Edwards said Benard changed the image of South basketball.

“We started the season not being known, but that quickly changed,” he said. “We had a tough loss against Dakota the first time we played, but we showed we were a high-caliber team that could score the ball. This was all due to Coach Benard’s ability to get the best out of his players and run offenses that worked best with the players we had. He also



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MATT EDWARDS

Grosse Pointe South’s Matt Edwards was a team captain on the varsity basketball squad.

brought in great assistant coaches: Coach Nate, Coach Vivian and Coach Crandell helped us tremendously.”

“It was great watching Matthew grow over the years as an individual and a player,” said Edwards’ father, Jeff. “He had such a great season and had a wonderful experience his senior year. It was fun watching him enjoy the game and his teammates. He worked hard and showed great determination and perseverance throughout his life and high school years.”

“I know this will benefit him in life and prepare him for basketball at Indiana Tech. I couldn’t have imagined a better situation for Matthew than Indiana Tech. The team, program, coach all match well with Matthew and his abilities. I look forward to watching him continue his career and grow his love of the game.”

Edwards wants to major in mechanical engineering and use the

degree to work at a car company near Detroit.

Edwards displayed hard work in the classroom, too, earning a 3.6 overall grade-point average, 3.9 his senior year, and was a member of the National Honor Society.

He also graduated with the highest honors, was All-Academic in soccer and basketball and made the academic honor roll all four years in high school.

Edwards also made time to coach youth basketball and soccer, including one of his younger brother’s teams.

“He’s been a great brother to his five siblings,” Jeff Edwards said.

Edwards was a deacon at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, a Parish Life Council member and a Youth Sunday School teacher for four years.

He is the son of Jeff and Mary Edwards. He has an older sister, Emma, plus two younger sisters, Ally and Lucy. He also has two younger brothers, Will and Oliver.

CITY OF HARPER WOODS WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN SYNOPSIS: REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING JULY 13, 2020

The regular City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Kenneth A. Poynter at 7:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL: All Councilpersons were present except Councilperson Veronica Paiz.

MOTIONS PASSED

- 1) To excuse Councilperson Paiz from tonight’s meeting because of a prior commitment.
- 2) To receive, approve and file the minutes of the special City Council meeting held June 8, 2020 and furthermore receive and file the minutes of the Library Board meetings held April 27, May 26, and June 3, 2020, the Planning Commission meetings held June 2, and June 24, 2020, and the Board of Zoning Appeals meeting held June 10, 2020.
- 3) to open the Public Hearing on the proposed lot split at 19360 Harper Avenue.
- 4) to close the Public Hearing on the proposed lot split at 19360 Harper Avenue.
- 5) to add an item to the agenda, discussion of forming a Public Safety Commission.
- 6) That the agenda of the regular City Council meeting having been acted upon, the meeting is hereby adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

RESOLUTION PASSED

- 1) to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda: (1) approve the Accounts Payable/ Payroll Vendor listing for Check Numbers through in the amount of \$ as submitted by the Acting City Manager and acting Finance Director, and further, authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the listing. (2) approve payment to Anderson, Eckstein & Westrick, Inc. in the amount of \$10,273.66 for the month of May and \$24,132.09 for the month of June for professional services for the following projects: Beaconsfield Resurfacing, #180-231; 2018 Concrete Pavement Repair, #180-204; 2020 Pavement Joint/Crack Sealing, #180-226; Emergency Storm Sewer Repair, #180-229; 2019 Emergency Sanitary Sewer CCTV, #180-233; 2020 User Charge, #180-234; AT&T Tower Modification, #180-235; City Hall Roof, #180-236 and the Stormwater Asset Management Proj. #180-202. (3) approve payment to Plante & Moran in the amount of \$26,060.00 for the professional services performed in conjunction with the 2019 audit. (4) approve payment to SafeBuilt, Inc. in the amount of \$12,710.00 for the contractual building department services performed during the month of May 2020. (5) approve payment to WCA Assessing in the amount of \$5,354.33 for the contractual assessing services performed during the month of July 2020. (6) approve payment in the amount of \$9,050.00 to Guardian Sewers for their assistance with storm cleanup, several watermain breaks and water service repairs at various residential locations. (7) approve payment to Badger Meter, Inc. in the amount of \$24,661.88 for the purchase of 100 new 5/8” Orion automatic read water meters. (8) approve payment to Nu Appearance Maintenance, Inc. in the amount of \$19,908.45 for contractual lawn cutting and weed maintenance in various areas of the City, including City Hall, the annexes, Library and the Parks and also for lawn cuttings at various residential homes. (9) to approve payment to Intrado Life and Safety Solutions in the amount of \$9,150.00 for the equipment needed for the 911 upgrade, with 911 grant money to be used for this purchase.
- 2) to deny the Special Land Use application submitted by Kevin Bruinsma on behalf of Narrow Path Christian Church to operate a church at 20924 Harper Avenue pursuant to the Planning Commission’s findings and recommendation.
- 3) approve the request submitted by Corinne Martin on behalf of Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society to utilize the vacant property at 20839 Lennon as an outdoor exercise/ socialization area for dogs that are up for adoption pursuant to the Planning Commission’s recommendation.
- 4) to approve the lot split request from Starr Commonwealth at 19360 Harper Avenue to divide two properties 42 003 99 0001 701 and 702 into 5 parcels (1 school parcel, 1 church parcel, and 3 vacant parcels).
- 5) to adopt the Resolution to Concur in the Rules and Regulations Concerning Industrial Pretreatment Program that were adopted by the Great Lakes Water Authority.
6. approve payment to Great Lakes Contracting Solutions, LLC, in the amount of \$47,427.86 for Progress Payment No. 1 on the 2020 Storm Sewer Open Cut Repairs Project, #180-229.
7. approve payment to Michigan Joint Sealing, Inc. in the amount of \$44,407.46 for Progress Payment No. 1 on the 2020 Pavement Joint/Crack Sealing Project, #180-226.
8. approve payment to Doetsch Environmental Services, in the amount of \$6,079.50 for Progress Payment No. 1 on the Sanitary Sewer Cleaning and CCTV Investigation, #180-233.
9. to accept the proposal from Pointe Alarm for the purchase and installation of a complete upgrade of security systems at City Hall, Library, District Court and Public Works in the amount of \$98,497.00 to be made in three annual installments. The upgrades include employee card access to all doors, replacement of CCTV cameras at DPW, the Library, and City Hall with several additional cameras, an intercom system upgrade in the dispatch area, panic/alarm buttons in several areas of the Court, upgradeto audio/visual system in the interrogation room and microphones to be added in conjunction with surveillance cameras in the lobby, courtroom and prisoner cell area.

Kenneth A. Poynter, Mayor

Leslie M. Frank, City Clerk

Published: GPN, September 3, 2020

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GPN090320

North boys win first tennis quad ULS tennis back in action

After a season-opening quad in Grand Rapids was canceled, the Grosse Pointe North boys tennis team finally had the chance to play a real match last week.

Head coach John VanAlst and his Norsemen traveled to Grosse Ile and won 7-1.

Junior Simon Stallings won 6-3, 6-3 at No. 1 singles, and sophomore Alex Muawad prevailed 6-1, 6-3 at No. 2 singles.

At No. 3 singles, sophomore Sahith Nannapaneni won 6-1, 6-4, while sophomore James Moussiaux cruised 6-1, 6-1 at No. 4 singles.

The Norsemen had a 6-4, 6-2 win from the No. 1 doubles team of junior Mitchell Mills and sophomore Kaiden DePascale.

Seniors Ben Zola and Luke Deskin won 6-1, 6-4 at No. 2 doubles, while sophomore Simeon Nelson and junior

Connor Tubbs lost 6-0, 6-3 in their No. 3 doubles match.

At No. 4 doubles, the duo of sophomores John Mueller and Ethan Molitor came from behind to win 5-7, 6-4, 6-4 in the longest match of the afternoon.

North is 1-0 and hosts a quad Thursday, Sept. 3, before battling rival Grosse Pointe South Wednesday, Sept. 9, at Elworthy.

— Bob St. John

Four top-10 finishers help Liggett earn a win

The University Liggett School cross-country program started its season last weekend, running against Detroit Renaissance and host Clawson at Clawson City Park.

The girls won 28-29 as sophomore Penelope Griffioen led the way with a time of 22:11.

Senior Sophia Ma ran a 24:02, while senior Ariana Herman and

freshman Kelsey Beckett were right behind with times of 24:06 and 24:53.

The four finished in the top 10 to help the Knights earn the win.

Junior Emilia Bronk had a time of 28:33. Freshman Brynn Collins is also a team member, but did not have an official time.

The boys did not have enough competitors to officially post a

team score.

They were led by juniors Jacob Whitton and Evan Provenzano, who had times of 20:25 and 21:17.

Junior Taveon Colston had a time of 26:01 and freshman Jake Juip came in at 24:06. Junior Garrett Flynn is also a team member, but did not have a time.

— Bob St. John

DiVita to head South’s volleyball program

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

The Grosse Pointe South volleyball program is in the hands of new head coach Janeil DiVita.

She has been an assistant coach in the Blue Devils’ spikers program the past five years, coaching at the freshman and junior varsity levels. Now, she leads the way.

“I applied for the varsity head coach position because I want to make a bigger impact on the program as a whole,” DiVita said. “I

want to provide a more positive experience for the student-athletes and work together to improve the culture and identity of the program. I want the players to be committed to play, compete and represent Grosse Pointe South volleyball. I also want to develop more continuity and unity from the varsity to the freshman level.”

The 49-year-old Grosse Pointe Farms resident has been involved with volleyball her entire life.

She grew up in Midland, lettering in

volleyball, basketball and softball at Midland High School.

She took her game to the college level. She was a four-year scholarship student-athlete at Lake Superior State University while earning a bachelor’s degree in exercise science.

With the expertise in her back pocket, she will use it to make her South program better.

“My goal is for our team(s) to be successful,” DiVita said. “Success means getting better every time we step in the gym by controlling the controlla-

bles — our attitude, our effort, being a great teammate, putting the team first and being prepared. If we focus on our standards and doing things right, specific goals and winning should follow suit.

“Of course, we want to win. I would love to see this group win the MAC White conference and continue with a post-season run past regionals in the tournament.”

DiVita’s ability to create a positive and fun environment that encourages athletes to learn skills, build confi-

dence and develop relationships to be the best players and people both on and off the court is what will translate to the Blue Devils winning big, pressure-packed matches.

DiVita has been married to David DiVita 26 years. They met in college where he played NCAA Division I hockey for LSSU and then was drafted by the Buffalo Sabres of the National Hockey League.

At No. 1 doubles, Vince

— Bob St. John

They are the parents of three children. Jada, 17, is a junior at South and has been on the varsity volleyball team since her freshman year; Gianni, 15, is a freshman at South and plays AAA hockey for the Oakland Junior Grizzlies 15U; and Gabriella, 13, is a seventh-grader at Brownell Middle School and plays on the 14-1 Adidas National team at Legacy Volleyball Club.



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Eighth graders lead the way with virtual orientation

By Mary Anne Brush
Staff Writer

The WEB — Where Everybody Belongs — program at Brownell, Parcels and Pierce middle schools kicked off a little differently this year. In anticipation of a remote opening to the school year Sept. 8, the Aug. 27 WEB orientation for incoming fifth- and sixth-grade students was held virtually via Google Meets, with eighth graders leading the way.

The purpose of the WEB program is to help incoming students prepare for middle school. This year, fifth graders are joining sixth graders in making that transition. Tips from WEB leaders range from how to open lockers and navigate the school building to managing teacher expectations and making friends.

While the virtual version didn't include a building tour, it did provide an opportunity for the younger students to meet new classmates, ease first-day jitters and create lasting connections with eighth-grade mentors.

For example, while Caroline Worden, a fifth grader at Parcels, said she didn't know anyone in her orientation session, she got to meet a few people who may be in her class this year. The experience made her feel prepared and ready for the things she most looks forward to in



PHOTO COURTESY OF JACKIE CLAEYS

Pierce fifth graders give a thumbs up to their WEB orientation session.

middle school — “meeting new people and doing different classes and maybe joining clubs or stuff,” she said.

“It made me feel more comfortable and that I might know some people or recognize them from the Zoom and it made me really excited,” she said.

“We felt it was especially important for incoming Parcels fifth and sixth graders to feel welcome and a part of our school,” Parcels Principal Dan Hartley said. “Our WEB advisors did an outstanding job working with our

eighth-grade WEB leaders to put together a virtual program to connect students from our four elementary feeder schools and start building friendships with our eighth-grade mentors and grade-level peers. Students in all grades had a great time participating in team-building and ‘getting to know you’ activities.”

“Our eighth-grade leaders worked really hard to make sure every incoming fifth and sixth grader felt welcome and a part of our Parcels family,” Parcels WEB coordinator Alexis Lecznar said. “They did an amazing job rising to the challenge of supporting students from two different grades and doing it all virtually. The WEB leaders will continue to work with their groups throughout the school year. We are all so excited to watch their relationships grow and continue to build our school community.”

At Pierce, too, the program was “a great virtual experience for our kids,” according to Principal Sara Dirkse.

WEB faculty coordinator Jackie Claeys said student leaders worked well together, communicated effectively to coordinate the activities and stepped up to their leadership roles.

She and fellow WEB coordinators Andrea Bolton and Leslie Dole set up 40 separate Google Meet sessions and emailed invitations to all the participants.

“The leaders were well prepared and eager to work with their small groups,” Claeys said. “The incoming students were excited to meet their leaders and engaged throughout their get-to-know-you activities.”

With 40 WEB leaders and approximately 300 fifth and sixth graders, she anticipated challenges, but encountered only one small technical glitch — an echo during the sharing of a staff welcome video. The WEB leaders quickly resolved the issue with a “mute the mic” button, Claeys said, and students were able to enjoy a few short clips introducing them to their leaders and staff.

Appearing online and feeling comfortable presenting — while working through any technical issues — was one of the benefits of the sessions, she added.

“Leaders learned how to share their screen and present enthusiastically in a virtual format. Student groups kept their cameras on the whole time. They were really into the activities and were respectful when there were opportunities to turn their mic on or off.”

Leaders concluded each session by sharing tips for success in middle school, also known as “words of wisdom,” or WOW, according to Claeys. These included developing a routine, having a designated space at home for learning, not being afraid to ask for help or make new friends, and using a planner to write down live teacher help times and assignment due dates.

As the parent of two students at Pierce, Diane Huchingson said the experience was positive for both her daughters,

one an incoming fifth-grader and the other an eighth-grade WEB leader.

“It was nice to see they were able to transfer it online,” Huchingson said. “I was listening a little bit and it seemed like it worked pretty well within the limitations of it being online versus being in person.”

Her older daughter, Jolina, applied to be a WEB leader last spring because she wanted to help younger students feel more comfortable with the transition.

“When I was going into sixth grade as a middle schooler, I was really anxious about it and I wanted to help other kids who might feel the way I felt when I was going into middle school,” she said.

During two days of training, WEB leaders were given a packet of activities to do with the fifth and sixth graders, she said. Students began the orientation in a large group before breaking into smaller groups of seven or eight fifth or sixth graders at a time, each group led by two WEB leaders.

Her younger sister, Noelle, enjoyed the ice-breaker activities and games. Particularly helpful was an exercise in which everyone “wrote down things you might want to do or what would help you get through middle school,” she said, adding she wrote, “it’s best to be organized, have a routine, make new friends, study when you have something coming up, keep a planner, get involved and get help when you’re stuck.”

Like Joelle Huchingson, Parcels eighth graders Sarabeth Thomas and Addison Wakefield became WEB leaders because they found the experience beneficial when they started middle school.

“My WEB leaders really helped me and I wanted to do the same for the incoming fifth or sixth graders,” Thomas said, adding the connection formed with the older students helped her if she “was having a rough day or if I was confused I could go to them or if my locker was jammed, they would help me open it.”

She wanted to be there for the younger students the way the eighth graders were

there to help her, she said.

The activities were designed to help the students “get energized or focused.” WEB leaders also gave them advice on the things they wish they had known, like “don’t keep old food in your locker, keep extra pencils with you and keep your binders clean and organized,” she said.

As for fifth graders starting middle school this year, “It’s different, but I’m sure they’ll get acclimated to the new environment and I’ll be there to help them.”

Wakefield said conducting the orientation sessions “was a little tough” at first, but “the outcome was about the same” as what she experienced as an incoming sixth grader.

“We had to play a lot of virtual games and try to go along with it. I think they had a lot of fun and we made it work. I think they really got to know each other and felt comfortable,” she said, adding WEB leaders helped the younger students turn on their microphones and get used to “having their faces seen by everybody.”

Her father, Chace Wakefield, compared the WEB orientation program to participating in a sport prior to starting school, making the opening days less intimidating.

“It allows kids to socially adjust and get to know a few of the ‘big kids’ before school starts,” he said. “It is great emotionally for these kids. Yes, it may seem like they are just playing some games with kids online, but it transfers into stability and comfort for these kids. Cheers to the Parcels teachers for making it work online. We are all adapting to a changing world, but kids adapt so quickly. Things are going to be OK whether we are in school online or in person. I can’t stress it enough. If parents at home remain positive about the process, the kids will do OK and thrive in either environment. I am confident Grosse Pointe schools will provide the structure and support. It will just be what we make of it. In our house, we are going to make it work. Period.”



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City of **Grosse Pointe Farms**, Michigan

**CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING SUMMARY
AUGUST 10, 2020**

A regularly scheduled meeting of the City Council for the City of Grosse Pointe Farms was held virtually and called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, August 10, 2020, by Mayor Louis Theros.

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

Absent: None.

Also Present: Shane Reeside, City Manager, Derrick Kozicki, Assistant City Manager & City Clerk ; Debra Peck-Lichtenberg, City Controller & Treasurer; Daniel Jensen, Director of Public Safety; John Hutchins, Deputy Director of Public Safety; Matthew Baka, Director of Public Service; and William T. Burgess, City Attorney.

Mayor Theros led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council approved the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting held on July 13, 2020.

Council held a Public Hearing and approved a request for a site plan approval of an addition and site alterations at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial located at 32 Lake Shore Road.

Council held a public hearing and approved placing a dedicated road millage ballot proposal on the November Ballot.

Council tabled a request from Administration to approve a Basis of Design Proposal from Hubbel, Roth & Clark Inc. regarding the Inland District – Combined Sewer Separation until the September 14, 2020 Council Meeting.

Council approved a request from Administration to approve a proposal from Bidigare Contractors Inc. to perform the 2020 Water Main Replacement Program.

Council approved a request from Administration to approve a proposal from Nagel Paving Co. to perform the 2020 Road Improvement Program.

Council approved a request from Administration to eliminate PEG fees.

Council tabled a Public Hearing to consider an appeal regarding the denial of a fence permit at 466 Calvin Avenue until the September 14, 2020 Council Meeting.

The Zoning Board of Appeals held a Public Hearing and approved a request from the owner of 434 Chalfonte Avenue for permission to construct a new home on a non-conforming lot.

Council approved the Consent Agenda.

a. Consideration of approval of quarterly legal bills.

b. Consideration of a request from the City Controller/Treasurer to approve July 2020 invoices.

c. Consideration of a request from the Public Safety Department to purchase six radios.

Council received the July 2020 Public Safety Report.

Council heard public comment.

Mayor Theros adjourned the regular meeting at 10:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Derrick Kozicki, City Clerk

G.P.N.: 09/03/20

High achieving seniors face obstacles under COVID-19

By Mary Anne Brush
Staff Writer

Nina Simon and Michael Hartt don't know one another, but they have a lot in common.

Simon, a senior at Grosse Pointe South High School, and Hartt, a senior at Grosse Pointe North High School, are high-achieving students with their eye on top colleges and universities. Both are active in extracurricular activities, including their school newspaper. Both have interned with politicians, Simon this summer with state Rep. Joe Tate and Hartt with Sen. Gary Peters.

And both are concerned about the impact the new coronavirus will have on their learning opportunities this fall.

One way Simon and Hartt differ is in the academic track they chose for their final year of high school.

Hartt opted for GP Traditional, offering face-to-face learning for students once the school district deems it safe to return to the buildings, while Simon chose One GP Virtual, the remote-only pathway.

"I chose One GP Virtual because this entire time, my family and I have been intensely social distancing and taking every precaution we can to try to keep ourselves safe from the coronavirus," Simon said. "My grandparents live in my house and my dad has health conditions that would make it more dangerous if any of us did end up getting coronavirus."

While safety was the driving force in Simon's decision, she added online learning last spring worked well for her. Not only was she productive, but she also found the schedule gave her flexibility — a bonus this fall when she will need time to work on her college applications.

One concern with One GP Virtual is the fewer number of students enrolled might result in fewer advanced placement classes offered. Simon's schedule includes five AP classes, but she has registered for two more with Michigan Virtual as a backup in case all her choices aren't available.

Hartt's schedule, too, includes five AP classes. With school beginning remotely for all students, he's worried he won't receive the same level of academic support he would with face-to-face instruction. For example, his AP test scores were lower last spring during remote learning than typical. The same was true for many of his friends.

"I am concerned not because I don't have faith in my teachers," Hartt said. "My teachers have been really great about the flexibility of the process. I'm just concerned about the difficulty of the material."

He is optimistic the changes in remote teaching this year will result in more face-to-face learning opportunities.

"I think it will definitely be better, but I don't think it will come close to matching what it would have been if we were in person," Hartt



Nina Simon with her brother, Sebastian Simon, a junior at MIT, and dog, Bindi.

said.

A remote environment also is not ideal for his extracurricular interests. Hartt is involved in six student organizations and holds officer positions in each. He is editor-in-chief of North's newspaper, North Pointe; vice president of the Student Association; president of Interact Club, a community service organization connected with local Rotary chapters; president and co-founder of the Investment Club; vice president of the business club DECA; and an officer in a new club at North, the Social Justice League. He also is a member of the National Honor Society.

"Although clubs don't seem to mean much in the grand scheme of education, they really are (important)," he said. "I think students learn so much about leadership and learning social cues through clubs that students need to experience that stuff."

Hartt said a number of the clubs have kicked off the year online. During a virtual Student Association meeting, for example, student leaders talked about the possibilities for popular annual events such as homecoming, Charity Week and Bring Your Kids to Work Day.

Interact Club, too, met remotely, so students could discuss ways to continue community projects. While once volunteers would have gathered in person to assemble packets for an organization, students now are working on supply drop-offs to support charitable organizations serving those in need.

"Although we are doing a lot of this virtually, it is definitely not ideal," Hartt said. "We will not be able to do everything we did in person. All of the ideas we had were very watered down from what we were able to do in person, which is very disappointing, but we are just trying to do the best that we can to maintain normality."

Simon's after-school activities also have been impacted. She is a page editor on Tower, South's newspaper, communications director for an educational equities nonprofit run by a senior

at the University of Michigan and a member of the National Honor Society and Spanish Honor Society. She also sings with the choir at Christ Church Grosse Pointe, an activity she will resume once it's safe.

Hartt's college prospects include Princeton, Harvard, Yale, Amherst, Northwestern, Northeastern, Boston College, Notre Dame and Georgetown. In-state he has set his sights on the University of Michigan and Michigan State University.

Simon is applying to a "super long list of schools," she said, including Yale, Dartmouth, Princeton, Harvard, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Claremont McKenna College, the University of California, Los Angeles, University of California, Berkeley and U of M. Simon said she has wanted to study abroad since she was 13 and has added five universities from the United Kingdom to her list.

One stumbling block is her ability to take the ACT, SAT and SAT subject tests in time for application deadlines. Testing sites are limited and the August date she registered for was canceled.

While many universities are making standardized tests optional, they are required for Simon's U.K. applications and both she and Hartt feel the lack of a standardized test score on their transcript may hurt their chances for acceptance at more selective schools, in particular their top choices. Submitting scores later in the application season also impacts their option to apply early decision or early action.

Simon is registered for the SAT in September, October and November, anticipating these dates, too, may get canceled. Hartt said he was on the College Board website recently and had trouble finding an available testing center. October may be his earliest opportunity.

Hartt noted many of his friends were exploring testing locations in Boston, New York and Chicago, their families willing to fly them "anywhere or everywhere."



COURTESY PHOTOS

Michael Hartt, pictured with Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, volunteered for the gubernatorial campaign during the summer of 2018.

Others were willing to drive long distances and stay overnight in a hotel. These are not options for all students, he added.

"It's totally insane," Simon agreed. "I can't fly anywhere because it's not safe, so I'm going to have to work within Michigan."

Fortunately, COVID-19 didn't prevent either teen from participating in internships this summer — a definite plus for their college applications.

Hartt is an intern in Sen. Gary Peters' finance office for his reelection campaign. He previously interned in Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan's office and in Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's policy office in Lansing. He also volunteered on Whitmer's campaign for governor in summer 2018, earning a promotion to the position of political deputy of metro Detroit.

This summer was his first experience working remotely. The lack of in-person interaction has taken some of the fun out of the internship, he said, but he was grateful for the experience.

Simon, too, made the most of her summer in spite of COVID-19.

"I found, at least for

me, if you put yourself out there, if you want to do the extracurriculars, you still can," she said. "For most things, people want to keep going so they're adopting a virtual way to make it work. I definitely took the initiative during all this to see it as an opportunity and get involved with more things."

While the internship was remote, she said she benefited from the experience and enjoyed learning first-hand about the community's concerns and responding to constituents. She plans to continue the internship through the school year.

A silver lining of the pandemic for Simon is she has been able to spend a lot of time with her family.

"I took this time to

kind of live a healthier lifestyle too,' she said. "I've been going on a lot of walks. That both keeps me sane and is good for you."

Reconnecting with his family was a silver lining for Hartt, too.

"Before I would literally spend all of my time at school, at the library or with my friends," he said. "Now I spend a lot more time at home obviously, so we do stuff together all the time."

He also enjoys reading and playing golf — activities he rarely had time for pre-pandemic.

"Lastly, quarantine has made me realize how much I love being in high school," he said. "Before, I looked forward to being in college all the time, but now I want to focus more on being 17."

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City of Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan

CITY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING SUMMARY

JULY 13, 2020

A regularly scheduled meeting of the City Council for the City of Grosse Pointe Farms was held virtually and called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, July 13, 2020, by Mayor Louis Theros.

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

Absent: None.

Also Present: Shane Reeside, City Manager, Derrick Kozicki, Assistant City Manager & City Clerk ; Debra Peck-Lichtenberg, City Controller & Treasurer; Daniel Jensen, Director of Public Safety; John Hutchins, Deputy Director of Public Safety; Matthew Baka, Director of Public Service; and William T. Burgess, City Attorney.

Mayor Theros led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council approved the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting held on June 8, 2020.

Council heard a presentation from Charles Burke, President and CEO of the Grosse Pointe War Memorial regarding an updated site plan for an addition and site alterations at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial located at 32 Lake Shore Road.

A public hearing was scheduled for August 10, 2020 to consider approving the revised site plan the Grosse Pointe War Memorial located at 32 Lake Shore Road.

Council considered an appeal regarding the denial of a fence permit at 184 Lothrop Road but the applicant withdrew their request.

Council approved final Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2020 Budget Amendments.

Council approved the Consent Agenda.

a)

Consideration of an agreement between the City of Grosse Pointe Farms and Great Lakes Water Authority for Stand-By Water Supply Services.

b)

Consideration of a request from the Finance Director to approve June 2020 invoices.

Council received the June 2020 Public Safety Report.

Council set a Public Hearing for August 10, 2020 to consider a dedicated road millage ballot proposal.

Council heard public comment.

Mayor Theros adjourned the regular meeting at 8:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Derrick Kozicki, City Clerk

G.P.N.: 09/03/20

12A | SCHOOLS

Our Lady Star of the Sea welcomes new principal

By Mary Anne Brush
Staff Writer

Education is a second career for Meghan Carter, Our Lady Star of the Sea’s new principal. Carter received a Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering from Michigan State University and worked 13 years in commercial construction — even owning her own company — before going back to school for a second bachelor’s degree, this one in elementary education from Oakland University.

Immediately upon graduating, she was hired by St. Hugo of the Hills in Bloomfield Hills, where she has taught seventh- and eighth-grade math since 2011.

Several years ago, preparing for a transition to an administrative role, Carter completed a master’s degree in educational leadership from Marygrove College and this past winter she participated in the Principal Formation Institute, an initiative of the Archdiocese of Detroit’s Office of Catholic Schools.

Carter left the commercial construction business to strike a balance as a single mother of two young children after the illness and death of her husband. Her son is now a senior at Bloomfield Hills High School and her daughter is a sophomore at MSU.



COURTESY PHOTO

Meghan Carter

Carter sensed during her interview Star of the Sea was a good choice for her next career step. Like Hugo of the Hills, “it’s very community-oriented,” she said. “It’s a smaller school, so it was a great fit for a new principal and they have a great staff here.”

In addition to getting to know the staff, students and families, her main focus since coming on board Aug. 1, has been managing the challenge of opening OLSOS to in-person instruction during the coronavirus pandemic. She said she feels confident in the protocols in place and

the staff’s ability to remain “fluid” and adapt as necessary.

The focus of the first days of school — a half-day Wednesday, Sept. 2, and full-day Thursday, Sept. 3 — is on learning those new protocols. Carter views the short week as a slow roll-out before the Labor Day holiday weekend.

She is cautiously optimistic about the fall.

“We have some great plans in place,” she said. “You never really know for sure what’s going to be the best way to do it until we start doing it. ... I think we’re ready to go.”



DRONE PHOTO BY JACK RYAN/SKYVIEW AERIAL PRODUCTIONS

Families and staff from Our Lady Star of the Sea School were invited to a prayer drive-thru from 5 to 6 p.m. Monday, Aug. 31.

Drive-by blessings



“Our prayer team from the church and staff members have come together in offering prayers to families and teachers and any individuals who pull up in their cars,” said Kerry Vlahntones, OLSOS school counselor, who helped coordinate the event. Families were asked to wear masks and roll down their windows to receive “some prayers and a fond hello,” Vlahntones said.



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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.

Brian James McMahon

Longtime Grosse Pointe Park resident Brian James McMahon, husband of the late Diana Leonard McMahon, passed away Saturday, Aug. 8, 2020, in Guilford, Conn., with his family by his side. He was born Oct. 21, 1936, in New York City, to Anne Ratchford and Leonard McMahon.

Brian grew up in Danbury, Conn. A graduate of Danbury High School, he was captain of the baseball team, president of the National Honor Society and affectionately known as “homeroom Casanova.” He was a 1958 graduate of Yale College and earned his law degree from Yale Law School in 1961.

Brian and Diana were married in February 1959; they moved to Michigan with their son, Christopher, in 1964. Brian and Diana made their home in Grosse Pointe Park, on the shores of Lake St. Clair, for three decades. Here they raised their children, Chris, born in 1959, Meghan, born in 1965, and Cullen, born in 1975.

A tireless and courageous prosecutor for the City of Detroit, Brian became executive director and general counsel for the Michigan Judicial Tenure Commission in 1975. His bravery and strong moral compass were well-suited to this difficult and sometimes dangerous job. At the conclusion of his term, Brian was commended by the commission’s chairman for his fine

application of intellect and judgment, high degree of integrity and dedication and erudite knowledge of the law. Brian finished his impressive legal career as a family practice attorney at the law firm of Cox, Hodgman and Giarmarco in 1993.

Brian loved spending time on Lake St. Clair, fishing and boating with his family.

He and Diana returned to Connecticut in 1993, where they built a home on a hill overlooking Long Island Sound. Brian lived happily and peacefully on Barley Hill many years.

Brian had a quick wit and colossal intellect. He quoted Nigel Tufnel of “Spinal Tap” as easily as Ulysses S. Grant. He was a classical music aficionado, scratch golfer, news junkie, shameless and gleeful punster and a proud Yale man. A wise and gentle soul, Brian will be remembered most for his kindness.

He will be dearly missed by his children, Chris (Marsha Ladomer) of Dearborn, Meghan (David Swensen) of Madison, Conn., and Cullen (Anne-Marie Peterson) of Greenwich, Conn.; sister, Robin Scanlan of Bristol, R.I.; twin brother, Kevin of Roanoke, Va.; and grandchildren, Eamonn and Galen Smith and Katherine, Julia and James McMahon.

Brian was laid to rest beside his parents at St. Peter’s Cemetery in Danbury.

Memorial contributions in support of the McMahon Family

Scholarship at Yale may be made to Yale University Office of Development, P.O. Box 2038, New Haven, CT 06521; or giving.yale.edu/supportMcMahonScholarship.

David H. Laurie

David H. Laurie, of Jamestown, R.I., passed away Wednesday, Aug. 19, 2020, in Newport. He was 67. Born in Grosse Pointe, he was a son of William D. Laurie Jr. and Thayer H. Laurie, both now deceased.

David was an artist, poet, singer and songwriter. He enjoyed traveling, cooking, creating paranormal art, vintage cars and antiquing. A longtime member of Conanicut Yacht Club, The Dunes Club and The Dumpling’s Association, David also was former president of Greens Pier and served on the Harbor Commission of Jamestown.

David was loved by his many friends for his good sense of humor and positive outlook on life. He always could be found with a crowd around him, guitar in hand and singing songs he wrote.

He is survived by his three loving children, Erika L. Forsyth (Charles), Amelia L. Kay (Jordan) and William D. Laurie III. David was the brother of Duncan Laurie of Jamestown and uncle of Lena, Oona and Bryn Laurie.

Funeral services and burial will be private.

In lieu of flowers, gifts in David’s memory



Brian James McMahon



David H. Laurie



Paul Michael Donahue

may be made to Potter League for Animals, potterleague.org.

Online condolences may be shared at CranstonMurphy.com.

Arrangements were entrusted to The Cranston-Murphy Funeral Home of Wickford, North Kingstown, R.I.

Paul Michael Donahue

Paul Michael Donahue passed away Sunday, Aug. 16, 2020, at home in Arden, N.C., after an extended illness. He was 86. A son of Harvey J. Donahue and Catherine Harley Donahue, he was born in 1933, in Detroit.

Paul earned undergraduate and master’s degrees from the University of Detroit. An educator in history and political science for 10 years, he also served in school administration. Paul’s teaching career began at Fraser High School. He continued teaching at U of D Mercy, where his abilities and personality earned him multiple “Teacher of the Year” awards. He became a professor at his alma mater after he earned an education specialist degree from Michigan State University.

Paul’s career in education, however, did not become his life’s work. While teaching, he also gave considerable energy to the

Democratic Party. He ceased studying toward a Ph.D. to devote his passions full time to Democratic causes in 1966. Paul held essential roles in presidential, gubernatorial and local campaigns, served on committees and commissions, provided speech writing, fundraising and consulting services and everything in between, for nearly 60 years.

In 1968 and 1972, Paul was chosen as Michigan campaign manager for Vice President Hubert Humphrey’s presidential campaign. Also In 1968, he was an elected member of the Electoral College for Michigan. His longest-held position, for 27 years, was executive administrator to U.S. Reps. Lucien Nedzi and Dennis Hertel. Paul came to know House and Senate members, presidential aides, governors and officials at all levels.

Paul retired to North Carolina in 1999, where he guided and re-energized the Henderson County Democratic Party as its chairman from 2001 to 2005. An experienced organizer and natural leader, he served on the boards of The Hope Chest for Women Inc. and the Park Ridge Hospital Foundation and as president of various associations; he often was called upon for advice and problem-solving.

Unforgettable to beloved friends and people he just met, Paul’s humor put a

smile on everyone’s face; he loved to laugh and took great joy in telling a good story. He thrived on lively conversations and was well informed on most subjects. Without much effort, it still is easy to hear Paul’s voice in your head, his family said.

Whereas Paul began his life teaching, he closed his life by donating his body in furtherance of learning to Novashare, a program that uses donated tissue in training, research and education.

Paul is survived by his wife of 48 years, Sylvia Hadley Donahue; nieces, Maureen Munn (Rodney), Mary Ann Werschky (Robert) and Patricia Lefever (Dennis); and nephew, James Donahue (Chris). He was predeceased by his parents; stepmother, Elizabeth Donahue; brother, Harvey Donahue; and sister, Lorraine Donahue Loughlin (Hugh).

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a memorial service is not planned.

Donations in remembrance of Paul’s life may be made to Four Seasons Hospice, 571 S. Allen Rd., Flat Rock, NC 28731; The Hope Chest for Women Inc., Attn: Orphanage, P.O. Box 5294, Asheville, NC 28803; or Blue Ridge Humane Society, 14 Towne Place Drive, #130, Hendersonville, NC 28792.

See OBITS, page 7B

BLOOD:

Continued from page 5B

porter of childhood cancer research — during the annual Saving Lives Never Looked So Good campaign.

Those who give blood or platelets through Sept. 30 will receive a coupon for a free haircut via email several days after their donation. The coupon is valid through Nov. 30, 2020, at participating Sport Clips locations. Donors must have a valid email address on record to receive the coupon.

Important COVID-19 information for donors

The Red Cross is testing blood, platelet and plasma donations for COVID-19 antibodies. The test may indicate if the donor’s immune system has produced antibodies to this coronavirus, regardless of whether they developed symptoms. Donors can expect to receive the results of their antibody test within seven to 10 days through the Red Cross Blood Donor App or the donor portal at redcrossblood.org.

The Red Cross is not testing donors to diag-

nose illness, referred to as a diagnostic test. To protect the health and safety of Red Cross staff and donors, it is important that individuals who do not feel well or believe they may be ill with COVID-19 postpone donation.

Each Red Cross blood drive and donation center follows the highest standards of safety and infection control and additional precautions — including temperature checks, social distancing and face coverings for donors and staff — have been implemented to protect the health of all those in attendance. Donors are asked to schedule an appointment prior to arriving at the drive and are required to wear a face covering or mask while at the drive, in alignment with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention public guidance.

Upcoming drives include:

◆ 1 to 6:45 p.m. Sept. 8, at VFW Post 1146, 28404 E. Jefferson, St. Clair Shores.

◆ 8 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. Sept. 13, at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 21620 Greater Mack, St. Clair Shores



Elizabeth Coats MacColl Campbell “Betsy Campbell”

Elizabeth Coats MacColl Campbell better known as “Betsy” was born in Providence, Rhode Island on March 19, 1925.

Her grandparents were Mr. and Mrs. Alfred M. Coats and Mr. and Mrs. James Robertson MacColl.

She was raised by her father, Mr. Kenneth D. MacColl, and attended The Wheeler School in Providence. She then attended Miss Porter’s School in Farmington, CT.

She had completed two years of college in Boston before WWII broke out. At her father’s urging she left school to join the war effort and had a top security clearance for her classified work at the US Naval Station in Newport, Rhode Island where, after private tutoring from an MIT professor, she was a military draftsman drawing enemy torpedoes.

She worked hard and played hard in the years after the war and prior to her marriage. She regaled friends and family alike with great stories of skiing in Vermont (there’s always snow in Stowe you know) and Colorado. Other adventures included sailing to Europe with her cousin Jean Hart aboard the Queen Mary and working for the esteemed Alistair Cook in New York when he was with the Manchester Guardian.

Always active, Betsy was an avid tennis player for many years and in later years

took up golf again when her tennis partners had to give up the game. In earlier years, she loved traveling, fly fishing and bird hunting. She was known for sitting right up front for her War Memorial Exercise class using the same carpet sample she inherited from her mother-in-law as her exercise mat for more than 25 years. She was also known for working out in her Jack Rogers sandals. She and her dog, Lover, were a fixture around Grosse Pointe Farms walking for miles or going for a run at the Country Club. Skiing, however, was her true passion and she was known for skiing beautifully in a somewhat dated but gracefully classic style. Her sons have many fond memories of her leading them on ski trips as they were growing up.

An avid and competitive bridge player, Betsy was also a voracious reader and was known for sharing books back and forth between family and friends.

Betsy met her husband Douglas Campbell Jr. on a blind date arranged by his aunt Josephine Alger in Edgartown on Martha’s Vineyard. Doug was actually a stand in for Aunt Joe’s son and Betsy was always thankful for that twist of fate.

They were married on December 8, 1951 in Providence, RI and settled into married life in Grosse Pointe Farms, MI.

She knew only one person in Grosse Pointe when she arrived — her best friend Liz Robb Baubie whom she had met while living and working in Boston. She and Liz were known for their stamina on hours-long nearly daily telephone calls.

Betsy proudly considered herself a professional volunteer and the community was all the better for her energy, creativity, intelligence and myriad talents she so generously shared on behalf of many worthy causes and organizations over the years.

She was past president of the Neighborhood Club, The Garden Club of Michigan, National Cathedral Board of Southeast Michigan, and the Women’s Committee at the Detroit Institute of Arts. She was also instrumental in the founding of the very successful Art and Flowers program at the Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA) where she was an active board member and was known for the beautiful arrangements she arranged at the museum for more than 25 years. The DIA has named an annual lecture in her honor as a tribute to her service. And, in December 2018, the Garden Club of America recognized her for her excellence in floral design.

She was also an active and respected member of the Junior League of Detroit,

the Grosse Pointe War Memorial and Sigma Gamma. For many years she arranged the altar flowers at Christ Church and was a trained Alzheimer’s facilitator. She was a compassionate and knowledgeable guide for families and caregivers dealing with this difficult disease. She had learned a great deal over the years after her husband, Doug, was stricken with it.

While known for her outgoing personality, strong will and fierce devotion to friends, she was first and foremost dedicated to her family. She was a hands-on parent and grandparent as a caring and proud mother to her three sons Douglas, Dwight and Duncan and a welcoming and affirming mother-in-law to her daughters-in-law Gwynne, Wendy and Maura. She enjoyed spending time with each of her eight grandchildren Colin (Tara), Caroline (Robert), Alexandra (Thomas), Meredith, Connor (Ashley), Caitlin, Cameron, and Emerson and five great grandchildren Alma, Chloe, Brooks, Malcolm and Silas. She was thrilled to be at the weddings of her four married grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband Doug and brother Alfred “Fred” MacColl and is survived by her younger sister Dottie MacColl Woodcock (Ken) and brother Rob MacColl (Marsha).

Betsy was always there for her family. When her father and stepmother were in a horrific automobile accident, Betsy quit her job to return home to look after her younger siblings who were still toddlers as well as to help nurse her parents back to health.

Her most devoted companion in her later years was her wonderful and doted upon Bijon Frise, the irrepressible Lover. His name alone gives great insight into this amazing woman, a true “Grand Dame” who was by turns charming, formidable, quick-witted and humorous. She knew how to laugh at herself. She had always wanted a dog named Love or Lover and got a great chuckle at walking about town with her “Lover” in tow. Her family and friends are toasting Betsy for a life well lived with her favorite champagne Mumm’s Cordon Rouge and trust the Good Lord has an endless supply.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Art and Flowers, Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Ave, Detroit, MI 48202; Miss Porter’s School, 60 Main St, Farmington, CT 06032 or Friends of Oudolf Garden c/o Anne Milligan Treasurer, 546 Lakeland Road, Grosse Pointe, MI 48230.

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GPT: The show must go on

Grosse Pointe Theatre to kick off fall season with virtual programming

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

It's the mission of members of Grosse Pointe Theatre to connect with and entertain the community.

The cancellation of its spring shows due to COVID-19 left said members with quite a challenge to face.

As spring grew into summer, members of the troupe pulled together to address how they'd carry out their mission this fall, when new seasons traditionally start.

"We put a call out to members and asked them to submit ideas for virtual programming," said GPT Executive Director Linda Zublick. "We want to engage the community and entertain patrons even though



Peter DiSante and Allison Roberts perform during a previous Grosse Pointe Theatre 10-Minute Play Festival. The festival premiers virtually Nov. 19.

we can't be live and in front of them."

True to their mission, members assembled a lineup featuring a variety of premier events they hope will please

their regular patrons, as well as appeal to new fans. All of the virtual programs are free to view on GPT's YouTube channel at youtube.com or on its website, gpt.org.

The season kicks off with "Pirates of Penzance," an encore performance of the group's 2017 production. Hosted by director Rachel Settlage, the show premieres at 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 24. The prerecorded show also features special behind-the-scenes interviews.

"We'll show it as a premier with some extra content," Zublick said. "It's something the audience has never seen before combined with something they have seen before."

The season continues



Grosse Pointe Theatre's 2017 production of "Pirates of Penzance" premieres on YouTube and gpt.org, with behind-the-scenes interviews, Sept. 24.

with "All the World's a Stage: Shakespeare Monologues and Duologues," at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 29. Directed by Kevin Fitzhenry and Leta Chrisman, GPT actors perform some of the most popular works of William Shakespeare.

"We're excited at the prospect of doing some Shakespeare," Zublick said. "We've got Stratford, which is not too far away from here ... so we don't always put Shakespeare into our rotation, but some of our members wanted a chance to do it."

"We did record some of these pieces," she added. "We want to social distance; we don't want to bring each actor or director into the same room. It will be recorded, but it will be the first time it's been seen by the audience."

Next up is Grosse

Pointe Theatre's 10-Minute Play Festival, slated to premier at 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 19. Featuring original works from GPT members, the festival originally was supposed to occur in April.

"We had to postpone it," Zublick said. "There are eight different plays that we've put together. They were written last fall and submitted and selected to be produced; the directors were chosen. They were already starting to rehearse the plays individually when we had to put the brakes on because of COVID. Now we're trying to do them virtually."

"It's a good opportunity to engage new audiences," she added. "The directors and playwrights are excited to have their pieces performed. The virtual production adds a new element to it."

GPT plans to celebrate the holiday season with a radio-style performance of "It's a Wonderful Life," featuring beloved characters George Bailey and Clarence. The whole family is invited to the online premier at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17.

Programming plans for 2021 also start virtually, with more Shakespeare in January and a special presentation near Valentine's Day in February.

"These are programs people can enjoy from the comfort of their home, but while still connecting with us," Zublick said. "We're catching people who are looking for new content; they're at home, they're using their computers more than ever and looking for streamed content."

See GPT, page 3B



PHOTOS COURTESY OF DALE PEGG

An encore performance of "Pirates of Penzance" will kick off the virtual Grosse Pointe Theatre season this fall.

EyesOn Design honors car design with second drive event

Autumn Drive set for Sept. 13

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Following the success of its first Sunday Drive on Father's Day, EyesOn Design organizers have decided to present an encore performance.

EyesOn Design Autumn Drive: A Grandparents Day Event takes place 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 13, along Lakeshore Road, from Provencal to the Edsel & Eleanor Ford House.

"Our first drive was so successful it was a no-brainer to do another one," EyesOn Design Chairwoman Kathy Lightbody said. "When



Left, the winner of the EyesOn Design Father's Day Drive was this 1970 Plymouth Superbird, owned by Daniel Attala. Right, the runner-up of the EyesOn Design Father's Day Drive was this 1961 Citroen 2CV, owned by Mike Mullen.

we had to cancel the summer show, we had tentatively rescheduled it for Grandparents Day. Then we decided instead to do the drive on Father's Day, where we had 150 cars on the grounds at

the Ford House; more than double that amount tried to get in. The car owners were thrilled, the volunteers loved it and the Ford House loved how it went."

This time around, with

a better idea of what to expect, Ford House has offered to accommodate 250 cars on its grounds. Those interested in requesting a spot may register at eyesondesign.com; entry to Ford House

grounds is not guaranteed, but all are invited to participate in the drive.

"We've got 250 spots that we're limited to," Lightbody said. "If you want to participate, sign the registration form. All

those selected who will have access to the Ford House will be notified by Sept. 6. Everyone else is invited to join the with-

regular-traffic drive

See DRIVE, page 2B



PHOTOS COURTESY OF EYESON DESIGN

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War Memorial hosts service of remembrance

Event takes place on 19th anniversary of 9/11 attacks

The War Memorial plans to commemorate the lives lost on Sept. 11, 2001, hosting a service of remembrance on the 19th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks. This event will honor the nearly 3,000 individuals who lost their lives in the tragic attacks in New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia, and will commemorate the heroism of the first responders who rushed into selfless action. The service, tak-

ing place at 8:30 a.m. Friday, Sept. 11, will be held on the lakefront lawn of The War Memorial's historic Alger estate. "On that fateful Tuesday morning 19 years ago, our nation was forever changed," said War Memorial President and CEO Charles Burke. "The 9/11 attacks are indelibly etched into our memories, into our very DNA. There is no forgetting. While one of the worst days in American history, our spirit as a nation remains unbroken. The War Memorial is humbled to present a service that honors the lives we lost that day and salutes the brave first responders to whom so



much is owed. In this year, filled with its own chaos and discord, it remains our duty as a

patriotic leader to pause, reflect and remember the lives taken from us too soon."

The event aims to bring together individuals of all religions, cultures and walks of life to stand against the hatred that led to the 9/11 attacks and also facilitate a spirit of holistic patriotism and unity. The event will feature remarks from War Memorial lead-

ership, as well as respected faith leaders from the community. The names of Michigan lives lost during the 9/11 attacks will be read aloud, alongside a musical performance. Moments of silence will be observed at 8:46 a.m. and 9:03 a.m., in observance of the two plane crashes into the World Trade Center. The 9/11 Service of

Remembrance will be the first public event The War Memorial has hosted since March. The institution remains staunchly committed to slowing the spread of COVID-19 and as such this event will be hosted in a safe and socially distanced outdoor environment. It is free and open to the public, though attendance is limited to 50 people and all guests must pre-register to be assigned a seat. Registration will close at noon Thursday, Sept. 10, and The War Memorial will be unable to accommodate unregistered guests.

Households will be seated together in assigned areas, socially distant from other parties; all guests will be asked to wear face masks. Temperatures will be taken upon arrival and sanitization stations will be available throughout the campus.

To reserve an assigned seating block, visit warmemorial.org/sep-tember11.

DRIVE:

Continued from page 1B

along Lakeshore."

Of course, like the first drive, spectators are welcome to check out the event anywhere they can safely find a seat along the route.

The 250 vehicles allowed on Ford House grounds will be judged by a panel of five from Ford Motor Co., General Motors, Fiat Chrysler Automobiles and Magna International.

"When we did the first drive, we had five judges by the house judging as the cars came through," Lightbody said. "They loved it. Normally we have 60 judges who are walking the field and judging all the categories. At the drive, people had their windows down and would say something about their car; the judges would ask a question. There was interaction."

Vehicles will be judged based on design and being, "The Car I'd Most Like to Cruise In."

Like the Father's Day drive, the panel will narrow the field to the Sweet 16, which will be posted on the EyesOn Design website and Facebook page. The next two weeks will involve People's Choice voting, in which cars go head to head,

bracket style, Lightbody said. Votes will narrow the field to the Elite Eight, then the Final Four.

Initially, the overall top vote-getter was to receive an invitation to exhibit their vehicle at the 2021 EyesOn Design Car Show. But the abundance of voters sent things in another direction.

"We had 160,000 engagements" for the Father's Day drive, Lightbody said. "There were 4,000 votes for the final two on Facebook, so we decided to have both the winner and the runner-up in the 2021 show. "It will be the same for this drive," she continued. "The judges will select the Sweet 16, then we'll have fan voting online. The top two vote-getters from this event will be invited to next year's show."

In a year when EyesOn Design is experiencing a lack of funding, Lightbody noted a chance for supporters who would like to help. Three professional photographers will take photos of each car from different positions in front of Ford House, as well as "field shots." The photos will be available for purchase at a cost of \$20 for an 8-by-10.

"At the first show, we sold hundreds," Lightbody said. "A lot of

people are buying both shots and buying multiples. This will help us recoup some of our losses."

Additionally, donations will be accepted as people leave Ford House grounds.

"People were incredibly generous with donations as they left the grounds at the Father's Day drive," Lightbody said, noting that as they leave, drivers will receive a commemorative 2020 EyesOn Design poster. All proceeds benefit the Detroit Institute of Ophthalmology and its upcoming World Research Congress, "The Eye, The Brain and The Auto," which brings together experts to explore the impact of technology at the intersection of mobility and health care.

The Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce will participate in the Grandparents Day drive, sending to everyone who registers a list of open restaurants offering dine-in, takeout and delivery services, so if they want to grab a bite to eat after the event, they'll know where to go.

Also, mechanics from a local garage will be on hand to help in case there are car issues.

For more information or to register, visit eyesondesign.com.

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In the saddle

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Grosse Pointe Equestrian recently wrapped up another successful summer camp that saw 17 participants, ranging in age from 5 to 12, learn the ins and outs of barn life.

“We typically do it twice a year, but this year because of COVID, we pushed it back into August and only did one camp,” GPE General Manager Gabe Hernandez said.

The five-day camp, Aug. 17 to 21, brought campers to the Cook Road facility from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. each day, where they split into groups for

time at three stations, rotating to a new station each hour.

At the riding station, campers learned to tack up, groom and ride a horse. The activity station involved a barn-related art project such as painting horseshoes. The barn task station taught campers how to clean a stall and care for a horse, as well as what goes into running a barn, Hernandez said.

All participants took the necessary safety precautions due to the pandemic.

“All the staff masked up and everyone maintained social distance and we were always outside,” Hernandez said.



COURTESY PHOTO

Camp participants and volunteers pause for a photo.

“The barn area is all windows and gigantic barn doors, so we consider that outdoor space.”

This is the second year the summer camp has been offered at GPE, which is owned by Lynne Krueger.

“Our horse camp does not have a ton of children,” Hernandez said, noting its 17-child limit. “It’s very one-on-one, so it’s almost one trainer or volunteer per child.”

“We maxed out this year of what we could accept, because of

COVID and the amount of school horses.”

School horses, he added, are owned by GPE and used to provide lessons in its school program.

Hernandez said he couldn’t have asked for a better week with the

kids.

“It was all outdoors and the weather was beautiful,” he said.

Camp is open to children interested in horses. GPE plans to offer it again next summer. For details, call (313) 884-9090.

GPT:

Continued from page 1B

What’s more, she added, once each production has premiered, it will be available for viewing on the GPT YouTube channel at any time.

The use of YouTube, online distribution and social media has been something the group has delved into in the past, Zublick said, but now, “that’s our life. It’s been interesting to create a virtual season. Our members are excited to do some of these projects and to stay engaged.”

All hope is not lost for live shows in the future. Zublick said members are planning to resume in-person performances in March.

“We had a full season scheduled, but we had to cancel three shows (this spring),” she said. “We decided to postpone what was going to be our 2021 season to the following year. The three shows that we canceled will be live next spring.”

They are “Talk Radio,” a Purdon Studio Theatre “blackbox” production tentatively scheduled March 13 to 21; “Little Shop of Horrors,” tentatively scheduled April 16 to 25; and “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor



Tom Pagano and Robby Mullinger perform during a previous Grosse Pointe Theatre 10-Minute Play Festival. The festival takes place virtually Nov. 19.

Dreamcoat,” tentatively scheduled June 18 to 27.

Zublick said the theater is working on a lease agreement with Parcels Middle School.

“Parcels is getting new seating this summer,” she added. “Even if we have to sell less tickets and social distance the crowd, we’ll be able to accommodate a good size audience there.”

Canceled shows led to a significant loss of revenue for the nonprofit, which heavily relies on tickets sales for support.

“We won’t sell season

tickets, only single tickets, but not until we’re sure we’ll be able to perform live,” Zublick said, adding tickets are expected to go on sale in January if the group is allowed to perform.

“All of these (virtual) shows are free to the community,” Zublick said. “Donations are accepted online. We invite the community to subscribe to our YouTube page so they can continue to see what we post going forward.”

Apart from its virtual lineup, GPT members decided they’d like to hit the streets and bring some entertainment to people where it’s safe and convenient.

“We wanted to do a program where we get singing out there to entertain the community,” Zublick said. “They can’t see us live inside, so we’re bringing theater to them; outdoors is the best venue for that.”

Singin’ in the Streets showcases the talents of

GPT members singing Broadway medleys during mini performances in backyards, driveways and other outdoor spaces. Eight to 10 performers — some of the most-loved singers from GPT musicals — have put together a 20-minute show to take “on the road.”

They’re available for backyard parties, holiday gatherings and other occasions, where they’re able to perform at a safe social distance. Donations are accepted.

Those interested in booking Singin’ in the Streets should call GPT at (313) 881-4004.

“Over several months, we have taken an inventory of what our patrons want to see,” Zublick said. “Grosse Pointe Theatre is about performing and entertaining audiences. It’s difficult to completely halt and reconfigure the best way to do that, but we’re working through it and we’re excited about our plans.”

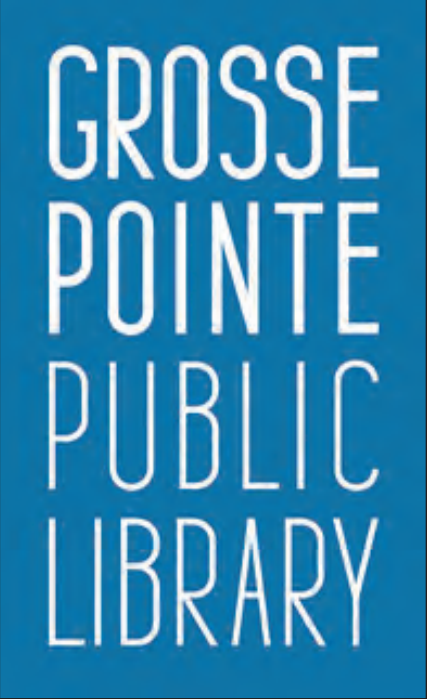
GPPL awarded CARES Act Grant

The Library of Michigan, through the Institute of Museum and Library Services, awarded the Grosse Pointe Public Library a \$6,100 CARES Act Grant.

“We were able to purchase \$1,100 of personal protective equipment and \$5,000 of 12 additional Chrome Book laptop computers and seven Wi-Fi access points,” said Jessica Keyser, library director.

As she explained, with the library buildings closed many people cannot access the internet from home and rely on the library’s Wi-Fi.

“The library is committed to digital inclusion to ensure all



individuals have access to information and communication technologies,” Keyser said.

The goal of the FY2020 IMLS CARES Act Grants for Museums and Libraries program is to support the role of museums and libraries in responding to the coronavirus pandemic.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF DALE PEGG

The virtual performance of “Pirates of Penzance” will include behind-the-scenes interviews with the cast.



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COURTESY PHOTOS

The Vaiseys recently celebrated their 76th wedding anniversary.

Celebrating 76 years

Sunrise of Grosse Pointe Woods recently helped two residents, Richard and Lorraine Vaisey, celebrate their wedding 76th anniversary.

Last year, their family threw them a celebratory party. This year, however, they were unable to.

That’s where the team at Sunrise of Grosse Pointe Woods stepped in. The activities team coordinated virtual and in-person visits from their family and created an intimate lunch reminiscent of a skating rink — which is where they met in 1943.

“Well, it was during World War II,” Lorraine Vaisey said. “All the guys were gone in the service, so every



Richard and Lorraine Vaisey’s 76th anniversary was themed like a roller rink, where they met.

girls went to the roller rink. One night, some soldiers came in and were skating. Dick asked me to skate and that’s how it all began.

“After skating, we always went out to eat,” she continued. “We saw Dick and his friend walking, so we asked them to come with us. Then, the next weekend he showed back up at the skating rink.”

After that, it was destiny.

When asked the secret to a long marriage, Richard Vaisey suggested, “It’s true

love.” “First, the Lord’s will,” his bride added. “We’re both kind to each other. We like a lot of the same things.”

Ford House to sell Cézanne watercolor

In a letter posted on the Edsel & Eleanor Ford House website, members of the Ford House Board of Trustees explained the board’s decision to sell the Paul Cézanne watercolor painting, “Nature morte avec pot au lait, melon et sucrier.”

It was a long and thoughtful deliberation, the board wrote.

“This decision will help ensure the ongoing financial sustainability of Ford House, guarantee the continued stewardship of the estate and honor Eleanor Ford’s expressed wishes that the estate be maintained as an asset for the community,” the letter reads. Christie’s auction

house will manage the sale, set for Oct. 6 in New York.

The painting is a still life, but feels abstract in its inspiration and execution, according to the Christie’s website. Painted between 1900 and the artist’s death six years later, it belongs to a group of watercolors that represent the culmination of Cézanne’s life-long study of painting.

Acquired by the prominent French art dealer Ambroise Vollard, it passed through the hands of Alexandre Berthier, the fourth and final Prince of Wagram, before making its way to America in 1929. The painting was purchased by Edsel and Eleanor

Ford in 1933.

After Edsel’s death in 1943, Eleanor Ford continued to live at their 60-room residence until her own death in 1976, when she bequeathed the estate to the foundation that would become Edsel & Eleanor Ford House.

“In 2013, the work was removed from public view due to its fragile nature and replaced with a high-quality, professional reproduction,” the board letter continues. “Proceeds from the sale will be used to bolster the endowment, allowing the Board of Trustees to ensure the preservation, restoration and care of the National Historic



COURTESY PHOTO

Paul Cézanne’s “Nature morte avec pot au lait, melon et sucrier.”

Landmark estate.

“There are no plans to sell any other assets at this time; however, in accordance with Eleanor Ford’s intent that the estate be maintained for the community, the

board will continue to evaluate the estate’s needs and its long-term fiscal health.”

“Nature morte avec pot au lait, melon et sucrier” was painted around a time when

Cézanne, having endured decades of indifference from the art establishment, was being hailed as a modern visionary and a guru to a younger generation of artists.

Help kids kick cancer by giving blood with the Red Cross

During Childhood Cancer Awareness Month this September, the American Red Cross encourages eligible donors to give blood or platelets to support kids, teens and young adults battling cancer, as well as others in need of transfusions.

The National Cancer Institute estimates that more than 15,000 chil-

dren and adolescents in the U.S. are diagnosed with cancer each year. Childhood cancer patients may need blood products on a regular basis during chemotherapy, surgery or treatment for complications.

Cancer and cancer treatments can put patients at risk for low red blood cell and plate-

let counts. Some types of chemotherapy can damage bone marrow, lowering the production of red blood cells and platelets. Cancers such as leukemia and lymphoma attack the bone marrow as well. Blood and platelet transfusions can enable patients to receive critical treatments needed to fight and survive

cancer.

Blood and platelets donations are needed to ensure blood products are available for pediatric cancer patients and others throughout this pandemic. As a thank-you, those who come to give Sept. 4 to 8 will receive a pair of Red Cross branded socks, while supplies last.

Make an appointment

by downloading the free Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS or enabling the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device. Blood drives also are essential in helping ensure blood is available for patients this winter. To learn more and sign up

to host a blood drive this fall and winter, visit redcrossblood.org/HostADrive.

Donors can do good and look good this September when they donate blood or platelets with the Red Cross and get a free haircut coupon from Sport Clips Haircuts — a sup-

See BLOOD, page 6B

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The Encore Years: Peter and Miranda Ferrara

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Trying new things is the spice of life for City of Grosse Pointe residents Peter and Miranda Ferrara.

The couple, members of Christ Church Grosse Pointe, knows the importance of being active in their Golden Years. They had a prime example set for them by their parents.

“All four of our parents lived to ripe old ages,” Miranda Ferrara said. “We had seen a lot of things through them — learned a lot about the aging process, how to stay active and how to stay curious. They were good role models and we try to put into practice what we learned.”

Part of what enriches their lives is their membership to Christ Church, where they first met nearly 40 years ago.

“I had just moved here for business,” Peter Ferrara said. “I looked up Episcopal churches in the phonebook. ... I met Miranda the very first time I went to Christ Church, at the coffee hour after the service. We were married a year later in 1985.”

Peter Ferrara spent

most of his career as a contract computer programmer, though he took the long way getting there. Following in the footsteps of his professional musician parents — and sister and uncles — he started out majoring in music education at the University of Michigan. A clarinetist, saxophonist and flutist, he participated in the school’s marching band and other ensembles, but decided not to become a music teacher.

“I became a professional musician,” he said, noting a successful move in his early 20s to Miami, where he played in Paul Anka’s band.

He also spent six years in the U.S. Air Force Band in Washington, D.C., where he grew up — and had a bevy of notable neighbors, including then-Vice President Hubert Humphrey.

“I played a lot of con-

certs for the general public and I played a lot of ceremonial music at the White House,” he said. “I was at the White House when Nixon was going through the Watergate scandal and I was also there for Ford and Carter. I got to play quite a bit for those presidents and their distinguished guests. ... Part of my six years with the Air Force Band, I also played for 400 full-honors Air Force funerals at Arlington National Cemetery.”

His next stop was Europe, where he was part of a televised variety show band in Berlin.

“Then I moved back to the U.S., where I thought I’d be a bigshot musician in New York,” he said.

Though he performed in a national touring company — even bringing Bob Fosse’s “Dancin” to Detroit, a show attended by his future wife — when the 1980s hit, he struggled finding work.

“Disco and deejays were getting big and opportunities for live music were diminishing,” he said. “So I switched careers. I used the GI Bill to get a degree in computer programming.”

While her husband tried various careers, Miranda Ferrara stuck to one. She spent 38 years with Gale, a Cengage company, publishing reference books for libraries. She served as editor, fact checker and project manager.

“I started there for two weeks on a temporary assignment and lasted 38 years,” she said.

Around the time the couple welcomed their children — Margaret and William — Gale encouraged its employees to work part time, “so I was able to continue to work and be a mom, too,” she said.

Also musically inclined, Miranda Ferrara played piano during childhood and, when she returned to Grosse Pointe after college, joined Grosse Pointe Theatre.

“I was in a handful of plays,” she said, noting she also sang in the Christ Church Chorale and “a couple small operas around here.”

“I think she could have had a career on Broadway,” her husband gushed. “She’s a talented and gifted musician in her own right. She knows the words to every Broadway musical.”

Now retired, the pair

devotes much of their time to The Helm, which has long been a part of their lives.

“My parents were active at The Helm, with Meals on Wheels,” Miranda Ferrara said. “My dad retired when he was 89 from Meals on Wheels. He did it for 25 years. The Helm has been in our purview, our orbit, for years. We started going there because we wanted to take a tai chi class.”

The couple still takes tai chi and also dabbles in any class or activity that sounds interesting.

“Our approach to learning things is to take short classes and see if it’s what we like,” Miranda Ferrara said. “If we want to go on and do more, we will. Some we’ve liked, some didn’t fit with where we were in our lives.”

It’s an approach they take wherever they happen to be. One summer at their vacation home on Nantucket Island, they happened to notice a call for volunteers for the Nantucket Film Festival.

“We did that for two or three weeks,” she said. “It was the most fun I’d had in years. So when we see mention of a meeting or gathering that looks like fun, we do it.”

More recently, the Ferraras signed up to participate in a six-week study, “Home-based Older Persons Upstreaming Prevention Physical Therapy,” a prevention-focused home care physical therapy study. This follows their participation in the recent 10-week Aging Mastery Program at The Helm, which was educational and eye-opening for both.

“I really feel blessed that this community has an institution like The Helm, which is a wonderfully run organization,” Peter Ferrara said.

Being active after retirement is as important to both Ferraras as it was to their parents. Peter Ferrara follows a “use it or lose it” philosophy.

“Physically and mentally and spiritually, I want to be as alive as possible,” he said. “We do that through participation and contributions to organizations and opportunities, by living life in the world, and we are so blessed these opportunities are available.”

Added Miranda Ferrara: “I personally don’t want to be the age I am. I want to be 15 years younger. (Being active) keeps me feeling 15 years younger. Meeting with people, of all ages, keeps me active, keeps me young, gives me new ideas and things to think about.”

The Ferraras are active with all age groups, beginning with the youngsters Miranda Ferrara taught during Sunday school.

“Our children and their friends are in their 20s and 30s,” Peter Ferrara said. “Our neighbors are in their 40s and 50s. Our own generation and those older than us we see at The Helm and at church. Those are the two places we mostly socialize.”

The intergenerational mix is something they both treasure. The Ferraras raised their children on “the family compound, which was like living in a situational comedy,” Peter Ferrara said.

“Her parents bought the property next door to where we live when they got married in 1948,” he explained. “We bought the house we live in the year after we got married in 1986.”

Having the double property while their children were growing up was a blessing, they said.

“Our kids had both yards to run around in and play with their friends,” Peter Ferrara said. “And my in-laws weren’t just in-laws; they were neighbors and my best friends.”


The couple is in the process of rebuilding the inherited house and plan to move into it soon.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MIRANDA FERRARA

Miranda and Peter Ferrara volunteered for the Nantucket Film Festival a few years ago.

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CITY OF HARPER WOODS
WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN
SYNOPSIS: SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 3, 2020

The regular City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Pro tem Cheryl Costantino at 5:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL: All Councilpersons were present.

MOTIONS PASSED

- 1) To accept, with regret, the letter from Ken Poynter resigning his position as Mayor.
- 2) That the agenda of the special City Council meeting having been acted upon, the meeting is hereby adjourned at 6:14 p.m.

RESOLUTION PASSED

- 1) To appoint an interim Mayor and further, to direct the City Clerk to place a public notice in the paper soliciting interested and qualified citizens to fill the vacant City Council seat, with said notice to include a filing date of September 4, 2020 and to schedule a Special City Council meeting for September 14, 2020 at which time all interested candidates must appear before City Council to give a presentation, followed by the City Council selecting a candidate to fill the vacancy.

Cheryl Costantino, Mayor Pro tem

Leslie M. Frank, City Clerk

Published: GPN, September 3, 2020

OBITS:

Continued from page 6B

Judith Lee “Judy” Barker

Judith Lee “Judy” Barker, 77, passed away peacefully on Monday, Aug. 24, 2020, in her St. Clair Shores home. She battled pancreatic cancer with courage and dignity for nearly two years.

Services were held Friday, Aug. 28, at St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church in Grosse Pointe Farms.

Judy was born in 1943, in Detroit, to John and Kate Larkins. She had two younger brothers, Jack and Bob, and they spent their teenage years in Birmingham. Judy married Jerry LeVan in 1962 and they have three sons together: Michael LeVan (Julie), David LeVan and Steve LeVan. In 1974 Judy married William Barker, and they enjoyed 11 happy years together until his death in 1986. Judy was very close to her three grandchildren, Katie LeVan (28), Tommy Drawbaugh (16) and Joey Drawbaugh (14). Grandma Judy was the ultimate fan and enjoyed countless hours in the bleachers and on the sidelines watching her family compete in their favorite sports.

Judy worked with her son Michael as a Realtor with Adlhoch & Associates in Grosse Pointe for 16 years. Judy was awarded Realtor of the Year honors in 2014. In addition, she served as president of the Grosse Pointe Board of Realtors in 2016, after two previous terms as a director. Her work ethic and integrity in business were beyond reproach.

Judy was “all about family”; whether cooking big meals, hosting holidays or just bringing the



Judith L. “Judy” Barker

snacks, she was the consummate hostess. Over the last few years, Judy met and fell in love with Bob Kocian of Grosse Pointe Woods. The two of them could be seen at local festivals, restaurants and sporting events all over town.

If you ever met Judy, it was impossible not to recognize her incredible unselfishness and genuine kindness. She always put others before herself. She touched so many and will be greatly missed by all.

Since family was the most important thing to Judy, in lieu of flowers, the family asks that each of you make a specific plan with your family, in the very near future, to do something together that you all enjoy and make your own lasting memory in Judy’s honor.

Phyllis Sheoris

Longtime Grosse Pointe resident Phyllis Sheoris passed away peacefully Monday, Aug. 24, 2020, surrounded by family. Born Aug. 25, 1927, in Verona, Pa., she was 93.

Phyllis and her husband of 68 years, John, met through their church choir. The couple married in 1952, in New York City, and moved to Grosse Pointe in 1959.

Phyllis was a longtime



Phyllis Sheoris

member and volunteer at Assumption Greek Orthodox Church. An avid reader before having a stroke at age 92, Phyllis also enjoyed cooking and gardening. She loved all animals — especially dogs.

A loving wife, wonderful mother and adoring grandmother, Phyllis’ family and friends were her greatest joy.

She is survived by her husband, John; children, Dede (Ira) and William; grandchildren, Stephen and Melanie; and three nieces and a nephew. She was predeceased by her parents, Aspasia and Constantine Martakis; and brothers, Nicholas, Hercules and Theodore.

The family is grateful for the kindness and care Phyllis received from staff at The Rivers and hospice nurses at Ascension St. John Hospital.

A funeral service was held Aug. 31, at Assumption Greek Orthodox Church, St. Clair Shores.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to Assumption Greek Orthodox Church, 21800 Marter Rd., St. Clair Shores, MI 48080.

See OBITs, page 8B

Thomas F. DeGalan Jr.

Thomas F. DeGalan Jr., a life-long Detroit resident, passed away Tuesday, Aug. 25 at Ascension St. John Detroit from complications following a stroke. He was 74.

Tom was born Oct. 10, 1945 in Detroit to the late Thomas DeGalan Sr. and the late Lorna (Dame) DeGalan.



A 1964 graduate of St. Mary’s of Redford High School, Tom went on to earn both a bachelor’s and master’s degree in education from Wayne State University.

He took a year off from college to work for General Motors as a steward on its private plane fleet, flying corporate executives, including the late John DeLorean, around the country. One of his favorite memories of that time was how “Big John,” who was usually late for the flight, would drive his Corvette onto the tarmac, park it right next to the waiting plane, and hand Tom the keys with directions for him to take it to the parking area.

Following his graduation from Wayne State, Tom joined the Detroit Police Department. He retired in 1998 after 26 years that saw a career that began with undercover work in the narcotics unit, a stint as the driver for then-police chief William Hart, and several years in the Homicide Section under the late Gil Hill. He closed out his career as head of the department’s K-9 division, but not before he brought home Shelby, a German Shepard that couldn’t quite make the cut as a police dog, but would have qualified as a repeat offender.

He earned several department commendations, including one for action taken while off duty. One morning while walking from his home on Detroit’s east side to E. Warren to catch a bus to take him to headquarters downtown, he heard suspicious sounds coming from a nearby garage. He made the decision to investigate and interrupted an attack on a young girl who had been abducted while walking to school.

Following his retirement from the Detroit Police, Tom dusted off his education degrees and returned to the classroom as a substitute teacher with local private schools and the Grosse Pointe Public School System. A chance encounter with a family friend led him to apply to Madonna University, where he taught criminal justice for 15 years before retiring for a second time in 2015.

It was another chance encounter that would have the greatest impact on his life. While a graduate student at Wayne, he stopped by the financial office to make a tuition payment and struck up a conversation with the cashier, Wilhelmina Melville, who had a degree in art from Wayne State.

The tough Detroit cop and the free-spirited artist were a perfect example of opposites attracting and living happily ever after for 43 years, only ending with Will’s death in 2018. Their daughter, Clara, followed her mother’s footsteps as an artist and her father’s footsteps as a teacher, blending both as an art teacher at Madonna University.

In addition to Clara and her partner, Sam Copi, Tom is survived by his sisters, Kathy Ryan, Lorna Slenkai (Laszlo), Mary Edwards (Robert), nephews Michael Ryan, Kevin and Mark Gostomski, nieces Maureen Ryan Canadilla and Kate Ryan Johnson, several great nieces and nephews, and close friend Liz Rogenbuck. He was predeceased by a brother, John Michael, brother-in-law, John Ryan and nephew, Patrick Ryan. He also leaves his much loved four-legged companion, Maurice, the last in a long line of dogs that deigned to allow Tom to sit on their couch.

Due to COVID restrictions, there will be no public gathering, but the family has requested that friends raise a glass of their favorite spirits in his honor and make a donation in his name to the Michigan Humane Society or Madonna University.

Burial will take place in Millersburg, MI, where Tom will be reunited with Will near their cottage on Rainy Lake.

Share a memory at verheyden.org



Bop n’ Shop in The Village

Tucked in a corner at Kercheval and St. Clair, the RJ Spangler Trio played to the delight of the small, masked, socially distanced crowd Saturday, Aug. 22, from noon to 2 p.m., during Bop n’ Shop in The Village.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF RENEE LANDUYT

The RJ Spangler Trio, tucked in a shady corner at Kercheval and St. Clair, entertained people during Bop n’ Shop in The Village. The band includes RJ Spangler on bongos, Jeff Cuny on string bass and Matt LoRusso on guitar.

Richard Leland Measelle

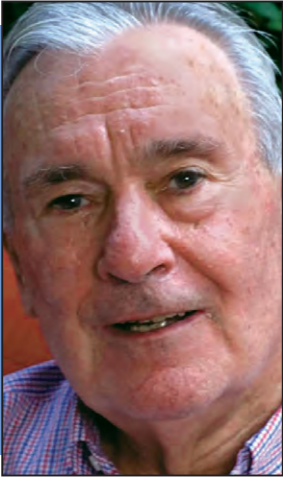
Our beloved father, Richard (Dick) Leland Measelle died suddenly but peacefully on August 1, 2020 at his home in Devon, England. He was 81 years young.

Dick enjoyed 20+ prosperous years as a Grosse Pointe resident, with his first five children attending St. Paul’s school and Grosse Pointe South High School.

Dad was a Midwestern gentleman at heart, with a deep curiosity and interest in the world of and beyond his Michigan roots. His success as a corporate global leader, father, husband, brother, uncle and friend were rooted in his deep respect for all people and a humility and wit that allowed him to find the best in everyone and everything.

His open mind and heart, a hallmark of his intelligence and his youthful spirit, guided him throughout a remarkable life. From running regularly with the bulls in the festival of San Fermin in Spain, to being an avid fan of all sports, be it professional or his children’s swimming meets or rugby matches, to being a natural prankster and “legendary” joke teller, our Dad was “all in” and game for almost anything. A born CEO, Dick’s self effacing character would ascribe his own success to his penchant for “surrounding himself with people smarter than me.” Indeed, as a globalist who enjoyed living in Detroit, Spain, Chicago, New York, England, or Utah, Dick’s approach to life – both in business and private – was to see all aspects of the world around him as fundamentally interconnected, where cooperation and kindness were the ultimate arbiters of success.

Born and raised in Detroit, MI, to Leland and Jean Measelle, Dick attended the University of Detroit Jesuit High School and Academy and served in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve. He graduated in 1961 from Miami University, Oxford, OH where he later received a Distinguished Alum Award. That same year, Dick joined Arthur Andersen & Co.’s Detroit office before trans-



ferring to Spain, where he worked in the Firm’s Madrid and Barcelona offices until he returned to Detroit in 1972. Becoming Office Managing Partner there in 1975 and Midwest Area Managing Partner from 1985-1987, Dick then became Managing Partner for the Worldwide Accounting and Auditing Practice in 1987. He was made the first Worldwide Managing Partner of Arthur Andersen under the new Swiss Cooperative in 1989 until his retirement from the Firm in 1997. In 2002, Dick accepted an offer to become CEO of UnitedHealth Group’s Industrial Bank, Optum Bank, a position he held until December 2006, and thereafter served as a Bank Director until 2019.

Dick held many professional and civic memberships and board positions, including the Chicago Council on Foreign Affairs, the Field Museum of Chicago, the Partnership for a Drug-Free America, the Board of Trustees of the University of Detroit, Chairman of the Michigan United Negro College Fund (UNCF) and the Board of the Business Enterprise Trust. In addition, he was a presenter and regular attendee at the World Economic Forum in Davos and served as the Spanish Honorary Vice-Consul to Michigan. His civic devotion extended beyond meeting rooms and offices to the streets of

Detroit, where with other city leaders he became a member of the clown brigade in the city’s annual Thanksgiving Day parade. A Cuban cigar in hand and a generous smile for all, Dick was a social being to his core, thriving in settings where love, loyalty and community were present.

It is no surprise given Dick’s capacity to listen to all perspectives and connect with voices from around the world, that he loved music. From big stadium events to the comfort of his living room, from The Eagles and Willie Nelson to Toscanini and Andres Segovia, he enjoyed and listened to it all. The soundtrack of his life became our own and as such will accompany and comfort us in the years ahead.

Dick remained devoted to and interested in the lives of his growing family, despite the challenges of transatlantic households. His easy-going quality allowed him to equally enjoy walks on the moors of his Devon home, skiing in Park City, enjoying his daughter’s patio in Chicago, watching his grandson’s soccer match in Philadelphia, visiting his oldest sons in Seattle or Eugene, or boating off of the Maine coast with his daughter’s family. His love of Spanish food and culture remained a passion for Dick his entire life, and he was able to enjoy regular holidays along Spain’s coast with Alison and their boys in the final years of his life.

Dick is survived by his wife of 25 years, Alison, and their sons, Luke and Rory of Devon, UK. He is father to five children from his first marriage to Susan Stauff Measelle, Jeffrey (Jennifer Ablow), Lara (Bob Ivins), Susana (Robert Hubbs), Millicent (Daniel Tremonti) and Stephen (Madlena Blagalia); grandfather to Issie, Gabriel, Eli, Noa, Aidan, Jude, Freya, Jake, Posey, Sebastian and Nicolai; brother to Barbara (Michael Foster); and uncle to Jordan (Lisa Vining) and Meghan (Paul Elia). His friends are too numerous to count.



Pictured, from left, Cynthia Rose, vice president of the Edible Arrangements Metro Detroit Group and a co-owner of the Grosse Pointe Woods store; Rick Mazzyck, volunteer engagement coordinator with Focus: HOPE; and Focus: HOPE volunteer Amber Kainz assemble and prepare boxes of fresh fruit for delivery to food program recipients.

Posted: August 18, 2020 at City Hall, 90 Kerby Road
Publish: September 3, 2020 GPN

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

Solution for last weeks
puzzle 8/27/20

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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!

9/3/20

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King Crossword

Solution for
last week's
puzzle 8/27/20

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| E | G | G | | P | L | E | D | | S | H | E | D | |
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ACROSS

- Place for pam-
pering
- Bedouins
- Gasoline stat
- Samovar
- Actress
Zellweger
- A billion years
- Update
- Bookkeeper
(Abbr.)
- Young fellow
- Shun
- Feast alterna-
tive
- land
(spaced-out
site)
- Eggs
- Attempt
- Paul or Lloyd
of baseball lore
- Gear teeth
- Collection
- Go off the
board
- Central
- Turf
- Londoner's
last letter

- Reverberate
- Hourglasses,
e.g.
- Common con-
diment (Var.)
- Historic period
- Boxing legend
- Spellbind
- Namely (Abbr.)
- Cook with
radiant heat
- Cacophony
- Chowed
down
- Impudent
- Choose

DOWN

- Total
- In favor of
- Moreover
- Extreme
- Furnishes
- Blackbird
- Gem facet
- Playground
fixture
- Replace per-
sonnel with
robots
- Pontiff

- Chew like
chipmunks
- Inventor
Whitney
- Dressed
- Central points
- Shakespeare's
river
- Make attrac-
tive
- Indeed
- Always
- Cincinnati team
- Moments, for
short
- Re clan
emblems
- Compass
points
- In a cata-
strophic way
- "The Phantom
of the —"
- Scratch
- Vena —
- Settled down
- Old French coin
- Altar affirma-
tive
- Energy
- Med. specialty

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Solution Time: 21 minutes

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OBITS:

Continued from page 7B

Cynthia Kay
Matthys Van Pelt

Former Grosse Pointe resident Cynthia Kay Matthys Van Pelt died Saturday, Aug. 8, 2020, in Colleyville, Texas. She was born March 30, 1939, in Wharton, Texas, to Lovie Lavern Noles and Werner Carl Matthys, both now deceased.

Cynthia grew up on her family's farm in Wharton County. In childhood, she studied piano and dance and her mother taught her the art of sewing. Cynthia attended school in Wharton, where she played the



Cynthia Kay Van Pelt

French horn and was a majorette in the school marching band. She graduated with honors from Texas Woman's University in Denton, where she studied art and majored in clothing and costume design.

Cindy and her hus-

band, Thomas Van Pelt, settled in Grosse Pointe. Together they raised their two sons and made lifelong friends through the Grosse Pointe Newcomers Club. Active in many activities and philanthropies, Cindy was a member of Junior League of Detroit and volunteered countless hours at many Designer Show Houses. She excelled at the art of flower arranging and entertaining. She also was an active tennis player. Cindy and her family also enjoyed boating and snow skiing, as well as travel to pursue these interests.

True to her entrepreneurial nature, Cynthia bought and managed a

wine and cheese shop when she and her husband later retired to Wilmington, N.C. Cynthia oversaw all aspects of the business, including travel to food and wine shows to purchase goods for her shop and creating and selling her own homemade spreads and dips.

In Wilmington, Cindy took up golf and participated in all activities in her community of Landfall.

Cynthia returned to Houston after her parents' deaths to be close to the farm and her Texas family. She played piano and organ in many churches and participated in two mission trips to Haiti with

her church.

Cynthia is survived by her sons, Tom Jr. (Kristen) and Roger (Lisa) Van Pelt; brother, Carl (Deaine); and four grandchildren.

Memorial services were held Aug. 22, at Wharton Funeral Home, Wharton, Texas.

Randall G.
Thomsen

Former Grosse Pointe resident Randall Garry Thomsen, 40, of Boca Raton, Fla., died Monday, Aug. 10, 2020. He was born Feb. 27, 1980, in California, to Howard and Sandra Thomsen.

Randall graduated

from Schoolcraft College with degrees in culinary/restaurant management and applied science in culinary arts. He was sous chef at The Oaks Country Club in Boca Raton.

Randall is survived by his parents and brothers, Eirik, Jasen and William.

A memorial service takes place at 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 6, at Crosspointe Christian Church, 21336 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

Donations in Randall's memory may be made to Schoolcraft College Foundation, 18600 Haggerty Rd., Livonia, MI 48152; or scf.schoolcraft.edu.

Judy Reno-Naturkas



Judy Reno-Naturkas passed away August 27, 2020 after a brave effort to kick cancer's ass. Her 77 years were filled with wit, tenacity, love, loyalty and living life fully, on her terms. Boy did she ever.

She was the matriarch who absolutely adored her family, and a teacher who loved being a teacher – almost as much as she loved being a mom and grandmother. Sure, she would act tough, but her coarseness belied her true character and self. If you could crack that patina by getting her to crack a smile (ok, maybe more of an irreverent smirk) then you were in. And you wanted to be in with Judy. She was cool. Cooler than your younger aunt cool. She dug jazz, played piano, had a cat named Billie Holiday, drank beer and knew her way around an Android phone (not bad for a person who was retired).

She had nicknames for friends, family, neighbors, and if you're reading this – probably one for you.

Speaking of names, if you're from the eastside then the names Reno/Renaud, Trombley, Allard

and Campau should ring a bell. She was proud of her Grosse Pointe heritage ("we're first settlers, not early settlers," she'd never hesitate to correct you). Though she was retired, Mrs. Naturkas's passion for teaching outlived her time in the classroom, never missing a moment to correct, spell-check or point something out that was false. In that sense, she always took advantage of a teachable moment.

If you were in her 8th grade U.S. history class, then you were challenged to be the best you could be. You got her gruff demeanor, but underneath you could find her sweetness. Once you passed her test (she didn't suffer fools gladly), then she respected you. She was crass, but she had class, and you wanted to be in her class. If you came in with an attitude, she'd serve it back to you by saying, "I don't know who pissed in your Cheerios this morning, young lady..." Her positively sarcastic tone woke you up and made you pay attention, because you were in Judy's world now. She was allergic to indifference, and she knew she'd made it as a teacher when she found "Naturkas is a bitch!" etched on the girls's bathroom wall at school.

"If you tell the truth, you don't have to remember anything," Mark Twain once said. That's the Mark Twain, who Judy descended from on her mother's side. With Judy you got the truth.

Sometimes it was blunt, and sometimes you'd get a "True

dat" text message from her. She loved the truth and seeking out facts. She was a teacher who never stopped learning. In Judy's world you never got an answer, you got a lesson. You never won anything, you earned it. We are all lucky to have had her in our world, and we hope we earned it.

She is survived by her son Mike (Tawna) and daughter Karen Lipke, six beautiful grandchildren (Kaitlyn, Autumn, Taylor, Jack, Luca and Kai), her sisters Roberta "Cooky" (Ernie) Maczka and Lillian Reno-Davis, nieces, nephews, too many cousins to mention and everyone who called her a friend. But really, she had to survive 77 years dealing with us, so we should be grateful she put up with us (and returned our calls).

And so, we bid adieu, the way she would have at the end of a call, with: "Love you!" Honor her by living life on your terms – it's ok if you nibble around the edges for a bit.

Oh, one more thing. Obviously, her cat Billie Holiday needs a home and is up for adoption. All interested parties should seek out Judy's daughter, Karen. She'll be the lady at Judy's celebration of life party with scratch marks on her arms. Don't be afraid, she may be a bit feral, but she won't bite.

Donations can be made to the Detroit Symphony Orchestra in memory of Judy Reno-Naturkas. To donate, visit the DSO at <https://tickets.dso.org/support/donate>.



Music on the lawn

Saturday, Aug. 22, on a front lawn in the 700 block of Berkshire in Grosse Pointe Park, Beth Kurta hosted the Motor City Acoustic Band for a couple hours as a gift to her neighborhood, family and friends. The band played while the sun set to a small crowd of masked listeners who came by bike, foot and car.



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

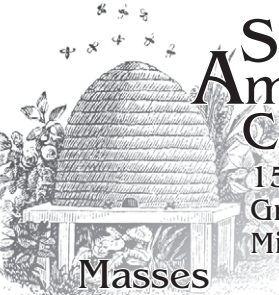
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2nd & 4th Monday of the Month

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the parking lot