



COVID-19 CASES UPDATE - 11/23

	Cases	Deaths
All Pointes	1,384 (+153)	39 (+1)
Harper Woods	464 (+40)	37 (+0)

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NOVEMBER 26, 2020

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A virtual future for G.P. courts?

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

THE GROSSE POINTES — The COVID-19 pandemic likely has changed court proceedings across the country forever, if the findings in Grosse Pointe municipal courts are any indication. Although there have been a few in-person or hybrid proceedings, Pointe courts largely have been operating virtually

since March and have found there are a surprising number of benefits to the new procedures. “I think we were one of the first courts to open up and start the Zoom operations,” said Matthew Rumora, municipal judge for both the Farms and Shores. “A lot of courts, not in the Pointes specifically, but in Macomb County, there were a num-

See COURTS, page 3A

PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Start of the season

Grosse Pointe Park forester Brian Colter planted a tree in the community garden at Wayburn and Mack 15 years ago; the same tree this year has the honor of being the Park’s Christmas tree. The community garden is now the site of the new DPW building, so the tree was cut down and transported, courtesy of Jim Bonahoom of Arbor Pro, to Windmill Pointe Park, where it will remain until January. From left are Park Councilman Vikas Relan, Garden Staff Supervisor Corin Vance, Councilwoman Lauri Read and Parks and Recreation Director Chad Craig.

Grosse Pointe Park art center secures construction firms, increases funds

By Eddie B. Allen Jr.
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE PARK — Officials working to launch the A. Paul and Carol C. Schaap Center for the Performing Arts and Richard and Jane Manoogian Art Gallery have contracted Michigan constructing firms to build the \$25 million facility. PCI One Source Contracting and The Dailey Company formed a joint venture to manage the project, scheduled to open its doors in 2022, said leaders of the initiative. Additionally, a fund-raising campaign to support the center has

See ARTS, page 2A

COURTESY PHOTO

A rendering of the Richard and Jane Manoogian Art Gallery.

Minimum unit size lowered

By Laurel Kraus
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — Following the trend of minimum apartment sizes decreasing 5 percent over the last 10 years, with the average size in Michigan lowering to 882 square feet, the City of Grosse Pointe amended its multi-family housing unit zoning ordinance. What previously was a standard of a minimum of 1,000 square feet for every unit across the board now includes minimums of 500, 600, 700 and 900 square feet for studio, one-bedroom, two-bedroom and three-bedroom units, respectively. Terrace dwellings are set at a minimum of

1,200 square feet. “There is a huge demand for condos, specifically in our community, but there’s little to no supply,” said Jimmy Saros, vice president of Jim Saros Real Estate Services, during a public hearing on the matter. “(The need is for) essentially condos that offer single-floor living for mostly residents that are living in homes that have been there for 20 to 30 years. They’d like to downsize, but there’s no product available to move to. They’d love to stay in Grosse Pointe, but where are they going to move? You can move to a townhouse, but that doesn’t

See LOWERED, page 2A

Ethics board opens investigation into Palmer complaint

By Mary Anne Brush
Staff Writer

THE GROSSE POINTES — The Wayne County Ethics Board voted unanimously at its Nov. 18 meeting to investigate an ethics ordinance violation complaint against Grosse Pointe Woods resident Monica Palmer. The October complaint filed by Detroit attorney Thomas

Bruetsch called for Palmer to resign or be removed for what he alleges are conflicts of interest as chairperson of the Wayne County Board of Canvassers. In addition to her role on the board, Palmer is the dedicated record-keeper and registered agent of Taxpayers for GP Schools, a 501(c)4 which, according to the complaint, was “heavily engaged in the Grosse

Pointe Public School System school board election.” “Palmer’s involvement in the PAC is incompatible with her public office, violates the county’s ethics ordinance, and undermines voters’ confidence in the free and fair elections she is charged with overseeing,” Bruetsch said in a news release. The Wayne County Ethics Ordinance defines a conflict of

interest as “either a personal interest or a duty or loyalty to a third party that competes with or is adverse to a public servant’s duty to the public interest in the exercise of official duties or official actions.” According to the complaint, “Palmer’s position with Taxpayers for GP Schools, a

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Robert Schultz

Home: Grosse Pointe Woods Children’s Hospital nurse found his calling in pediatric, neonatal transport

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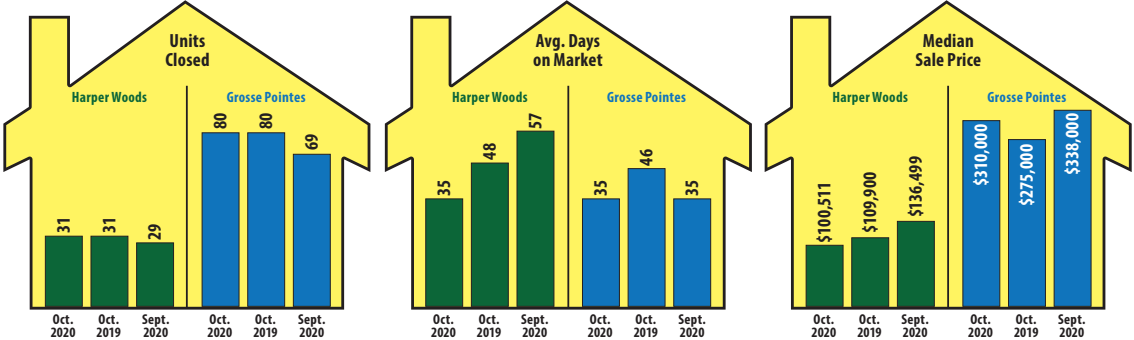
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Markets show ‘incredible demand,’ but different inventory issues

October housing data recently released by the Grosse Pointe Board of Realtors shows incredible demand for housing. The two markets are, however, experiencing very different inventory issues. In the Grosse Pointes, buoyed by new construction, the inventory has actually risen a bit from last month. This increase in inventory provides more choice for buyers and helps forestall any depletion of homes from which a buyer can choose. Nationally, new construction has been viewed as the much needed add to all markets to sustain demand. The Grosse Pointes are fortunate to be well ahead of the curve on this area.

In Grosse Pointe, the number of homes for sale this



month is 191, down from 227 last November, but up from 178 last month.

Harper Woods, however, is experiencing what the rest of southeast Michigan is seeing — a decline in inventory of almost 50 percent from last year. The strength of the market is, however, evidenced by the sales which, despite a drastic reduction in inventory, have

not dropped year over year.

The number of homes for sale in Harper Woods this month is 40, down from 83 last November and 42 just last month.

Nationally, housing is expected to outpace inflation, continuing to make it an excellent and safe long-term investment. The low interest rate environment is not expected to

change and family formation among millennials continues to rise. Starter homes for these first-time home buyers will be an issue for those looking to take advantage of these low rates. In markets where inventories are not dropping significantly, there will be far more opportunity for buyers to buy than anywhere else in southeast Michigan. This could put

the Grosse Pointes in a very positive position compared to comparable communities where inventories are depleted.

Finally, as you can see from the very different conditions, but equally positive prognosis for the Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods, to maximize opportunity it is absolutely critical you work with a trusted real estate agent who knows your specific market. While general information on the internet is helpful, a wisely fine-tuned action plan specifically for you and your home requires a Realtor who knows you and your neighborhood. Do you have a Grosse Pointe Board of Realtors broker?

Information provided by the Grosse Pointe Board of Realtors

Safe, fun activities at Whistle Stop

Whistle Stop Hobby & Toy will host Santa and his favorite elf, Lil Ricky, throughout the months of November and December to deliver another magical Christmas season.

After celebrating its 50th year in business, the local shop was hand-picked by Santa as one of his Michigan Toy Headquarters. As such, Whistle Stop will help collect Santa’s letters, emails and social media messages throughout both months. Santa will read through every message and they will be stored for parents and grandparents who stop in — or pull up to the curb — to pick up wish list items.

“In past years, Santa has visited Whistle Stop to meet the children, so when we heard he wants Whistle Stop to be his Michigan Toy Headquarters we were so excited,” co-owner Julie Everitt said.

The two-month long holiday season will be highlighted Nov. 26 to 30, by the annual holiday sale where most items at Whistle Stop will be 20 percent off. There will be opportunities to check children’s wish lists, get top toy recommendations and save on gifts for kids

of all ages.

As the holiday draws near, Lil Ricky can be found hiding around the store and staff are offering a reward for kids who help Santa find his elf Nov. 27 to Dec. 24. Throughout both months, any sightings of Santa at Whistle Stop will be shared on social media as Santa checks the mailbox, shops for good boys and girls and looks for his favorite elf.

As always, Whistle Stop will be open for last-minute shoppers Christmas Eve. Those without lists can ask the experts at Whistle Stop for help finding the perfect toy for any good girl or boy. Gift-wrapping also is available.

“The holidays are our favorite time of year,” co-owner Rick Claggett said. “Seeing all of the joy, happiness and the spirit of giving is why we do this.”

This year, Whistle Stop encourages giving back even more by partnering with Toys For Tots to be a toy drop site where new, unopened toys may be donated for kids in need.

Whistle Stop is located at 21714 Harper, St. Clair Shores. For more information, call (586) 771-6770 or visit whistle-stop.com.



A rendering of the A. Paul and Carol C. Schaap Center for the Performing Arts.

COURTESY PHOTO

ARTS:

Continued from page 1A

generated \$16,818,501 toward its \$25 million goal and \$6 million toward its \$10 million endowment goal, said Jamie Rae Turnbull, interim executive director.

“We feel very confident that we’re going to raise the full \$25 million before we break ground,” she said.

The goal for groundbreaking is the end of summer 2021.

Turnbull and supporters of the project are particularly encouraged that fundraising for the endowment to address operating expenses has surpassed half the capital target.

“Endowment money is harder to raise,” she said. “Normally, you get the

capital funds first and we’ve already made progress getting endowed.

“As the community has gotten more engaged, we’ve seen more enthusiasm in the form of contributions,” Turnbull added.

The 49,000-square-foot center will include a 424-seat theater, wine bar and concessions. Updated announcements for the center include a community and visiting art gallery, and programming by such potential community partners as Mosaic Youth Theatre, Detroit Public Television and Michigan Opera Theatre.

Grosse Pointe Theatre and Grosse Pointe Symphony Orchestra have announced plans to become long-term tenants at the Schaap Center, which will be built on East Jefferson Avenue.

A projected 50,000 guests annually are expected to boost patronage at nearby restaurants, bars and other retailers, but a significant number of Park residents have remained concerned about public accessibility to the center and other issues. Councilman Vikas Relan, who describes himself as supportive of the concept, was glad to learn of the plan to include youth programs and features requested by the community.

“You can say that the resident voices are making an impact,” Relan said. “But where I’ve come from and how far I have to go are two different things.”

Relan and others in the community have asked developers to complete a parking study, and traffic flow and police capabilities are still unknowns,

he said: “Those are big things.”

Turnbull, who lives in the Park on Lakepointe, and whose father-in-law also lives in the neighborhood, said she feels confident that parking and traffic have been properly considered.

“We are going to do our very best to not have a negative impact on the neighbors,” she said.

Relan said he is anxious that limited public safety officers could be overtaxed with responsibilities at the Schaap Center during busy performances, leaving the Park more vulnerable to crime.

Turnbull said the Schaap Center will work with Park officials to support broader operations.

“Sure, there will be some collaboration and coordination with the city,” she added.

LOWERED:

Continued from page 1A

offer the single-floor living.”

The standards were developed by looking at the residential ordinances

of comparable communities such as Plymouth, Northville and Rochester, as well as market data via Zillow.

The amendment, specifically affecting the districts that permit multi-family uses, C-2, T,

T-1, T-2 and R-T — terrace dwellings are allowable in R-T and T-1 — could aid in the ongoing efforts of the Mack Avenue Improvement Plan and the revitalization of The Village.

“For the last 10-plus

years, one of our goals with regard to the master plan has been to increase density in the downtown district, The Village,” Councilman Chris Walsh said. “Specifically, the idea has been to have a vertical build, which

would be, obviously, on top of the current buildings that we have and this would be an ideal place for condos. We’ve long thought that higher-end

condos, even if they’re smaller, would be attractive relative to the complete lack of higher-end condos at any size that exist in the district.”

The vote, held during the council meeting Monday, Nov. 16, and after a public hearing on the matter, passed 6-0 with Councilwoman Maureen Juip opposed.

“The minimums were lowered too far to earn my vote,” Juip said via email. “Nevertheless, it is my hope that future developments will be aligned with the scale and character of our community.”

Residents also voiced concerns that the smaller size will encourage rentals, which could drive down property values.

“I’d like to add that these are minimum sizes, not maximum sizes,” Mayor Sheila Tomkowiak said, “and that as developers come in and they look at the appeal of the neighborhood and they know that they want to sell those at a premium, I think that to have these as a guideline is good rather than proscriptive.”

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Grosse Pointe News

USPS 230-400

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY BY
POINTE NEWS INCORPORATED

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

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: \$44.50 per year via mail in the Metro area, \$65 outside.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Grosse Pointe News, 16980 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe, MI 48230.

The deadline for news copy is 3 p.m. Monday.

Advertising proof deadline is 5:00 p.m. Friday.

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Locally filmed Chevy commercial to air Dec. 1

By Eddie B. Allen Jr.
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — A TV commercial filmed this month will propel the Woods into the national spotlight this holiday season. Along with a Los Angeles crew and its cameras, Chevrolet vehicles and local General Motors workers descended on the city for a five-day shoot that included a Tuesday, Nov. 3, assignment on Mack Plaza where Christmas décor adorned the greenery. “We have cast

Chevrolet employees, rather than paid talent, in these holiday ads for the past three years to showcase the enthusiasm, authenticity and diversity of our Chevrolet team, and to connect real employees with customers we are trying to reach,” said Kelly Cusinato, Chevrolet communications director. The holiday ad campaign will begin airing Tuesday, Dec. 1, Cusinato said. The Woods became a backdrop for Chevy in such locations as the Robert E. Novitke Municipal Center and a stretch of University Place. Danielle Lovett, owner and executive producer of the California-based film company, Doublewide, traveled to the city with a team of four. “I had the most fantastic time with the neighbors on the shoot,” Lovett said. “They were some of the most warm, giving, generous people I have worked with in a long time.”



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

A film crew set up to film a Chevy commercial in front of Grosse Pointe Woods City Hall. The commercial will air in December so, to make it look like a winter scene, they strung up lights, sprayed snow and brought out hot chocolate. The commercial also filmed for a day in Grosse Pointe Park.

Health restrictions have limited the traditional use of motor home vehicles on outdoor film sets, Lovett said, but Woods residents were particularly helpful toward the Doublewide crew on a chilly evening, bringing coffee, treats and heat. “So these incredible neighbors came to our rescue and they brought out a fire pit, to keep us going,” she said. Dave Krieger, who arranged locations for the filming, praised city officials for being “professional” and accommodating. The city commonly

issues film permits to production teams, Executive Assistant Sue Como said. “We have a beautiful community and when it’s highlighted we’re very proud,” she said. One of the “finest trees in Grosse Pointe Woods,” located at city hall, was lit and decorated for the commercial like “our version of the Rockefeller Christmas tree,” Como joked, referencing New York City’s holiday attraction. Lovett shoots Chevy spots in the Detroit area about once a year and said residents always

give her crew a “big welcome.” She even added a local member

to the team, hiring Michigan State University student Josh Dixon, a resident of the neighborhood, as a production assistant for the recent shoot. Fake snow, decorative lights and a festive mood helped the film crew and Chevy team create “Christmas magic in early November,” Lovett said. Residents sometimes view outdoor shoots in neighborhoods as annoyances, she added, but neighbors in the Woods seemed to enjoy the experience. “To leave behind some fun,” she said, “that made me feel good.”



A crew member sprays snow on a tree.



PHOTO COURTESY OF DOUBLEWIDE

This house on University Place also was used for the commercial.

COURTS:

Continued from page 1A

ber of them that didn’t do anything for months on end, so they’re way behind on their dockets, whereas we’re completely caught up.” Among the benefits is the convenience for litigants. Now that those with transportation challenges no longer need to get up early morning to find bus lines that will connect them to Grosse Pointe from cities across the state, the courts are experiencing a higher rate of attendance. “We’ve actually found there are a number of people who will Zoom in who might not have otherwise come to court,” City of Grosse Pointe Municipal Judge Russell Ethridge reported. “We’ve had less show causes or bench warrants because people have Zoomed in.” The technology also allows litigants to Zoom in from their break room or car rather than having to take a day off work to attend court, as well as negates the need for prisoner transportation. “Everything will be changed,” Ethridge said of the future of court proceedings. “I think what we’re seeing now is 10 years of technology

pushed into 10 months (and) we’ll have far more proceedings by Zoom. It’s proven to have enough benefits that we’re going to see this going forward in all kinds of situations. We will see a lot of virtual proceedings in the years to come and as we continue to work with it, it’ll get refined (and) we’ll get a little bit more efficient.” Such proceedings that could remain via Zoom even after the pandemic are those that don’t require in-person attendance, he added, such as bond hearings, arraignments and traffic tickets. Virtual proceedings are not without their struggles, however, even beyond having a good Wi-Fi signal and knowledge of how to work Zoom. One of the most significant issues is how much longer it takes to hear each case, since the courts must take on more logistical work. Prior to the pandemic, lawyers could speak to each other, witnesses or clients in the hallway while the court handled other matters. Now, the court must coordinate Zoom proceedings and is responsible for organizing party discussions and placing people who want to speak with each other privately in virtual break-

out rooms. Judges also, much to their chagrin, are collecting stories of litigants Zooming in shirtless from their beds or even actively driving down the road. “It’s been a little bit of a struggle to remind people that this is still a court and it still requires some measure of decorum,” Ethridge said. “Everybody kind of takes it a little casually and I get the idea that somebody’s at home with the kids and the kids may run up to Mom while she’s talking about her traffic ticket or whatever it is. That’s life. We understand that, but if you’re going to come to court on Zoom or otherwise, it’s probably appropriate to put on a shirt and maybe not call in from your bed.” If a person demands an in-person meeting, he or she is entitled to it, Rumora said, although most are content with Zoom. When court proceedings have been held in-person during recent months, precautions have included everyone wearing a mask inside the building, social distancing

— with the City of Grosse Pointe court operating out of Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church while its court building undergoes renovations, witnesses can easily sit 15 feet away from the judge — temperature checks and screening questions. “Our building is not a separate court building like a lot of courts,” Rumora said. “Ours is city hall combined and there’s city employees in there also, so we have to have a little more precaution because of the number of people that might be exposed.” Pointe courts are not anticipating fully resuming in-person proceedings until a vaccine is created and widely spread. “I do not see the City of Grosse Pointe returning to full in-person court proceedings until this is behind us and we get a green light from the state court administrative office and are through the pandemic,” Ethridge said, “and even then, I think we’re going to continue to maintain the efficiencies of using some aspects of virtual court.”

Jolly old elf plans virtual Park visit

GROSSE POINTE PARK — While lap-sitting won’t be an option this year, Santa still plans to schedule appointments with children eager to give him their Christmas requests. Families in the Park may sign up to meet the big guy and Mrs. Claus during virtual visits Friday, Dec. 11. Pointe Alarm is sponsoring the series of Zoom calls, in collaboration with the Parks and Recreation Department. Storytelling and chatting with the holiday season’s head honcho, Mr.

Kringle, will be featured during 15-minute sessions available by reservation for \$10 per child. Parents may visit <https://recpro.grossepointepark.org> to register and pay online. Following registration, completed event information forms should be returned to parksandrec@grossepointepark.org no later than Dec. 5, to reduce the likelihood of landing on the “naughty” list. Gift baskets will be delivered to children who participate. — Eddie B. Allen Jr.



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Nurse dedicated to transporting patients, saving lives

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Robert Schultz first started working in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Children’s Hospital of Michigan because, “I wanted to do something that terrified me,” the 38-year-old Grosse Pointe Woods resident said.

What he found was an experience that not only taught him a lot about himself, but also led to him discovering his niche.

Becoming a nurse was a part of his plan for a few years before joining the Children’s Hospital staff.

“The reason I got into nursing was a friend of mine was in a fire around Christmastime in 2006,” he said. “He lost all function in one of his hands. He had a long recovery at Detroit Receiving. When I visited him, he told me about the importance of having a good nighttime nurse. He said it meant the difference between life and death.

“I thought, ‘I could do that.’”

The Royal Oak native and Kimball High School graduate earned his nursing degree from Wayne State University in 2009, but began working at Children’s in 2008, as a student. By sheer luck, Schultz, who at the time was waiting tables at an Oakland Mall restaurant, served the director of nursing and her husband. They were his only table that night, so they got to talking. By the end of the night, in addition to gratuity, she gave him a job.

“I was working as a student, so my job was to feed and change diapers,”



PHOTO COURTESY OF ROBERT SCHULTZ

Stephanie and Robert Schultz.

Schultz said. “I was terribly nervous about not being able to talk to or understand my patients. As I got more comfortable with it ... I found my niche. I can’t explain it, when you can understand and communicate with them. Eventually I would be able to calm them down, know their sounds, their coos. ... I found my calling.”

Schultz worked nights at Children’s three years and, as much as he loved the work, “I always had an eye on the job I have now, which is intensive care transport,” he said.

There are no babies born at Children’s, he explained, but sick infants are brought in from hospitals across the state to receive specialized care. Traditional transport services are not properly equipped for the job, he said. The dedicated intensive care transport team at Children’s is staffed by highly trained nurses with expertise and certifications in advanced pediatric and neonatal life

support.

“I applied for the job, but I had the minimum requirement of experience,” Schultz said. “We had just gotten married. When I applied, I told my wife, ‘I don’t think I’m going to get it.’”

He was wrong. He’s been a member of the hospital’s Pediatric and Neonatal Dedicated Ambulance, or PANDA, team since 2012.

“All we do is transport pediatric and neonatal patients,” he said. “We’re available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. ... When I go in, I’m on call for any transport in my geographic area for 24 hours.”

Schultz works seven of those 24-hour shifts per month, but also busies himself with maintaining equipment and the skills necessary for the job. He, like his co-workers, also has a side job.

“I do data management for the international transport database,” he said. “And I write grants and do

research.”

Schultz, who has twice had his research published, said he’s hopeful a recent grant project could see the addition of ultrasound machines to PANDA ambulances.

While the hospital has a call room, where PANDA team members can rest if there are no calls at night, “We have to be ready to be out the door within 15 minutes of a call,” he said, adding with a chuckle, “One of my co-workers says it’s 80 percent run-of-the-mill, 20 percent sheer terror.”

Though Schultz finds his job fulfilling, he said, one down side to his calling is non-accidental traumas, or abuse cases.

“Everyone has a soft spot. That’s my soft spot.”

And while life at Children’s has changed since the onset of COVID-19, Schultz said, he does his best to maintain a positive disposition and perspective.

“In the hospital it’s hard; everyone’s stressed, everyone’s worried,” he said. “... But you can’t let perfect be the enemy of good; you have to do as good as you can.”

When he’s not transporting patients, Schultz enjoys transporting food to shut-ins through The Helm’s Meals on Wheels program. He was introduced to the volunteer opportunity through a friend of his wife’s who was earning a degree in social work.

“She was doing Meals on Wheels, so I signed up to do it, too,” he said. “It’s really beneficial to go out and help people. I really like doing it.”

Schultz also enjoys sharing his insight as a

guest speaker on self-care.

“I give lectures to people with developmental disabilities,” he said, noting a recent talk at Troy Athens High School. “It made me feel really great to go to the high school and tell them what it means to take care of your body.”

Through that experience, he was recommended to share similar information with clients of the nonprofit On My Own.

Schultz will further expand his resume in January, when he begins his new post as adjunct nursing professor at Oakland Community College. His goal, however, is to also keep the transport job with PANDA.

“I’m off more than on, but you can definitely make a difference in people’s lives,” he said. “I enjoy being there for someone in a crisis, to really be a benefit and help them.”

Schultz, who was named Practice Nurse of the Year in 2019, said it’s not uncommon for someone in his line of work to get emotionally injured. In response to that, he’s a part of the hospital’s Critical Incident Stress Management team. Whether dealing with the aftermath of mass layoffs or the heartache of a long-time patient’s death, the team helps medical personnel deal with emotional scars.

“We have a debriefing,” he said, “where we talk about the experience and hear all sides of the story, then provide links to other support services. It’s a beneficial tool. When you work at a children’s hospital, you’re going to get emotionally injured. ... It helps to talk and hear

everyone else’s experiences.”

Another skill Schultz uses to cope is writing. Research and grants aside, he enjoys writing short stories.

And though his baseball-playing days are over — “I was never really good at it, but I enjoyed the camaraderie,” he said — Schultz counts kayaking and bicycling among his more athletic hobbies. He also enjoys watching movies, playing video games with his son and visiting museums.

“The great thing about having a kid is I get to go to all the museums again and it’s so much fun,” he said, noting Greenfield Village, The Henry Ford and Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum, as well as New York City’s Museum of Modern Math among his favorites. Their next museum visit, he hopes, will be to Chicago’s Field Museum of Natural History.

A love of learning has been put front and center in the Schultz household; he and his wife, Stephanie, share co-teaching responsibilities as their son, Edward, navigates at-home learning.

“It’s a pretty good partnership,” Schultz said. “I’m lucky to be married to my wife.”

The Schultzes moved to the Woods around a decade ago. They’d been living in a loft downtown — close to his job at Children’s and her job at Jumbo’s Bar, which her mother owns — but have found the Woods a great place to raise their family.

“We love the parks, the libraries,” he said. “It’s a nice place to live; we have really nice neighbors.”

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City of **Grosse Pointe**, Michigan

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CITY OF GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN PLANNING COMMISSION
MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2020, 7:00 PM

17200 MACK AVENUE
SPECIAL USE REQUEST

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City of Grosse Pointe Planning Commission will hold a public hearing as noticed above to consider the Special Use Application for the proposed Pilates studio project at 17200 Mack Avenue, the applicant is Feeling Good Feeling Great, LLC.

The project is being proposed for development under Section 90-268. Permitted Uses After Special Approval of the City of Grosse Pointe Zoning Ordinance, which allows fitness centers, such as yoga studios and other similar uses, in the RO-1 district, subject to several additional provisions.

The following specifications are proposed for the project:

Project Type:	Pilates Studio
Current Zoning:	RO-1, Restricted Office District
Total Parcel Size:	5,523 Square Feet (0.13 Acres)

The applicant is requesting special use approval for a Pilates studio located at 17200 Mack.

Said hearing will be held virtually. Information regarding how to attend a virtual meeting can be found on the City’s website or by calling 313-885-5800.

Public comment is welcome. If you are unable to attend the hearing, written comments will be accepted until 12:00 noon on December 14, 2020. Public comments can be mailed to City Hall or sent via email to city@grossepointecity.org. If further information is needed, please contact Grosse Pointe Building Dept., 17147 Maumee, Grosse Pointe, MI. 48230, Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am to 5:00 pm. Telephone: 313-885-5800.

Julie E. Arthurs,
City Clerk

GPN: 11/26/20



COURTESY PHOTO

Honored

After serving as the finance director/treasurer of Grosse Pointe Shores for 33 years, Rhonda Ricketts' last day was Wednesday, Oct. 21. Interim City Manager Tom Krolczyk, left, presented Ricketts with a proclamation from the state of Michigan, signed by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, Lt. Gov. Garlin Gilchrist and State House Rep. Kevin Hertel, who arranged for the proclamation.

City of Grosse Pointe

Guilty by association

A 66-year-old Grosse Pointe man received multiple threatening calls to his company and cellphone Tuesday, Nov. 17, related to the fact one of his employees has a side job working for a political party to verify votes in the recent election and has rejected multiple votes due to fraud.

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

Grosse Pointe Farms

Partying on school grounds

Three Grosse Pointe teens, 18 and 19 years old, were caught with marijuana and alcohol in a vehicle behind an area school at 9:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 16.

The driver was arrested for operating while under the influence of drugs, while the other two were let go at the scene.

Retail theft

A woman in her 60s stole three bottles of alcohol, hiding them in her purse, from a business in the 100 block of Kercheval Avenue at 5 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 19.

Although she was confronted by the manager, she was able to drive away before officers arrived.

Driving while license suspended

After being pulled over on Mack Avenue for defective equipment, a 44-year-old Macomb woman was arrested for driving while license suspended and an arrest warrant at 9 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 19.

Fraudulent license plate

After being pulled over for inoperable brake lights at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 19, a 37-year-old Detroit man was arrested for a fraudulent license plate and driving while license suspended.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Adding one more to the list

A 46-year-old Detroit woman pulled over on Mack Avenue and arrested Thursday, Nov. 19, had 23 prior suspensions and an arrest warrant.

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

Grosse Pointe Shores

No crimes to report per dispatch.

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

Grosse Pointe Woods

Theft from auto

Approximately \$3,000 in construction tools were discovered stolen from a vehicle in the 2200 block of Stanhope around 8:30 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 21.

The resident found his vehicle's rear window damaged after having parked the auto around 11 p.m. Friday, Nov. 21.

The vehicle's rear doors showed signs of having been tampered with.

Attempted auto theft

A \$250 pair of boots was stolen from a van in the 2200 block of Stanhope around 5:45 a.m. Monday, Nov. 23, in what police believe was an attempt to steal the vehicle itself.

The driver's side lock cylinder had been removed from the vehicle and the ignition had been destroyed when the resident discovered it.

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

Grosse Pointe Park

Malicious destruction

A brick wall was damaged at a business in the 15000 block of Jefferson sometime between 4 p.m. Friday, Nov. 20, and 9:50 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 21.

An employee of the establishment reported that a vehicle caused the damage overnight.

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



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<p>DEARBORN</p> <p>More from your Medicare</p> <p>Bob Evans</p> <p>23729 Michigan Ave</p> <p>Nov 30, Dec 7</p> <p>10:00 AM</p>	<p>DETROIT</p> <p>More from your Medicare</p> <p>Golden Laser Dental</p> <p>18525 MOROSS RD</p> <p>Nov 30, Dec 7</p> <p>8:00 AM</p>
<p>LIVONIA</p> <p>More from your Medicare</p> <p>Best Western</p> <p>16999 S Laurel Park Dr</p> <p>Dec 4</p> <p>1:30 PM</p>	<p>LIVONIA</p> <p>More from your Medicare</p> <p>Bob Evans</p> <p>13911 Middlebelt Rd</p> <p>Nov 30, Dec 1, 7</p> <p>2:00 PM</p>
<p>SOUTHGATE</p> <p>More from your Medicare</p> <p>Holiday Inn Express</p> <p>13333 Heritage Center Dr</p> <p>Dec 1</p> <p>10:00 AM</p>	<p>WESTLAND</p> <p>More from your Medicare</p> <p>Golden Corral</p> <p>37101 Warren Rd</p> <p>Dec 3</p> <p>10:00 AM</p>


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Grosse Pointe News

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

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JOHN MINNIS: Publisher
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JODY MCVEIGH: Editor

OUR VIEW

A Thanksgiving proclamation

Thanksgiving, while rooted in colonial history, remained sporadic and mostly a state-declared holiday until 1863, when President Abraham Lincoln set the last Thursday in November as a national holiday — the first in a now continuous tradition. (Only the date, fixed in 1941 as the fourth Thursday, has changed.)

His proclamation, written mostly by then Secretary of State William Seward, takes note not only of the country’s bounty, but also of its divisions and of those who mourn and suffer. This year has divisiveness but its death toll comes from elsewhere: a pandemic leading to mourners and sufferers who similarly need “tender care.”

In bleaker times, the proclamation finds much good in America. This year’s celebration, even the humblest, solitary meal, can spark gratitude, too.

May all readers have a happy Thanksgiving.

By the President: Abraham Lincoln

The year that is drawing towards its close, has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature, that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever watchful providence of Almighty God. In the midst of a civil war of unequalled magnitude and severity, which has sometimes seemed to foreign States to invite and to provoke their aggression, peace has been preserved with all nations, order has been maintained, the laws have been respected and obeyed, and harmony has prevailed everywhere except in the theatre of military conflict; while that theatre has been greatly contracted by the advancing armies and navies of the Union. Needful diversions of wealth and of strength from the fields of peaceful industry to the national defence, have not arrested the plough, the shuttle or the ship; the axe has enlarged the borders of our settlements, and the mines, as well of iron and coal as of the precious metals, have yielded even more abundantly than heretofore. Population has steadily increased, notwithstanding the waste that has been made in the camp, the siege and the battlefield; and the country, rejoicing in the consciousness of augmented strength and vigor, is permitted to expect continuance of years with large increase of freedom. No human counsel hath devised nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy. It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and one voice by the whole American People. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens. And I recommend to them that while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty Hand to heal the wounds of the nation and to restore it as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquillity and Union.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington, this Third day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the Independence of the United States the Eighty-eighth.



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Pure Grosse Pointe

Grosse Pointe Public Library Directory Jessica Keyser took advantage of the nice fall weather by, naturally, reading a book on the steps of the Central Branch library’s new entrance. The new outdoor space, funded by the Grosse Pointe Library Foundation, is handicap accessible (ramp is on the Fisher Road side) and has chairs, tables and Wi-Fi for anyone to sit and relax.

OUR VIEW

Votes, naysayers certifiable

Something important is getting lost in the haranguing about the Nov. 3 election results: We pulled off the largest vote in history and mainly without a hitch. The fact that a record number of voters made their voices heard during a pandemic and in one of the most contentious elections in most people’s memories is astounding.

The Grosse Pointes were exemplars of high turnout — and also of heavy use of mail-in/drop-off ballots in the first Michigan presidential election in which no-reason absentee voting was allowed. The huge participation is something to celebrate, especially given the uncertainty of the mail during this period.

Clerks here and throughout the state deserve kudos for managing the volume successfully. Residents should extend their gratitude to the underpaid poll workers and volunteers who made it all come together smoothly.

Yet this achievement, both national and local, is marred by a new divisiveness — emanating out of Washington, but filtering down locally, too.

Monica Palmer, a Grosse Pointe Woods resident who is chair of the Wayne County Board of Canvassers, played a part by at first refusing to certify the county results; afterward, she said, she got a solicitous phone call from President Donald Trump.

Matthew and Alexandra Seely of Grosse Pointe Shores — Mr. Seely also is on the council there — joined with several others in a federal lawsuit seeking to contest the Wayne County results.

So far, most lawsuits challenging election procedures have failed. The certification of county results ultimately did take place, even though Ms. Palmer and her fellow Republican board member then asked to rescind their votes. After hours of public comment Monday, the state Board of Canvassers certified the statewide vote with three ayes and one abstention.

The attempt to not certify the vote made no sense,

because certification has to precede any other steps to contest the results, such as a recount request. But a presidential recount here is unlikely, given the roughly 154,000 votes that put Democratic challenger Joe Biden in the lead. Instead, the tactics seem designed to throttle normal procedures in a way that throws everything into the courts or, however unlikely, somehow forces the issue into the Republican-dominated Michigan Legislature.

Michiganders should be able to take pride in their strong turnout and the hard work of their election workers without having to hear so many petty — and generally rebuttable — complaints. Moreover, the continued maligning of Wayne County in particular may inadvertently spill over to communities like the Pointes.

Even Detroit, which struggles almost every election with ballot counting, had the tidiest election in recent history, according to statistics cited by the Secretary of State in advance of Monday’s state Board of Canvassers meeting. Other Wayne County municipalities, such as Livonia and Canton Township, had nearly as many problems balancing their numbers, according to a Bridge Magazine report.

Rather than picking on Detroit, election observers should pay more heed to the degree to which suburban voters tacked Democratic — including the majority of votes cast across the five Grosse Pointes. And rather than undermining faith in Michigan’s election processes, observers should be celebrating the pluses, such as increased turnout.

At worst, their efforts may build skepticism about the legitimacy of all elected officials. The current hope may be to hobble an incoming presidential administration from the opposing party, but the long-term effect could be disrespect that extends all the way down to nonpartisan city council members in even the smallest towns.

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.

Black lives matter but...

To the Editor:
Like the author of the

anonymous letter, I absolutely agree that Black lives matter but also question the agenda and tactics of the Black Lives

Matter organization.

I do not agree with targeted mailings of anonymous letters, but I can understand why the author of this letter may have chosen this method of communication. Quite frankly, no one (including the media) wants to have a frank and open discussion about the Black Lives Matter organization.

I am absolutely flabbergasted by the lack of facts and logic in today’s media reporting as well as the ability of groups to shut down the questioning of their beliefs.

Newspapers seem content to parrot national-level establishment thinking without any ideas about what specifically they want to change in their local police departments or how their cities and towns can better help all neighbors feel safer and be more prosperous.

We claim we want conversations but become angry when someone disagrees with us. We accept ideas without doing the research. We close our minds to new

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 Laurel Kraus

Quarantine hacks



We are just over a week into the second round of stay-at-home orders in Michigan and while they may be less restrictive than what was put in place earlier this year, it's still a fine time to put into practice the lessons we've learned via trial and error in quarantine thus far.

Here are just a few of the thoughts I've collected during these

unprecedented times:

Keep your space clean and organized.

For those of us who have been working from home for about eight months now, the lines have become a little blurry to say the least.

A 30-second commute to your desk is nothing to complain about in any world, but it can make it difficult to compartmentalize personal and business.

Dishes and bills pile up on your desk, work documents get tossed onto your bed and suddenly both spaces are a jumbled mess of clutter and you can't get away from either. Putting forth your best effort to keep your home tidy,

especially now while we have nowhere else to go, can make an incredible difference in that looming overwhelmed feeling that has lingered with many of us this year.

Conduct your morning as if you've got places to be and people to see.

While it was delightful to be able to wear pajamas well into mid-morning and hair in a messy bun back in March, I'm now convinced the lack of focus on appearance is actually working against us.

There is a clear correlation between levels of motivation and how you present yourself, even if the only one you're being presented to is

yourself. The better we feel about ourselves, the more energized we'll be to take on the day.

Recognize that what you put in is what you'll get out.

I consistently find it shocking how quickly every dish and piece of silverware in the house becomes dirty these days. Whether you tend to snack when you're bored, lonely or stressed, being home all day brings the risk of the "quarantine 15" or, at the very least, an unhealthy onslaught of sugar into your system.

Focusing on foods filled with protein and other forms of healthy energy, rather than depending on coffee-

aholic tendencies, is what's going to keep your productivity high, even from your living room. The easiest way to go about this is simply to regulate what you're buying and bringing into the house. Just follow the cardinal rule of shopping: Never buy groceries on an empty stomach.

Find the hobbies that work for you, not necessarily everyone else.

We all remember the masses of people who went quarantine crazy in April and became obsessed with learning to bake bread from scratch. An extreme emphasis was placed on using our cooped up time to learn new and adventurous hobbies, tackle major projects and/or commit to the habits we'd always meant to.

This was all fine and

dandy for those who had the motivation, but for others too stressed by the onslaught of changes, fears and unknowns, it only added another layer of guilt for not "taking advantage" of the, hopefully, once-in-a-lifetime situation.

Perhaps, for you, taking advantage of the extra time means catching up on much needed sleep, online gaming with friends you've missed, relaxing in solitude with bubble baths and Netflix, or any number of things that could be labeled unproductive by those on the outside looking in.

Find a hobby that brings you peace in these turbulent times and push aside how it compares to what others are doing. If you are content, then that's enough.

YESTERDAY'S HEADLINES

1945

75 years ago this week

SHORES MAY CONVERT INTO CITY: The incorporated Village of Grosse Pointe Shores is seriously considering conversion into a city. For examination into the subject, the village has called upon the Michigan Municipal League to send in experts to look into the matter of savings or otherwise that would result from its separation from the township.

'POISONED'

POINTERS GET EXPLANATION OF FOUL-TASTING WATER: An explanation is due to all you people who thought you had been poisoned over the weekend. Remember how scared you were when you took that first drink of water Saturday morning? Remember how you cussed at the first swig of that whiskey and plain water? Remember how terrible your tea was? The strong medicinal taste which has been present in the water Pointers have been drinking is not caused by any change in or addition

of chemical treatment to the water at the filtration plant, Farms officials have stated. All water experts are in agreement that bad as the taste is, there can be no harmful effect from drinking the water. Careful bacterial analysis showed that at no time has there been any harmful bacteria reaching the tap water.

Obituaries: John W. Anderson

1970

50 years ago this week

SOUTH HIGH'S A CAPELLA CHOIR RECORDS: The 80-voice Grosse Pointe South High A Capella Choir has been selected by Delta Records to record an album of Christmas music. A choir director from Ohio heard the choir sing at the Kiwanis International at Cobo Hall last June; he was so impressed, he recommended it to be one of the nine high school choirs from seven states to have the opportunity to put its music on record for public sale.

ELWORTHY FIELD UNDER STUDY: The City of Grosse Pointe, in keeping with its plan to improve Elworthy Field, has forwarded ideas for the field's development which would benefit all of the Pointes, to members of the Board of Education and School Superintendent Theos I. Anderson. The city's first proposal asks board members to apply for a grant, which provides means of financing long-desired community recreational facilities at Elworthy Field, such as new tennis courts and a restroom shelter building.

Obituaries: Archie Chavey, Charlotte Arndt, Bernard Francis Martin,

the Rev. John C. Jordan, Helen Louise Ackley Dryden, Charles A. Stoll, Saima Laitinen, Jacob Andrew De Korse, John T. Condon, Clarence S. Sweeney

1995

25 years ago this week

LIBRARY HAS NEW DIRECTOR: When Vickey Bloom began her career 20 years ago, she had no intentions or aspirations of becoming library director. And yet this week marks the fifth month she has headed the Grosse Pointe Public Library. She was named interim director June 19 when Charles Hanson resigned. Following a several-month search, the library board unanimously voted to appoint Bloom as Hanson's permanent replacement.

'CAT HOUSES' NO LONGER ALLOWED: It wasn't exactly a cataclysmic protest, but a letter signed by 12 neighbors served as a catalyst for an ordinance which a City of Grosse Pointe household might deem catastrophic. The City council passed an ordinance which limits a household to two cats

over the age of 4 months.

Obituaries: Mary Semmes Scripps, Geraldine M. Fisher, Joan Ulrich Couzens, John Tryer, Thomas LaHood, Dexter Meldrum Sudro, Vera M. Simmons, Ronald Hoyles, John Alexander McCampbell, Jeannette O. Begin, Elisabeth K. Boyd, Anne O'Brien, Dolores M. Finan, Ben F. Bregi, Richard James Schlitters, Jeanne Souris, Alfred Henry Thoms

2010

10 years ago this week

PENSION CUTS FOR NEW HIRES: Municipal leaders in the City took a long step toward a more stable financial future by cutting pension benefits for new hires. The new policy is dormant until the city ends it hiring freeze; the freeze is among many cost-cutting policies enacted in response to increased legacy costs, declining municipal property tax revenues and state shared revenue.

Obituaries: Anne Theresa Ditmars, Leo Kulka Jr., Hurst E. Wulf, Leona A. Bryce

LETTERS:

Continued from page 6A

evidence. We refuse to go to the source by reading the writings and listening to the interviews. How many have read the writings of Patisse Cullors or even listened to an interview with her that is more than two minutes long? Are we willing to have a discussion of ideas or are we content to virtue signal and proselytize via yard signs?

I have had several discussions with people who have BLM signs in their yard who have never even read their website. They do not know what "disrupt the

nuclear family" means, nor do they seem willing to do the research.

They are for "defunding" the police without asking what people in low-income sections of Detroit want (hint: the vast majority are against it) or even what Detroit Chief of Police James Craig believes (hint: he's against it). They do not know how, if anything, Marxist ideas relate to the goals of BLM.


How many goals does BLM even have? I tried to count them on their website but gave up because some are unclear (what does centering Black joy mean, and why do you need a global organization to build local power?). The lack of

clear, concise, measurable goals should be a red flag for anyone.

If you have done the research, read articles on all sides and know the numbers (what are the numbers?), you should be able to clearly and concisely state the problem and list the goals necessary to fix the problem. I cannot find this on the BLM website. Which begs the question: Is BLM the best organization for Black lives or can we do better?


Either way, put your yard sign away and come over for a cup of coffee. We'll talk about it. Because these questions matter.

*JODY BRUCE
Grosse Pointe Park*



**CITY OF GROSSE POINTE FARMS
CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING SUMMARY**

Virtual Meeting	Monday, November 9, 2020	7:00 p.m.
<p>A regularly scheduled meeting of the City Council for the City of Grosse Pointe Farms was held virtually and called to order at 7:05 p.m. on Monday, November 9, 2020, by Mayor Louis Theros.</p> <p>Present: Mayor Louis Theros, Mayor Pro Tem Joe Ricci, Councilmembers John J. Gillooly, James C. Farquhar, Beth Konrad-Wilberding, Neil Sroka and Lev Wood.</p> <p>Absent: None.</p> <p>Mayor Theros led the Pledge of Allegiance.</p> <p>Council approved the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting held on October 12, 2020.</p> <p>Council adjourned and reconvened as the Zoning Board of Appeals.</p> <p>The Zoning Board of Appeals held a Public Hearing and granted a variance to the lot coverage and side yard setback requirements to allow for an addition to a single family home at 1 Woodward Place.</p> <p>Zoning Board of Appeals adjourned and reconvened as City Council.</p> <p>Council heard a presentation regarding the June 30, 2020 Audit and Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR).</p> <p>Council approved a request from Administration to assign General Fund balance.</p> <p>Council approved a request from Administration to amend the Capital Projects Fund budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021.</p> <p>Council heard a presentation by MCKENNA regarding the Mack Avenue Corridor Improvement Plan.</p> <p>Council approved the Consent Agenda.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Consideration of a request from the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce to authorize the closure of Kercheval Avenue Friday, November 27, 2020 for the Reverse Drive-by Santa Claus Parade.b. Consideration of a request from the Public Safety Department to authorize the purchase of three vehicles.c. Consideration of a request from the City Controller/Treasurer to approve October 2020 invoices. <p>Council received quarterly financial report for three months ended September 30, 2020.</p> <p>Council received the October 2020 Public Safety Report.</p> <p>Council heard public comment.</p> <p>Mayor Theros adjourned the regular meeting at 9:05 p.m.</p> <p>Respectfully submitted by Derrick Kozicki, City Clerk.</p> <p>Published: Grosse Pointe News 11/26/2020</p>		



**CITY OF GROSSE POINTE FARMS
CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING SUMMARY**

Virtual Meeting	Monday, October 12, 2020	7:00 p.m.
<p>A regularly scheduled meeting of the City Council for the City of Grosse Pointe Farms was held virtually and called to order at 7:01 p.m. on Monday, October 12, 2020, by Mayor Louis Theros.</p> <p>Present: Mayor Louis Theros, Mayor Pro Tem Joe Ricci, Councilmembers John J. Gillooly, James C. Farquhar, Beth Konrad-Wilberding, Neil Sroka and Lev Wood.</p> <p>Absent: None.</p> <p>Mayor Theros led the Pledge of Allegiance.</p> <p>Council approved the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting held on September 14, 2020.</p> <p>Council heard a presentation by Grosse Pointe Public Library Board President Abigail Ward.</p> <p>Council held a public hearing and approved a Site Plan for 260 Chalfonte Avenue, for the construction of a parking lot addition.</p> <p>Council adjourned and reconvened as the Zoning Board of Appeals.</p> <p>The Zoning Board of Appeals held a Public Hearing and granted a variance to build a garage that exceeds one story and 15 feet at 348 Provencal Road.</p> <p>Zoning Board of Appeals adjourned and reconvened as City Council.</p> <p>Council approved the Consent Agenda.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Consideration of the annual SMART Municipal and Community Credit Contract for FY 2021.b. Consideration of a request from the City Controller/Treasurer to approve September 2020 invoices.c. Approval of legal bills. <p>Council received the September 2020 Public Safety Report.</p> <p>Council heard public comment.</p> <p>Mayor Theros adjourned the regular meeting at 9:04 p.m.</p> <p>Respectfully submitted by Derrick Kozicki, City Clerk.</p> <p>Published: Grosse Pointe News 11/26/2020</p>		

School district conducts exit survey

By Mary Anne Brush
Staff Writer

An enrollment decline of approximately 300 more students than projected prompted the Grosse Pointe Public School System administration to conduct an exit survey to determine why families left the school district.

While Plante Moran CRESA projections and the district's budgeting process for the 2020-21 school year anticipated a loss of 190 students,

largely explained by demographic shifts and a relatively large graduating class replaced by a relatively small incoming kindergarten class, a September headcount identified a decrease of approximately 500 students.

According to a fall 2020 enrollment update provided at the Sept. 28 Board of Education meeting, a likely factor behind the greater-than-anticipated decrease was the COVID-19 pandemic, causing some families to

homeschool their children, some to move unexpectedly, some to delay school — in particular in the case of kindergarteners — and others to choose other educational providers.

While the survey doesn't close until Tuesday, Nov. 24, after press time, preliminary results from 187 respondents to date indicate 55 percent left GPPSS because they were seeking face-to-face education for their children. Four percent moved out

of the district.

The good news is 60 percent would consider returning, Community Relations Specialist Rebecca Fannon said.

Fannon provided a summary of written responses for why some of the families left. These included poor experiences in the spring with online learning, several noting they had no issues during in-person learning; inconsistent expectations between teachers or schools; the fifth-grade move to middle

school; individual child's needs not being met; handling of school closures — i.e., not redrawing boundaries; consideration of religious education; racial issues; lack of academic challenge; class size; and a decision to home-school.

Of the respondents, 108 said all of their children changed schools this year, while 79 said only some of their children changed schools. Several families in the latter category cited

meeting a child's individual needs as the reason for the split.

Respondents also indicated where their child or children attended school last year and their child's grade level.

Kerby Elementary School saw the largest number of students leave at 31, followed by Monteith Elementary School (22); Brownell Middle School (20); Trombly Elementary School (19); Maire

See SURVEY, page 9A

Map of Sweetness

Grosse Pointe

- Fisher Pointe Dental
383 Fisher
- Grosse Pointe City Foundation
17147 Maumee Ave.
- Grosse Pointe Public School System
389 St. Clair
- Grosse Pointe Institute for Learning
18164 Mack Ave.
- Comfort Care
18150 Mack Ave.
- Albatross Embroidery
17860 Mack Ave.
- Aitken Ormond Insurance
710 Notre Dame
- SideStreet Diner
630 St. Clair
- Soroptimist of Grosse Pointe: El's
16849 Kercheval Ave.
- Focus 313 Eyecare
17135 Kercheval Ave.
- Atelier GP Kitchenware
17133 Kercheval Ave.
- Village Palm
17131 Kercheval Ave.
- Grosse Pointe Geek
17116 Kercheval Ave.
- Small Favors
17112 Kercheval Ave.
- Apple Baby Blossom & Decor
17110 Kercheval Ave.
- Grosse Pointe Symphony: TCBY
17045 Kercheval Ave.
- Moosejaw
17037 Kercheval Ave.
- Bayne Optical
16841 Kercheval Place
- Village Nutrition
16837 Kercheval Ave.

Grosse Pointe Woods

- Sunrise on Vernier
1850 Vernier
- Colleen Dyer Agency/Farm Bureau Insurance
21142 Mack Ave.
- Nursing Unlimited, Inc
21131 Mack Ave.
- Moehring Woods Flowers
20923 Mack Ave.
- Grosse Pointe & Harper Woods NAACP: Areea Spa
20559 Mack Ave.
- Aria Salon
20527 Mack Ave.
- Life Organized, LLC: Closet Connections
20427 Mack Ave.
- Print Xpress
20373 Mack Ave.
- City of Grosse Pointe Woods
20025 Mack Plaza
- KW Grosse Pointe, Luxury Homes International
19853 Mack Ave.
- little Blue Book/Towar Productions
19803 Mack Ave.
- Ford House: John F. Martin Photography
19471 Mack Ave.
- Churchill's Bistro Cigar Bar
19271 Mack Ave.

Grosse Pointe Farms

- American House Grosse Pointe
161 Kercheval Ave.
- Henry Ford Health System
159 Kercheval Ave.
- Grosse Pointe Farms Foundation
106 Kercheval Ave.
- Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel Real Estate
102 Kercheval Ave.
- The Hill Association: TCF Bank
99 Kercheval Ave.
- Apex Health
96 Kercheval Ave.
- LaLonde Jewelers
91 Kercheval Ave.
- Bolton-Johnston Realtors
90 Kercheval Ave.
- Alexis DeLuca - Realtor
90 Kercheval Ave.
- Higbie Maxon Agney Realtors
83 Kercheval Ave.
- Johnstone & Johnstone
82 Kercheval Ave.
- Grosse Pointe Financial
21 Kercheval Ave.
- Grosse Pointe Public Library
10 Kercheval Ave.
- St. Paul on the Lake: Parish House
170 Grosse Pointe Blvd
- Pursenality Plus
18416 Mack Ave.
- DTE Foundation: State Farm
18348 Mack Ave.

Detroit

- Hiptique Resale & Gifts
16235 Mack Ave.
- Loving Care Helpers
16227 Mack Ave.

Grosse Pointe Park

- St. Clare of Montefalco Parish & School Community
16231 Charlevoix
- Cornwall Bakery
15215 Kercheval Ave.
- Duffey & Co
15120 Kercheval Ave.
- Hot Yoga Grosse Pointe
15000 Kercheval Ave.

Harper Woods

- Christian Financial Credit Union
19770 Harper Ave.
- Falcon Dental Group
20690 Vernier

St. Clair Shores

- The Whistle Stop Hobby & Toy
21714 Harper Ave.
- St. Clair Tooth Company
21321 Harper Ave.

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PHOTOS BY
RENEE LANDUYT

Thankful for crafts, cooking

Preschoolers in Kate Kingsley's class, from left, Cosette Giordano, Keeley Richards, Conner Steiner, Logan Rincon and Gabrielle Kiburz, hold up the wigs they made using mostly found objects from the grounds of The Grosse Pointe Academy. The students are doing a study of the Ojibwe tribes from Northern Michigan who built wigwams as a semi-permanent dwelling and seasonal housing.



Jackson Ford gets some guidance from teacher Kate Kingsley on building an Ojibwe dream catcher. Ojibwe legend says that a dream catcher filters out bad dreams and allows only good dreams.

Henry Weckerle, a pre-schooler in Anne-Marie Hickey's class at The Grosse Pointe Academy, cuts apples to be baked with cinnamon and sugar.



ARTWORK BY BEN RUHF

Giving thanks

Third graders in Vanessa Leverenz's class at The Grosse Pointe Academy created Thanksgiving placemats highlighting what they were thankful for.

SURVEY:

Continued from page 8A

Elementary School (18); Richard Elementary School (18); Mason Elementary School (17); Pierce Middle School (16); Defer Elementary School (15); Parcels Middle School (12); and Grosse Pointe South High School (11).

Only one student left Grosse Pointe North High School. Lower numbers also were reported from Ferry Elementary School (8) and Poupard Elementary School (2). Four left Barnes Early Childhood Center and none were reported leaving Full Circle or the

Community Campus. Six respondents checked the box for "Other."

The highest grade level impacted was first grade at 42 students, followed by 34 second graders; 32 Young 5 and kindergarten students; 32 fourth graders; 25 seventh graders; 24 third graders; 20 fifth graders; 19 sixth graders; 14 eighth graders; 14 ninth graders; eight 10th graders; six 11th graders; and one 12th grader.

Only one student enrolled in the special education program left. Three were marked as "Other."

Final results — including open-ended responses to survey ques-

tions not provided to the Grosse Pointe News — will be shared at the Dec. 14 Board of Education meeting, Fannon said.

"I think the face to face was the major factor," GPPSS Superintendent Gary Niehaus said about the preliminary results. "I think once we get face to face again, our hope would be that we would get as many of those students back as possible. Sixty percent would be a great thing, but we'd like to have them all back if we possibly could. We're going to have to do our job as the administration and board to welcome them back and make sure they feel comfortable coming back."

COMPLAINT:

Continued from page 1A

private interest promoting candidates in an election she oversees as chair of the board of canvassers, is a clear conflict."

The ethics board's legal counsel, Avery Williams, said he believed the complaint met "the basic requirements of the ordinance" and recommended the board commence a formal process.

Palmer's attorney, Stu Sandler of Grand River Strategies in Ann Arbor,

identified himself at the meeting, but said he was asked to represent Palmer that morning and requested a continuance.

Sandler did not respond to a request for comment, but the Grosse Pointe News received a Nov. 9 letter from Michael Schwartz of Schwartz, PLLC, to Wayne County Clerk Cathy Garrett responding to Bruetsch's complaint. The letter also was sent to the state's election board.

"Taxpayers for GP Schools does not advocate in favor of or in

opposition to any candidates for political office," Schwartz wrote. "Taxpayers for GP Schools does not support or oppose any ballot proposals. My client does not receive any benefit from Taxpayers for GP Schools. ... Accordingly, nothing that my client has done is incompatible with her duties in canvassing votes that were cast in an election. My client has no stake in the outcome of an election."

Palmer has 21 days to respond to the complaint. A hearing was set for Wednesday, Jan. 20.

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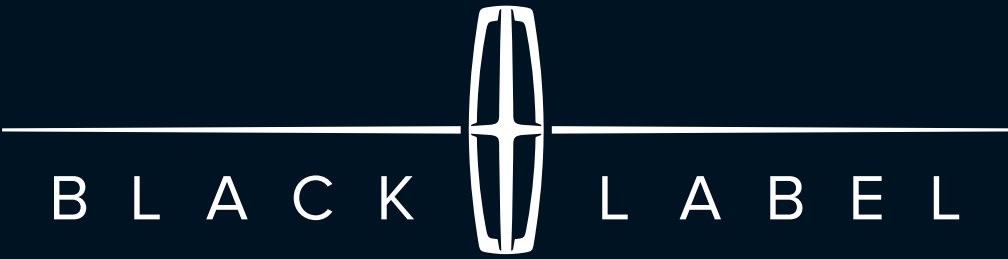
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2B BEAUTIFUL BEGINNINGS | 4B OBITUARIES | 5B AREA ACTIVITIES | 7B CLASSIFIEDS

Golden Days
Class of '63 reflects on life during, after GPUS

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Life during COVID-19 has affected many people in many ways. While social distancing and self-isolation have left some feeling alone and secluded, one shining light in the darkness of quarantine has been the Grosse Pointe University School Class of 1963. Six graduates worked through the pandemic to bring their fellow classmates closer together.

Class of 1963 alumni Al Blixt, Alan Harwick, David Hughes, Marilyn MacFarlane Magreta, Sandy Georgeson Moises and Meg Van De Graaf Shannon recently produced the book, “Golden Days: Reflections of a Class in Quarantine.”

The book has been well-received by classmates, though publishing wasn’t part of the initial plan.

“You get to a place in life where you’re closer to the end of the line than the beginning, yet we’re all still quite active,” said Blixt, a

Grosse Pointe native who currently resides in Ann Arbor. “I started with cleaning out my files. I was the school photographer. I was quite obnoxious; I took photographs everywhere. I’ve got hundreds of photographs.”

As he cleaned out his files, Blixt decided to share photos with former GPUS classmates. He started sending out photos on different subjects — school plays, basketball, teachers — every day for five or six weeks, inviting comments from old friends. It started a dialogue, which sparked an idea.

“I got the idea of doing a life sketch, a summary, a kind of recap of a lifetime,” Blixt said. “We’re now to a place that’s really interesting for the school. It is rare, I think, that you would get 60, 70, 80 percent of a class reconvened. ... To be able to say from the school standpoint, what do you get at the end of a lifetime? What has been the impact of the education that you got? But more like, what has been the life path people

have taken? Holy smoke, we have got very accomplished people who have just done a lot.”

Once the six-member committee was formed, they set about collecting sketches, or stories, from former classmates.

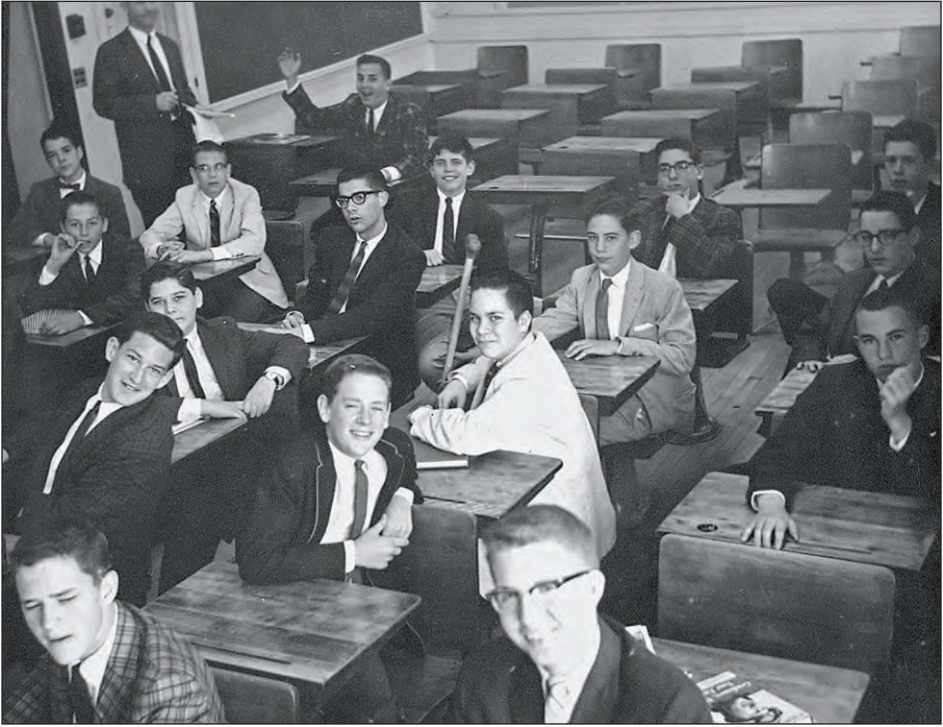
The idea snowballed, Blixt said, and from there, “Somebody said, ‘Now that we’ve done this, we should memorialize it. Let’s create a book.’”

Which they did, from around the state and overseas.

“Our production group of six was living in England, Florida, Leland, Ann Arbor and Grosse Pointe,” Hartwick said. “Everyone made different contributions to the publication and it was amazing how well we coordinated the work. Obviously Al’s photos were what got us started. David edited the sketches, Marilyn added the artwork. Meg put all the pieces together at the end. ... Sandy is the one who kept up the enthusiasm all along the way.

“As the project was initially starting, some classmates discussed singing our old school song and as I thought about the words, they seemed to fit a theme that we could use with the photos and artwork to reflect on our time at Grosse Pointe University School so many years ago,” he added.

Following an introduction that recounts a history including Vietnam, Watergate, the moon landing and John F. Kennedy’s assassina-



The class of 1963 boys in their ninth-grade homeroom class.

tion, among other major events, the book follows the lyrics of the school song, “Golden Days.”

“Walls of Wisdom Standing Firm” is a tribute to faculty, to whom the book is dedicated. “Days of Rich Enlightening Hours” is a focus on school activities, while “Memories of Friendship and Joy” features photos of sports and social activities.

A collection of 1963 graduates’ life stories fills the pages of the chapter “On the Road of Life, Future Shining Bright” and “We Respect and Honor You,” an in memoriam section, closes out the book.

“We liked the connection that as we were now in our ‘Golden Years,’ ‘Golden Days’ was a good title for our memories,” said Hartwick, who lives in Leland. “Obviously our work means a lot to us and we hope those who read it appreciate it.”

The 97-page book was printed by Print Express. A photo of the original 1899 crest of Detroit University School adorns the cover, but the treasures inside are what made it such an emotional adventure for its creators. The project brought back many memories of their teenage years, said Moises, a resident of Grosse Pointe Shores.

“It was amazing how many of the guys had actually had to serve over in Vietnam,” she said, “if not serve, how it impacted their lives, whether they got married, whether they served or whether they ended up teaching, because that would get you out of service.”

Added Blixt, “The normal career life progression of this generation was delayed about 10 years. ... I was in law school when I got my draft notice. I had just gotten engaged and my fiancé said, ‘We’re moving to Canada.’ ... I ended up becoming a



Prom, featuring the Al Navarro Orchestra.

high school teacher, because you could get deferred for that. So my life took a five-year detour as I taught school.”

Blixt eventually went to law school and became a prosecuting attorney, among other professions, but was clear, “The war had an absolutely devastating impact on people of my generation.”

Those stories and more consist of local history, as well as growth among graduates, who have gone on to achieve and accomplish great things.

There were 34 people in the Class of 1963, 17 boys and 17 girls. They came from different parts of the community, Moises said, including Grosse Pointe, St. Clair Shores, Fraser, Mount Clemens and Palmer Park. While the small number of students made the experience intimate, Blixt said, those relationships are better now as adults.

“It’s remarkable how many of us are still around and active and fully engaged in the world,” Blixt said.

While most members

of the Class of 1963 contributed sketches to the book — four classmates have died and a few others did not respond to requests — another 10 writers who did not graduate with them, but are active GPUS alumni, also shared their stories.

While many Class of 1963 alumni have stayed in touch after attending several reunions over the years, the book still offered them a chance to learn new things about each other, remember forgotten details and reflect on their “Golden Days.”

“It was really quite an adventure,” Moises said.

The feedback they’ve received has been meaningful, too. One alumna said she was expecting to enjoy the book, but not expecting to be so moved by it, Moises said.

“It’s amazing what everyone has done and that they can express it so well,” she added of the sketches.

“It really has impacted all of us, considering there were some nega-

See GOLDEN, page 7B



Students party at classmate Allen Shelden’s house.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF AL BLIXT

The class of 1963 at their 55th reunion gathering in 2018.

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2B | BEAUTIFUL BEGINNINGS

WEDDINGS

Louisell—Woodward

Page Elizabeth Louisell and Chas Anderson Woodward were married Aug. 1, 2020, at The Grosse Pointe Academy chapel in a ceremony officiated by Deacon Richard Shubik. A reception followed at the Country Club of Detroit.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Ebbing of Grosse Pointe Park, and Mr. John Louisell of Grosse Pointe. The groom is the son of Mrs. Mary Woodward and Mr. Stewart Woodward of Vero Beach, Fla.

The bride wore a custom Carolina Ferrara jacquard column gown with an overskirt. Her veil and headpiece, made from fabric from her gown, were designed by Suzanne Couture Millinery, New York. Her bouquet was a loose mix of cabbage and baroness garden roses, peonies and ranunculus in various shades of pink.

The bride's cousin, Genevieve Claire Matthews, served as maid of honor. Her bridesmaids were the groom's sister, Emmaline Woodward, and friends, Kelly Harrold, Elizabeth Adamo and Kristin Carretti. The bridesmaids wore pale green, off-the-shoulder cocktail dresses and carried bouquets of cabbage roses and dahlias in the same saturated pink colors as the bride's flowers.

The groom's friend, John James LaMantia, served as best man. The groomsmen were the bride's brother, Matthew Louisell; the groom's brother, Seth Woodward; and friends, Arthur Colby, Brooks Amster and Bradley McGovern.

The bride graduated from Grosse Pointe South High School. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Indiana University and a Master of Arts degree from Harrington School of Design in Chicago. She is the owner of her own design firm, Page Louisell Design, in Chicago.

The groom graduated from St. Edwards School in Vero Beach, Fla. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Colby

College and an MBA from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business. He is a founding partner in Heyday, a technology company that acquires e-commerce companies.

The couple resides in Chicago; their honeymoon has been postponed until next summer.

Fuller—Scovitch

Lydia Kay Fuller and Joseph Robert Scovitch were married Aug. 16, 2020, at St. Katharine Drexel Catholic Church in Frederick, Md., in a ceremony officiated by the Rev. Keith Boisvert. A reception at Links Bridge Vineyard in Thurmont, Md., followed.

The wedding was an intimate event; a larger celebration is planned for August 2021.

The bride is the daughter of Michael and Lisa Fuller of Grosse Pointe Woods. The groom is the son of Robert and Linda Scovitch of Hagerstown, Md.

The bride wore a Rivini by Rita Vinieris dress. Her co-maids of honor were her sisters, Cara Strickler and Janna Fuller. Other bridesmaids were her friends Ellen Henrichs, Anna Jordan, Megan Lynch and Julia Webb. They wore dusty rose, full-length gowns and carried bouquets created by the bride. Her niece, Ellie Strickler, served as flower girl.

The groom's friend, Dan Ostroff, served as best man. Other groomsmen were his friends Enrique Alavarez, Chris Boggs, DJ Clinger, Mike Piel and Adam Vaccaro.

The bride is a 2010 graduate of Grosse Pointe North High School. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Vanderbilt University and a Juris Doctor degree from Yale Law School. She is a consultant at Bain & Co., in Washington, D.C. The groom earned Bachelor of Art and Bachelor of Science degrees from the University of Maryland, as well as a Master of Public Administration degree from George



Chas and Page Woodward



Meredith and Karl Evenson



Joe and Lydia Scovitch

Washington University. He is deputy director for the Office of International Health and Biodefense at the U.S. Department of State.

The couple resides in Arlington, Va., and honeymooned in the Smoky Mountains.

Reid—Evenson

Meredith Anne Reid and Karl Edward Evenson were married Sept. 26, 2020, at the Leland Country Club, in a ceremony officiated by the Hon. Megan Maher Brennan of Grosse

Pointe Farms. A reception at the Leland Lodge followed.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Carne of Bloomfield Hills, and Mr. and Mrs. John Reid of Grosse Pointe Woods. The groom is the son of Ms. Colleen Landman of St. Paul, Minn., and Mr. Paul Evenson of Grant, Minn.

The bride wore an ivory chapel-length, textured dotted lace gown with a V-neckline, framing bodice and tulle button detailing, as well as a tulle chapel-length veil. Her gown was accented with heirloom diamond and pearl earrings. She

carried a bouquet of quicksand and garden roses, lisianthus, ranunculus, seasonal greenery and eucalyptus.

Kendal Wronski of Grosse Pointe Farms, a friend of the bride, served as maid of honor. She wore a dusty pink crepe, floor-length gown with a soft longbow back detail. She carried a spray of roses, lisianthus, football mums, ranunculus and eucalyptus.

Daniel Carroll of Mahtomedi, Minn., a friend of the groom, served as best man. Groomsmen were the groom's friends, Jeffrey

Thisius, Brendan Collins, Grant Larson, Thomas Schifsky and Michael Lokowich-Kohler.

The mother of the bride wore a warm pink satin and silk twist blazer tea-length dress; the mother of the groom wore a delicate black-tiered lace tea-length dress.

The ceremony was accompanied by Sylvia Norris, who played harp; the groom's sister, Maureen Evenson, who read a scripture; Aly Hryciuk, who read a love poem; and Carol Kerr, who read a traditional Irish blessing.

The bride graduated from Wayne State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in biology. She is a veterinary assistant at DePorre Veterinary Hospital.

The groom graduated from Michigan Technological University with a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering. He is a product development engineer at Ford Motor Co.

The couple lives in Royal Oak and honeymooned in the Upper Peninsula; they are planning a future trip to Alaska to further celebrate their nuptials.

Deck Your Halls is Dec. 5-6

The Grosse Pointe Shores Improvement Foundation hosts its Deck Your Halls Holiday Décor and More Sale from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 5 and 6, at the Schroeder Field

House, 725 Lakeshore.

The sale features unique gift baskets, one-of-a-kind decorated trees, holiday florals, handcrafted bows and fresh wreaths and garland.

Proceeds from this fundraising event support future Grosse Pointe Shores Improvement Foundation projects.

Guests are asked to enter the Schroeder Field House off Vernier Road,

which is on the west side of the Department of Public Works building.

Masks and social distancing are required.

For more information, call (313) 881-6565 or visit gpsif.org.

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City of **Grosse Pointe**, Michigan
PUBLIC NOTICE - ORDINANCE NO. 443

Please take notice that the City Council of the City of Grosse Pointe has passed Ordinance No. 443 amending and restating in its entirety the chart contained in Section 90-351 of the Grosse Pointe Code of Ordinances regarding Article VII, Area, Height, Bulk, and Placement Requirements. This Ordinance will become effective ten days after the publication of this Notice. The complete text of Ordinance No. 443 is available at Grosse Pointe City Hall, 17147 Maumee, Grosse Pointe, MI, Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am to 5 pm. Telephone 313-885-5800.

Julie E. Arthurs,
City Clerk

GPN: 11/26/20

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City of **Grosse Pointe Woods**, Michigan
NOTICE TO BIDDERS – OXFORD ROAD RECONSTRUCTION – MACK TO HOLIDAY – AEW PROJECT NUMBER 0160-0423. Sealed bids will be received by the City at the office of the City Clerk, 20025 Mack Plaza, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI until 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, December 15, 2020, at which time and place the proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud. Work consists of approximately 0.3 miles of asphalt road reconstruction with concrete curb and gutter as well as storm sewer and other related work. Plans and specifications must be obtained through BidNet Direct at www.bidnetdirect.com. Plans will be available beginning Tuesday, November 17, 2020. An electronic, public viewing copy is available on the City of Grosse Pointe Woods website. Bids may be rejected unless made on the forms included with the bidding documents. The City reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to waive any irregularities in the bidding and to accept any proposals it deems to be in the best interest of the City.

Lisa K. Hathaway
City Clerk

G.P.N.: 11/26/2020

Grosse Pointe Audiology, Kids on the Go team up for giveaway

See HEARING, page 4B

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Curbside & Carryout Menu

Soup/Salads

Smoked Tomato - \$5.00 Soup du Jour - \$5.00

Caesar Salad - \$9.00

Organic Garden Salad - \$9.00
Vinaigrette or creamy buttermilk dressing

Chop Salad - \$13.00
Garbanzo beans, smoked bacon, red onion, cucumber, egg, tomato, bleu cheese, tear drop peppers, Hudson dressing

Add Protein to Any Salad
Add Prime Sirloin - \$10.00 Add Chicken - \$6.00
Add Salmon - \$12.00 Add Shrimp - \$9.00

Sandwiches

Steak Burger - \$12.50
Served on a brioche bun with lettuce, tomato, onion & French fries

Southern Chicken Sandwich - \$13.50
Marinated breast, crispy fried, seasoned mayonnaise, lettuce, tomato, house sweet and spicy pickles, served on a brioche bun with French fries

Turkey Club Sandwich - \$11.50
Served with lettuce, tomato, bacon, mayonnaise & French fries

Grilled Cheese Sandwich - \$9.50
Served on white toast with a cup of tomato soup

Reuben Sandwich - \$12.00
Served on rye toast with swiss cheese, grandmas sauerkraut & French fries

Entrees

All entrees are served with a choice of soup or salad

Salmon Filet - \$22.00
Served with mixed grains, vegetables & butter sauce

Filet Mignon - \$24.00
Served with mashed potatoes, vegetables & mushroom gravy

Chicken Marsala - \$22.00
Served with mashed potatoes, vegetables & marsala mushroom sauce

Penne Pasta - \$11.50
Served with red or white sauce

Add Prime Sirloin - \$10.00 Add Chicken - \$6.00



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1/28/21

Tree farm photo opp

Setting a perfect backdrop for safe holiday photos during pandemic

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

There's a mother-daughter duo in Harper Woods who have been entertaining neighbors with their festive displays since they moved to the community three years ago.

Kaitlyn Walter and her mother, Barbara Walter, go all out for most holidays, but Christmas usually takes the cake. This Christmas season especially, they've attracted some attention to their front yard.

"We decorate for all the holidays already," Kaitlyn Walter said. "Last

year, my mom decided we'd do a Christmas tree farm theme this year. Since we're in a pandemic, a lot of people are not going to be able to do regular photo shoots with Santa. So we put it out there where families could come together for a photo."

The scene is inviting. Ten artificial evergreens, decked out for the holidays, surround a warmly decorated bench and child's chair.

"We wanted it to look as full as possible," Walter said of the trees, some of which were acquired through the local Buy Nothing chap-

ter. "We take down the pillows every night and put them back out in the morning."

The house, located at 21602 Prestwick in Harper Woods, is a few blocks west of Mack Avenue. Walter said all are welcome to come by for a photo.

"Just show up when you want," she said. "You don't need an appointment; there's no need to knock on the door. People just walk by, stop and take photos and continue on their way."

A recent stretch of warmer weather drew lots of weekend visitors, she added, which brought



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Kaitlyn Walter, left, and her mom, Barbara Walter, pose near their Christmas tree farm photo setting.

a smile to her face, seeing visitors dressed in Christmas sweaters on a sunny, 70-degree day.

The display will be up through Christmas.

"We're constantly adding to the display, so it's ever-changing," Walter said, noting the recent addition of handmade ornaments. "Everyone's pictures will be slightly different from others."

Walter said their neigh-

bors always seem in favor of their decorations, whether they go all out with pumpkins and tombstones for Halloween or dot the lawn with giant candy canes at Christmas.

"They say they always look forward to seeing how we decorate," she said.

While usually it's only neighbors who notice the display, "more people are

coming from further away this year," Walter said.

Though there is no charge for a photo, Walter said some visitors have offered to make a contribution.

"We aren't taking any donations," she said, "but we do like to give to Toys for Tots. So if you really want to give something, it'll go to Toys for Tots."

AREA ACTIVITIES

Blood drives

The American Red Cross presents the following blood drives:

- ◆ 7:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Friday, Nov. 27, Ascension St. John Hospital, 22101 Moross, Detroit.
- ◆ 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday, Nov. 30, Pier Park, 350 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Register at redcrossblood.org.

Rotary

The Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe hosts its next meeting virtually at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 2. Marc Pasco of the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy speaks. Visit grossepointerotary.org for information. Those who wish to join the meeting via Zoom should email grossepointerotary@gmail.com.

Library

The Grosse Pointe Public Library hosts the following virtual programs:

- ◆ Read, Rhyme & Play on Zoom, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Tuesdays.
- ◆ Family Yoga, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 3.
- ◆ Mother Daughter Book Club, 7 to 8 p.m. Monday, Dec. 7.
- ◆ 7th & 8th Grade

Book Group, 7 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 8.

- ◆ Science Fiction Book Discussion Group, 7 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 9.

The group will discuss "The Calculating Stars" by Mary Robinette Kowal.

- ◆ Michigan Science Center presents "Kaboomistry!" 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10.
- ◆ Murder Mystery:

Club Edition, 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11.

Register on grossepointelibrary.org.

Toastmasters

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

NAMI

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

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*Ads are samples only

THE GIFT OF HEARING PROGRAM

Recognizing how significant hearing loss affects the quality of life, **Grosse Pointe Audiology and Kids On The Go** have joined together to create the "Gift of Hearing Program".

The "Gift of Hearing Program" is a program that will give one person in the community the gift of hearing a with new pair of hearing aids.

To submit an entry into the "Gift of Hearing Program", simply write an essay of 400 words or less, describing why you or someone you know would benefit from a new pair of hearing aids but has not been able to obtain them due to their financial situation.

The "Gift of Hearing Program" winner will be selected based on the following criteria:

- Hearing need
- Financial need
- Opportunity to impact recipient's life
- Opportunity to impact the lives of the people with whom they interact

The writer of the winning essay will win a \$50 Grosse Pointe Chamber Bucks Gift Card

The contest will run from November 17 - December 11, 2020. The winner will be notified on December 14, 2020. Please submit essays via email to: drlezotte@gpaudiology.com or mail/drop off to: **Grosse Pointe Audiology, LLC**
20239 Mack Ave. Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236
For inquiries please call 313-343-5555

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Racing for Kids finds new ways to brighten kids’ hospital stays

Racing for Kids had been visiting the bedsides of hospitalized children more than 30 years when the COVID-19 pandemic hit the United States in March. With little advance notice, hospitals suddenly closed to all visitors.

The Racing for Kids visit to All Children’s Hospital in St. Petersburg, scheduled March 9, was canceled and the Racing for Kids team had to regroup to find new and creative ways to engage with the kids they normally visited in person and fulfill their mission of helping sick kids through motorsports.

First, the team checked in with all their Courageous Kids — local children who have been honored for their amazing strength dealing with challenging health issues — to make sure they and their families had everything they needed during the state shutdown.

Next, Racing for Kids reached out to the Child Life departments of all the hospitals on the visit schedule to find ways to work together to brighten the stays of hospitalized



Racing for Kids representative Laura Cooper, top right, interacts with INDYCAR driver Jack Harvey, lower right and patients at Riley Children’s Hospital in Indianapolis, Ind.

children.

After getting input from the hospitals, Racing for Kids partnered with INDYCAR to set up virtual hospital visits in all the race venues. In a normal visit the driver would come to the hospital in person, meet with kids in the playroom and then make bedside visits to the children who were not ambulatory. At these visits, the driver would answer questions, pose for photos and hand out

Racing for Kids caps, toys and other racing gear. Sometimes a racing team would bring along a show car — an actual full-size open wheel race car — giving children an opportunity to see, sit in and have photos taken in a real Indy car.

The new virtual visits are recorded live with the driver at a remote location interacting via video conferencing with the hospital Child Life specialist, who asks ques-

tions the kids have submitted. In some of the hospitals the kids are able to ask questions from their beds via telecommunicating. Prior to the visit, Racing for Kids sends the hospital a gift box of hats, coloring

books, Wikki Stix and other racing gear for the staff to distribute to the kids as part of the virtual event.

After the driver sessions are edited and approved, they are shown on the closed circuit TVs in the hospital and on the Racing for Kids YouTube channel. The visits can be viewed on YouTube at bit.ly/R4KYouTube.com.

INDYCAR racers Alexander Rossi, who won the Indy 500 as a rookie in 2016, Charlie Kimball, Santino Ferrucci, Zach Veatch, Alex Palou, Jack Harvey and Ed Carpenter all have participated in virtual visits this year.

Earlier in the pandemic, Racing for Kids delivered meals to local hospitals and first responders and made donations to the COVID-19 programs at two children’s hospitals in Indianapolis. Presently

the charity is working on a virtual holiday visit to Children’s Hospital of Michigan, where Racing for Kids was founded in 1989. The visit is scheduled Dec. 9, and will feature INDYCAR racing star James Hinchcliffe. Prior to the visit, special holiday gifts will be sent to the hospital for distribution to the young patients.

The charity also recently held a virtual fundraiser to take the place of its annual Racing for Kids to the Hill event. The fundraiser — called Shifting Gears 2020 — featured a Donate & Dine program and a Buy It Now sale. The funds raised will help underwrite the virtual hospital visit program and the costs involved with shipping hats, coloring books and racing gifts to hospitalized children.

For more information, visit racingforkids.org.



A young patient visits with INDYCAR driver Santino Ferrucci on closed circuit TV at Cardinal Glennon Children’s Hospital in St. Louis, Mo.

GROSSE POINTE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM ADVERTISEMENT

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

PROJECT – STRUCTURED CABLING

Bid Proposals will be received electronically by Plante Moran on or before 11:00 a.m. (local time) on January 6, 2021 (“Due Date”). The Board of Education will not consider or accept a Bid Proposal received after the Due Date, the date and time specified for Bid Proposal submission. Bid Proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud immediately following the Due Date at the same location.

Meeting ID: 987 0886 7457

Passcode: 057987

Phone one-tap: US: +13017158592,,98708867457# or +13126266799,,98708867457

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

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

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


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

Bid documents, including Bidders Information Manual, scopes of work, Drawing and Specifications will be made available Tuesday, November 24, 2020 at the following website:

<https://sigma.michigan.gov/webapp/PRDVSS2X1/AltSelfService>

GROSSE POINTE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

Published: GPN, November 26, 2020



CITY OF GROSSE POINTE FARMS CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING SUMMARY

Virtual Meeting	Monday, September 14, 2020	7:00 p.m.
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A regularly scheduled meeting of the City Council for the City of Grosse Pointe Farms was held virtually and called to order at 7:05 p.m. on Monday, September 14, 2020, by Mayor Louis Therios.

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

Absent: None.

Mayor Therios led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council approved the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting held on August 10, 2020.

Council held a second Public Hearing and reconfirmed the decision to approve the dedicated road millage ballot proposal.

Council held a Public Hearing and granted a fence permit at 466 Calvin Avenue.

Council held a Public Hearing to consider a Site Plan for 260 Chalfonte Avenue, for the construction of a parking lot addition and tabled the matter until the October Council Meeting.

Council adjourned and reconvened as the Zoning Board of Appeals.

The Zoning Board of Appeals held a Public Hearing and granted a dimensional variance at 122 Muir Road to allow a covered porch to extend into the required front setback.

The Zoning Board of Appeals held a Public Hearing to consider a railing variance at 65 Mapleton Road and the applicant withdrew their request.

Zoning Board of Appeals adjourned and reconvened as City Council.

Council approved the Consent Agenda.

- Consideration of a request to appoint Mary Ellen Brayton to the Election Commission for a partial term ending January 2021.
- Consideration of a request from the Public Safety Department to purchase replacement bullet proof vests.
- Consideration of a request from the City Controller/Treasurer to approve August 2020 invoices.

Council received the August 2020 Public Safety Report.


Council heard public comment.

Mayor Therios adjourned the regular meeting at 9:50 p.m.

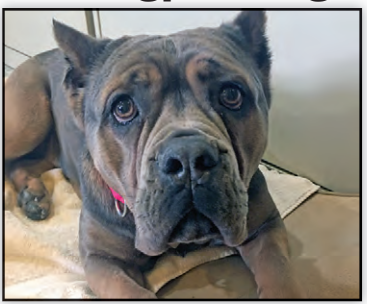
Respectfully submitted by Derrick Kozicki, City Clerk.

Published: Grosse Pointe News 11/26/2020


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The class of 1963 celebrated their 25th reunion in 1993.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF AL BLIXT

GOLDEN:

Continued from page 1B

rience. If you go back for a 10-year reunion, people have changed a little bit, but they're still in their high-achiever mode, trying to figure out what their career is going to look like. Then you get to 20 years and everybody's got kids, some of the people have been divorced. Then you get to 30 years and people have calmed down. They really appreciate the person that they are, appreciate the other people and that sense of competition is not there anymore.

"I think the value of this is it is an opportunity to reflect and feel like the camaraderie is better than it was in high school."

Every member of the Class of 1963 received a physical copy of the book, which is available to browse online at online.flipping-book.com/view/623768.

"It was fun," Blixt said about the project. "In some ways we are closing the circle, getting reconnected. ... You want to reconnect before it's too late. This has been a great vehicle for this because it

focused not only on just this nostalgia of the olden days, but it's really catching up on the lived experience of this class the last 50 years."

Added Hartwick, "Today's students could probably put this together in a week with their tech skills. For us 75-year-olds with limited computer skills it was a real challenge. When you think of communicating with some classmates you haven't seen since graduation and the interesting directions many have taken with their lives, it was fascinating."

"Memories become so important as one reaches their later years and those memories provided a lot of smiles as we were going through such a difficult and confusing time."

GPUS stood on its own from 1954 until it merged with The Liggett School in 1969, and became University Liggett School, which currently is celebrating its 50th anniversary.

Current ULS Head of School Bart Bronk said he was pleased to learn of the Class of 1963's project.

"It's heartwarming to realize

just how close the GPUS Class of 1963 has remained over the years," Bronk said. "It's no wonder that, in the early months of the COVID-19 crisis, they turned to each other for laughter and camaraderie, which resulted in this charming collection of 'Golden' memories."

Another former classmate had this to say: "What a masterful job you all did to put together a really wonderful composite of the GPUS Class of 1963, now over 57 years later. Thank you so very much to each and every one of you for your time and effort in producing this historic book of heartfelt reflections. In particular, for me, the introduction set out a concise summary of the many upheavals we have all lived through since 1963. The book is very well done and greatly appreciated."

"I hope all of you are making plans, however remotely, to enjoy the upcoming holiday season with your families and to give thanks for all the good fortune we have received, starting with our formative years at our common school." —Wendy/Wendell G.



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CLASSIFYING AND CENSORSHIP

We reserve the right to classify each ad under its appropriate heading. The publisher reserves the right to edit or reject ad copy submitted for publication.

CORRECTIONS AND ADJUSTMENTS

Responsibility for classified advertising errors is limited to either a cancellation of the charge or a re-run of the portion of the error. Notification must be given in time for the correction in the following issue. We assume no responsibility for the same after the first insertion.

Announcements

100 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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CAREGIVERS WANTED! Seeking caregivers for immediate work in Grosse Pointe and the surrounding areas. Full and Part time positions available. Please call (313)881-3390 or email your resume to: Jackie@comfortcarehomecare.com.

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Grosse Pointe News

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Ext 1032

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211 HELP WANTED MANAGEMENT

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King Crossword

Solution for last week's puzzle 11/19/20

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

- ACROSS**

1 Secondhand
5 Sphere
8 Halt
12 DVR alterna-
tive
13 Greek X
14 Authentic
15 Sheltered, at
sea
16 Hare's defeater
18 Japan's main
island
20 Comic Phyllis
21 California wine
valley
23 Zero
24 Enchilada
holder
28 Plate
31 — jiffy
32 Fix a stubborn
shoelace
34 Rowing need
35 Sulk
37 Harasses
39 Male cat
41 Tater
42 Wall plaster
- 45 Warren
Commission
subject
49 Bullring VIP
51 Lotion additive
52 Yemeni city
53 Scrap
54 Anger
55 Got up
56 They're
between dos
and mis
Let fall
- DOWN**

1 Hexagonal
state
2 Missile house
3 Divisible by two
4 Fails to
5 One of eight
6 Pi neighbor
7 Avian creature
8 Unemotional
9 10 to the 12th
power
10 English river
11 Equal
17 Can metal
- 19 Locks
22 Chorus mem-
bers
24 Quarterback
Tebow
25 Yoko of music
26 States of
ecstasy
27 LaGuardia and
Logan, e.g.
29 Perched
30 Day fractions
(Abbr.)
33 Ostriches' kin
36 Dawn-of-
mammals
epoch
38 Name of many
English kings
40 Longtime
record label
42 Celebrity
43 Big fuss
44 Smell
46 Winged
47 Corporate
symbol
48 Profound
50 Raw rock

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
15					16				17			
18				19			20					
			21			22		23				
24	25	26					27		28		29	30
31				32				33		34		
35			36		37				38			
		39		40		41						
42	43				44		45			46	47	48
49						50			51			
52						53			54			
55						56			57			

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle
Solution for last weeks puzzle 11/19/20

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

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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11/26/20

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