

SCHOOLS

Leader in Me

Poupard celebrates third annual leadership day **PAGE 9A**

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Grosse Pointe News

VOL. 79, NO. 14, 20 PAGES
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APRIL 5, 2018
GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

Washington strong

Community supports fire victims

By Anthony Viola
Staff Writer

CITY OF GROSSE POINTE — The community is rallying around families affected by a fire that destroyed three houses in the 500 block of Washington Monday, March 26.

Handmade lawn signs cover the rights of way in front of the houses, showing support for the families, and donations were collected last week to help alleviate the hardship of completely losing a home.

Elizabeth Wall, who lost her home in the fire, lived on Washington 52 years. According to her daughter, Phoebe Wall Howard, the outpouring of support has been incredible.

Howard said The Neighborhood Club

See FIRE, page 3A



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Neighbors show their support for the families who lost homes during last week's multi-alarm fire on Washington in the City.

Osius gatehouse design approved

By Anthony Viola
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE SHORES — The proposed gatehouse at Osius Park is one step closer to reality. Council moved and approved the adoption and construction of the park entrance plan, including the new gatehouse, 5-1 Tuesday, March 20. Councilman Doug Kucyk was the lone “no” vote and Councilman Bruce Bisballe was absent.

The adopted plan is slightly different from the last iteration. Instead of using the existing entrance and widening the gate, a new driveway will be created starting closer to Vernier and running along Lakeshore. It will be similar to the Farm's Pier Park entrance, said Councilman Matthew Seely.

“That proposal would basically eliminate a lot of the issues we were concerned about,” Seely said.

The issues with the last proposal include losing 22 parking spots; widening the existing gate to two lanes for approximately \$40,000; possibly being required to install a new traffic

light at the entrance; and lack of parking lot visibility for the guard.

With the adopted proposal, those issues are resolved and, according to Seely, the new proposed entrance will accommodate a ladder truck in case of a fire emergency in the park.

The gatehouse will use architectural motifs found in existing park buildings and city hall, said John Vitale of Stucky Vitale Architects, who presented the plan to council.

“We've really taken cues from some of the buildings on the park premises, as well as city hall, to really build a nice-looking building that would really enhance the entrance to the park,” Vitale said.

Vitale said the building will use similar brick to the bathhouse's and have an approximate 10-by-12-foot footprint. There also will be windows on all sides, allowing the guard full view of the parking area.

“I think the new plan works very well,” Vitale said. “It accommodates easier traffic flow and future ideas for security measures you might want

See OSIUS, page 3A

Hawthorne house trial adjourned

By Melissa Walsh
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — Wayne County Circuit Judge David A. Groner heard arguments Monday, March 26, during the bench trial for the nuisance abatement complaint filed by Grosse Pointe Woods against the owners of a house in the 1200 block of Hawthorne. The city asked the court

to compel the defendants to fix property violations immediately or demolish the house at their expense.

At the close of four hours of the plaintiff's presentation of evidence and witness testimonies, Groner adjourned trial until April 16, recommending the defendants consult an independent structural engineer and retain an attorney.

The complaint filed September 2017 followed

eight complaints heard in municipal court and a notice sent to the defendants by Woods Building Inspector Gene Tutag in August notifying them to vacate the property due to the house's structurally unsafe condition.

Amanda Wheatley, an owner of the property who has lived there since 1965, said she was “blindsided” by neighbor complaints to city council last month.

She said since October she hasn't had gas service to the house, blaming the city, whom she accused of telling DTE the house is condemned.

“They're burying us,” she said, “piling on violation upon violation.”

Wheatley's housemate, Leslie “Jesse” Hughes, added to the deed 30 years ago, accused the city of issuing structural viola-

See HOUSE, page 2A



PHOTO BY MELISSA WALSH

The nuisance abatement complaint filed by Grosse Pointe Woods against the owners of a property in the 1200 block of Hawthorne has gone to trial in Wayne County Circuit Court.

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Debbie Liedel

Family Center's Liedel steps down

After 10 years of service to The Family Center, Debbie Liedel, executive director, has announced she's ready for a change.

“Debbie helped The Family Center expand its programming to include topics relating to parenting, families, health and wellness and aging and has positioned the organi-

zation for additional growth,” said Pamela Flom, president of The Family Center Board of Directors. “We have a committed board, dedi-

cated founder and outstanding staff who will work collaboratively to ensure The Family Center continues to provide the important programming

people turn to us for while we select new staff leadership.”

Liedel's career started 40 years ago at Children's Home of Detroit. In 2000, she became an advisor to The Family Center's board at the request of organization founder Diane Strickler. In 2008, Liedel accepted the posi-

tion of executive director at The Family Center.

“We appreciate all of Debbie's contributions and we'll miss her expertise,” Strickler said. “She's been part of The Family Center from the beginning and we wish her well.”

See LIEDEL, page 4A

Week Ahead 3A
Opinion 6A
Schools 8A
Features 1B
Obituaries 4B
Sports 1C
Classified ads 3C

Pointer of INTEREST

See story, page 4A



Lauren Kramer

Home: Grosse Pointe Farms
Earned 2018 Miss Hockey honor and was a captain on the Grosse Pointe South girls hockey Division 1 state championship team



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2A | BUSINESS

Get the buzz on bees during April 14 program

Honey Help

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

"There's a time and place for pharmaceuticals and a time and place for natural alternatives."

Alison Johns, owner of Honey Help, believes in both.

Several years ago, the full-time emergency room nurse decided to add natural alternatives to her repertoire. After nursing school, she enrolled in Trinity School of Natural Health and earned a natural herbalist degree.

"I come from a medically inclined family," she said. "I was given honey as a kid when I was sick — honey, ginger, lemon. Honey is always great for cold and cough. We have so many options."

The alternative medicine degree — and the purchase of property at 28 Mile and County Line, on which she started beekeeping — helped her launch Honey Help, which has grown by leaps and bounds since 2015.

"I started researching herbal concoctions," she said. "A teacher taught

me the hive business and I started experimenting with salves and balms."

Honey Help started with a Honey Ginger Lemon Elixir, which fights colds and flus by reducing nasal and chest congestion, as well as boosting immunity, among other benefits. It now includes a list of infused honeys, elixirs and honey-related products like lip balm and sunscreen. As the business grew by word of mouth, Honey Help started winning awards.

The company was singled out by Metro Parent magazine and mentioned on the Wellness Mama blog and Fox 2 News. Last year, it was among several businesses hand-selected for inclusion in a promotional gift box for the North American International Auto Show.

The Park Market vendor often is a fixture at farmers markets, too. She'll give a beekeeping talk at the Royal Oak Farmers Market Wednesday, April 11.

But she's staying closer to home during a Busy Bee Workshop 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 14, at the



Alison Johns created Honey Help in 2015.

Tompkins Community Center, 14900 Windmill Pointe, Grosse Pointe Park.

"I'm going to bring in one of the hives," she said, "but with no bees. I'll show what a hive looks like, what frames are. I'll bring a bee suit, a smoker, a bee brush. And we'll do a craft."

Participants will decorate flower pots, then plant bee-specific pollinating flowers. They'll also learn about a scientific dance, called the waggle dance, that bees do to communicate.

Participants also receive a gift for registering.

"The best part is that kids get to try on a bee suit, a bee hat, play with a hive with no bees," she said. "It's a fun activity. I want kids to know how important bees are — to not be afraid of them — and how much fun it can be beekeeping."

Honey Help products are holistic and natural. Johns said she's proud of the fact she uses fresh lavender and leaves when smoking, and never uses anything chemical based. She said



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ALISON JOHNS

Honey Help is a fixture at area farmer's markets.

people ask why she doesn't relocate her farm closer to her Grosse Pointe Woods home, but she has a reason for that, too.

"Bees will pollinate for two miles," she said. "There's a higher chance for pesticides here than at the farm. I don't want to compromise the bees and the honey. I don't want to hurt them or anyone eating my honey."

Johns said she wants to share what she's learned about bees to the community, highlighting their importance to the ecosystem.

"Bees are amazing," she said. "If you look in the refrigerator, 70 percent of what you have in there comes from bees. They are things that people, generally speaking, are afraid of, but they cause our ecosystem to be what it is. ... They align our ecosystem with all the vitamins and minerals we need. Without

bees, there's no pollination. Without pollination, there's no fruit or vegetables."

Johns said Honey Help is hard work, but rewarding. She said she's passionate about it and still learning the ropes.

"I don't think I wanted to start my own business," she said. "I think this business was started for me by my customers. ... I have great employees, all from Grosse Pointe. ... Some of them started as customers and now they're employees. They all help a lot."

"I want to say thank you to all my customers," she continued. "I wouldn't be where I am without my Grosse Pointe customers. They've really helped me grow."

Admission to the Busy Bee Workshop at Tompkins is \$20, \$5 for each additional child.

Registration deadline is Monday, April 9. Call Call (313) 460-9985.

HOUSE:

Continued from page 1A

tions to make a case to demolish the house.

"The city is seeking to demolish the house because some yard work was not completed," he said. "And the neighbors are trying to demolish our house through a series of fabricated lies and falsehoods."

Woods City Attorney Chip Berschback presented documentation, photos and testimony of five witnesses, who were cross-examined directly

by the defendants.

Tutag, the first witness, told the court, "My role is to ensure the safety and health of residents in Grosse Pointe Woods."

He explained how in December 2016, a mail carrier alerted the city of the crumbling brick facade in the front, south, of the house near and above the porch. Tutag responded by inspecting the area, discovering the porch settled and separated from the house.

The matter was taken to Woods Municipal Judge Ted Metry, who fined the homeowners \$500.

DTE reported to the city August 2017 they would not allow technicians to install a gas meter on the target location — the rear basement wall. According to Tutag, DTE was concerned boring a hole could trigger the wall's collapse.

Berschback presented photos of horizontal cracking in the walls, known as shear-cracking.

Wheatley blurted out statements contradicting the testimony.

"I tried repeatedly to tell you and Mr. Hughes to get a lawyer," said Judge Groner. "I knew this day was coming."

Groner explained Wheatley and Hughes would have opportunity to cross-examine witnesses, adding they could object to Berschback's questions based on their legality.

An hour and a half into the trial, Hughes arrived, joining Wheatley at the defendants' table.

Exhibits included two quotes solicited by the homeowners for repair of the south basement wall. Work quoted by Kleiner

Construction costing more than \$18,000, Tutag testified, would resolve issues with the wall.

"Had this contract been executed and the work been done," he said, "this would have been the proper way to repair the area and make it safe."

In January 2018, however, the homeowners paid for work quoted by Foundation Systems of Michigan costing \$7,600 — the installation of four wall c-channels. Pending inspection, this phase of work would be followed by a cement subcontractor preparing the wall for masonry repair.

Feb. 12, 2018, Tutag and Carl Bobish, a structural engineer hired by the city, inspected the work in progress and determined it insufficient for cement work to start.

March 6, 2018, Tutag drafted a letter for the homeowners listing all active violations on the property.

Asked by Berschback for approximate cost to the homeowners to correct the house's structural

issues, Tutag estimated \$80,000 to restore the four basement walls.

This kind of construction, he explained, is necessary with the effects of the Milk River, adding, "I'm concerned about another structural failing. In my opinion, collapse is imminent."

Two neighbors testified. Next door neighbor, George VanTiem, answered questions about overgrown bushes and rodent activity from the property affecting him and the brick falling from the house.

Elizabeth Natter said she observed issues with the yard and exterior of the house since she moved across the street in 2002. She testified the only time she called the city to complain was over poison ivy growing onto the walkway from Wheatley and Hughes' yard.

"The property itself is never cared for," she said.

Cross-examined by Hughes, asking how yard work is an indicator of the structural integrity of a house, Natter said, "It

indicates overall care of the house. The city ordinances apply to me just like they apply to you."

Natter added she spent more than \$25,000 to correct structural issues in her basement.

In his expert testimony, Bobish said the south wall shifted several inches, causing horizontal cracking — indicative of pressure breaking the mortar between the blocks. The basement walls require extensive repair to make the house "secure and structurally sound," he said, estimating a cost of \$72,000.

Tutag said the basement issues these homeowners are facing are not uncommon, but "once that situation develops, (homeowners) apply measures to take care of it."

He added "expansive soil" conditions are "very prevalent throughout the area" and "fairly typical in southeast Michigan."

During his 18 years with the city, Tutag said, "I've seen only one other failure like this in the community."

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Jennifer Palms Boettcher

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- **ASK FOR FEEDBACK:** Invite customer feedback to show you are listening and always respond promptly whether it's a compliment or a complaint.
- **CONNECT:** Technology offers more ways to begin a conversation with your customer than ever before. Use online tools and social media outlets to reach your customers and make sure your website is top-notch.
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Woods chaplain hits the streets

By Melissa Walsh
Staff Writer

GROSSE POINTE WOODS — After more than 20 years in church ministry, Matthew Swiatek was called to serve beyond the walls of his Grosse Pointe Woods church into the brokenness police witness daily.

“It was a natural thing. It’s really been a good thing, I think,” said the 55-year-old pastor known as “Pastor Matt,” who has led Crosspointe Church as senior pastor 15 years, serving previously as associate pastor at Woodside Church in Farmington Hills eight years.

Engaging with public safety began when Crosspointe Church hosted a night of prayer for law enforcement in fall 2015 at Woods City Hall. That December, then Woods Public Safety Director Bruce Smith approached Swiatek about becoming

the department’s chaplain.

Swiatek entered into his new role as “Chaplain Matt” that summer, undergoing the 60-hour Public Service Chaplain Academy certified training program at Macomb Community College’s Macomb Emergency Services Training Center.

“They taught us everything,” Swiatek said, “issues of domestic abuse and human trafficking and post-traumatic stress disorder and death notifications and just a lot of those things that were very helpful to help us understand where we were coming from.”

He explained the services public service chaplains offer officers are presence, support, resources and life experience.

“I’m there to say, ‘How are you guys doing?’” he said.

Swiatek rides with Woods officers two to

three times a week. Among the four platoons, which work 12-hour shifts, he tries to ride with everyone.

“I try to ride with a different guy for a couple of hours on a rotating basis so they don’t get sick of me,” he said, adding there are times when the department calls him to help with a specific situation.

“My primary ministry is with the officers first, then the community,” Swiatek said. “But I speak with people all the time. With the guys I’m an extra set of eyes for different things.”

An example of interacting with the public while on the beat is comforting family members as officers administer medical aid to their loved one.

With the officers, Swiatek said, he talks about anything, about life in general.

“And sometimes it goes to a spiritual conversation, but I don’t push,” he said. “My job

at church and my job as a chaplain is totally different.

“You have those that are of the Christian faith and those who don’t believe in anything. We ride with those guys and we talk about hunting and family. What I try to do is help those guys — they have the hardest job in the world — I just try to make sure they’re doing OK and they’re not taking that job home to their families.”

In serving people in the community experiencing crisis and brokenness, Swiatek said he discovered some similarities to the officers’ work and his work at the church.

“I try to help people here in the church that are having problems and aren’t able to cope with life. (The officers) are dealing with them when it escalates so bad, where it’s blown up. ... They’re there on a really bad day. The thing I’ve learned most



PHOTO BY MELISSA WALSH

Matt Swiatek has served the Woods Public Safety Department as chaplain since mid-2016.

is people are people and I do think we live in a world that’s really messed up. I see it in the church world and they have to deal with it out there in the public.”

Swiatek added he admires how the officers apply wisdom and care in treating people with respect.

“They’re there to serve and protect. And they do a good job,” he said, citing a difficult situation he recently witnessed officers having with an individual,

during which they demonstrated “great wisdom and great tact to

FIRE:

Continued from page 1A

Thrift Shop, Full Circle Thrift Shop and another Grosse Pointe resident have donated clothes; a reporter and colleague of Howard’s at the Detroit Free Press offered a bed, dresser, table and chairs; a Grosse Pointe resident sent a \$50 gift card; another resident gave Wall a cat carrier for Wall’s cat, Henry, as his was destroyed in the fire; and staff at the Detroit Free Press also took a collection to help Wall buy personal items.

According to Grosse Pointe South High School Choir Director Christopher Pratt, when his students learned of the fire and that it affected a South choir family, they knew they had to help.

“The thing about the day immediately following the fire,” Pratt said, “the kids were talking about what can we do for the family. So it was just a matter of trying to figure out how best to support the (family). That was their immediate response and I think that really spoke volumes about our students.”

Pratt said he and his students decided to accept donations through Thursday, March 29, and any funds raised would be put onto Visa gift cards for the family to use on anything they needed.

In a matter of days, they raised \$1,300, Pratt said, and even after their initial Thursday cut off, donations kept coming in.

“We had parents dropping off donations even



Supporters of the families whose houses were destroyed show support and seek donations from the community to Sound the Alarm and the Grosse Pointe Public Library.

PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

at my house Friday,” Pratt said.

It’s not just the South choir community chipping in to help. According to Pratt, teachers, staff and student organizations gathered donations and school supplies to help the affected student return to school with some sense of normalcy.

“The South community is generous and really cares about supporting the families in any way we possibly can,” Pratt said.

Pratt also said the family would like any future donations made to Sound the Alarm, an American Red Cross campaign. Sound the Alarm helps families affected by fire, installs smoke alarms in at-risk

communities and provides fire prevention and safety education.

A CrowdRise campaign was set up by Kelly Walsh, who lives across the street from the houses, to raise money for the Southeast Michigan Sound the Alarm campaign. It can be found at bit.ly/2JdR9H0.

Wall asked donations

be made to the Grosse Pointe Public Library.

The multi-alarm fire started approximately 10 p.m. in a house under renovation and quickly spread to two adjacent homes. There were no reported injuries, but all three houses were deemed total losses.

The fire still is under investigation and a cause has not been released.

OSIUS:

Continued from page 1A

to include later.”

The project now goes out to bid.

The gatehouse project has been an ongoing debate in council the last year. Supporters of the project would like to see increased security and restricted parking in the residents-only park, citing non-residents allegedly parking their cars in

the lot and riding a bus downtown. Opponents see the gatehouse as superfluous because crime is not an issue at the park and the project would only add unnecessary staffing costs.

The gatehouse construction will be paid by donations but, according to Director of Public Safety John Schulte, an extra person staffing the gatehouse would add approximately \$30,000 per year to the budget.

The Week Ahead

MONDAY, APRIL 9

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods City Council meeting, 7 p.m. city hall, 20025 Mack Plaza.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Farms City Council Meeting, 7 p.m. city hall, 90 Kerby.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Park City Council Meeting, 7 p.m. city hall, 15115 E. Jefferson.

TUESDAY, APRIL 10

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Citizens Recreation Commission meeting, 7 p.m. city hall, 20025 Mack Plaza.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores Tree Board meeting, 7:30 p.m. city hall, 795 Lakeshore.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11

- ◆ Grosse Pointe Woods Beautification Commission meeting, 7 p.m. city hall, 20025 Mack Plaza.
- ◆ Grosse Pointe Shores Harbor meeting, 4:30 p.m. city hall, 795 Lakeshore.

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4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

Kramer's leadership second to none

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

Grosse Pointe South senior Lauren Kramer earned the 2018 Miss Hockey during the state's hockey awards banquet last weekend, as well as the McSorley scholarship.

Kramer played a vital role in helping the girls hockey team to a Division 1 state championship last month.

She assisted on the game-winning goal in the 2-1 victory over Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Kingswood. Her career, which began at age 4, ended with the ultimate thrill.

"Winning the state championship for a second time was great," Kramer said. "We worked hard all season and I enjoyed spending a lot of time this winter with my teammates. I'm going to miss them."

Kramer led the Michigan Metro Girls Hockey League in scoring for a second straight season. This year she had 20 goals and 17 assists for 37 points in the 14 league games. Overall, she finished with 27 goals and 26 assists for 53 points in 23 games.

She earned the team's most valuable player at this year's banquet and was All-State First Team the last two seasons. The captain made the players around her better as she knew the opposition would game-plan to stop her.

"I knew the other team would try to shut me down, but I was still able to push through and help our team win," Kramer said.

Kramer moved through the ranks during her hockey career, spending time with Grosse Pointe Hockey Association, St. Clair Shores Hockey



PHOTO BY JOHN MCTAGGART

Grosse Pointe South senior Lauren Kramer, right, played a pivotal role in helping the Blue Devils girls hockey team win a state title this year.

Association and Little Caesars.

She brought a tenacity to the program and played like a champion for Joe Provenzano her freshman and sophomore year, Chris Booth her junior season, and John Weidenbach this winter.

"I am so proud of Lauren Kramer," Booth said. "She just might be the best player in program history. I believe she has been the leading scorer on our team the last three years and has been the player in the league the last two.

and a 2-1 semifinal win over two-time defending champ Farmington Hills Mercy.

She gets the job done in the classroom, too, where she maintains a 3.69 grade point average. Her next move is attending either Michigan State University or Grand Valley State University where she said she might pursue a pre-med or engineering degree.

"I'm thinking about playing hockey for State or Grand Valley," Kramer said. "I haven't made up my mind yet with what college to attend or to play hockey."

Kramer visited other colleges, such as Miami-Ohio, Dayton and Ohio State, but in the grand scheme of things she wants to stay closer to home.

She has a big couple of months ahead of her with prom on the horizon and graduation. She will make her collegiate decision before May 1 and then enjoy her summer vacation before heading to either MSU or GVSU.

LIEDEL:

Continued from page 1A

Through Liedel's leadership, The Family Center expanded its programming to include mental health issues like anxiety, depression, addiction, suicide and grief, as well as other topics affecting the community like divorce, the impact of technology on children and bullying.

"The Family Center is dedicated to making it easier for community members to talk about difficult topics and to providing referrals and

information from qualified professionals when they need help," Liedel said. "My career has been dedicated to helping children and families and The Family Center's commitment to the community has allowed me to do that in a very meaningful way. While it is time for me to focus more on my personal life, The Family Center has grown to be an important resource for the community and will continue to help people be better equipped to handle situations as they arise."

Other accomplishments under Liedel's leadership

include enhancing and expanding community partnerships, increasing program venues and awareness and relocating the organization's administrative offices to The War Memorial.

In 2015, The Family Center received the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce Excellence in Nonprofit Activity Award.

Liedel also has served the community through the Kiwanis Club of Grosse Pointe, Grosse Pointe News, Lakeshore Optimist Club of Grosse Pointe and other organizations.

CHAPLAIN:

Continued from page 3A

protect the individual that was in trouble. They could have embarrassed him. They didn't. They did it in a very professional way and a very wise way.

"They do that stuff every day," he added.

Swiatek finds his role mainly in serving officers, from chatting about sports to carrying a bag of equipment during a run.

"I'm there to help, not tell them what to do. That's the chief's job," he said.

"There have been times when someone has needed spiritual support and Chaplain Matt lends himself for that," said Woods Director of Public Safety John Kosanke.

However, the role "is not only for religious

purposes," Kosanke added. "I don't think people here really have an idea of the impact (Swiatek) has by lending his time and support to our personnel."

Kosanke said Swiatek checks on every member of the department.

"He checks on the chief as well," Kosanke said.

"The church has given me the freedom, the ability and the time," Swiatek said, adding he and his wife, Jane, are empty-nesters enjoying more time to serve others.

"We're in a stage of life that has given me the freedom to do this and the ability to do it. And it really has been a good thing all around," Swiatek said.

"I think it's great that he's able to serve the community," Jane Swiatek said.

Coincidentally, two

and half years ago, as Swiatek was entering his new role as public safety chaplain, a Crosspointe member introduced him to serving incarcerated youth.

"That's just how the good Lord worked it out," he said.

He and Jane regularly visit youth detained at Wayne County Juvenile Detention Facility.

"It's absolutely amazing, 'cause when you see these kids, you don't see them as hardened criminals," Swiatek said. "They're not hardened yet. They're young."

Of his ministry shift to supporting officers and reaching detained youth, Swiatek said, "I'm in a great spot in life. ... I love what I do as chaplain. And with the incarcerated youth, there's just a lot of good you can do for people if you just take the time to do it."



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Upset about something

A resident filed a report of malicious destruction of property 6 p.m. Wednesday, March 28. The resident said he was driving a company car westbound on Notre Dame when he stopped at the intersection of

Waterloo.

He said a newer Chevy Malibu, traveling on Waterloo, came to the intersection and stopped although Waterloo does not have a stop sign.

The resident said he waited, then continued on Notre Dame. At the next intersection he said the Malibu pulled up alongside his car and attempted to get his

attention. The resident ignored the other car and continued toward Mack where he turned right.

On Mack near Lakeland, the resident said the Malibu pulled up alongside him and threw a half-full water bottle at his car, causing a dent in the front panel. The Malibu then turned north

See REPORTS, page 5A

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REPORTS:

Continued from page 4A

into Detroit and sped away.

The driver was described as a black male approximately 18 to 25 years old. The passenger was a black female with neon pink hair approximately 18 to 25 years old.

—Anthony Viola

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

Grosse Pointe Shores

In the dark

When a patrolling officer pulled over a 21-year-old Detroit woman for driving after dark without headlights illuminated on Lakeshore and Hawthorne 8:25 p.m. Wednesday, March 28, he discovered 1.75 grams of marijuana in her vehicle. Though the driver had a valid medical marijuana card, she did not have a valid driver's license. She was arrested for driving while license suspended.

No insurance, open alcohol

Officers arrested a 54-year-old Detroit man approximately 9:45 a.m. Saturday, March 31, after pulling him over on Lakeshore and Webber Place for further investigation of an electronic insurance verification report. Officers verified the man had no insurance and found open alcohol in the car. A LEIN check showed an outstanding warrant from Third Circuit Friend of

the Court.

—Melissa Walsh

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

Grosse Pointe Farms

Don't trust family

A resident reported her car stolen 3:30 p.m. Friday, March 30. She said she loaned the car to her brother, a recovering drug addict, so he could get back and forth to a new job. The resident said her brother agreed to give the car back Friday, March 23, one week after it was loaned to him.

But when the sister attempted to contact her brother and recover her car, her calls went straight to voicemail and other family members said he hadn't been at his St. Clair Shores residence in a number of days.

Sunday, April 1, Farms dispatch received a phone call of the car spotted parked on Cadieux near Harper. Police at the scene confirmed it was unoccupied and that it was the resident's vehicle. It was recovered and returned to the owner. She said she still would like to pursue charges against her brother.

Bumper cars

A 47-year-old Detroit man is suspected in hitting a number of cars on Mack at Kerby 9 p.m. Thursday, March 29, then fleeing the scene.

A Woods man said he was stopped at the eastbound light when he observed a van behind him drive onto the

median, hit the car behind him, then strike his car in the rear. The Woods man got out of his car and made contact with the driver of the van. The Woods man said the driver appeared to be intoxicated. The Woods man then said he was calling police and the driver should stay put.

The driver of the van did not respond, instead backed into Mack and attempted to squeeze through traffic, hitting another car stopped at the light in the process. The Woods man managed to take a photo of the license plate and police were able to identify the driver, but not before he fled the scene.

According to LEIN, the driver never received a driver's license and had a Detroit warrant for operating while intoxicated.

New wardrobe

Ten women's clothing items and approximately \$50 in souvenirs were stolen from an unlocked vehicle on Mt. Vernon at Charlevoix overnight Sunday, March 18.

—Anthony Viola

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

Grosse Pointe Woods

Display phone snatched

An employee at a cellular phone store in the 19000 block of Mack reported an iPhone X stolen approximately 2:24 p.m. Thursday, March 29.

The employee said the suspect entered the store and asked about iPhone

X models in stock. When he returned from the stock area, the suspect was no longer in the store's lobby area.

Another employee saw the suspect exit the store and drive away in a gray Dodge Challenger.

Both employees noticed a display iPhone X missing and video surveillance showed the suspect taking the phone.

Store records uncovered a copy of the suspect's Michigan identification card from a previous purchase. The suspect is a 27-year-old Detroit man.

No license

When a patrolling officer pulled over a driver for running the red light at Harper and Allard approximately 11 p.m. Thursday, March 29, he discovered the 21-year-old driver never obtained a driver's license.

Driving his girlfriend's vehicle, the driver could not show the officer identification, proof of insurance or vehicle registration. He was arrested.

A LEIN check showed four warrants for probation violations.

Angry neighbor

After a 53-year-old resident in the 2000 block of Country Club reported a complaint against his next door neighbor at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, March 31, he became the subject of a trespassing complaint by the same neighbor.

The man reported his next door neighbor damaging his sod by parking in her driveway with a rear tire partially on his lawn.

The accused neighbor, a 30-year-old woman, told officers the man confronted her at her front door and proceeded to take pictures of her house and parked car.

She showed officers documentation of the property line bordering the neighbor as 10 inches from her driveway.

She and her husband filed a trespassing complaint against the neighbor.

—Melissa Walsh

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

Grosse Pointe Park

Stolen tools

An unknown person stole a 10-inch table saw and Honda lawn mower from an unlocked shed in the 1300 block of Wayburn between noon Tuesday, March 27, and 10:30 a.m. Thursday, March 29.

New lawn company

An unknown person entered three garages in the 1100 blocks of Maryland and Lakepointe between Thursday, March 29, and Friday,

March 30, and stole various lawn equipment.

Furnace stolen

An unknown person broke into a house under renovation in the 1400 block of Lakepointe overnight between Thursday, March 29, and Friday, March 30, and stole a furnace still in its box.

Prowler arrested

A 59-year-old Detroit man was arrested for prowling, carrying a concealed weapon and violating the controlled substance act 11:30 p.m. Thursday, March 29, on Kercheval at Wayburn.

Smash and grab

An unknown person broke a side window from a 2005 Chevy and stole a purse containing \$5 on Mack at Somerset between 11 and 11:30 a.m. Sunday, April 1.

New set of tires

An unknown person stole four tires and rims off a 2017 Yukon in the 700 block of Westchester 8 a.m. Sunday, April 1.

—Anthony Viola

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

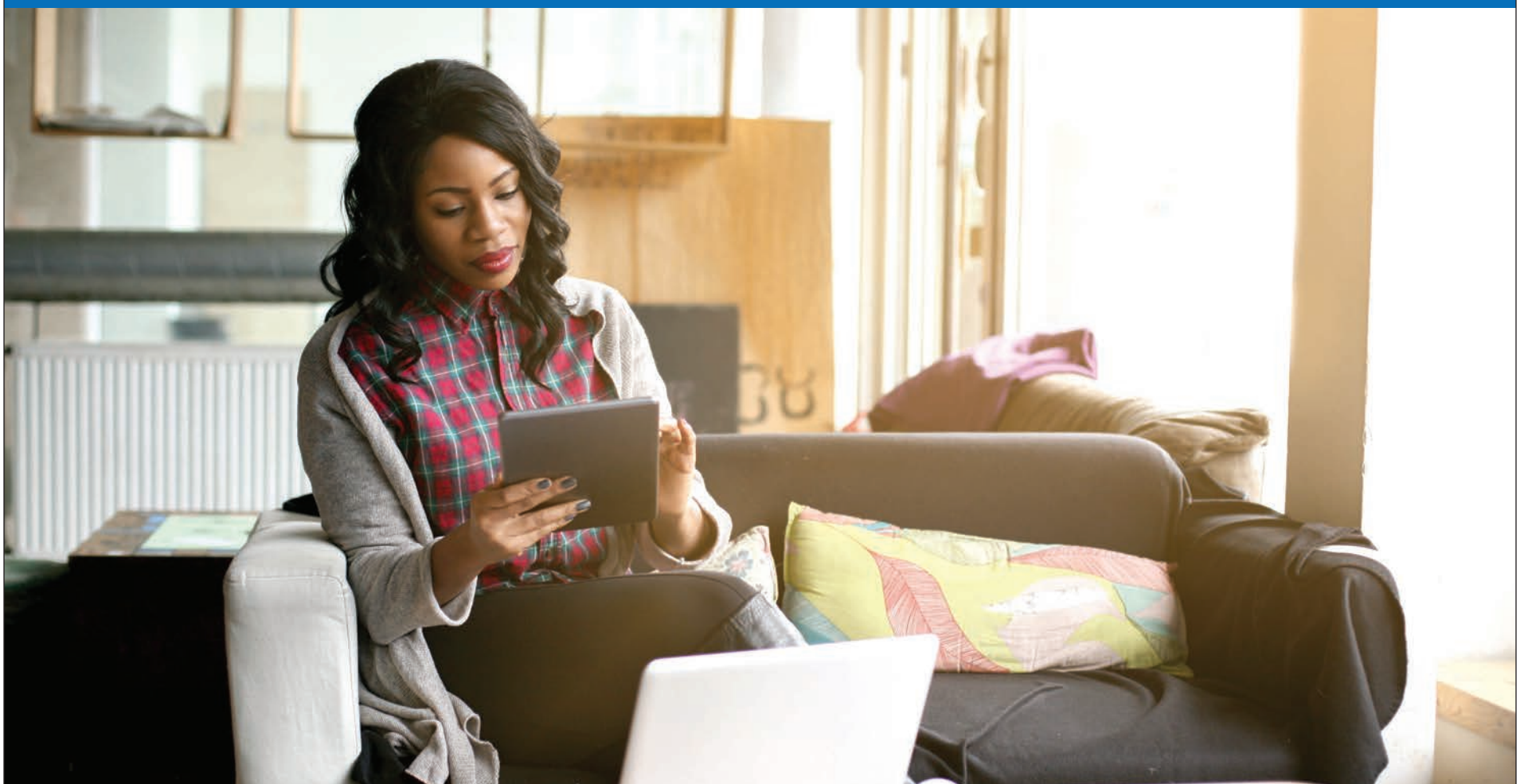


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6A | OPINION

Grosse Pointe News

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JOHN MINNIS: Publisher

TERRY MINNIS: Vice President

JODY MCVEIGH: Editor

OUR VIEW

Advisory Board

Since we took over the Grosse Pointe News, we have received several inquiries as to the purpose of our "Advisory Board" and who determines its makeup. Fair questions.

We "inherited" the Advisory Board with the purchase of the newspaper. Under the Edgar family's ownership prior to 2007, the Grosse Pointe News did not have an Advisory Board. It was thought some may think such a board would influence the newspaper's editorial decisions and there would be inherent conflicts of interest.

While we are aware of such concerns and potential problems, we did not want to dismiss the board members' past contributions and time by disbanding it. Further, we have found our bimonthly Advisory Board meetings invigorating and helpful.

You will notice our board members mostly are from Grosse Pointe institutions we normally would work with on a weekly basis regardless of their involvement on our board. These institutions include the Grosse Pointe Public Schools, The War Memorial, Neighborhood Club, Services for Older Citizens, The Grosse Pointe Academy and Grosse Pointe Historical Society, to name a few. Members leave or are replaced on the board as necessary.

We look to the Advisory Board as being "eyes and ears" in the community and ambassadors for the newspaper should they feel we deserve it. We get a lot of good story ideas from board members and feedback — negative as well as positive. We often bounce ideas off them, such as subscription campaigns, editorial projects, etc. Some of their ideas we implement, some not. Many times, it is a hybrid of an idea.

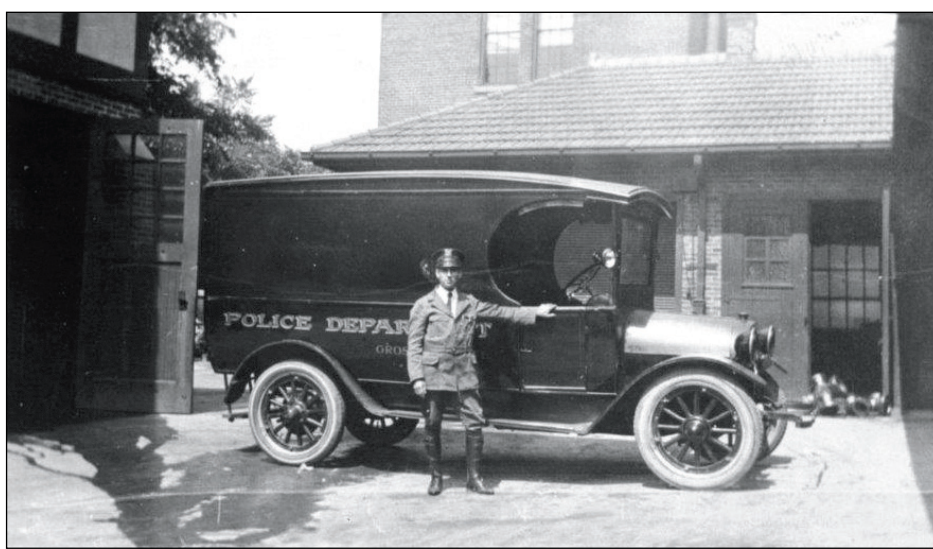
But do these institutions and individuals have "undo influence" on how we cover the news? We say no. Every member knows our mission is to report the news no matter its source or whom it affects. They know, forbid, any negative news arising out of their organization will be covered accurately and fairly.

A reader asked us recently how much influence the board has on our news judgment. We told her, "No more than yours," explaining we take all comments and suggestions seriously, whether they come from our Advisory Board or "just a reader."

We were, frankly, insulted recently when an acquaintance, whom we considered a friend, accused us of not covering a story because a party involved was on our Advisory Board. That simply was not true. We covered it in the past and continue to do so as it develops.

Lastly, board members have expressed concern that some in the community have asked if editorials expressed are the Advisory Board's opinions. We see how there could be misunderstanding.

In expressing "Our View," we often use the "editorial we." "We" believe such and such. Then directly underneath "Our View" was a list of Advisory Board members. We have since moved the Advisory Board



Grosse Pointe Past

Edward W. Allard posed in front of a Grosse Pointe Farms Police Department vehicle, with the building and garage in background, circa 1923.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE GROSSE POINTE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

below our list of staff members to hopefully eliminate some of the confusion.

True, some newspapers have "Editorial Boards" that determine the newspapers' stances on various issues, but that is not to be confused with our Advisory Board. "Our Views" are strictly those of the newspaper's owners, John and Terry Minnis. The

opinions expressed are not those of our Advisory Board or even of the newspapers' employees or editor.

We hope this clears up some of your valid concerns. We maintain an open door policy to anyone with concerns. So please let us know — whether positive or negative.

OUR VIEW

Tariffs hitting newspapers

While much of the attention has been on tariffs being levied on steel and aluminum, little notice has been paid toward duties now being placed on uncoated groundwood paper (newsprint) out of Canada.

On Jan. 9, the U.S. Department of Commerce assessed countervailing duties on uncoated groundwood. These duties range from 4.4 to 9.9 percent with an average of 6.53 percent. On March 13, the Commerce Department released preliminary anti-dumping duties up to 22.16 percent depending on the manufacturer. Combined, these mean some Canadian imports of newsprint will be assessed duties of up to 32 percent — right now at the border — as the investigation in the case continues.

The Commerce Department's actions can be traced to a complaint lodged by a small Washington State paper mill, Northern Pacific Paper. It employs fewer than 500 workers at its mill owned by the New York hedge fund One Rock Capital. Ironically, less than 5 percent of Canadian newsprint goes to the Pacific Northwest. More than 90 percent of Canadian newsprint is consumed in the Northeast and Midwest, including Michigan.

At the Grosse Pointe News, we have already felt the pinch. Half our printing costs is newsprint. We have absorbed three newsprint price increases since Dec. 1. Compounded, the increases amount to 16.5 percent, or about \$18,000 a year — a part-time salary. And that's just the Grosse Pointe News. One can

only imagine the impact at larger publications, yet, percentage wise, it is still a pretty big hit for small publishers.

Our paper supplier, Resolute, a Canadian company that employs 2,500 Americans, calls the tariffs "outrageous."

While in the past Canadian paper mills, subsidized by its government, may have "dumped" newsprint on the United States, but that was then and this is now. The fact of the matter is there are no domestic paper mills to turn to.

Virtually the entire newspaper industry, representing 175,000 American workers, is opposed to the tariffs.

The duties are already causing price shock and a disruption in the marketplace. The next phase in the process is for the International Trade Commission to initiate its final investigation, which includes questionnaires, public comment period and a hearing. A public hearing is likely to occur early August, with an ITC final determination mid-September.

We urge readers concerned about the fate of newspapers in the United States to write the White House and contact their lawmakers in Washington, urging the Commerce Department to back off on punitive duties on newsprint.

The tariffs may be well-intentioned to protect "American jobs," but they will have just the opposite effect.

For more information, go to stopnewsprinttariffs.org.

GUEST OPINION By Julie Stafford, Greenville Daily News

MPA kicks off 150-year rite

The first edition of anything resembling a newspaper in my hometown of Greenville appeared in 1854. It was a single sheet of paper and was written and printed anytime something deemed newsworthy happened.

The Montcalm Reflector, as it was called, went on

like this for two years before the business was sold and became a more official and frequent record of happenings.

Today, The Daily News, which can trace its roots back to that single sheet publication more than 164

See 150 YEARS, page 7A

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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.

Proposed City DPW move

To the Editor:
The recent Grosse Pointe News editorial was right on target.

First, hats off to all the mayors and city council folks who serve with our gratitude, but without pay.

After touring the City of Grosse Pointe's main facilities, any "fair-minded" citizen would agree major upgrades are needed — NOW. That being said, the city council's misguided solution gives credence

to the saying, "... a camel is a horse designed by a committee."

As always, the "devil" is in the details — but here's a thought starter:

1) Request bids from qualified developers to buy the entire City center property "as is" to build 20-30-40 apartment/condos similar to the adjacent residential units. This is a very desirable, residential zoned neighborhood — the City's garbage trucks and road equipment don't belong here, period.

2) Request bids from qualified firms to: pick up the trash according to the City's current specifications, maintain landscaping and plow and/or salt the roads — with similar pay and benefit levels for the current City public works staff. My unsentimental survey of Grosse Pointe Park residents and officials shows a very high level of satisfaction with the Green For Life firm's trash pickup. I understand few Park residents have a problem rolling their trash container(s) to the curb.

3) Add a third floor to the proposed Mack avenue complex to accommodate the judge's chambers and male/female holding cells (as required by the state) vs. the current plan to spend money "improving" the current judge's chambers.

4) I wonder if many of the architectural and engineering consultants hired by the City pay

property taxes here.

This plan is a true win-win for City residents:

A) City officials have said the costs are about even with the current setup vs. bidding-out trash/snow/landscaping services — BUT we now save \$4,000,000-plus not buying and upgrading the Detroit site. Plus the City doesn't need to buy and repair new garbage trucks with the attached snow plow equipment or lawn equipment.

B) The 20-30-40 new condo/apartments will pay city taxes.

C) I understand the City is not required to spend 100 percent of the \$12 million bond approved; or, better yet, accelerate the badly needed road repairs.

D) Selling the entire City facility "as is" should net substantial funds — this is a very desirable location for well-done apartments and condos.

JIM THOMPSON
Grosse Pointe

The Advisory Board of the Grosse Pointe News

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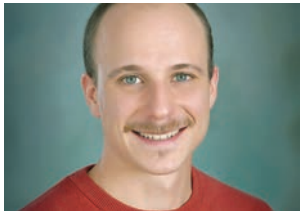
Greg Theokas — Past Grosse Pointe Park Mayor

Katherine R. Thompson — Assistant Head of School for Enrollment & Marketing, Grosse Pointe Academy

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

I SAY By Anthony Viola

A plea for empathy



Perhaps we need to be more empathetic.

In this vitriolic world we now live in, it is us vs. them and we are always right and they are always wrong. There is no longer room for compromise, for discussion of reasonable solutions.

I won't feign to understand how we got here. I am vastly under qualified to attempt that arduous task.

But, I can say, to me at least, there seems to be an incredible lack of empathy these days. There is a refusal to see from any other perspective but our own.

I will admit, I fall into that trap at times. Everybody does. It's easy. It is our "default-setting," said David Foster Wallace. "There is no experience you've had that you were not at the absolute center of," he said to the 2005 Kenyon College graduating class.

"The world as you experience it is right there in front of you, or behind you, to the left or right of you, on your TV, or your monitor or whatever. Other people's thoughts and feelings have to be

communicated to you somehow, but your own are so immediate, urgent, real — you get the idea."

It is natural for us to have a one-sided view of the world; our experiences are the only true thing we know. But that way of thinking, Wallace argues, of seeing the world as built solely for me, leads only to contempt for others and loneliness.

Every time we go to the grocery store and are subjected to crowded, "hideously, fluorescently lit" aisles and have to maneuver the cart through inattentive or slow or obnoxious people who are in our way, we have a conscious choice to make.

"... if I don't make a conscious decision about how to think and what to pay attention to," Wallace said, "I'm going to be pissed and miserable every time I have to foodshop, because my natural default-setting is the certainty that situations like this are really all about me, about my hunger and my fatigue and my desire to just get home, and it's going to seem, for all the world, like everybody else is just in my way, and who are all these people in my way?"

Instead, he said, we have the choice to look at those around us not as obstacles to our own goals, but people leading lives just as rich, vivid,

mundane, frustrating. The obnoxious woman in the next check-out lane yelling at her kids could have been up the last three nights, holding her sick husband's hand or the man who cut you off in traffic could be rushing to the hospital with his hurt child in the passenger seat. While Wallace admits these scenarios are unlikely, they aren't impossible.

But, when you realize you have options and a choice in how to view the world, "It will actually be within your power to experience a crowded, loud, slow, consumer hell-type situation as not only meaningful but sacred, on fire with the same force that lit the stars — compassion, love, the sub-surface unity of all things," he said. "Not that that mystical stuff's necessarily

true: The only thing that's capital-T True is that you get to decide how you're going to try to see it."

Of course, being conscious of that decision on a daily or hourly basis is difficult. It's easy to fall into the trap of selfishness. Again, it's our default-setting. And there will always be disagreements between people. We are, after all, products of our own personal experiences and how we view the world will be inherently different than anybody else.

But, I believe, progress toward rational solutions can only be made when, instead of automatically dismissing someone, or looking down on them or viewing them as simply an obstacle, we take the time to consider the world from their perspective.

YESTERDAY'S HEADLINES

1943

75 years ago this week

BOAT OWNERS FIGHT GAS CUT:

Members of the St. Clair Flats Association, many of them from Grosse Pointe, have taken the lead among power boat owners in protesting the limitation placed upon gasoline for consumption in boats due to the war. Many owners of cottages at the St. Clair Flats can only access them by boat.

CHIMNEY SPARKS START ROOF FIRE: A roof fire caused an estimated \$1,200 damage to a Cloverly Road home.

A neighbor across the street noticed the smoke curling up from the eaves and notified the homeowner who called Farms police.

The attic and roof were a mass of flames by the time firefighters arrived, but they had the fire under control within 10 minutes.

1968

50 years ago this week

TOUR OF HIGH SCHOOL ENDS RUMORS:

Contrary to rumors, Grosse Pointe North High School will not be carpeted throughout, does not have escalators, fancy chandeliers or a plush foyer and there is only one swimming pool, not three.

WATER RATE STUDY SHOWS VARIATIONS IN POINTE CHARGES:

Three of the five Pointes buy water from Detroit. The Park, Shores and Woods each pay Detroit \$1.18 per thousand cubic feet of water.

The Park charges consumers \$1.89 per thousand cubic feet with an additional charge of 46 cents for sewage. The Shores does not separate the sewage charge and its total rate is \$2.10 per thousand cubic feet. The Woods charges \$2.05 per thousand cubic feet with an additional 95 cent charge for sewage.

1993

25 years ago this week

COUNCIL WANTS STAR OF SEA CLOSED:

The Star of the Sea parish council on Monday recommended Star of the Sea High School be closed, as early as June.

At the same time, it compromised on a request from the Archdiocese of Detroit to operate the school as a regional high school, offering the building to use for two years. The archdiocese would be financially responsible for the school's operation.

TAX SHIFT PLAN MEANS LESS LOCAL CONTROL OVER MILLAGE, SCHOOLS SAY: If voters approve a June 2 state ballot proposal that would lower property taxes and raise the sales tax, they also will be signing away their control of school millage rates.

That's the assessment of school district administrators analyzing the local

impact of the measure should it be approved.

2008

10 years ago this week

ACCRETION STAND-ING TOUGH: Projected higher lake levels will most likely have little effect on accretion areas on shorelines in the Grosse Pointes.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has projected mildly higher levels for Lake St. Clair and Grosse Pointe Farms which should have a nominal effect on the maintenance

plan to spruce up the accretion area north of Pier Park.

COYOTE SIGHTINGS AGAIN: They're back. Despite the successful

capture of several coyotes last year in the Pointes, the wily animals continue to be sighted regularly in the Grosse Pointes.

— Karen Fontanive

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150 YEARS:

Continued from page 6A

years ago, publishes a six-day-a-week daily newspaper both in print and online. It has been my family's business for 67 years. Our mission is about as basic as it was all those years ago — to inform our readership of local newsworthy events and people from throughout Montcalm and Ionia counties.

This is a big year for newspapers in Michigan. That's because this year, during a time when news agencies and outlets are increasingly challenged with political pushback to report the news, we are celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Michigan Press Association, or MPA as we know it.

According to a publication titled "Celebrating Two Centuries of Michigan Newspapers," the MPA formed shortly after the Civil War in an effort among editors to try and be more courteous to each other. In fact, an MPA official document penned in 1868 stated the purpose of the organization "should be good general welfare of the Michigan Press."

Today, sprinkled throughout the entire state of Michigan, there

are 308 members of the MPA, 204 of which are newspapers — 158 weeklies and 46 dailies. My family's newspaper is one of 126 in the state that are still independently owned and operated.

Your local newspaper is still the one place you can go at the end of the day to find a record of decisions being made at all levels of local government, as well as notice of events taking place, babies being born and those who have passed.

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Tower alumni celebrate newspaper's legacy

By Mary Anne Brush
Staff Writer

Bob Button compared his participation in the March 23 gala celebrating The Tower's 90th anniversary to Tom Sawyer attending his own funeral. While recognizing it was an honor within his lifetime to hear nice things said about him by alumni of Grosse Pointe South High School's student newspaper, he was quick to deflect praise to Doris Trott, a 30-year adviser who turned The Tower into a weekly, award-winning newspaper, and Jeff Nardone, who succeeded Button's 28-year tenure in 1994.

South's current adviser, Kaitlin Edgerton, introduced Button to guests gathered at Blossom Heath Inn in St. Clair Shores to celebrate student journalism and honor Button. In attendance in addition to Tower alumni were current Tower students and parents, teachers, administrators and community members. Guests traveled from as far as New York, Ohio, Colorado and California.

"Bob Button set the standard in Michigan for scholastic journalism," Edgerton said. She also acknowledged the role Nardone played in following in Button's footsteps and continuing "to push for excellence in student publications."

"Nardone pushed for the students to make their own decisions and he pushed for the student voice," Edgerton said. "Sadly, Jeff passed away



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Bob Button, center, with former Tower staffers. "I heard speculation during the pre-show that every student believes that their staff was my favorite staff," Button said in his remarks to guests. "And frankly there's some truth in that, because every staff I had was different. Every staff I had was unique. Every staff I had was special. ... So yes, in one way or the other, every staff I ever had was my favorite staff." Button served as The Tower's adviser from 1966 to 1994.

five years ago, but he left a lifetime of memories."

Ben Harwood, who graduated in 1994, was one of 30 staffers who worked on The Tower under both Button and Nardone.

"Many former Tower staffers have gone on to pursue successful careers as professional journalists and other high profile careers," Harwood said. "Those skills that we learned, no matter what career we had, we honed in that first floor newsroom. Their students' success was a living testament to the excellence of Bob and Jeff and their teaching. Years later, when I first became an adviser, my first calls were to Bob and to Jeff and my consistent goal was to follow the example that those two advisers set for me. Bob

and Jeff taught us to look at the world without bias, but with a healthy dose of skepticism, always in search of that legitimate second source. Sounds like pretty good advice today."

Harwood pursued a career in television news before returning to Detroit to become a teacher and, later, an administrator. In fact, he hired Edgerton in her first job as a journalism teacher and adviser and helped with her transition to South.

Harwood had high praise for Edgerton as well.

"She's terrific," he said. "She's put this (gala) together. She's a terrific hustler and absolute advocate for kids and knows how to connect kids with the right resources."

Edgerton, who said the event raised approximately \$13,000 — with checks still coming in — credited Lisa Kressbach from the class of 1982 for helping to establish a fund to support student journalism through the Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education.

A recurring theme throughout the evening was the important role advisers played in Tower's 90-year history. For example, according to Harwood, Trott, Button and Nardone all were named Michigan's Journalism Teacher of the Year — known as the Golden Pen Award — through the Michigan Interscholastic Press Association.

While Button acknowledged he saw the plaques lining the walls of The



Above, Tower alumnus Ben Harwood gets caught up on news at Grosse Pointe South while reading the 90th anniversary special edition of The Tower. Top, from left, Tower adviser Kaitlin Edgerton with co-editors-in-chief Liz Bigham and John Francis.

Tower room during his visit with students earlier that morning, he said the Tower's legacy of success went beyond winning awards.

"The tradition of excellence has been possible because of undying support of a community that thinks it's important to share the First Amendment to the United States Constitution and listen to each other no matter what perspective they come from," he said,

adding, "None of this would have been possible without the incredible, talented students — among the best in the United States — who devote their hearts and souls to this paper, year after year."

The Tower is still accepting donations. Contact Edgerton at edgertk@gpschools.org for more information.

Town halls

The Grosse Pointe Public School System is hosting facilities town halls at the dates and locations below. The purpose is to engage the Grosse Pointe community in discussing critical facilities needs in buildings throughout the district.

Town halls are 6:30 to 8 p.m. and include a presentation, tour and question-and-answer session. Contact Rebecca Fannon at fannonr@gpschools.org or (313) 432-3007 for more information. Presentations from past town halls are available at gpschools.org.

THURSDAY, APRIL 12

◆ Grosse Pointe South High School, 11 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms.

TUESDAY, APRIL 17

◆ Poupard Elementary School, 20655 Lennon, Harper Woods.

THURSDAY, APRIL 19

◆ Pierce Middle School, 15430 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Park.

South choir boosters celebrate 'mad men' era in fundraiser

The Grosse Pointe South Show Choir Boosters hosts its annual fundraiser Friday, April 13, at the Detroit Yacht Club. The event runs 7 p.m. to mid-

night and the evening's theme is "Fly Me to the Moon ... and Let Me Play Amongst the Stars" celebrating the 1950s "Mad Men" era of high fashion

and fast living. Tickets are \$70 per person through Thursday, April 12, and \$80 at the door.

Participants will enjoy a strolling dinner, music and dancing, and silent and live auctions. There will be a cash bar featuring a signature cocktail, mixed drinks, beer and wine. Net proceeds benefit the Grosse Pointe South High School Choir Boosters, a nonprofit 501(c)3 corporation. For tickets or more information, visit the Boosters' gpsouthchoir.org or call (313) 432-3638.

"This an exciting night that gives members of our community — whether

they're involved in choir or not — the opportunity to support and celebrate the accomplishments of the young men and women who perform and compete locally, regionally and internationally on behalf of Grosse Pointe South," said Boosters' Presidents Linda and Perry Calisi in a statement.

Items expected to be available through live and silent auctions include gift baskets from local merchants, tickets to sporting events, reserved seats at South's graduation ceremony and more.

"We have great items up for auction, an incredible and historic setting in the Detroit Yacht Club on Belle Isle, music and dancing and food and libations," said Anne Leo, chair of the event for the second year running. "We had a wonderful showing at last year's fundraiser on Belle Isle and we're hoping to top that in 2018."

For the adventurous in

attendance, the evening also will feature late night ghost tours of the DYC.

The Grosse Pointe South Choir Boosters was established to provide support for Grosse Pointe South's vocal music program that includes four curricular show choirs: The Pointe Singers, The Tower Belles, South Singers and Sounds of South, as well as the extracurricular a cappella group, The Suspensions.

The Boosters raise funds through paid memberships, a patron program, donations and special events to provide financial assistance for professional choreography, expenses related to participating in competitions, costumes, sets and transportation.

Additionally, the Boosters' volunteers provide countless hours sewing and organizing costumes, styling hair, providing backstage support, promoting events and selling tickets.

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Find your voice

Poupard celebrates third year as Leader in Me school

By Mary Anne Brush
Staff Writer

The Leader in Me program is known for its seven habits. “Be proactive,” “Begin with the end in mind” and “Put first things first” foster independence. “Think win-win,” “Seek first to understand, then to be understood” and “Synergize” promote interdependence. Finally, “Sharpen the saw” focuses on the whole person, according to “The Leader in Me” by Stephen R. Covey, Sean Covey, Muriel Summers and David K. Hatch.

There’s an eighth lesser-known habit included in the literature — “Find your voice and inspire others to find theirs.” Of all the habits demonstrated during Poupard Elementary School’s third annual leadership day March 28, this one was perhaps most evident to guests.

“The seven habits prepare you for the eighth habit,” said fifth-grader Amelia Nichols.

“Finding your voice is like finding what you want to do in life,” said classmate Gabriel Chambers.

“Your talents, your passion,” said Nichols.

“And your specialty,” added Chambers.

Chambers and Nichols found their voices as masters of ceremony during the kickoff in the library. Other students found theirs while sharing their pride in the program and their school — whether greeting guests, displaying schoolwork, talking about a favorite habit or demonstrating an activity in a Dragon Den, a multi-age grouping of students who meet periodically throughout the year to practice the habits.

In Karen Gallagher’s fifth-grade class, students used their voices to recite their mission statement while clapping in rhythm: “Be kind. Best effort. All the time. Listen and learn. Lead with pride. Set goals. Don’t give up. Poupard dragons. That’s us!”

“This is something we kind of put together,” said Ja’Rel Fuller. “We thought of ideas and we put them on paper, like how we need to lead and something our class needs to work on as teams and leaders. ... It’s something ... for us to look back and go to it. Like ‘be kind.’ That’s something that our class needs to work on and that’s something we wrote on the paper before we put it all together.”

Individually, Fuller said he most often refers back to “Don’t give up.”



Top, Board of Education Vice President Margaret Weertz talks with Tatyana Reeves and Je'Sean Woods about what The Leader in Me means to them and how it has changed their lives. Above, Superintendent Gary Niehaus listens as fifth graders, from left, Tianne Bailey, Tanaya Harrison, Indya Evans and Vernaris Brown, recite their mission statement.

“Sometimes when I’m struggling with something, I will give up. But then after we did this, I’m starting to work harder on my work and being better (about) not giving up on my work,” he said, adding, “Mrs. Gallagher and our other teachers’ help with these efforts.”

Students also used their voices to talk about their “WIGs” — or “wildly important goals.”

Fourth-grader Duane Howell’s WIG is to go to college to become an engineer. He loves to read and knows this will help him attain his goal. “(Reading) gives you brain knowledge,” he said.

Fifth-grader Destinei Beasley’s WIG is to learn Japanese. Computer paraprofessional Karen Cueny helps her in this endeavor with extracurricular Japanese instruction.

The former long-term substitute teacher said she noticed a difference at Poupard while substitute teaching throughout the district.

“At other schools, if there was an issue between two kids, either they’d end up going to an adult right away or I’d hear an argument,” Cueny said. “There was generally a problem somewhere along the way. Here, I was listening to an issue between a

whole group of kindergartners and they were sitting there solving it, no adult intervention necessary. And I thought: this is different.”

To fourth-grader Carrington Turner, this is called “Think win-win” — her favorite habit. In her individual mission statement, Turner wrote she works with Young Five students. Sometimes this means helping them resolve conflicts.

“If they get into an argument, if we settle it, they’re happy and I’m happy. It’s a win-win,” Turner said. “Sometimes if their argument is not that big, we make them figure it out on their own and solve it out. They’re happy and their classmate is happy.”

“Think win-win” is Chambers’ and Nichols’ favorite habit too, along with “Synergy.” They use both to resolve conflicts with older siblings at home as well as with classmates.

“There’s a lot of working together in the classes and getting things done,” said Nichols. “Think win-win helps everyone with conflict and arguing.”

Among guests at Poupard’s leadership day were parents, Grosse Pointe Public School System teachers and principals, administrators from the central office,



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

Top, from left, Gabriel Chambers, Amelia Nichols, Vivian Pope, Allison Harris, Ran’Zarehia Burns and Piper Hammel led the leadership day kickoff. Above left, Penny Stocks and Julie Mayo pose as Deshawn Edwards, Jasmine Thomas and Ja’Rel Fuller use iPads to take their picture. The three students were part of a small group tasked with documenting the event. Above right, DeAndre Pitts, Isaiah Brown and Isaiah Mayweather work as a team to stack cups during a Dragon Den exercise demonstrating habit No. 6, “Synergize,” while Poupard Principal Hussain Ali looks on.

Board of Education and city council members, including Harper Woods Mayor Ken Poynter, and teachers from Kendon Elementary School in Dewitt.

Kerby, Mason and Trombly elementary school teachers in attendance had a particular interest in watching Leader in Me in action; their schools are on deck to begin implementing the program next year, according to Keith Howell, director of pre-k and elementary instruction. The Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education’s three year campaign, “Be the Beacon,” is raising funds for the remaining eight elementary schools to become Leader in Me schools — and GPPSS ultimately to become a Leader in Me lighthouse district. Ferry is in its second year and Defer in its first.

“This is my first time seeing leadership day, which is really awesome,” said Kelly Morawski, who teaches students with autism at Kerby. “It gets teachers excited about it. We keep saying we can’t wait to see Kerby kids do that.”

“It’s very inspirational,” said Kerby grade 1-2 teacher Adam Price. “It kind of shows you, not the finish line, but the direction you’re supposed to be

heading. It’s great to see how kids are affected, how teachers are affected.”

“I’m super excited,” said Julie Nurse, a third-grade teacher at Mason. “I’m looking forward to all the kids learning the seven habits, starting slow to grow. I do remember when they started this process (at Poupard) three years ago I was able to visit. Using the picture books to teach each habit and take your time to teach the habit really is helpful for the kids and for the teachers. ... I think that was really good wisdom and advice for us to know it’s OK to start slow and do something well, one small piece of it. It’s amazing to see how this whole community comes together. They’re so proud today. They’re so proud to share their school.”

Her wheels already are turning on ideas for next year.

“There are so many cool things,” she said.

“I’d love to see a (Mason mascot) moose mural. ... I like how they said you have to divide up into teams initially — a leadership team, a culture team and an academic team. Everybody should look at what their strength is,” she said, adding she already decided she wants to work on the culture team.

For Principal Roy Bishop, the program is a perfect fit with Mason’s culture.

“We are a community of learners, so to be able to have that common language that the seven habits creates, that gives the opportunity to everyone to assist and be inclusive of everyone,” Bishop said. “That’s really exciting to me to be able to have that common language and to be able to give students that ownership — ownership over their own actions and ownership over their own behavior.”

See VOICE, page 10A

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Parcells student is three-peat geo bee winner

By Mary Anne Brush
Staff Writer

Noah Dean will spend part of his spring break competing in his third state-level geography bee. The eighth-grader has won Parcells Middle School's bee three years in a row.

The type of student who typically performs well on geography bees, according to seventh-grade social studies teacher Scott Cooper, is curious about the world.

"Noah is one who wants to know things," said Cooper. "He wants to know how things work. If you're curious and you're always exploring on your own, of course you learn more. He doesn't just pay attention in class. He explores on his own because he wants to know more, which really helps."

To prepare for the state bee at Western Michigan University Friday, April 6, Dean said he will read through questions in materials Cooper provided as well as look online.

"But mainly I just really enjoy maps and different parts of geography," he said. "It almost comes naturally to how I prepare. I don't sit down and study like an hour a day; these are all facts I've picked up along the way."

These facts include the other Japanese island connecting the Seikan Tunnel with the island of Hokkaido — the question Dean answered for the win during Parcells' school bee Jan. 18. The answer? Honshu.

The sixth-grade winner



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

Eighth-grader Noah Dean heads to the state geography bee for the third consecutive year.

was David Rochon and seventh-grade winner was Nic Pierce, who placed second overall. Other top 10 finalists were Farrah Fasse, Liam Harris, Nathan Jochum — third place overall — Jack Widgren, Michael Sendoykas, Rita Shemmai and Zach Smith.

Traveling more to learn about the world is something Dean hopes to do in the future. Top destinations include the Amazon, Greece and the Middle East.

"The entire world is interesting to me and I'd like to learn about as many places as possible," he said, adding he chose

the Amazon "because I really enjoy natural sciences and things like ecology as well as social studies. Then also, I'm interested in cultures because I think it's an amazing thing to learn about how other people lead their lives and live the way they do, so I'd like to see a deeply historical place like Greece or the Middle East that has historical roots that run deep."

When he's older, Dean hopes his interest in marine biology and historical archeology will allow him to "see the world and experience it on multiple different levels."

After winning Parcells'

'... you just need to keep your head up and know you applied yourself and did your best.'

NOAH DEAN
Eighth-grader, Parcells Middle School

bee, Dean took a written test and qualified for the state bee by scoring among the top 100 school winners in the state. The winner of the state bee advances to the national championship at National Geographic Society Headquarters in Washington, D.C., May 20 to 23, competing for \$25,000 in college scholarship money.

Grosse Pointe middle schools boast four state

championships since 1989, including two former Parcells students: Matthew Vengalil won in 2006; Jamie Ding won in 2004 and 2005; and Pierce Middle School student Christopher MacKechnie won in 1990.

"The first time I went (to the state bee) I was extremely nervous," Dean said. "I was less nervous last time and I feel like I'll be even less nervous this coming time

so I think that's definitely an advantage. But (with) spelling bees and geography bees there's a big element of luck involved if you actually know the questions, so you just got to go into it knowing you might get tripped up and that's what happens, so you just have to keep your head up and know you applied yourself and did your best."

Also qualifying for the state bee from Grosse Pointe were seventh-grader Andrew Isaacs from Brownell Middle School, seventh-grader Logan Detweiler from Pierce Middle School and eighth-grader Ella Harvey from University Liggett School.

Teacher of THE WEEK



Amanda Beach

School: St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic School

Years at St. Clare: 2
Grade/Subject: 7th-grade homeroom and religion; 7th- and 8th grade social studies; 6th-, 7th- and 8th-grade science

Nominated by: Ann Tonissen, principal
Principal's quote:

"Mrs. Amanda Beach is an awesome middle school teacher. Why awesome? Mrs. Beach strives to reach every student in her class and makes sure they all are learning at their highest potential. It is clear she loves to work with the students. Mrs. Beach not only teaches academics, but she teaches her students to love school and have confidence in themselves."

What do you enjoy most about teaching?

The part of teaching I enjoy the most is seeing the look on my students' faces when they finally understand a concept. No matter how long or difficult it was to get to

that point, it is the greatest moment when they say, "I got it!" It's a teacher's proudest moment.

Describe a teaching accomplishment you're proud of or a "teachable moment" you experienced.

My proudest teaching moment was when I was teaching fifth graders a few years ago how to multiply fractions. It was the hardest concept for them to understand. Finally I found this activity online where you match up a grid of one fraction to the grid of another and then you count the squares that the grids cross to get your answer. Almost the whole class had a Eureka moment! After that they would even play with these homemade manipulatives during their free time. It was great!

Please share a book or person that has inspired you or your teaching.

I think the person who has inspired me the most was actually



COURTESY PHOTO

my high school chemistry teacher. She is the one who really sparked my interest in science. I remember on the first day of chemistry class we walked in to class and she did a demonstration where she lit a candle and then ate it. I now know that it was a type of edible wax, but at the time it was like magic. She just made science so fun and I aspire to be like her as a teacher.

Favorite quote:

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VOICE:

Continued from page 9A

Consequences can be good or bad, depending on your own choices. Think about those seven habits and habit No. 8, find your own voice. We want students to find their own voice."

One special guest was Poupard's former principal, Penny Stocks, who retired last year after 14 years at the helm. For her, GPFPE's plan to fund the program across the district — allowing principals, teachers and students to collaborate on a more cohesive program — is the realization of her vision when she sought funding for Poupard four years ago.

"It was absolutely my dream when we started this at Poupard that it wouldn't be just a Poupard thing; it would be something the whole district would be doing," she said, adding, "I cannot wait to come back and see every school as a Leader in Me school."

"This whole experience of leadership day has been fabulous for me," said Hussain Ali of his first leadership day as Poupard's principal. "My



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

First-grader Sky'lar Copeland talks to Kerby second-grade teacher Liz Kern about her work in the Super Star Showcase.

first time going through it to see our kids be so excited to share their work, their progress from throughout this year. Also to be able to refer back to things they've been taught, reviewing our habits and now demonstrating ways that they're able to use those habits.

"I'm really excited that moving forward we'll have three more schools as well," he continued, "Grosse Pointe schools we can partner up with and collaborate with and even push us up another level and have learning partners along the way."

"Be the Beacon"

The Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education is celebrating leadership at its annual "Be the Beacon" gala. Proceeds benefit Grosse Pointe public schools by supporting The Leader in Me program in the elementary schools and classroom initiatives in all 15 schools.

Saturday, April 14
6:30 p.m. Cocktails
7:30 p.m. Dinner

8:30 p.m. Live auction
Raffle and wine pull

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Tau Beta hosts 15th annual Spring Market

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

It's been 15 years since the first Tau Beta Spring Market brought boutique shopping back to Grosse Pointe.

When the springtime tradition began, Jacobson's had recently closed and there weren't many shopping opportunities in the area, said Patsy Gotfredson.

"We dreamed up this event — it had to be a spring event," said Gotfredson, one of Spring Market's founders who this year serves as honorary chairwoman. "Fifteen years ago there was no place to shop in Grosse Pointe. We have grown the event. We were at the Hunt Club three years, but we outgrew it. We've been at the Grosse Pointe Club since then. It's the perfect size. We're able to raise a considerable amount of money for a three-day event. It's caught on."

Added Leslie Rajewski, this year's chairwoman, "We were looking to find something to do to bring the community together and bring shopping. We knew we wanted to bring in vendors from all over the country. We wanted it to feel fresh, new, springy. ... Fifteen years later, it has stayed true to what we wanted it to be."

The 2018 event takes place Thursday through Saturday, April 19 to 21, bringing vendors from across the country to Grosse Pointe. Twenty vendors — several new to the market — sell items



Bird Dog Bay features men's clothing items.

ranging from clothing and jewelry to home décor and gift items.

"We curate our shows and really try to have unique and very nice things," Gotfredson said. "It doesn't have to be expensive to be nice. This is not a craft fair. We're selling jewelry, clothing, home goods, décor items, linens, tons of gifts for Mother's Day and graduations, nice ties and shirts for men."

"We like to have a range of price points," she continued. "There's something for everyone. These vendors come from all over the country, so we like to offer things not available in Grosse Pointe."

Spring Market kicks off with a preview party featuring cocktails and hors d'oeuvres 6 to 9 p.m. Thursday, April 19. Tickets are \$75 in advance, \$85 at the door.

"We tried to keep ticket prices for the preview party reasonable," Rajewski said. "We wanted to encourage participation in couples and encourage men to come. We have increased male

vendors for more clothing options for men."

Patrons are invited to get a sneak peek of vendors' wares, as well as enter to win raffle prizes.

Prizes this year include a Luxe Beauty package by Neiman Marcus featuring a Massage Green gift card, services from Zealous Root and a goodie bag; an Ippolita Rock Candy Collection necklace and bracelet from edmund t. AHEE jewelers; a night out for a Detroit Symphony Orchestra performance with dinner at Vertical; and an original oil painting, "View of Giverny," by Chris Wardwell.

Raffle tickets are \$25 each; prizes are valued between \$1,400 and \$1,750. Raffle winners need not be present to win.

"The raffle is a great way to offer something but not take away from the vendors," Gotfredson said. "Our priority is the vendors who've taken their time to be here."

Shopping is open to the public 9:30 a.m. and runs to 7 p.m. Friday, April 20, and 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.



W&W Home Decor items to be featured at Spring Market.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF LESLIE RAJEWSKI

A little help from friends

Spring Market vendors are housed by Tau Beta members during their stay in Grosse Pointe.

"We've got 20 vendors," said Leslie Rajewski, event chairwoman. "It's great so many people open up their homes."

Honorary chairwoman Patsy Gotfredson, one of the event's founders 15 years ago, said it's always been a priority for members to have that reputation.

"We want to be fun — and we're good to one another," Gotfredson said. "Tau Beta is filled with a lot of nice people."

That includes its junior members — high school students who help vendors unpack and set up, as well as pack their wares at the end of Spring Market. Junior members also dedicate time and organize events at Children's Center of Detroit, the beneficiary of Spring Market proceeds.

Junior members recently were nominated for Children's Center's Lisa V. Ford Heart & Soul Award, which recognizes charitable contributions to the organization.

"This has been a partnership that's developing as we go," Gotfredson said of Children's Center. "They have huge donors, corporate donors like Ford Motor Co., but we're the most impactful nonprofit that's partnered with them."

Saturday, April 21. Admission is \$5.

Additionally, a Spring Market-tinis event takes place 4 to 7 p.m. Friday, featuring a cash bar and drawing for a B. May bag donated by Girlie Girl.

A buffet lunch is offered both days 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

A portion of the vendors' sales is donated to Tau Beta, which also raises money through booth fees and corporate sponsorships. All funds raised support the Children's Center of Detroit, with whom Tau Beta has been partnered since 2005. Since then, Tau Beta has donated \$1.2 million to Children's Center through Spring Market and other events.

"Every year from Spring Market, they can count on \$100,000 that we give them," Rajewski said.

Through donations from Tau Beta, Children's Center recently opened its Tau Beta Center for Literacy, for anyone who needs help reading. Tau Beta volunteers also commit time to the center through the Tau Beta Center for Discovery, as

well as by helping stock the food pantry, donate gently used clothing, fill and deliver baby baskets to new moms and other activities for Children's Center clients.

"The literacy center is really exciting," Gotfredson said. "We're working with little children through adults. ... It's going to be a great opportunity to help those families down there. Reading skills aren't

where they should be in the public schools."

Sponsorship opportunities still are available. For more information — or for raffle or preview party tickets — visit taubeta.org.

"It's pretty amazing how far we've come," Gotfredson said. "I'm so glad it's still relevant to people in the community. People really still seem to enjoy it. I never dreamed it would be like this."

Spring Market sponsors

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Russell Development

Spring Market vendors

Bird Dog Bay, Chicago, Ill.
Carrie Dunham, New York, N.Y.
Cece Dupraz, Marblehead, Mass.
Christina Addison Fine Jewelry Designs, New York, N.Y.
Craig Ryan Fine Clothing, Grand Blanc
Creme de la Creme, Winnetka, Ill.
Elizabeth Chilla, Chicago, Ill.
Ellie Kai, Cape Cod, Mass.
Duffield Lane, Grand Rapids
Haverhill Fine Jewelry, Millbrook, N.Y.
Jack and Jill, Western Springs, Ill.
Jet Set Candy, New York, N.Y.
Kathy Kamei Designs, Kentfield, Calif.
Little Cottage Designs-Couture Classics, Eastpointe
Nell Mercier, Dedham, Mass.
Pearly Vine, New Albany, Ohio
PK Collection, Greenwich, Conn.
The Brave Brown Bag, Cambridge, Ontario, Canada
W&W, Sewickley, Pa.
Whitehead Studios, Highwood, Ill.



Duffield Lane will have goods for sale during Spring Market.

Puppy Videos or Social Security Numbers



Suzanne Antonelli, CFP®
Wealth Advisor

We have anticipated for quite some time that the market would eventually step back and take a breath; unfortunately, without a crystal ball it is impossible to predict with any certainty. March proved a rough month for the S&P 500, which experienced a decline of 2.54%, and the

first few trading days in April the slide continued with the index falling 2.23% on April 2nd.

The tech sector, which has led the market to new highs in the past year, is under pressure. President Trump has been feuding with Amazon and tweeted this past weekend that Amazon is "scamming" the U.S. Postal Service and the stock declined 5% on Monday.

The most dramatic decline, however, is in Facebook shares, which dropped over 20% since the data sharing scandal story broke. Facebook is being attacked on all fronts: the media, the government, and its peers (Apple CEO Tim Cook). I have a Facebook account and I choose what I am willing to share — mostly

funny puppy videos and family pictures. I cannot imagine why Cambridge Analytica would find my posts, my likes or dislikes even remotely interesting.

What I do find interesting, as should we all, is the lack of punitive damages and outrage regarding the Equifax data breach. In September of last year, it was announced that Equifax was breached and that over 147 million people had their personal information stolen. Our Social Security numbers, credit card numbers, dates of birth, all information that could be utilized to steal our identities was compromised. Lawmakers have taken no concrete steps to prevent this massive intrusion in

the future.

Consumers are not given a choice to opt out of credit bureaus collecting our data — we have no choice what information they collect and no recourse when they do not safeguard our most personal data. Equifax will likely benefit in the long-term from this breach as consumers scramble to protect their identity and the company markets protection services.

Equifax was founded in 1899, they have had ample time to secure our data, while Facebook is still in its infancy, having launched in 2004. I do not approve of Facebook sharing our information, but I do believe they are taking positive steps in protecting our privacy in

the future. The question we should all be asking is what is Equifax doing to secure our data and what are our lawmakers doing to require Equifax and other credit bureaus safeguard our data?

I have recommended to my clients that they freeze their credit reports with Equifax, Experian, TransUnion and Innovis. By freezing your credit report, you can at least be assured that a new account or loan application cannot be approved without your knowledge. A credit freeze will only stop new credit lines from being created; it will not stop someone who has your personal identifying information from gaining access to your current accounts.

Be vigilant; monitor the activity on your bank accounts, investment accounts, and credit card statements for any unusual activities.

Suzanne has over 25 years of experience in personalized portfolio management, tax and retirement planning, risk management, and estate plan execution and funding. She specializes in the unique financial needs of families, retirees, and women.

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Blooming business

World-class floral designer to lecture at DIA

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Award-winning floral designer and Stockholm native Per Benjamin makes his way to the Detroit Institute of Arts for an Elizabeth Sites Kuhlman lecture 10:30 a.m. Monday, April 23.

The lecture is presented by the DIA's Friends of Art & Flowers, which offers year-round activities centered on floral design.

"The Elizabeth Sites Kuhlman Lecture is named in honor of Mrs. Henry Kuhlman, who was one of the founders of Friends of Art & Flowers," said Sarah Ollison, a City of Grosse Pointe resident and co-chairwoman of the lecture. "Liz Kuhlman is a very gracious lady involved in several garden clubs on the east side. ... She is in the Grosse Pointe Garden Club and Garden Club of Michigan. She's been a part of the community a long time. Liz is still very much a mentor to those interested in floral design. We're very grateful we

Where friends meet

Friends of Art & Flowers was created more than 30 years ago by three Grosse Pointe women whose primary goal was — and still is — to beautify the Detroit Institute of Arts with flowers.

The organization is supported by local garden clubs, said Sarah Ollison, City of Grosse Pointe resident and co-chairwoman of the upcoming Elizabeth Sites Kuhlman Lecture.

Since its founding in 1988, the group has grown to include 160 men and women members — with and without floral design experience.

Among its activities, the group creates three weekly floral arrangements for the museum September to June, as well as for special events and exhibition openings; offers curator-guided tours of DIA galleries and special exhibits; sponsors the Betsy Campbell Lecture each fall and the Elizabeth Sites Kuhlman Lecture each spring; and provides financial support for art acquisitions.

"There's a science to this," Ollison said. "And it's fun."

For more information, call (313) 833-9830 or email ewheeler@dia.org.

can honor her with this event."

Each year, Friends of Art & Flowers brings in a floral designer — "somebody who does it a little different," Ollison said — and invites the general public to attend.

This year, Benjamin will share his floral design philosophy with attendees, as well as create 10 floral designs in 90 minutes.

"He comes from the Nordic school of floral

design," Ollison said, explaining entire flowers are part of the design, including stems, which Benjamin braids. He also uses negative space, "the space between the flowers," Ollison said. "You can see through the arrangement to flowers on the other side. It's an Impressionist technique."

Benjamin, whose interest in floral design budged at age 16, studied natural science and horticulture, eventually earn-

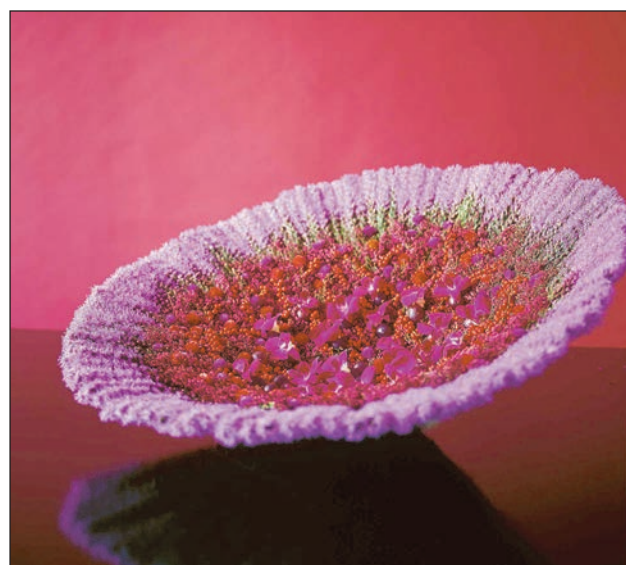


Per Benjamin

ing a craftsmanship diploma with a silver medal in 1994. A quick learner, Benjamin won the Interflora World Cup competition in 2002.

At the competition he met two competitors with whom he bonded and formed a partnership. Between them, Ollison said, they've published 23 books and travel the world giving lectures, demonstrations, workshops, consultations, leadership courses and more.

"Being well published and his (hectic) schedule have kept him at the top of his field for more than 15 years now," said



COURTESY PHOTOS

An example of Benjamin's work.

Ollison, co-chairing the event with Missy Mark.

The past three years, the city of Stockholm has asked Benjamin to decorate the Blue Hall and table of honor for the Nobel Prize banquets.

"He's one of the most prestigious floral designers in the world," Ollison said.

During his lecture, video screens on either side of the stage offer a close-up view of Benjamin's hands at work — and guarantee there won't be an obstructed view in the 370-seat lecture hall.

"After the demonstration, the (arrangements) are raffled off to great excitement," Ollison said. "They'll be displayed in

Prentis Court. Those who attend also are invited to stay for lunch in Rivera Court. It's a great spring event."

Tickets have sold out in the past, so Ollison suggested buying them sooner rather than later.

"They're very reasonably priced," she said. "It's a great way to come down and enjoy the museum and get your feet wet. And this Monday, the DIA is not open to the public, so parking will be readily available and there won't be a crush of people."

Tickets are \$35 for the lecture only, \$70 for the lecture and luncheon. For reservations, call (313) 833-4005 or visit bit.ly/kuhlmanlecture.

Books on the Lake tickets on sale Saturday

Books on the Lake, presented by the Grosse Pointe Public Library, Friends of the Grosse Pointe Public Library, Grosse Pointe Library

Foundation and Wayne County Community College District, takes place noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 5, at the Grosse Pointe Yacht

Club, 788 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Shores.

Tickets, which annually sell out fast, go on sale 9 a.m. Saturday, April 7.

"We've invited three nationally acclaimed authors to come and speak to the audience — to 300 library patrons and book lovers — about their writing process," said Beth Vernon, executive director of the GPLF.

Authors also read excerpts from their books and take questions from the audience. This year's speakers are Meg Gardiner, author of the award-winning "China Lake" and other thrillers; Garth Stein, author of "The Art of Racing in the Rain," which spent more than three years on the New York Times Bestsellers List; and Yaa Gyasi, whose bestselling debut, "Homegoing," won numerous awards, including the PEN/Hemingway Award and American Book Award.

New this year, the authors also will attend a VIP cocktail reception the night before, hosted in the home of Grosse

Pointer Dr. Julie Corbett of WCCCD. The invitation-only event is for foundation donors and Friends members.

"Its popularity, as evidenced in how fast it historically sells out, is a testament to the quality of the event," Vernon said. "The beautiful venue — the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club — and the caliber of the authors are speaking this year are reason enough to join us. Special thanks to the presenting sponsors — Wayne County Community College District and the Friends

and Foundation of the Grosse Pointe Library for making this all possible, as well as partner sponsors Beline Obeid Realty, Grosse Pointe Audiology, a friend of the Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods communities and James A. Everett D.D.S. We are fortunate to have their support."

Tickets for Books on the Lake cost \$40 and are available at the library's Central branch, 10 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms. For more information, call (313) 343-2074.

— Jody McVeigh

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AREA ACTIVITIES

Ecumenical Breakfast

The Grosse Pointe Men's Ecumenical Breakfast meets 7:45 a.m. Friday, April 6.

Brother Jerry Johnson, executive director of the Detroit Capuchin Soup Kitchen, speaks. Reservations are not required; all are welcome. Breakfast is \$7. Call (313) 882-5330.

Grannie Nannies

Grannie Nannies, for grandmothers who babysit their grandchildren, meets 1:30 p.m. Friday, April 6, at Big Boy Restaurant, 20710 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods. Call (313) 882-9600.

Toastmasters

Northeastern Toastmasters meets 7 p.m. Monday, April 9, at the Mary Ellen Stempfle University Center, 19305 Vernier, Harper Woods. Call Wendy Bradley at (313) 884-1184 or Ron or Marcia Pikielek at (313) 884-4201.

100 Women

100 Women Who Care, an organization that donates directly to a chosen charity, meets 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 10, at WaterMark Bar & Grill, 24420 Jefferson, St. Clair

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See EVENTS, page 6B

SENIOR *Living*



Volunteer for the health of it

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Volunteering doesn't just affect the organization or person being helped. Volunteers themselves benefit in a variety of ways.

"Volunteering can have a positive impact on your community, as well as your physical, mental and emotional health," said Heidi Uhlig-Johnstone, director of volunteer services at Services for Older Citizens, Grosse Pointe Farms. "Research has shown that volunteering increases one's physical health. Staying physically active may reduce incidents of heart disease, lower blood pres-

sure and (lead to) a longer lifespan. Volunteering also increases mental well-being, improves self-esteem."

Volunteering may reduce the stress of daily life, she added, and helps improve confidence, cognitive function and a sense of achievement.

"Volunteer work keeps the brain engaged and enhances social support networks that keep us in touch and involved," she said.

Being in touch and involved is important. Studies show up to 43 percent of aging adults who live at home experience social isolation, which creates health risks including depres-

sion, long-term illness and falls. Benefits of volunteering include decreased isolation, improved social connections and fewer symptoms of depression.

Recognizing the difference between being alone and loneliness also matters. Solitude is one thing; isolation is another story.

"An individual may choose to enjoy some alone time by themselves," Uhlig-Johnstone said. "Being alone can also be viewed as temporary, whereas loneliness can be longer term and may be viewed as the inability to socialize because of the lack of connection or communication with others. This

may be due to having a lack of support system, a loss of a loved one, (being) unable to drive or lack of transportation or not having access to various services. Studies have shown that loneliness can have a negative impact on your physical, mental and social health."

Volunteering gives seniors a reason to get out of the house and an opportunity to share their talents, wisdom and experience with people they otherwise may never have met, Uhlig-Johnstone said.

April 15 to 21 is National Volunteer Week, an annual observation to promote and show appreciation for volunteerism.

"There are many reasons why it is important for a person to get involved in volunteering," she said. "A person interested in volunteering may want to fulfill a personal need, gain experience, develop a new skill set, meet new people or expand their network. Furthermore, a person interested in volunteering may wish to give back to their community or are enthusiastic to give back to a particular cause."

Volunteers are vital members of the SOC team, Uhlig-Johnstone said. In 2017, SOC volunteers contributed nearly 15,039 hours, a value to the community of more than \$355,973.

"Everyone has unique gifts to share and our volunteers make significant contributions by putting their time and talents to

work addressing important community needs," Uhlig-Johnstone said. "SOC is always in need of volunteers. Volunteers do a variety of tasks ranging from mailings, delivering Meals on Wheels to picking up and dropping off items.

"Currently, SOC is looking for volunteers to assist with SOC's Escort Transportation Program, which entails transporting clients to and from their medical appointments," she continued. "Interested individuals must complete the necessary paperwork needed to volunteer, such as a volunteer application, background check form and TB test. To obtain the forms, individuals can stop by SOC to pick them up or email me at huhlig@socservices.org."

The Encore Years: Audrey Bernier-Gibson

By Jody McVeigh
Editor

Fraser resident Audrey Bernier-Gibson is hush-hush about her age. She doesn't want the seniors she cares for to know — even though she calls them her "peers."

The 67-year-old has volunteered at Services for Older Citizens 25 years. She's been a part of the community organization since its days at Barnes School in the early 1990s, following it to the Neighborhood Club, Cottage Hospital and everywhere in between.

"I've always come to SOC," she said. "I'm a full-time caregiver, too, but I never work on Tuesday or Thursday morning because I'm here. I don't give this up for nobody."

Bernier-Gibson can be found every Tuesday and Thursday morning at SOC, where she volunteers for a variety of duties.

"Every Tuesday morning, I pick up Shirley ... and Willie ... and we go to Panera and pick up the bread," she said. "Then we come here and sort it, cut it up and bag it. Sometimes we use it for prizes. We put the bread out for anyone who wants bread or bagels."

Panera Bread in the Village donates Tuesdays, while Breadsmith donates every other Wednesday — also a fun day at SOC.

"Wednesday we have blanket making and coloring for adults," Bernier-Gibson said. "It's so therapeutic. For people who don't like to be around crowds, it's quiet time, low conversation. You feel so much better about yourself. You don't know what you have in common with someone until you come out here."

Thursdays Bernier-Gibson arrives at 7 a.m. to set up the cafe with coffee and condiments, then prepares for SOC's weekly bingo game, which she calls.

"It keeps me going," she said of her volunteer work. "I have a purpose — to get up in the morning and come here and be with my peers. It's so much fun here."

Bernier-Gibson helps gather bingo prizes, too, often using money collected from a donation basket to pay for the items. She also lends a hand during SOC holiday parties and special events.

"I come in the week of Christmas and put together Christmas baskets, then deliver the baskets," she said. "I've been doing that a long

time. I absolutely love it. It gives me a chance to talk to them and tell them to come down and play bingo with us. If you can't play bingo, come and color with us or put a blanket together. We're all about fun."

The full-time private duty caregiver cares for clients when she's not at SOC, which quickly fills out her weekdays. Her weekends, she said, are for family — she and her husband have three children, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren — and going to the movies.

"I'm crazy for movies," she said. "I try to go every Saturday."

Bernier-Gibson's husband is a PAATS driver, working three days a week.

"We're both taking care of seniors," she said. "I don't know how that happened. I enjoy it though. I really do. I'll be here as long as I possibly can."

"I have to stay busy," she continued. "I like to be out with people. New people, they're not new after they come up and meet me. ... SOC has enriched my life by allowing me to volunteer my time. I'm a people person, so I enjoy meeting new people and welcoming them to stay at SOC and play bingo or

have a meal with us. I also let them know we have resources to help them remain active in their everyday life. Just being among all those smiling faces I feel makes me a better person. SOC is truly my second family and I love them all there very much."



Audrey Bernier-Gibson calls bingo Thursday mornings.

PHOTO COURTESY OF SOC



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OBITUARIES

Obituary notices are purchased and often prewritten by family or friends. While we try to run obituaries as submitted, we nevertheless reserve the right to edit for accuracy, style and length.

Patricia Brennan

Patricia Brennan, 67, passed away Monday, March 26, 2018.

She was the beloved wife of Floyd 38 years; dear mother of Tony and will be loved and missed by many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her brother and sister.

Pat provided home health care in Grosse Pointe 40 years.

Private services have taken place.

Memorial donations may be made to Heritage Presbyterian Church, 23415 Jefferson Ave., St. Clair Shores, MI 48080.

Share a memory at bcfhshores.com.

Peggy Beadle

Longtime Grosse Pointe resident Peggy Beadle, 83, passed away Tuesday, March 27, 2018.

She is survived by her loving husband, Richard Beadle; daughters, Julie Heidt and Jane Owen; grandchildren, Katie Kirk (Anthony), Will Owen (Brenna), Teddy Heidt (Ryan) and Bess Owen and great-granddaughter, Harper Kirk.

Peggy owned Vistage Michigan with her husband, chaired a chief executive group many years and served as CEO until 2009. Prior to her involvement with Vistage Michigan, she managed her own consulting firm, Management Agenda, providing organizational development services to firms throughout the country. Additionally, Peggy held organizational development and training roles at City National Bank and Dayton Hudson Corp., and was an internal consultant for McKesson Corp., where she was responsible for executive assessment and development for more than 20,000 employees. In the 1970s, she co-founded the Women's Justice Center in Detroit, which, today, continues to use law students from local universities to provide legal services for indigent women.

Peggy completed extensive training at the Gestalt Institute of Cleveland and a yearlong internship program with University Associates in San Diego. She also attended Western Michigan University and University of Detroit.

Peggy was known for her loving heart and sharing words of wisdom and guidance. She worked tirelessly for Christ Church Grosse Pointe. The word "matriarch" describes her completely as she deeply loved her family, company and community.

A memorial service was held April 4 at Christ Church Grosse Pointe.

Donations may be made to Planned Parenthood at plannedparenthood.org or Alternatives for Girls, 903 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48208.

Share a memory at verheyden.org.

Christine Harris

Christine Harris, 89, passed away Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017.

She was the beloved wife of Barry Harris; loving mother of Carol Geyer (Keith) and sister of Shirley Brown and the late Ulysses S.G. Brown.

Mrs. Harris was an avid singer and member of the St. Stephen AME Church Celestial Choir, Rackham Symphony Choir and Brazeal Dennard Chorale. She was a secretary with the Detroit Board of Education, retiring in 1993.

A memorial service will be 11 a.m. Saturday, April 7, at Christ Church Grosse Pointe, 61 Grosse Pointe Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms.

Share a memory at verheyden.org.

Antoinette Rose Nickoloff

Former Grosse Pointe resident Antoinette Rose Nickoloff passed away Tuesday, March 27, 2018, in Victor, N.Y.

She was predeceased by her loving husband, Vassel "Bill"; parents, Joseph and Rose Martin; and brother, Joseph Martin.

She is survived by her children, Brian (Deb), Keith (Lori) and Karen Killmer (Jeff); eight grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

A funeral service was held April 3 at The Legacy in Victor.

A private interment will take place at Glen Eden Cemetery in Livonia at the convenience of the family.

Donations may be made to Christ the King Lutheran Church, 20338 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236.

Funeral arrangements

have been entrusted to the Richard H. Keenan Funeral Home, Fairport, N.Y.

Carmie Jo Hastings

Carmie Jo Hastings, 81, passed away Thursday, March 29, 2018.

Carmie was predeceased by her husband, James Thomas and is survived by her loving children, Aleta, Heather Sanocki (Randy) and Todd; grandchildren, Jamison, Jenna Sanocki, Kaela Sanocki and John Sanocki and sisters, Clara McDonald and Bobbi Wheeler.

Carmie was a member of the Grosse Pointe Farms Boat Club and loved gardening, traveling and cooking.

Donations may be made to Roseville Church of Christ, 17415 E. 11 Mile Road, Roseville, MI 48066.

Share a memory at kaulfuneralhome.com.

Jon Clark Rice

Jon Clark Rice passed away Saturday, March 24, 2018, in Portage, after a long illness.

Born in Detroit to Jack and Vinelle Rice, Jon lived most of his life on the east side, graduated from Grosse Pointe High School, attended Central Michigan University and graduated from Olivet College, where he played baseball and football. He earned a Master of Education degree from Wayne State University.

Jon taught and coached 31 years at Grosse Pointe South High School. He is a member of the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame and the Michigan High School Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

Jon loved being with family, was an avid golfer and enjoyed traveling.

Jon is survived by his wife of 50 years, Denyse; children, Russell and Jane Hook (Todd); grandchildren, Jack, Kyle, Luke, Keeley and Patrick, and sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Betsy and Leslie Cole.

He was predeceased by his parents.

A celebration of life will be 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday, April 29, at the Grosse Pointe Woods Community Center, 20025 Mack, Grosse Pointe Woods.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made



Patricia Brennan



Peggy Beadle



Christine Harris



Carmie Jo Hastings



Jon Clark Rice



Darcy Mellen-Sullivan

to the charity of the donor's choice.

Darcy Christine Mellen-Sullivan

Darcy Christine Mellen-Sullivan, 67, of Naples, Fla. and Grosse Pointe, passed away peacefully Friday, March 16, 2018, at home with her family after the return of breast cancer, which she battled valiantly seven years.

Darcy was born in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, to Robert and Marni Mellen and was raised in Fairfield, Iowa. She graduated with a bachelor's degree in foreign languages from Parsons College and earned a master's degree in counseling psychology from Drake University. After graduate school, she spent 11 years as a member of the team that developed a computerized counseling program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Darcy's love of foreign language began in high school where she participated in exchange programs in Spain and Belgium. She turned this passion into a career teaching French in Eldon, Iowa, and growing into a role as executive director of the French American Chamber of Commerce of Michigan. She also spent many years as the bilingual counselor for the French Back-to-Back program in Grosse Pointe, overseeing an exchange program to France for fifth-grade students. She also hosted exchange students who quickly became part of her extended family and created lifelong friendships across the globe.

Her passion for the theater began in high school as part of the stage crew and later in life, she was a regular patron of theaters in cities where she lived or visited. One time in London, she saw three performances in one day.

In addition to her passion for languages, theater, art and travel, Darcy adored the ocean with 700 scuba dives around the world. Those who knew her were touched by her wit, humor, kindness, smile and eagerness to help others. She was the type of person who never met a stranger.

Darcy is survived by her loving husband of 47 years, John R. "Jack" Sullivan; son, John R. Sullivan III; daughter-in-law, Katie; grandsons, Rory and Liam of Cooper City, Fla., and dozens of other family members



Bruce E. Van Farowe



Jo Dee Ann Yanik

throughout the country.

A celebration of life will be held 4 to 8 p.m. Sunday, April 29, at the Beach House at The Ritz-Carlton, Naples.

Donations may be made in Darcy's name to Susan G. Komen Southwest Florida for metastatic breast cancer research at komen.org or to Reef Environmental Education Foundation at REEF.org/contribute.

Bruce E. Van Farowe

Bruce E. Van Farowe, 67, passed away Wednesday, March 28, 2018, with his family at his side, at St. John Hospital & Medical Center in Detroit.

He was born Oct. 28, 1950, in Lansing, to Donald and Geraldine Van Farowe.

Bruce married the love of his life, Candace Thompson, in 1971, and together they shared a love that spanned 47 years. They raised their daughter, Christian, in a loving home where faith in God was foremost.

His Christian faith was most important in his life. He was a longtime member of Knox Presbyterian Church. Candace described Bruce as a biblical scholar.

Bruce retired in 2013 from the State of Michigan Department of Public Health as a consultant after 37 years of service. Bruce graduated with a bachelor's degree from Michigan State University and did graduate work at the University of Michigan School of Dentistry.

Bruce was an avid fisherman and fan of college sports, especially MSU football of which he was a longtime season ticket holder.

Bruce is survived by his beloved wife, Candace; dear daughter, Christian Wiegand (Michael) and loving grandchildren, Elizabeth, Matthew and Paul. He also is survived by his mother, Geraldine Van Farowe and sister,

Janine Swiftney (Steve). He was predeceased by his father, Donald Van Farowe.

A funeral service was March 31 at A.H. Peters Funeral Home, Grosse Pointe Woods.

Donations may be made to Knox Presbyterian Church Missionary Committee, 25700 Crocker Blvd., Harrison Township, MI 48045.

Jo Dee Ann Yanik

Jo Dee Ann Yanik, 59, passed away Tuesday, March 27, 2018.

She was born Dec. 31, 1958, in Detroit, to John Bernard and Mary Dema (nee Hebert) Yanik. Jo Dee married the love of her life since childhood, Timothy Francis Gille, June 3, 1983, in Grosse Pointe Woods. Jo Dee loved golfing, reading, celebrating holidays, fashion, decorating and hosting gatherings. She had a successful career as a sales rep while raising a family, and later on managing the family business. Jo Dee will be remembered as selfless, generous, loving, caring, intelligent and strong. To many in the community, Jo Dee was a second mom, opening her heart and home to all.

Jo Dee will be missed by her children, Danielle Gille and John Gille; siblings, Carol Mattiacci, Dianne Horton (Paul), Barb Sejnowski (Mark) and Linda Arlington (Tim) and nieces and nephews, Jennifer, Maggie, Paige, Grace, Joe, Gabby, Melanie, Benjamin, Thomas, David and Christopher.

In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her husband, Timothy Francis Gille.

A funeral service was held April 4 at Borek Jennings Funeral Home in Hamburg.

Donations may be made to the University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center at mcancer.org/giving.

Share a memory at borekjennings.com.

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PASTOR'S CORNER

By the Rev. Keith Lenard Jr.

Train them in the ways they should go

Family is very important in growing disciples. In my household, I usually read a Christian book to my daughter and son before they go to bed on alternating nights. My wife, Wendi, and I switch every night as we want each child to learn from us as we spend time together. We have a wonderful call to train Christian children.

Training the next generation of church leaders is very important. This training starts as soon as a person begins following Jesus. We call it being a disciple. When you are a disciple, you learn from others and from reading the Bible how to be more like Jesus. We grow continuously through grace, in the love and knowledge of God's plan. I have heard it before that the children we have in the churches right now will be "the church of the future," but they are, in fact, the church right now.

I have the privilege of serving God at the United Methodist Church here in Grosse Pointe. I get to work with youth and children's ministry, living out Psalm 145:4, "One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts." With help from other Christian leaders, we train the children up in the ways of God according to their age and Christian maturity. Younger children follow a curriculum with a Bible story and coloring as they learn. I know many adults who would not mind a coloring book every now and then.

The youth are a little more complex. We do a fun game to kick-off youth group relating to the theme that day and they are constantly doing some form of service to the church and community. We have a mission trip, where the youth grow in their discipleship by serving others.

You know when the child has grown and has come back to church after college or later life that the discipleship process you began many years before worked, as they become the new church leaders.

Lenard is the associate pastor at Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church.



The Rev. Richard Yeager-Stiver of Grosse Pointe Congregational Church leads prayer during Stations in the Street.



Above, Roger Skully, cantor at the Isaac Agree Downtown Synagogue, gave a closing prayer. Right, the Rev. Sarah Godbehere, associate pastor for youth and families at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, leads a prayer.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ROGER SKULLY

Stations in the Street

A sizable crowd spent time Good Friday along Kercheval for the annual Stations in the Street, presented by the Grosse Pointe Ministerial Association. Starting on Kercheval at Fisher, participants walked station to station, pausing for reflection and prayer for the needs of others.

The experience included participation from Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church, St. James Lutheran Church, Christ Church Grosse Pointe, First English Evangelical Lutheran Church, St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church, St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, St. Paul on the Lake Catholic Church, St. Philomena Catholic Church, St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church, Beaumont Hospital, Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church and Grosse Pointe Congregational Church.



The Rev. Ray McGee of Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church was among event speakers.

ASK THE EXPERTS By Angelina Spiteri-Bender

Building a strong foundation in literacy

Q: My child appears to enjoy reading, but seems stagnant in their development. What should I look for to ensure my child or student is progressing in their fluency and how can I help?

A: Reading and spelling is the end goal we all hope for; however, we may have to slow down a bit and make sure our children and students have built a strong foundation in their literacy. Continue to read books to your child that promote a love of literature

and help spark an interest in reading.

Q: What comprises a strong literacy foundation?

A: Strong phonological awareness skills are a prerequisite to reading. Once these crucial pre-reading skills are strengthened, we know our children and students can hear and vocalize sounds to begin blending sounds into words in reading and



segmenting words into sounds in spelling.

Alphabet skills also are important in building a strong literacy foundation. Singing the alphabet and recognizing letter names help your child and/or student associate the sound to the letter

later down the road. Reading to a child and engaging them in answering questions about what they listened to is a preliminary comprehension building activity. Nothing is better than sitting down and listening to a good story, right?

Lastly, it is important to remember this is not an easy road for all. Keeping early learning fun, engaging and positive is highly encouraged.

Angelina Spiteri-

Bender is a certified dyslexia practitioner, director of the Grosse Pointe Brainspring Learning Center and instructor at Brainspring Educator Academy. More information may be found at brainspring.com or by calling (800) 732-3211. Brainspring Learning Center is a member of The Family Center's Association of Professionals.

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10:45 a.m. - Sunday School

MONDAY
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EVENTS:

Continued from page 2B

Shores. Visit 100women whocare-grossepointe.org.

Senior Men

The Grosse Pointe Senior Men's Club meets 11 a.m. Tuesday, April 10, at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. David

Tarrant discusses Detroit City Airport. All men age 55 and older, working or retired, are invited. Jackets are suggested. Lunch is \$15. Current members are encouraged to invite a friend.

Blood drive

The American Red Cross offers a blood drive 1 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 11, Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16

Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. Register online at redcrossblood.org.

Jardinieres

La Societe des Jardinieres meets noon Thursday, April 12, at the home of member Madeleine Phillips, with Jean Forton as co-hostess. A luncheon is followed by a speaker. The topic is "Container Gardening with Herbs."

Herb Society

The Herb Society of America Grosse Pointe Unit meets 7 p.m. Thursday, April 12, at Services for Older Citizens, 158 Ridge, Grosse Pointe Farms. Katherine Paquette discusses the fragrance bed at The War Memorial — what was done in 2017, what's planned for 2018, as well as tips and tricks. Guests are welcome to this free program.

Veterans

The Grosse Pointe War Memorial Veterans Club Inc. meets 7 p.m. Thursday, April 12 at The War Memorial, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. The program focuses on "remote control war," the future of unmanned combat, followed by discussion. Admission is free and guests are welcome. Call John Bates at (313) 881-4125.

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SPORTS

SOFTBALL

North opener

8-5 loss heralds tough MAC Blue Division schedule PAGE 2C

2C NORTH GIRLS WIN OPENER | 2C GATORS MAKE FINALS | 3-4C CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Boys lacrosse

GROSSE POINTE SOUTH

Debut a success

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

Justin Macksoud had a successful varsity head coaching debut last week when his Grosse Pointe South boys lacrosse team beat visiting Anchor Bay 16-0.

The Blue Devils scored early and often, building a 6-0 lead in the first quarter and 11-0 at the half.

Macksoud was able to get playing time for all of his players. The only negatives to the game were the cold temperatures and steady rain.

Leading the first-half scoring were senior John Schulte with three goals and junior Mickey Kuchta with two. Seniors Adrian Martinelli and Carl Anderson, juniors John Kyle, Jimmy Rauh and Miles Dingeman and sophomore Chuck Ulbrich, scored a goal apiece.

The scoring was spread out in the second half, too, as the Blue Devils tallied three goals

in the third quarter and two more in the fourth. Schulte led the way with three goals, followed by Rauh, Kyle, Kuchta, Dingeman and Ulbrich with two apiece, Martinelli, Anderson and sophomore Stuart Standish with one apiece.

Junior John Coyle earned the win in net, playing the first three quarters of the game and senior Benjamin Mattes played the fourth quarter to share the shutout.

Anderson won 8-of-10 face-offs and sophomore Joe Pacifici won 6-of-9.

"We're excited for the season, and these kids have worked their tails off," Macksoud said.

Macksoud takes over a program that struggled last year, finishing 4-13 overall and 2-4 in the Macomb Area Conference Red Division.

The Blue Devils face the same division foes, Utica Eisenhower, Romeo and city rival Grosse Pointe North, but they bumped up to



PHOTO BY JOHN MCTAGGART

South's Michael Kuchta, No. 19, battles for a loose ball during the Blue Devils' win over Anchor Bay.

Division 1 for the state playoffs and travel to Birmingham Seaholm for the regionals. The competitors are perennial state power Birmingham Brother Rice, Birmingham United, Detroit U-D Jesuit, Utica Ford, Sterling Heights Stevenson, Troy and Warren Mott.

This season, the Blue Devils feature 10 seniors,

Alexander McEnroe, Mattes, Martinelli, Scott Miller, Carter Gagnier, Anderson, John Standish, Maxwell Stricker, Schulte and Scott Frame.

When the Blue Devils return, they travel to Flint Powers for a 5:30 p.m. game Tuesday, April 10, and play at city rival University Liggett School 2:30 p.m. Saturday, April 14.

GROSSE POINTE NORTH

Norsemen open with three wins

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

Grosse Pointe North boys lacrosse team improved to 3-0 last week, beating visiting Anchor Bay 15-3.

"We have a lot of senior leadership and it was nice tonight to get the younger guys some playing time," head coach Mark Seppala said. "It is nice to get off to this fast start."

The Norsemen led 5-0 after the first quarter and it was 8-0 at the half. The Tars got on the board in the third quarter, but by that time the home team had full control of the game.

Seniors Max Payton and Marco McMann led the way, scoring four goals apiece, while senior Brendan Bergeron had three goals.

Senior Anthony Oliver, juniors Ben Hartley and Chris Lorelli, and sophomore Connor Obermok,

had a goal apiece to round out the Norsemen's offensive output.

North also beat U-D Jesuit 12-11 in triple-overtime the day before and in its season opener the Norsemen defeated Farmington 15-2.

Seppala's seniors this season are Oliver, McMann, Daniel Morrison, David Bahr, Anthony Romanelli, Steven Kamm, Bergeron, Kenny Heaton, Mario Lorelli, Austin Albrecht, Payton, Thomas Supal, J.D. Allor and Brendan Hull.

It's one of Seppala's largest seniors classes in his tenure.

North is the defending Macomb Area Conference Red Division champ, finishing 6-0 last spring.

In a Division 2 regional, North's competitors are University Liggett School, L'Anse Creuse, Royal Oak, St. Clair, Cousino and DeLaSalle.

Girls lacrosse

GROSSE POINTE NORTH

Saigh shines in loss

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

One good thing came out of Grosse Pointe North girls lacrosse season opener last week.

The host Norsemen lost 13-3 to Rochester, but head coach Lauren Nixon found a goaltender, Ally Saigh.

The junior newcomer to the sport stopped 30 of 43 shots to earn praise from her head coach, as well as Rochester's coach.

"Ally was great out there this evening and it's amazing she never played the sport before now," Nixon said. "We were missing some starters, but in any case, we have work to do before our next game."

The Norsemen were close in the first half as Kate Bessert had two goals and Eleanor Martinez had one goal and one assist.



PHOTO BY JOHN MCTAGGART

North's Eleanor Martinez, No. 2, scored a goal in the Norsemen's opener against Rochester.

They couldn't keep up the momentum as Rochester owned the sec-

ond half. Grosse Pointe North is 0-1 overall and hosts city

rival University Liggett School at 5:30 p.m. Monday, April 9.

GROSSE POINTE SOUTH

Blue Devils drop three

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

The Grosse Pointe South girls lacrosse team played its home opener last week on a cold, breezy evening.

The Blue Devils dominated the first half, but couldn't sustain the momentum in the second half before falling 13-12 to Canton.

"It's a tough loss, but I thought the girls played pretty well," head coach Alyscya Valentine said. "This year's team has better chemistry than last year, and I saw it in this game. They made some great passes to hit open teammates for goals."

"We have stuff to work on, but I thought we held our own."

With the game tied at 11 with 7:32 left, Canton scored to grab a 12-11 lead.

With 3:52 left, Rose Williamson scored to tie it at 12.

However, Canton

'This year's team has better chemistry than last year, and I saw it in this game.'

ALYSYA VALENTINE
South head coach

scored the winning goal with 1:21 left, and the Chiefs controlled the faceoff. They ran off the final 81 seconds to earn the slim victory.

Annie Rinke scored four goals to lead the Blue Devils, and Elise Whitney added three.

Williamson and Gray Rahm scored two goals apiece, while Margaux Schaller had one to round out the Blue Devils' offensive showing.

In other recent action, South lost road games to Novi, 6-5, and Northville, 14-10, to drop to 0-3 overall.

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Girls soccer

GROSSE POINTE NORTH

Cruising to a win

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

Head coach Olivia Dallaire couldn't be happier with her Grosse Pointe North girls soccer team after its season-opening 9-1 win over host St. Clair Shores Lakeview last week.

The Norsemen scored seven first-half goals and ended the game via the mercy rule at the 23:10 mark of the second half when freshman Meadow Venet tallied.

The visitors looked in mid-season form as senior Greta DeLoach started the scoring with a

goal eight minutes into the opening half.

Venet scored two minutes later to make it 2-0.

DeLoach scored again at the 21-minute mark and sophomore Katelyn Louwers tallied five minutes later as the Norsemen opened a 4-0 lead.

The Norsemen put the game away with a three-goal barrage in the final five minutes of the first half.

DeLoach scored two more goals to give her four, and Venet added her second of the game with 1:53 left.

The Huskies got on the board in the final minute



PHOTO BY JOHN MCTAGGART

Grosse Pointe North freshman Meadow Venet, No. 3, had quite the start to her high school career, scoring four goals against Lakeview.

to avoid the shutout.

Venet scored the Norsemen's final two goals as the visitors put the opener in the win column.

The Norsemen, coming off a 12-4-2 season, are ready to repeat this success. They finished sec-

ond in the Macomb Area Conference White Division at 7-3.

Dallaire's seniors are Katherine Link, Victoria Alvarez, Chloe Redeye, Alyssa Dall, Lauren Sickmiller, Eva Ciaramitaro and DeLoach.

Softball

GROSSE POINTE NORTH

MAC Blues in opener

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

The Grosse Pointe North girls softball team lost its season opener last week, 8-5, to host L'Anse Creuse North.

The visiting Norsemen led 3-1 before the Crusaders used a seven-run sixth inning to steal the victory.

Offensively, Rebecca Alway and Evelyn Zacharias hit home runs. Alway, Brenna Marsin and Natalie Wietecha had two hits apiece.

Alway started on the mound, pitching the first four innings. Grace Haynes pitched, as did Sydney Brumme, who suffered the loss.

Despite the setback, head coach Ron Smith and his staff have a lot to be happy about.

They have 10 returning players, including Alway, who is a four-year starter. Others to watch include Zacharias, Rachel Liagre, Marsin, Wietecha, Haynes, Brumme, McKenzie Obermok, Lynn Lee Duquet, Mekelle Pace, Kayla

Kettler, Kaitlyn Gloster and Dillon Cardinelli.

"We believe the MAC (Macomb Area Conference) Blue Division is once again very tough," Smith said. "Our goal is what it is most every year, we expect to improve as the season goes, and become the team we know we can be to compete for a state title."

"We believe we have the defense and the offense to make it happen. We will develop the new players to become a part of the already existing winning chemistry that the 10 returners already possess. We are excited and determined."

Joining North in the MAC Blue are Fraser, Marine City, L'Anse Creuse, Port Huron Northern and city rival Grosse Pointe South.

North and South compete with Detroit East English Village Prep Academy, Eastpointe and Hamtramck in a Division 1 district tournament the first Saturday in June at University Liggett School.

Girls tennis

GROSSE POINTE SOUTH

Blue Devils take second

By Bob St. John
Sports Editor

The Grosse Pointe South girls tennis team opened its season March 24, taking second in the Allen Park quad.

Birmingham Marian won with 21 points, followed by South with 18, Grosse Ile with seven and Allen Park with two.

"Overall, we were mentally strong, but I was surprised with a case of the nerves from some of the girls," head coach Mark

Sobieralski said. "Marian is very good and it was a good way to start the season."

The Blue Devils had three flight champions.

Junior Laurel Sullivan was 3-0 at No. 1 singles, while the No. 1 doubles team of senior Lauren Sommerville and sophomore Kaitlin Ifkovits finished 3-0.

The No. 3 doubles team of seniors Jade Shepherd and Kate Gavagan also finished 3-0.

The other doubles

teams consisted of senior Rachel Harris and freshman Claire Beardslee, No. 2, and junior Alex Walz and freshman Anna Dietz, No. 4.

In singles, junior Gigi Bonnell competed at the No. 2 flight, while sophomore Maddie Hurley and freshman Kate Beardslee battled at No. 3 and 4 flights.

Freshman Mairen Heimbuch also played a match for the Blue Devils.

Grosse Pointe South enters the 2018 season

ranked No. 4 in Division 1 and is the favorite to win the Macomb Area Conference Red Division.

Other division foes are Utica Eisenhower, ranked No. 10 in Division 1; Port Huron Northern, ranked No. 9 in Division 1; St. Clair, ranked No. 7 in Division 3; and rival Grosse Pointe North, unranked in Division 2.

"We have some time to relax for spring break and then don't play until April 14," Sobieralski said. "After the invitational, our schedule is busy and filled with tough competition. I'm excited about this season."

South also hosts a Division 1 regional tournament Thursday, May 17, with Detroit Cass Technical, Fraser, Southfield Arts and Technology, St. Clair Shores Lakeview, Sterling Heights, Sterling Heights Stevenson, Troy, Troy Athens, Warren Mott and Warren Cousino competing.

Grosse Pointe Gators

Local girls make finals

The Grosse Pointe Gators swim team recently took seven swimmers to the National Club Swimming Association Juniors meet in Orlando, Fla., setting six team records with six Top Eight finishes.

Two of those finishes earned swimmers spots on the USA Team, which will compete in the Irish Open Championship in

April.

Sophie Housey, a sophomore at University Liggett School, set Gator records in the 200-backstroke, 200-butterfly, 200-individual medley and 200-freestyle. Swimmers who were in the top two spots in their events, or top four in the 100- and 200-freestyles, earned the right to represent the United States in Ireland.

Housey will be joined by teammate Alexis Wenger, a senior at ULS. This will be the second trip as part of the U.S. team for Wenger, who will be swimming the 50-breaststroke. Housey will swim the 200-IM.

Gators head coach John Fodell has high praise for his swimmers.

"The swimmers train hard and are hungry to win," Fodell says. "This is a great reward for all of the hard work and determination."

As the short course swim season enters championship territory, Gators president Cindy Melican has nothing but praise for the club.

"Training hard and gaining recognition to represent the United States at a national meet in Ireland is a testament to our team's commitment to providing the best opportunities for swimmers at all levels," Melican said. "Head Coach John Fodell's passion and commitment to the training of our swimmers to their fullest potential is truly inspiring."

Wenger and Housey will arrive in Dublin to swim April 4-8 at the National Aquatic Centre.

**CITY OF HARPER WOODS
WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN
SYNOPSIS: REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 19, 2018**

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

ROLLCALL: All Councilpersons were present except Mayor Pro tem Valerie Kindle and Councilperson Veronica Paiz.

MOTIONS PASSED

- 1) To excuse Councilperson(s) Kindle and Paiz from tonight's meeting because of a prior commitment.
- 2) To receive, approve and file the minutes of the regular City Council meeting held March 5, 2018, and furthermore receive and file the minutes of the Planning Commission meeting held February 28, 2018 and the Beautification Commission meeting held March 12, 2018.
- 3) To schedule a public hearing on April 2, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of receiving public comment on the continuation of a Special Assessment District and further to schedule a second public hearing on April 16, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing the effect of the Special Assessment on the tax roll.
- 4) To remove the Right of Way Telecommunications Permit application as submitted by MCImetro Access Transmission Services Corp, d/b/a Verizon Access Transmission Services and refer it back to the City Manager.
- 5) To remove the Right of Way Telecommunications Permit application as submitted by The Chillicothe Telephone Company d/b/a Horizon Network Partners and refer it back to the City Manager.
- 6) That the agenda of the regular City Council meeting having been acted upon, the meeting is hereby adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

RESOLUTION PASSED

- 1) To approve the following items on the Consent Agenda: (1) approve the Accounts Payable/Payroll Vendor listing for Check Numbers 113352 through 113433 in the amount of \$674,739.89 as submitted by the City Manager and Finance Director, and further, authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the listing. (2) approve payment in the amount of \$6,100.00 to Guardian Sewers for their assistance with plowing and snow removal following a recent snowfall. (3) approve payment to SafeBuilt, Inc. in the amount of \$51,070.40 for the contractual building department services performed during the month of February 2018. (4) approve the final payment to State of Michigan Department of Transportation in the amount of \$7,661.69 for the completion of the Traffic Signal Modernization project.
- 2) Approve payment to Wayne County in the amount of \$240,136.25 for the operation and maintenance of the Milk River Drain for January through March 2018 and \$55,589.26 for the City's proportionate share of the SRF Project interest for a total of \$295,725.51.
- 3) To approve the Subrecipient Agreement for Community Development Block Grant between the Charter County of Wayne, the City of Harper Woods and the five Grosse Pointe Communities for the period July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2022 and further to authorize the City Manager to sign the agreement.
- 4) To introduce and place for first reading an ordinance entitled "An Ordinance to Amend District RS-1, Regional Shopping District, Sections 10-660 through 10-665", and further to direct the City Clerk to publish a notice of this in accordance with City Charter requirements.
- 5) To adopt the attached Resolution accepting the State of Michigan's Financially Distressed Cities, Villages and Townships (FDCVT) grant in the amount of up to \$150,000 toward the implementation of "LED Lighting for Safer Streets," and further to authorize the City Manager to sign all of the necessary documents required by the State of Michigan.
- 6) To accept the agreement from Honeywell International, Inc., dated March 14, 2018 to perform all of the work designated in the scope of work as stated in the agreement documents in the amount not to exceed \$838,584.00, to be paid in two installments of \$419,292.00 and further to authorize the City Manager to sign the agreement on behalf of the City.

Kenneth A. Poynter, Mayor

Leslie M. Frank, City Clerk

Published: GPN, April 5, 2018

**CITY OF HARPER WOODS
CITY COUNCIL
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
HARPER WOODS, MICHIGAN 48225
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Harper Woods will be holding a Public Hearing on **Monday, April 16, 2018, at 7:00 p.m.** for the purpose of obtaining public input on the distribution of the special assessment levy.

Residents who are unable to attend this hearing may submit their written comments regarding this matter to the City Clerk's office prior to the hearing date.

CITY OF HARPER WOODS

Leslie M. Frank, City Clerk

Posted: March 20, 2018
Published: GPN, April 5, 2018

**CITY OF HARPER WOODS, MICHIGAN
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Harper Woods, Michigan Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on **Wednesday, April 25, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Conference Room at Harper Woods City Hall, 19617 Harper Avenue, Harper Woods, MI 48225. At the hearing, all interested persons shall have an opportunity to be heard.

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to solicit public comments on the following Amendments to the Zoning Ordinance Text:

1. Proposed amendment to Section 10-291, Standards for Non-Residential Development, Section D.2, Dumpster Screening-proposed Zoning Ordinance text amendment involving required improvement related to the enclosure, location and use of dumpsters.

Written comments may be submitted prior to the public hearing and should be addressed to: City Clerk, City of Harper Woods, 19617 Harper Avenue, Harper Woods, MI 48225.

Published: GPN, APRIL 5, 2018

