

# Grosse Pointe News

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MAY 28, 2020  
 GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

## School district anticipates cuts in state funding

By Mary Anne Brush  
 Staff Writer

**THE GROSSE POINTES** — A projected loss in billions of dollars to the state general fund and school-aid fund from the COVID-19-related economic shutdown is expected to negatively impact school funding, with school districts across the state looking at ways to address this shortfall.

The impact could hit not just next year's budget, but the current year's as well, Grosse Pointe Public School System Deputy Superintendent for Human Resources and Educational Services Jon Dean said.

On Friday, May 15, the Senate and House fiscal agencies and the governor's office held its Consensus Revenue Estimating Conference, a meeting that occurs several times a year.

"What they do is they take a look at how much money the state thought it was going to gain through various taxes and how much money it really has," Dean explained at the May 18 regular meeting of the GPPSS Board of Education, held virtually.

"Not surprisingly — and they expected this to be the case given what's going on with COVID related to our economy slowing down — tax revenues in both the school aid fund and the general fund of the state of Michigan were significantly reduced."

While the school district's fiscal year ends June 30, payments on the per-pupil foundation *See FUNDING, page 4A*



COURTESY PHOTO

Past Pride Marches have attracted as many as 2,000 participants from throughout the Pointes and nearby communities.

## Organization launches Pride observance

By Eddie B. Allen Jr.  
 Staff Writer

**THE GROSSE POINTES** — Health and safety restrictions won't stop LGBTQ residents and their supporters from making their presence known in the Pointes. Welcoming Everyone Grosse Pointe, or WeGP, this week launched a campaign for what might be its most ambitious and innovative Pride Month celebration yet, planned Saturday, June 13, through Saturday, June 20.

The fourth annual Pride March, observing a nationally recognized month that acknowledges LGBTQ citizens, will take a different form in 2020 than previous marches that attracted as many as 2,000 participants. But organizers say the "socially distanced" event that invites all Pointes residents will be no less significant.

"It will still serve the same mission as always, which is honoring the LGBTQ community and promoting equality, but we're going to do that safely and virtually," said Shannon Byrne, president of WeGP.

Pride T-shirts for purchase and details of the 2020 event, including highlights, will be posted at we-gp.org, said march chairwoman Andrea Joy. Residents are urged to place rainbow ribbons on trees in their neighborhoods throughout the Pointes this week, promoting the local celebration that combines online initiatives with community engagement.

"I'm glad that we're still holding our march,"

despite state limitations on public gatherings that have led to cancellations of other summer events, Joy said.

A stronger neighborhood emphasis than larger Pride observances gives the Pointes an advantage in using "great, safe options," Joy added. The march will begin at Grosse Pointe South High School on Fisher and follow its traditional route down Kercheval to Cadieux, ending at Maire, but there is no designated

*See PRIDE, page 5A*

## Major infrastructure project to take years

By Laurel Kraus  
 Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE SHORES** — An unexpected \$214,900 will be coming out of the Shores' 2020-21 fiscal year budget following a unanimous vote by council during the meeting Tuesday, May 19, to proceed with the first two phases of a corrective action plan to repair leaks in the city's sewage pipes.

struggle with the city repeatedly exceeding its maximum allowable discharge capacity to the Grosse Pointe Interceptor via the Cook Road pump station. A significant cause of this issue is groundwater leaking into the pipes.

Immediate action has become necessary, following a decades-long

"Over 20 years ago, the village went through a sewer separation program to remove the storm water from this collection system to be able to meet that maximum allowable discharge capacity to the Grosse Pointe Interceptor via the Cook Road pump station. A significant cause of this issue is groundwater leaking into the pipes."

*See PROJECT, page 3A*



PHOTO COURTESY OF JOANIE MOORE

## Giving honor

Grosse Pointe Park resident Andrew Lightbody, a U.S. Coast Guard retiree, was asked to participate in Mancelona Township's Memorial Day service last Monday at Fairview Cemetery. Due to gathering restrictions, the Mancelona Chamber of Commerce broadcast the service live on its Facebook page.

## Annual public safety report released

By Laurel Kraus  
 Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE SHORES** — The Shores Department of Public Safety 2019 Annual Report was presented to city council Tuesday, May 19.

"Through all the investigations conducted, the

Grosse Pointe Shores clearance rate — those cases that were solved — was 29 percent greater than the state of Michigan average," Director of Public Safety John Schulte reported.

Part I crimes, the eight most serious according to the FBI, increased from 10 in 2018 to 29 in 2019.

Of these offenses, 24 were larceny from auto. "We made two arrests and we shut those particular crimes down," Schulte said.

Part II crimes, less serious reported offenses, decreased from 124 in 2018 to 58 in 2019. The

*See REPORT, page 3A*

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**Gail Marlow**  
 Home: Grosse Pointe Woods  
 Executive director and co-founder of Motor City Mitten Mission



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2A | SPORTS

# South senior to play baseball at Butler U.

By Bob St. John  
Sports Editor

Grosse Pointe South senior Cam Mallegg is heading to Butler University to fulfill his dream of playing college baseball.

The 18-year-old City of Grosse Pointe resident is anxious to play baseball for head coach Dave Schrage and his assistants, Ben Norton, Matt Kennedy and Jake Ratz.

Several schools were interested in him, including Ball State, Indiana, Michigan State, Western Michigan, Wright State and Saginaw Valley.

His choice turned into an easy one after taking the trek to Indianapolis to visit Butler. He received an offer from the school in November, but made his decision

official in this February.

"It felt like a perfect fit," Mallegg said. "I love the program, the coaching staff and the facilities. I'm ready to contribute. I know I'll get a great education and play baseball."

The 5-foot, 10-inch, 180-pound senior, and his teammates, missed their senior year of baseball due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mallegg helped the Blue Devils win a Division 1 baseball state championship his sophomore year, hitting .357 with 19 stolen bases.

In those seven state playoff games in 2018, he hit .479 against Grosse Pointe North, University Liggett School, Livonia Franklin, U-D Jesuit, Macomb Dakota, Midland and Brownstown

Woodhaven.

As a junior, Mallegg, a team captain, hit .424 and led the Blue Devils in RBIs, doubles, home runs, walks and stolen bases.

"It is very rare for a junior to be voted captain by his teammates," South varsity baseball head coach Dan Griesbaum said. "That's how highly his teammates thought of him. He is a five-tool player who will succeed at the next level."

"Nobody has worked harder to achieve their goals than Cam. He has constantly strived to get better every day he takes the field. It's really too bad that this year was canceled. I really believe he would have had a stellar season and our team would have been one of



PHOTO COURTESY OF CAM MALLEGG

Cam Mallegg was a standout outfielder for Grosse Pointe South's varsity baseball team.

Mallegg also had a couple of workouts for professional teams, but chose Butler, which competes in the Big East Conference against Georgetown, St. John's, Villanova, Xavier, Seton Hall and Creighton.

"I will work hard to get a shot at Major League Baseball," he said.

Mallegg plans on majoring in business analytics. He has a 3.66 grade-point average.

He is scheduled to report to school later in the summer and will play a fall exhibition schedule before settling into winter workouts.

His freshman season at Butler begins the second week of February 2021.

He gets his athleticism from both parents, Mike and Kristin. He also has a brother, Conor.

the best ever."

Mallegg grew up in the Pointes, attending Richard Elementary and Brownell Middle schools before South.

He has been working diligently on his studies,

as well as staying in top physical shape during the stay-at-home order.

"I haven't had much trouble keeping on top of things," Mallegg said.

"I'm working out hard to be ready for Butler."

## All-CHSL

University Liggett School senior Tristan Reilly recently was notified that he has been chosen as the winner of the 2020 Catholic High School League Boys Ice Hockey Scholar-Athlete-Leader Award. Each CHSL school nominates one player for the award and the winner is selected based on four criteria - academics, community service, leadership and athletics. One winner for each CHSL sport is selected and in prior years were recognized at a banquet in early June, which this year has been canceled due to the pandemic stay-at-home order.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SCOTT REILLY



PHOTO COURTESY OF ELIZABETH BARTON

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## He is a Hoya

Grosse Pointe South senior Thomas Kloc has committed to row on the men's heavyweight crew at Georgetown University. He will attend the McDonough School of Business. Rowing at Georgetown has a distinguished history dating back to the founding of the boat club in 1876. Its rowing program is NCAA Division I and competes in the Eastern Association of Rowing Colleges, a college athletic conference of 18 men's college rowing crews. Kloc began crew after years of participating in baseball and basketball. He began rowing in March 2018, and instantly fell in love with the sport. As a year-round sport, Kloc would rise at dawn during the spring and summer, rowing at 5 a.m. on the Detroit River, then returning at 4:30 p.m. for another practice. During the colder months, Kloc would row indoors, putting thousands of kilometers on the ergometer machine at the boathouse on Belle Isle. He was selected and attended a month-long Olympic Development Camp in Tennessee last summer in preparation for a future spot on the U.S. National rowing team. Kloc represented the Detroit Boat Club Crew at the Junior National Championships and has consistently medaled in local, regional and national competitions. He was invited to scull at the Head of the Charles in 2019, the premier international rowing competition in Boston. Outside of rowing, Kloc is the National Honor Society vice president, board chairman of the Youth Advisory Council of the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan, a trained facilitator of Ross Initiative in Sports for Equity and a state DECA finalist several years in a row. He maintains a heavy coursework of honors and AP-level courses.

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City of Grosse Pointe, Michigan  
**PUBLIC NOTICE - ORDINANCE NO. 442**

Please take notice that the City Council of the City of Grosse Pointe has passed Ordinance No. 442 amending Section 78-143 of the Grosse Pointe Code of Ordinances regarding changes to the combined water and sewage rate, the readiness to serve charge, debt service and industrial damage rate. This Ordinance will become effective ten days after the publication of this Notice. The complete text of Ordinance No. 442 is available at Grosse Pointe City Hall, 17147 Maumee, Grosse Pointe, MI, Mon.-Fri., 8:30 am to 5 pm. Telephone 313-885-5800.

**Julie E. Arthurs,**  
City Clerk

GPN: 5/28/20



PHOTO BY JACK RYAN

Pictured from left are Marica Ostrowski, president elect; Wendy Bruetsch, past president; Laura Wysocki, assistant treasurer; Mary Montgomery, corresponding secretary; Helen Srebernak, president; Jennifer Bingaman, vice president preservation; Amy Van Osdol, vice president enrichment; and Beverly Bennert, vice president scholarship. Not pictured are Kristen Ifkovits, treasurer; and Susie Gavagan, recording secretary.

## Scholarships in hand

Members of The Mothers' Club of Grosse Pointe South 2019-20 executive board hand-delivered scholarship packages to seniors' front doorsteps Monday, May 18.

Of a record number of 99 recipients, volunteers connected with all but 10, with plans to deliver the remaining packages Tuesday, according to Beverly Bennert, vice president of scholarship.

While the delivery doesn't replace the traditional scholarship celebration held at South, where students would be recognized in front of

their families and peers, Bennert said each package included the recipient's congratulatory letter and a program.

And while these are "very different times," Bennert acknowledged the generosity of donors in making these scholarships possible.

"We're so happy we're still able to do this," she said.

Family members were asked to take a photo of each recipient with their package. Photos will be compiled into a celebratory video, which will include elements of the live ceremony, Bennert

said.

The Mothers' Club has awarded scholarships to South seniors for more than 80 years. Of money awarded this year, 68 represented Mothers' Club-funded scholarships and 31 scholarships were funded by community and private donations.

One-third of the Mothers' Club annual budget goes to scholarship, according to Bennert. The other two pillars are preservation of the building and campus and educational enrichment.

— Mary Anne Brush

## Pandemic factors into City's budget planning

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**CITY OF GROSSE POINTE** — Passed unanimously by council during a virtual meeting Monday, May 18, the 2020-21 fiscal year budget is a zero-increase budget with a slight tax millage reduction of more than three quarters of a mill.

The total 2020 tax rate is 11.3262 mills for city operations, 2.0552 mills for debt retirement, 2.3915 mills for road improvements and 1.6987 mills for solid waste.

"This particular budget has been a significant challenge given that it's being developed in the midst of a pandemic," City Manager Pete Dame said. "That pandemic has had economic impacts that have directly and immediately impacted our revenue stream in the current fiscal year. ... There is a lot of uncertainty about what revenues there will be, particularly those we received from the state of Michigan, so we've had to make some estimates about when this impact will end or how much impact there will be."

Due to COVID-19, the City has budgeted for a reduction of approximately \$89,000 of state shared revenue between

this year and next, as well as for decreases from the building department and a 10 percent decrease in parking revenues.

"We are proposing no increases in the parking fees," City Clerk Julie Arthurs added. "We did decrease the budgeted revenues in the parking fund due to COVID-19. Right now the gates are open because of the furloughs that we have and we are planning on replacing a lot of our parking equipment to make the parking department run more efficiently for both the employees and the customers."

Large expenditures planned in the budget include police vehicles, a rubbish truck and furnishings for the new public safety and public works buildings, as well as equipment.

It also is the first time in at least five years the City has needed to pay post-retirement annual contributions to its pension system.

"I would suggest that next year's budget have a slight increase for the beautification commission," Councilman John Stempfle added. "I think we give \$2,000 for all the work that they do and all the money they raise. I would like to increase that

by a couple thousand for the next year's budget, but not this year."

Also following a unanimous vote by council, the water and sewer rate will increase 6.4 percent beginning July 1, 2020.

"For the average homeowner that uses approximately 20 units every two months, they'll see an increase of \$11.06 per billing," Finance Director Kimberly Kleinow reported.

Within the four categories of water rates, readiness to serve will increase .02 percent, both debt service and industrial damage will remain consistent with the prior year and the actual water and sewer commodity charges will increase 7.39 percent.

"That's due to the costs that were issued from Great Lakes Water Authority for our sewage and the city of Grosse Pointe Farms for our water purchase," Kleinow explained.

Additionally, to make necessary marina improvements, marina well fees will increase by 3 percent for the 2021 boating season, which represents the only fee increase.

"We aren't planning any major projects in the marina in this fiscal year because of the water levels," Arthurs said.

## PROJECT:

Continued from page 1A

num allowable discharge," said Jesse Vandecreek, vice president of Hubbell, Roth and Clark. "Unfortunately our collection system in the Shores is approaching 100 years of age. The Cook Road pump station is not capable and designed properly to handle the sewage in separation and quite frankly, for decades the Shores has repeatedly exceeded its 3.0 CFS (cubic feet per second) discharge to the GPI."

A full metering study showed the Shores exceeded the discharge capacity limitation to the Grosse Pointe Interceptor 17 times in 2017, Vandecreek reported, and the city paid \$132,000 just in fiscal year 2020 as an excess sewage fee.

"The Shores' maximum discharge limitation to GPI is 3 CFS," he said. "When we discharge six, eight, 10 CFS, what that does is put a wall of water down there and does not allow those communities upstream to discharge their capacity that they're contractually obligated and allowed to. Rather, their flow gets held. It has to be treated, stored and pumped. That's the problem here."

In 2018, Wayne County divested ownership of the northeast district to the Southeast Macomb Sewage Disposal, which entered into a memorandum of understanding with the Shores June 19, 2018, to reduce the exceedances of discharges to the Grosse Pointe Interceptor via a series of milestone dates toward achieving that goal.

Phase one, which consists of identifying the

source of leaks, was to be completed by the end of July 2020; phase two, figuring out cost-effective ways to fix the leaks, was to be completed by Dec. 31, 2020; phase three, which is four years of construction to repair the leaks, was to begin Jan. 1, 2021; and phase four, verifying compliance and certifying the work, would then take 18 months.

"There's already going to be some compliance issues," Vandecreek said. "There's been time lost. There have been several months where we did not have a city manager present, where we were trying to find our footing with the overall impact to the village in cost to undertake this massive infrastructure investment."

With phase three of the project commencing construction, it is currently estimated it will cost the city \$7 million, which will require a bond.

It will be at least 12 months from now until this phase starts, according to Public Works Director Brett Smith.

Following the completion of the project, Vandecreek reported there is still a "pretty solid chance" construction of a sanitary retention facility may be required. This is because even once the issue of groundwater leaking into the system is corrected, the city's discharge capacity still could be exceeded due to the footing drains connected to every home.

"That flow, we're not going to get out of it without going into private property and being very invasive and forcing things like sump pumps in every single household," Vandecreek said. "That's just not acceptable, so to some

degree we have this flow that we can't get out. It's always going to be there.

"So that first \$7 million is to really fix your collection system that's

aging, failing, get out as much as possible and then after the project performance certification, if we find that we cannot still get down to

3 CFS discharge capacity to the Grosse Pointe Interceptor, then there still may be the need to construct sanitary sewer storage in some capac-

ity," he continued.

As a worst case scenario, this could bring the total cost of the project to between \$20 million and \$22 million.

## REPORT:

Continued from page 1A

reduction can be contributed to fewer fraud and identity theft incidents.

Alcohol-related offenses contributed to 32 of the arrests.

"Throughout the Grosse Pointe communities, patrol officers are observing a decrease in OWI arrests, partially due to the increased use of public transportation," the report said.

The Shores also experienced an unprecedented two major structure fires within the same time period Nov. 16, 2019. While one of the homes was deemed structurally

unsound, no one was injured in either incident.

Additionally, 2019 saw 46 motor vehicle accidents and 128 medic runs, an increase of 38 runs from 2018 in the city, which handles its own ambulatory services.

"The department recovered over \$51,000 in grants, OWI recovery, forfeiture, towing fees and for infrastructure damage throughout 2019," Schulte added.

Sgt. Ronald Coste, a 20-year veteran of the department, received the 2019 director's award for consistently exceeding the expectations of the job description.

Beyond his regular duties as patrol supervi-

sor, Coste "drafts and executes all of the training orders throughout the year and is responsible for the emergency readiness of the fire division," Schulte said in the report.

Shores officers participated in a total of 1,430 hours of training in 2019.

Unit commendations

were awarded to Lt. Scott Rohr, Sgt. Ronald Coste, PSO John Jebrael, PSO Terrence Brown and PSO Ryan Wilson. PSO Jason Cook received two unit commendations.

"I'm happy to report that in 2019, none of my officers were injured in any of their duties," Schulte said.



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## 4A | POINTER OF INTEREST

## Nonprofit executive director has a mission

By Mary Anne Brush  
Staff Writer

Gail Marlow hasn't taken a day off work in three years. Since co-founding Motor City Mitten Mission three years ago, she has spent every day dedicated to helping the homeless, the needy, the sick and those striving for a better way of life. Only recently, as executive director, has she even received a paycheck for her efforts.

Offering three programs — street outreach, community support services and a mats and pillow project — MCMM has grown 300 percent since its early days.

Marlow is particularly proud of MCMM's growth during the COVID-19 pandemic. While other organizations shuttered during the initial shutdown, MCMM hasn't missed a beat, further expanding its services to meet the needs of the community's most vulnerable population.

"Just during the pandemic, for example, we serve approximately 1,500 individuals a week," Marlow said. "We pass out anywhere between 100 to 160 meals a day — upwards into over 200 a day. We put between 100 and 150 miles on our vehicles. We deliver groceries at least once a week to families that are housebound and don't have transportation to go to pantries. We've already paid for well over 400 (hotel) room nights just during the pandemic, providing rooms for families and individuals. These aren't people that have access (to services). These are people who are already living in this situation, but because they've lost their job or things have been put on



COURTESY PHOTO

**Gail Marlow co-founded Grosse Pointe Mitten Mission three years ago.**

hold, they've lost their income right now and aren't getting any kind of assistance."

MCMM, which Marlow co-founded with Grosse Pointe Park resident Sophan Buffa, partners and collaborates with schools, churches, clubs and businesses throughout metro Detroit and in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb and Washtenaw counties. It's even expanded to schools throughout Essex County in Canada.

The organization began with its mats and pillow program. Mats and pillows are made of recycled plastic bags that are crocheted into mats with a strap, tie and pillow.

This environmentally friendly project, Marlow discovered, was a way to involve students in community service while educating them about

homelessness. Her aim was to provide positive experiences — whether it was recycling plastic bags for the "plarn farm" or organizing a hygiene or snack kit drive for homeless people — to inspire community service down the road.

Volunteer work was part of Marlow's own upbringing in Grosse Pointe Woods. She attended Ferry Elementary, Parcels Middle and Grosse Pointe North High schools and family members were parishioners at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church.

"Throughout all my schooling, the Grosse Pointe schools had me involved in all sorts of volunteer work," she said.

In addition, she played three sports at North, participated in the choir and served as class presi-

dent her sophomore, junior and senior years.

Marlow attended Xavier University in Ohio. Upon graduation, she moved around the country, working initially for nonprofit organizations in the entertainment field. Her experience included producing and casting, as well as doing commercials and film work. She lived in Chicago, New York, Cincinnati and Scottsdale, Ariz.

Wherever she worked, she made time to volunteer, in particular helping out homeless populations in the cities where she lived.

In summer 2011, Marlow moved back to Grosse Pointe to help take care of her grandmother, Marguerite Joseph, a Grosse Pointe Shores resident. Joseph passed away in 2013 at age 105, but Marlow decided to stay.

In the meantime, she got involved in a number of community service projects, including working with an organization in Macomb County, where she learned about planning, and volunteering in the Jefferson Chalmers neighborhood.

This experience in particular opened her eyes to disparities between Grosse Pointe and neighboring Detroit.

Marlow met Buffa through a Grosse Pointe swap Facebook page. The two became friends and founded MCMM together. Since then, the organization has "taken off and it's grown unbelievably," Marlow said.

MCMM provides meals seven days a week to people living in abandoned buildings, on the river, beneath bridges and in cars — places not meant for people to live, Marlow said. Many of

them are chronically homeless, or have a severe mental illness or addiction.

The nonprofit also facilitates services, navigating the process of seeking medical treatment, getting into a shelter or finding a job.

"What I've found is that you have organizations that specialize in one area and then they get passed off to another organization," Marlow said. "... What happens is that person ends up falling through the gaps."

Marlow started a program to help people struggling with substance abuse get treatment. Many of them have ended up as volunteers, giving back to the organization that helped them.

"I've been able to develop a relationship with them over the last couple of years and they've reached out to me and said, 'I don't want to be homeless anymore. I don't want to be on the street anymore,'" Marlow said. "I get them into a rehab program. When they get out, they start to volunteer with me. I find them transitional housing. They then start to volunteer and work for us until they can get stabilized."

Many of these people bring their friends to her for help, creating a "trickle-down effect."

"That's what it's all about," she said. "When they want to relapse, I remind them: 'Look at what you've done. Look at how you've affected your friend.' If I can help one of them, they can help somebody else and they can help with somebody else."

For Marlow, outreach is the most critical part of what she does.

"A lot of the people who are homeless have a lot

of trust issues," she said. "They'll fill out paperwork and people will promise them services and then they don't follow up on those services."

"To me, it's important that I follow up with people and develop those relationships," she continued. "If they ask me for a pair of size 13 shoes, I can follow up and provide that for them... For the most part we deliver meals, but I take time to talk to people and get to know them and develop that relationship. I ask people their names. I look them in the eye. I ask them about themselves."

The trick is breaking through — "letting people know that they can trust you," she added.

Marlow has big goals for the future. Her "ultimate dream" is to create a transitional and job training facility to house people who are actively working, providing stability while they get their lives back on track.

"People ask me all the time, why do I do what I do," Marlow said. "Even through the pandemic, so many people, unless they're directly affected by something, (feel) it's not their problem. It's somebody else's problem."

"I don't want to be one of those people. Not that I want to save the world, because I know I can't. I can't save everybody. I know there are people who don't want help and can't get help. If I can make a positive impact on one person, maybe they can make a positive impact on another person. And you know what? It's already worked."

For more information, go to [motorcitymittenmission.org](http://motorcitymittenmission.org) or find Motor City Mitten Mission on Facebook.

## FUNDING:

Continued from page 1A

allowance from the state for this year's budget are

made in July and August. If state funding is reduced, these cuts will come from those July and August payments and impact the current

year budget, even though most of those funds already have been allocated.

Projected cuts to the foundation allowance range between \$250 and \$750 per student, Dean said. The Michigan Association of School Administrators recommends school districts estimate a per-pupil loss of \$600. For GPPSS, this amounts to approximately \$4.2 million in reduced revenue in 2019-20.

Secretary Christopher Profeta clarified these cuts would not impact existing programs or staffing, but would come from the school district's fund balance, also known as the rainy day fund.

"This is why when we come up against storms like this we can weather them without having to make significant cuts," Profeta said. "... So I'm glad we have that fund balance."

The second amendment to the fiscal year

2020 budget, approved unanimously by the board at the May 18 meeting, projected approximately \$15 million in fund balance, or 14.29 percent of expenditures. This was an increase of \$1,635,937 from the first budget amendment Jan. 13.

The fund balance has grown from \$6.8 million early in the 2018 fiscal year largely due to funds from the Wayne County enhancement millage, according to Plante Moran Partner Laura Claeys. When presenting the fiscal year 2019 audit report Oct. 28, 2019, Claeys commended the board on "not spending that enhancement millage on annuity-type expenditures," but allowing it "to add layering

into the fund balance to make decisions for the long term."

Regarding the long-term funding challenges ahead, Dean noted it was possible one of the legislative branches or the governor would come up with an alternate solution or funding could be sought at the federal level.

"I imagine every state is struggling with some version of this exact same problem," he said.

"Which is why, when we talk about political solutions, it is possible there could be a political solution at the national level. ... When we talk about advocacy and advocating for education, we have to advocate at Lansing. We also need to advocate in Washington."

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**CITY OF HARPER WOODS, MICHIGAN  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Harper Woods, Michigan Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on **June 10, 2020, at 6:30 PM**, in the Conference Room at Harper Woods City Hall, 19617 Harper Avenue, Harper Woods, MI 48225. At the hearing, all interested persons have an opportunity to be heard.  
The purpose of the Public Hearing is to solicit public comments on the following proposed **Sign Variance** from the sign regulations and standards contained in Section 21-12 of the Harper Woods Ordinance Code:  
*The Applicant, Signs Lab on behalf of Jimmy Jazz at 17860 East 8 Mile Road, requests a wall sign size of 188.5 square feet. The City's sign code allows for a sign area of 55 square feet. The requested variance above and beyond what the sign code allows is 133.5 square feet.*  
Written comments may be submitted prior to the public hearing and should be addressed to: The Planning Commission, c/o City Clerk Leslie Frank, City of Harper Woods, 19617 Harper Avenue, Harper Woods, MI 48225.  
Published: GPN, May 28, 2020

# Park embraces LGBTQ, debates flag

By Eddie B. Allen Jr.  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE PARK** — June marks a time when Vikas Relan and his family will celebrate neighbors who aren't welcomed to all communities.

As part of Pride Month, recognizing LGBTQ citizens, the Relans, including a 12-year-old daughter, will attend the Pride March Saturday, June 13, through Saturday, June 20.

"We lived next door to a gay couple when she was born," Relan said.

The men showed his daughter kindness that should be reciprocated toward them and all LGBTQ residents of the Pointes, he added. But Park residents are divided about whether waving the colorful, striped pride flag above the municipal building on Jefferson is an

appropriate gesture. A significant portion of the Monday, May 18, virtual council meeting was devoted to public comment, some favoring the flag's display in June, others insisting only the

*'... the Park has been, is and will always be a welcoming community.'*

COUNCILMAN DAN GRANO  
Grosse Pointe Park

United States and Michigan flags should be present on city property.

Member Dan Grano moved that the council issue a city proclamation to observe Pride Month, sending the message of acceptance. Some members vocalized approval of the motion that was scheduled for a June 8 vote.

"As a lifelong Park resi-

dent, I know the Park has been, is and will always be a welcoming community," Grano later said. "I moved the proclamation for Pride Month because I thought it was a less divisive way to achieve the goal."

Councilwoman Aimeé Rogers Fluit, who helped lead the inaugural Pride March in the Pointes, also led the pro-flag discussion. While City Attorney Thomas "Jake" Howlett told the council hoisting the pride banner would violate no local ordinances, some members and residents worried it would set a precedent for other groups in the com-

munity to demand their symbols be displayed.

Concerned that "the issue has drawn large opposition and been quite heated among our residents," Grano said the proclamation "makes the points that we are inclusive and welcoming to all without opening the door to a never-ending debate regarding government speech" or "which flags to fly on our property."

Throughout the discussion, council members and residents expressed no opposition to a more general expression of LGBTQ support. Relan said raising the pride flag during the march versus the entire month would be a form of compromise. Grano remains hopeful the proclamation will please residents.

"I was hoping it to be more of a win-win," he said.

## PRIDE:

Continued from page 1A

time of assembly. Instead individuals are encouraged to walk the route any day between June 13 and June 20, to help limit group sizes. March participants are asked to create art to display and attendees will be encouraged to sign banners along the route, showing support for their LGBTQ neighbors.

"Our Pride March is always very family friendly," said Byrne, adding that children will be asked to participate in activities like chalk drawing outdoors.

Fun will be part of the observance, but it also will be used to share information on equal rights initiatives, she added.

Social media engagement through "selfies" posted by Pride marchers, along with other online platforms, will add virtual

connection, Joy said.

"That's always a measure of success for me and another thing that I think we'll be looking for," she said.

Another social media attraction will be 20-minute clips of interviews with activists and LGBTQ advocates.

While the WeGP march usually relies on support from local businesses, this year's observance encourages "reverse sponsorship" in the form of patronizing LGBTQ-friendly stores and restaurants throughout the week. A list of the selected businesses will be included with Pride March activities detailed at the website.

Even with social distance measures in place, Joy expects a positive response.

"It's really an awesome event," she said. "Every year there's something different that gets me choked up."

## City of Grosse Pointe

### Credit fraud

An unknown suspect opened a line of credit using a University Place resident's information Saturday, May 23.

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

### Grosse Pointe Farms

#### Breaking and entering

Security camera footage caught an 18-year-old City man drinking alcohol he had just stolen after breaking into the liquor cabinet at an institution on Lakeshore Road Thursday, May 21.

A warrant was issued by Wayne County for breaking and entering and he was arrested.

#### Crashing into business

Following the occurrence of similar incidents several times in the past, a 57-year-old Detroit man became the next to fail to negotiate the east-bound Mack Avenue turn from southbound East Warren, striking a pole and the wall of an area business at 11:40 p.m. Monday, May 18.

The man was not injured and was arrested for operating while intoxicated.

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

### Grosse Pointe Shores

#### No insurance

After his plate was run through LEIN, a 36-year-old Macomb Township man was pulled over at Lakeshore Road and Woodland Shore at 1:11 p.m. Thursday, May 21, and ticketed for an expired plate and not having insurance.

#### Suspended license

A 23-year-old Detroit man was pulled over for an improper turn at Lakeshore Road and Vernier Road at 8:23 p.m. Sunday, May 24, and

arrested due to expired insurance and driving on a suspended license.

#### Spooked by officers

After spotting officers while driving on Woodland Shore at 12:12 a.m. Monday, May 25, a 35-year-old Bloomfield Hills man accelerated rapidly, causing his vehicle to fishtail. When officers pulled him over, he smelled of intoxicants and a preliminary breath test showed his blood alcohol level at .10 percent. The man was arrested for operating under the influence.

#### Speeding

After speeding 50 mph on Lakeshore Road at 12:42 a.m. Monday, May 25, a 26-year-old Brownstown Township man was pulled over and arrested for not having insurance.

#### Improper boat plate

When a 23-year-old Sterling Heights man towing a boat behind his vehicle stopped at a burnt-out traffic light on Lakeshore Road at 4:34 p.m. Monday, May 25,

officers noticed an improper plate on the boat. The plate was confiscated and the man issued a citation.

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

### Grosse Pointe Woods

No crimes to report.  
— Eddie B. Allen Jr.  
Report information about crimes to Grosse Pointe Woods Public Safety, (313) 343-2400.

### Grosse Pointe Park

#### Malicious destruction of property

A 35-year-old Grosse Pointe Park man was charged with malicious destruction of property and violating the conditions of his bond after kicking in a door in the 1400 block of Lakepointe around 2:45 p.m. Wednesday, May 20.

The man was ordered to stay away from the location until a separate criminal incident was adjudicated, but he

returned, demanding property. When he was refused entry, he dislodged the door, but fled before police arrived.

#### Street streak

A 21-year-old Detroit man was arrested for indecent exposure around 12:45 a.m. after he was discovered wearing only shoes and socks while walking at Mack and Beaconsfield. The man appeared to be

under the influence of an unknown substance, police said. His remaining clothes were discovered nearby.

#### Lawn mower theft

A lawn mower and weed cutter were stolen from a garage in the 1300 block of Lakepointe between 9 p.m. Wednesday, May 20, and 6:45 a.m. Thursday, May 21. The garage had been

left unlocked.

#### Pilfered package

An order of a natural sleep aid was stolen from the 1100 block of Bedford around 7 p.m. Thursday, May 21, when it was taken from a package delivered to the porch.

— Eddie B. Allen Jr.  
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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## OUR VIEW

## Absentee is the way to go

The unfortunate number of dust-ups over absentee ballots this year is surely going to test everyone in Michigan and perhaps nationwide. It will be essential for voters to understand the voting process so they also can have confidence in it.

Absentee voting has obvious pluses in this time of pandemic. It protects voters by not forcing them to stand in long lines where social distancing may be difficult and it protects precinct workers — assuming enough sign up for a job that probably should require hazard pay. Everyone's safer voting from home.

And, fortunately, Michiganders approved no-reason absentee voting in November 2018, clearing the way for this year's primary and general elections to become as fully mail-in as voters desire.

Michigan's first confrontation with controversy came earlier this month when Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson announced that ballot applications would go in the mail to every registered voter. The president denounced her as a rogue secretary of state on May 20 and mistakenly accused her of mailing out the actual ballots. He threatened to withhold money from Michigan and suggested absentee voting goes hand in hand with voter fraud.

Note, though, that Secretary of State Benson is sending the applications, not ballots. Returning an application starts the process of verifying the voter's signature, matching the address and, only when everything checks out, mailing the ballot itself.

Also note that this is the same paperwork done when voters walk through their precincts, although Michigan also now requires photo ID at the polls. But claims of fraudulent voting seem to have been nonexistent here before photo ID and in any previous absentee ballot use.

More than half of the states so far have initiated absentee changes, some of them relatively minor. For example, in roughly a dozen states that still require a reason to vote absentee, the reasons can now include fear of contracting illness at the polls, according to the Washington Post.

Another dozen states, like Michigan, will send out ballot application forms to all voters. Nine states will mail out the ballots themselves, including four that have previously done so because they vote entirely or mostly by mail, the Post article says.

Meanwhile, Secretary of State Benson faces trouble on another front: The League of Women Voters has taken her to court, saying the state has not adequately adopted all the rules in the November 2018 proposal that voters approved. That includes having ballots ready sooner than local clerks have managed so far.

But most pertinent now is Michigan's long-standing law that says absentee ballots must be received by the time the polls close at 8 p.m. on Election Day. It conflicts with proposal language that calls absentee voting an "unqualified" right, the League says — and it could cause problems as long as mail service remains as slowed down as it is now.

For most voters in the Grosse Pointes, it's relatively easy to skip the mail and get their ballots to their city halls. But that's not true for everyone, even here, and it's more difficult in other places and for people who may have relocated for work or family reasons. In Michigan's most recent election, on May 5, 1.75 percent of absentee ballots arrived too late to be counted, according to one report.

Meantime, beleaguered local clerks have to figure out how to handle what will likely be a massive increase in absentee ballots. The Legislature could help by allowing them to process the ballot envelopes before Election Day. The ballots themselves would not be counted until the polls open, but the verification of voters, which is the time-consuming part, would be out of the way.

Michigan certainly lucked out on the timing of the switch to no-reason absentee voting. Now, with a little diligence from everyone, Michiganders can make it work.



PHOTO BY JACK RYAN

## Pure Grosse Pointe

Grosse Pointe Park resident Will Wiegand, 2, took a break from helping his family spread the huge pile of mulch they had delivered to their home on Audubon Saturday, May 23.

GUEST VIEW By Maureen Chadwick, PhD, RN, NE-BC

## 2020: The Year of the Nurse

*To be a fellow worker with God is the highest aspiration of which we can conceive man capable.*

Florence Nightingale,  
Founder, modern nursing profession (1820-1910)

Florence Nightingale's words echo the mission, vision and values of Ascension nurses across the nation as they answer the call to serve their communities with an incredible strength of healing during these unprecedented times and nearly overwhelming conditions.

The World Health Organization and the American Nurses Association designated 2020 the Year of the Nurse, and nurses have never been more critically important to the healthcare industry. This year, these usually unsung caregivers are being widely recognized as healthcare heroes.

We have seen countless nurses leave their homes to bravely face the greatest global healthcare challenge of our time. We are grateful for, and humbled by, the unwavering dedication to patient care displayed daily by nurses nationwide as they lead with their fellow caregivers at the front line of this pandemic. It is no surprise that Gallup named nursing as the most trusted profession for the 18th year in a row.

At a time when many patients are alone and isolated from their families, nurses have gone beyond clinical care with simple acts of compassion to brighten long days of solitude and show patients how much they matter. Across Ascension Michigan hospitals, we've seen nurses sing to their patients, play games with patients in isolation from the other side of the glass and help patients and families find new and safe ways to connect through windows, virtual visits and prayers.

We are also grateful for our Michigan communi-

ties that have stepped up to help support and show appreciation to their local nurses. So many people, both young and old, have showered our nurses with meals, thoughtful gifts, encouraging chalk messages, children's drawings and signage around hospital entrances and walkways for our teams to see and appreciate as they start and finish their shifts.

While Michigan nurses continue to battle COVID-19 on the frontlines, colleagues across Ascension are working behind the scenes to help empower them with innovative solutions to improve how they care for patients and each other. Last year, with the collaboration of our nursing professionals, we established the Nursing Center of Excellence. Our goal is for Ascension to become one of the best places to practice nursing by transforming our ability to care for ourselves and others, holistically. As an organization and as leaders, we must actively remove obstacles and create conditions in which our nurses can experience joy and flourish while caring for those we are so privileged to serve. By acting and delivering on what we're learning from our nurses, we are building a community — with tools and resources — where nurses can live and grow as leaders who are professional, caring, empowered, knowledgeable, innovative and inspired.

As it turns out, 2020 is truly the Year of the Nurse. As we celebrate Nurses Week, we are reminded that, as throughout the 200 years since the birth of Florence Nightingale, the healthcare industry continues to rapidly change. What doesn't change is the high level of compassion, strength and dedication nurses provide to their patients every day. To our Ascension Michigan nurses, and all nurses living out the Nightingale pledge, we humbly say: thank you.

Maureen Chadwick is chief nursing officer for Ascension Michigan.

## 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.

## The PARC is not the Park

To the Editor:

For several years, the Jefferson art/performance center site was offered for sale or development. The only interest came from Tim Horton's and a senior housing developer who wanted to build over 100 units (that were 300 square feet each). Efforts to attract other uses, like a college extension classroom building, did not succeed.

Instead, this site received a real breath of life when two Park fami-

lies offered to raise \$25 million to build and endow the art/performance center. These are the same families whose foundations have supported the movie theater at Windmill Pointe, the K-Line Trolley and numerous other philanthropic projects.

Given this history, it is highly unlikely that issuing an RFP would result in a better use than the proposed art/performance center. And the delay could cause these generous donors to withdraw their support.

The suggestion that we should model this project

after the Plymouth Arts and Recreation Center compares apples with oranges. The Plymouth center offers many different activities because there are fewer options in that community. We are fortunate to have several organizations — Neighborhood Club, The War Memorial, The Helm, Ford House, library and others — that already provide the kind of activities that are offered at the Plymouth center. Instead, our project can concentrate on a world-class art collection and the acclaimed Grosse Pointe Theatre group.

These are attractions that will draw visitors from the entire metro area. Their regional appeal and economic impact will boost local businesses on Jefferson, Kercheval, Charlevoix and Mack — an assist they will need after COVID-19.

If the Park provides landscaping, snow removal or a small parking area for the project, it is inconsequential com-

pared to the enormous benefits the community will receive.

It should be noted that the operating costs of the art/performance center will be covered by its private endowments and ticket sales and that unpaid volunteers will provide much of the staff.

Park residents should not be deprived of this once-in-a-generation opportunity.

JOHN CHOUINARD  
Grosse Pointe Park

## DTE steps up

To the Editor:

Today (May 18) I had the worst flooding experience in my 50 years at Woodland Place.

There was a strong smell of gas; it took less than 30 minutes for DTE to be here and shut off the gas.

This afternoon they were back here testing for a gas leak and tried to restart both the heat and the hot water boiler. No

See LETTERS, page 7A

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

I SAY By Bob St. John

# What will fall sports look like?



As we slowly return to a new normal, we patiently await word from Gov. Gretchen Whitmer for what hopefully is a full fall sports

season.

I don't see many fans being able to be in attendance at sporting events until we receive the vaccine for COVID-19. Hopefully, it might at the end of the year or early 2021.

Dozens of local high school student-athletes have been working hard to stay in college-ready shape. They want to begin their college experience actually on cam-

pus, not at home in front of their computer taking online classes.

The NCAA Division 1 Council recently voted to allow voluntary on-campus athletic activities to resume in football and men's and women's basketball starting June 1.

The NCAA also said the status of other sports will be determined via electronic vote at another time.

The student-athletes

can return if they follow safety precautions. This goes without saying.

We have to hang in there until mass testing is ready and a vaccine is available.

In my opinion, we need sports to return as soon as possible. Even if we can't go and watch, we can still watch on television. We might be able to watch in person in the fall, but each venue will hold only a limited num-

ber of spectators, which makes sense.

College athletic directors have been on record saying their football stadiums will not be expected to hold sold-out crowds, but maybe half capacity.

We really have no idea what the fall sports landscape will yield until scientists give the thumbs up to begin. Each sport will have a plan to run.

NASCAR recently had

its first race since the shutdown, with no fans.

Pit crews and broadcasters attending the events had masks. It was well run and a blueprint of what other sports can do.

Yes, we will get back to normal on the sports field, but that might not be until next year. Until then, enjoy the sports we will have and hope for the best for our soon-to-be college student-athletes.

## YESTERDAY'S HEADLINES

### 1945

75 years ago this week

**TENNIS TEAMS PILE UP AMAZING RECORD:** No doubt you have heard praises sung about Hamtramck High School's tennis team for the past few years in the large Detroit newspapers, but what you probably didn't know is that your own Grosse Pointe High tennis squad has it all

over Hamtramck like a circus tent. Ever since Coach Larry Westerville took over the tennis reins at Grosse Pointe back in 1941, the tennis squads have been piling up a record that is unequalled by any high school in the country.

**BIG PROPERTY ASSESSMENTS CUT:** Township Supervisor Carl Schweikart and his associates on the township board have decided to go along with the State Tax Board on its recommen-

dation regarding the reduction of assessments on the mansion-type properties.

Mr. Schweikart says there is little else they could do about it as the state body practically said it would reduce them anyway if it was appealed to them. The new assessment cuts 10 percent off the valuation on residents whose replacement cost would be \$40,000.

*Obituaries: Lt. George E. Noe*

### 1970

50 years ago this week

**EDISON RATE BOOST OPPOSED:** All five of The Pointes are up in arms over the proposed rate increase on street lighting requested by the Detroit Edison Company. The increase would cost The Pointes a total of \$192,000.

Grosse Pointe Woods, Park and Farms have already passed their 1970-71 budgets and if the increase is granted, all three will be forced to operate in the red and make up the increase in future tax increases.

**FIRE DAMAGES SOUTH BLEACHERS, PRESS BOX:** A deliberately started fire caused extensive damage to the press box and bleachers on the Grosse Pointe South High School athletic field Sunday, May 24. Farms Fire Chief Michael Beaupre, who said there is no doubt that arson has been committed, said the alarm was sounded at 2:55 p.m. Firefighters extinguished the flames within 10 minutes after arrival, but remained at the scene for more than an hour, checking the damage and to make sure the fire did not restart.

*Obituaries: Joseph Kablowski, Ernest R. Schmult, Clara E. Marquesen, Ruth Zeeb, Anne Favrow, Magdalena*

*Gehl, Richard W. Ray*

### 1995

25 years ago this week

**WOODS CONDO STOPPED BY LAWSUIT:** The proposed 11-unit condominium project at the corner of Vernier and Morningside wound up in litigation last week when Woods resident and attorney Perry Lewis filed a lawsuit in Wayne County Circuit Court to stop the project.

*Obituaries: Richard E. DeRyck, John S. Pingel Jr., Mary Walker, G. Ray McPherson Jr., Mary Theres Hennessy, Helen McLean Carter*

### 2010

10 years ago this week

**EMPLOYEES TAKE CUTS, SAVE JOBS:** Non-union employees took a

hit to keep their jobs and balance the City of Grosse Pointe budget. Among nearly \$1 million cut for the next fiscal year beginning July 1, non-union employees gave up raises, some perks and benefits.

**CITY HOPES TO BOOST BUSINESS WITH REZONING:** During tough economic times, communities trying to counter declining revenues are more receptive than ever to the right kind of commercial investment. In the City of Grosse Pointe, this means amending zoning rules to accommodate a wider variety of uses in the Mack Avenue business district. The council supports expanding uses in portions of the district currently restricted to offices.

*Obituaries: Mary Evans Ruffner, Raymond D'Hondt, Virginia Morgenthaler, Bill Wargo, Eleanor Couzens Roney, Patrick D. Lynch, Geraldine M. Kain, Marion Leslie, Donald A. May*

## LETTERS:

Continued from page 6A

luck as everything was flooded due to the quantity of water coming into the basement.

All the phone operators could not have been more attentive, helpful and polite. Furthermore,

every service man that came here could not have been more polite and efficient.

DTE gave me an outstanding service. They are so often criticized that now I want to give them a big BRAVO! for their outstanding service.

MIREILLE WILKINSON  
Grosse Pointe



## An emergency is still an emergency

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## Ascension St. John



All the News of All the Pointes Every Thursday Morning

Grosse Pointe News Complete News Coverage of All the Pointes



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'VILLAGE' GETTING NEW LOOK

HEADLINES of the WEEK As Compiled by the Grosse Pointe News

Thursday, January 13 MAYOR GRIBBS ordered widespread cuts in city spending Wednesday that will bring layoffs of city workers and reductions in many city programs...

Friday, January 14 PRESIDENT NIXON announced Thursday that he will withdraw another 70,000 troops from Vietnam over the next three months...

THE FBI SWORE OUT A WARRANT Thursday for an AWOL army private who was once Abbie Hoffman's roommate...

Saturday, January 15 A U.S. CONGRESSMAN, Representative James H. Scheuer, D-N.Y., who showed interest in the problems of Soviet Jews...

Sunday, January 16 QUEEN MARGARET II, 31, was proclaimed ruler of Denmark Saturday in a public ceremony in front of the Christiansborg...

Monday, January 17 AGRICULTURE SECRETARY EARL L. BUTZ, under growing pressure from governors, big cities and Congress...

Tuesday, January 18 U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE Cornelia Kennedy decided Monday to drop crucial wiretap evidence in the Anchor Bar gambling case...

More Georgian Colonial For The Village?



Here is a front view of the proposed expanded Jacobson's store in The Village. The structure is estimated to cost well over two million dollars. See lead story on this page for details.

City Drops Case Against Supervisors

The City of Grosse Pointe dropped its case against Jack Grenard and Jere Thomas, supervisors for the local recycling group, Earth Lovers...

Public Schools' Attorney, Rep. William Bryant, Jr., Speak About Legal Issues

Although not a legal issue, it is felt by many that the loss of fiscal self-determination will soon mean total loss of local control of the school system...

Earth Lovers Will Resume Collections

The glass-collecting Earth Lovers plan to reopen their ecology operation Friday, February 18, at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church...

Students' Request Produces Answer Of 1-Upmanship

Woods Council Agrees With Administrator Peterson's Suggestion to Combine Voter Registration With City Hall Tour

By Roger A. Waha Woods City Administrator Chester E. Petersen is planning to go the students of Grosse Pointe North "one better..."

City Studies Jacobson's Presentation

NBD and McCourt Building New Structures; All Go for Williamsburg Architecture

By Pepper Whitlaw While many local shopping areas all over the country have gradually deteriorated and failed...

Advisors to Recycling Group Were About to Appeal Decision on Noise Violation

The City of Grosse Pointe Municipal Judge Douglas L. Petersen said a small residential group will stay until U. S. prisoners of war are released.

Featured at Second of Series of Public Meetings of Community Forums on Education; More Sessions Slated

Although not a legal issue, it is felt by many that the loss of fiscal self-determination will soon mean total loss of local control of the school system...

Group Based at Memorial Church Will Reopen Ecology Operation on February 18

The glass-collecting Earth Lovers plan to reopen their ecology operation Friday, February 18, at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church...

Copter Saves Three Boys Adrift on Ice

Three Woods youths were rescued by a Coast Guard helicopter from a drifting sheet of ice Sunday afternoon, January 16...

Mayor King Explains

Mayor John King explained that the Council members have been concerned about the future of The Village area for some time...

Helping Teenagers

Grenard and Thomas had been helping the teenagers with their recycling center at Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church on Maumee.

Two Featured Speakers

Mr. West, who presented a "Summary of Pertinent Legal Issues Facing the Public Schools," was featured speaker...

Meeting Slated By School Board

The Grosse Pointe Board of Education will hold a special meeting at 8 p.m. on Monday, January 20...

After Skating on a Mile and a Half on Wind-swept Lake St. Clair, the boys grew cold and decided to return to the park...

Several Lake Shore residents noticed the boys' plight and notified Woods police...

Bond Money Refunded

More than \$300 donated by Earth Lovers and members of the Unitarian Church for the appeal bond of Grenard and Thomas will now be donated to the recycling group.

Two Meters Damaged

Officers Ralph Moore and Steven Molitor of the Park Police Department discovered two damaged parking meters in the 15500 block of Mack Tuesday, January 11...

Park Has Two Thefts in Hour

Two breakings and enterings of homes were reported to the Park Police Department with Grosse Pointe Tuesday, January 11.

Several Lake Shore residents noticed the boys' plight and notified Woods police...

Several Lake Shore residents noticed the boys' plight and notified Woods police...

High Schools Grant Right To Smoke to 18-Year-Olds

Eighteen-year-olds at North and South High Schools have been granted permission by the Grosse Pointe Board of Education to smoke school property...

Schools Receive \$4,000 Donation

The Grosse Pointe School System's music department has received a check in the amount of \$4,000 from the Charles L. Jacobson Foundation...

Meeting Slated By School Board

The Grosse Pointe Board of Education will hold a special meeting at 8 p.m. on Monday, January 20...

FLEC Assumes Operation Of Program for Students

William C. Porter, president of the Grosse Pointe Family Life Education Council announced that the FLEC's program will be assumed by the student volunteer program...

Several Lake Shore residents noticed the boys' plight and notified Woods police...

Several Lake Shore residents noticed the boys' plight and notified Woods police...

Check back here on June 18 for a Frontpage Memory of the 1980's

Pointe Nutrition advertisement featuring a word cloud of health-related terms, a truck icon, and promotional text: '19850 Mack Ave. Across the street from G.P.W. City Hall (313)821-4950'.



# FEATURES



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3B DINING & ENTERTAINMENT | 4B OBITUARIES | 5B CHURCHES | 6B CLASSIFIEDS

## Trombly fourth graders go virtual with class business

By Mary Anne Brush  
Staff Writer

Cheering on people is what Susan Howey's fourth graders do. In fact, it's the tagline of their class business, Fan Faces. The Trombly Elementary School students create personalized photo cut-outs to use at sporting events, birthday parties, graduations and other milestones worthy of celebration. Their product line includes magnets, ornaments and cupcake toppers.

Like many small businesses, Fan Faces has been sidelined by the new coronavirus pandemic. With the governor's "Stay Home, Stay Safe" order and announcement of school closures through the end of the school year, product orders have stalled and the young entrepreneurs are sequestered in

their home offices, connecting virtually with their business partners.

This hasn't stopped them from continuing to create, collaborate and partner with other businesses to do good in the community.

In a recent video chat with the class, Howey reminded the students they still had money in the Fan Faces account from their earnings. The plan was to donate money at the end of the school year to a philanthropic cause of their choice.

"I said to the kids, 'You know, Fan Faces has this money we're not doing anything with right now,'" Howey said. "There's a group of people working really hard right now to take care of everybody. Is there a way we can donate to help them or donate to a local business?"

The students selected



COURTESY PHOTOS

**Trombly fourth-grade teacher Susan Howey, left, and her dog, Finn, pictured with Pink Elephant Cupcake owners Stephanie Londo, center, and Mandy Wegner, are on their way to deliver 250 cupcakes to local healthcare workers.**

Pink Elephant Cupcakes in St. Clair Shores to support and agreed to purchase \$250 worth of cupcakes to give to local hospital workers and put smiles on their faces, Howey said.

"It was the kids' idea, truthfully. I was going to suggest it, but they beat me to it," Howey said.

The partnership began earlier that year when, as part of a class assignment, fourth-grader Ethan Nowicki wrote a letter to the bakery, inviting them to visit the class and talk about their business. Owners Stephanie Londo and Mandy Wegner took Nowicki up on the offer and a collaboration flourished from there, with Nowicki interviewing the store owners for a podcast and two students filming an ad on location at the store.

When Howey called Londo and Wegner, they immediately agreed to make the cupcakes and delivery to a local hospital was set for April 3. Moreover, they partnered with the class on the

donation, making and individually packaging 250 cupcakes for \$1 each — a third of the retail cost.

While fulfilling the order with a shortened staff "was a little bit more work than usual," Londo said, she didn't hesitate to accept the challenge.

"They worked so hard to run their little business and we were happy to help them out and it was awesome they wanted to use the proceeds to do that," she said. "We were happy to match the donation and do something good."

While building closures curtailed further plans with Pink Elephant owners, another project still is underway, Howey said.

Earlier this school year, the students expanded their entrepreneurship into a national market with BarkBox, a monthly subscription service providing dog products. Subscribers receive a delivery containing two toys, two all-natural bags of treats and a chew. The assignment was for the

students to create their own BarkBoxes.

The idea for the project came from an unrelated customer service call. As one of BarkBox's approximately 600,000 subscribers, Howey called about a duplicate order her dog, Finn, received. During the conversation,

she mentioned how much she loved BarkBox's marketing. One thing led to another and Howey, always seeking ways to help the students improve their business, started up a relationship with the company, tweeting photos of the students' work to representatives.

Meanwhile, in BARK's New York headquarters, Stacie Grissom, director of contact and communications, attended a meeting in December 2019.

"They were giving us a presentation on something unrelated and they started telling us a story about these kids in Michigan making these BarkBoxes," Grissom said. "They showed us these pictures and our mouths were on the table. ... That's when I jumped in and said I would really love to tell this story and tell our customers about this really cool thing that is happening. I started emailing with Ms. Howey."

The students also enjoyed a visit from the

See VIRTUAL, page 2B



**Nora Shalhoub, left, and Noelle Huchingson show off the dog toys they created for their BarkBox Challenge. BARK toy designers took the girls' design ideas and surprised the class by making prototypes.**



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

**Alex Gross, from BARK's office in Columbus, Ohio, met with Susan Howey's fourth graders to learn about their BarkBox creations and share marketing tips for their class business, Fan Faces. During his visit, the class presented a \$350 donation to Catherine Garrett of All About Animals, pictured second from right next to Howey.**

## Commissioner, council treat city employees to lunch

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

In a show of gratitude for their continued efforts, nearly 60 municipal employees in Harper Woods were treated to lunch Thursday, May 14, thanks to Wayne County Commissioner Tim Killeen and members of city council, as well as Judge Dan Palmer and Mayor Ken Poynter.

Killeen said he got the idea after noticing similar efforts on social media, many sponsored by Renata Evans, wife

of Wayne County Executive Warren Evans. He reached out and asked for a few tips. With guidance from Daniel Baxter of Evans' office, Killeen set out to arrange his own thank-you lunch.

It was a group effort, he said.

Harper Woods Mayor Ken Poynter suggested providing lunch for all municipal employees, not just first responders. Councilwoman Veronica Paiz suggested using a local Harper Woods caterer.

A few phone calls

later and a plan was in place. Food was purchased from Rex's Deli and Sweetheart Bakery provided a cake.

"We're going to have lunches for all the municipal employees and any of the library employees," Killeen said the morning of the event, which took place in the courtroom. "We're going to socially distance and walk people through to get their lunches. ... It'll be around 60 people."

Killeen asked

See LUNCH, page 2B



PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

**From left, Councilwoman Veronica Paiz; Councilwoman Vivian Sawicki; Mayor Pro-tem Cheryl Costantino; Department of Public Works employee Heather Toutant; court officer Nolan Turner; Councilwoman Ernestine Lyons; Councilwoman Valerie Kindle; Mayor Ken Poynter; and Wayne County Commissioner Tim Killeen.**

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VIRTUAL:

Continued from page 1B

company's director of consumer insights and advocacy, Alex Gross, who drove from BARK's office in Columbus, Ohio. The students had the opportunity to ask Gross about marketing, customer service, staying on-brand and philanthropy — a significant part of Fan Faces' business model. The fourth graders even presented their creations Shark Tank-style.

The icing on the cake, Howey said, was a surprise shipment that arrived at Trombly. Inside the box were prototypes — enough for each student to have one — of toy creations, Tinkle the fire hydrant and Bark Franklin, modeled after Benjamin Franklin. The toys were designed by Noelle Huchingson and Nora Shalhoub.

"Once we started learning these kids are making prototypes, I went to the employee design team and said, 'Can we make some of these toys?'" Grissom said. The toy designer agreed, adding, according to Grissom, "If I was 9 years old and somebody made a design that I drew, my head would explode."

"It's just something we all are excited to get involved in and such a unique testament to how dogs can bring people together in such strange and wonderful ways," she added.

Now that distance learning is underway, students are continuing authentic project-based learning with BarkBox Challenge 2.0, Howey



COURTESY PHOTO

During a recent Google Meet video chat, Matilda Konieczki shows Susan Howey the toy chick she created as part of her Easter BarkBox challenge.

said. A BarkBox representative even "hopped on the video chat to get the kids riled up about it," she added.

Coming up with their own BarkBox themes, "they're thinking and they're creating and they're designing," Howey said.

For example, Matilda Konieczki designed an Easter box. Lucy Caulfield created a science box. Reid Lenglet came up with an Olympic-themed BarkBox. While in class he would have drawn his idea on paper, Howey said, at home he was able to bake his own Olympic medal-shaped peanut butter dog treats, collaborating with family members on a how-to video.

Howey said she tweeted a picture of one of Lenglet's treats and tagged BarkBox.

"They wrote back and said, 'We'll take two orders, please!'" The founder of the company already retweeted it.

"I'm so grateful to keep this relationship with them as that extra piece

of engagement," she added.

Howey said the BarkBox project ranks as one of the top highlights of her 27-year teaching career.

It's high on Grissom's list, too.

"I've been at BARK for eight years and this school story has been one of the most fun and rewarding experiences that I've worked on product-wise here at BARK," she said.

Grissom commended Howey for her innovative teaching style.

"The kids have been doing crazy things," she said. "They've been writing customer surveys. They've been writing copy. She had them make commercials and make billboards. She took all these critical thinking skills and writing skills and used a real-world way to channel the way the kids could learn all this, which just happened to be a BarkBox project."

"We're completely floored and honored to be a part of a kid's experience," she added.

March for Meals moves online

The Helm 2020 March for Meals will take place Sunday, June 14, only this year, the event — which raises money for Meals on Wheels — is a virtual one.

Participants are invited to march, walk, run, bike, skip, jump or hop on a sidewalk, treadmill or backyard — or not at all, if they so choose. Support for Meals on Wheels is the goal.

Last year, The Helm served more than 23,000 hot, nutritious meals to homebound Harper Woods and Grosse Pointe residents unable to safely prepare meals for themselves. That need is growing. There is a waiting list for those in need of the Meals on Wheels program.

Every \$5 donated purchases food for one meal. That's five meals for \$25 or 10 for \$50.

Last year's march was an actual walk from Grosse Pointe Memorial Church — The Helm March for Meals partner — up Lakeshore to Grosse Pointe Farms Pier Park. Due to social distancing restrictions, this year's event is virtual, which leaves donors in control of how to exercise and support Meals on Wheels.

Those interested may complete their exercise and submit a donation anytime between now and June 14. All monies must be submitted to The Helm by Monday, June 15, to count toward this event.

To learn more about The Helm 2020 March for Meals virtual edition, visit [helmlife.org/march-for-meals](http://helmlife.org/march-for-meals) to sign up, find various three-mile walks around the Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods communities and make a pledge.

LUNCH:

Continued from page 1B

Councilwoman Ernestine Lyons to livestream the lunch on Facebook Live, via a Harper Woods community page, "so other Harper Woods people can see their mayor and council," he said. "Community, community, community. The more there's that kind of feeling, the better for everybody."

Killeen said he wanted to keep the event low-key, while thanking key workers for their ongoing efforts.

"We want to keep it a nice community event where elected officials in Harper Woods are saying thank-you to the employees for keeping the city going," he said. "All these things are important right now. ... It's important to recognize the work people are doing to keep us going day to day. This is just a thank-you. This is like a hug for the people serving Harper Woods."



Harper Woods Police Officer Bill Alford takes a piece of cake with his lunch.



PHOTOS BY RENEE LANDUYT

From left, Investigations Division Deputy Chief Ted Stager, Operations Division Deputy Chief John Vorgitch and Harper Woods Police Lt. Tom Teatsorth pick up lunch.



Harper Woods Councilwoman Vivian Sawicki, left, helps Department of Public Works employee Heather Toutant pack a box for Toutant to take back to the Department of Public Works offices.

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# Toastmasters transitions to online meetings

## New members welcome

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

Wendy Bradley was 27 years old and working with foster care and group homes the first time she heard about Toastmasters. She watched in admiration as a coworker projected her voice while addressing a group.

"I asked her how she learned to do that," Bradley said. "She said, 'Toastmasters.' I thought, 'I have to learn to project my voice.'"

Bradley joined Northeastern Toastmasters in 1985 and currently is the club's public relations chairwoman. She's benefited greatly from her membership and continues to do so, even as the club adapts to new ways of operating during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Northeastern Toastmasters, which usually meets at the Wayne County Community College District's Mary

Ellen Stempfle University Center in Harper Woods, currently hosts its twice monthly meetings on Zoom.

"I like the in-person meetings," Bradley said, "but these Zoom meetings are kind of fun.

"It's exciting to do the program on Zoom, because maybe more people can participate," she continued. "They're home, so it's easier to learn public speaking and it's a small group of people. They can ease into it. It's not as uncomfortable doing presentations online."

Toastmasters, a non-profit educational organization that teaches public speaking and leadership skills, has been helping people from various backgrounds become confident speakers and leaders since 1924. The Northeastern Toastmasters club has been around 72 years. It's one of more than 16,800 clubs with 358,000 mem-

bers in 143 countries.

However, its numbers are small.

"We're struggling with membership," Bradley said. "We get a lot of people who come and go. We've got a core group, but we're trying to expand."

Meetings include a short business section, the introduction of the evening's toastmaster and those who have other roles, including the Grammarian, who introduces a word of the day and checks speakers for grammatical errors; the Humormaster, who tells jokes and asks others to share their own; the Timer, who makes sure speakers don't go past set time limits; and the Ah-Counter, who keeps track of the ah's, um's and other pauses that disrupt speech flow. One to three people give prepared speeches that are evaluated by another member; also, a Table Topics speaker is selected to practice their impromptu speaking skills.

The group uses a pro-

gram called "Pathways" to progress through their speeches, Bradley said. Members begin by taking an assessment based on what they want to get out of joining Toastmasters.

"You can build 300 competencies," Bradley said. "There are 11 paths, like dynamic leadership, effective coaching, engaging humor. ... This new program gives you a lot of information and provides you with research for whatever kind of speech you're working on. ... It's all very personalized. You take the assessment based on your personal interests."

On each path, Bradley explained, the member gives three speeches. Pre and post-tests are given to track progress and move participants to the next level.

"It takes you through topics," she continued. "It gives you information so you can research the topic. It's hard, but you really learn something."

Bradley currently is on the path for effective

coaching. She said Toastmasters has helped her throughout her career; she's a therapist now and previously spent 32 years as a school psychologist. Toastmasters, she said, helped boost her confidence when giving presentations to parents and also gave her the confidence to become a lector at her church.

"I wouldn't be able to do that without Toastmasters," she said.

"There's such an opportunity to learn and grow in your career," she added. "When I've had to give presentations, I think, 'You're a Toastmaster; you've got this.' It's helped me in so many ways personally and professionally."

Toastmasters can be beneficial for a variety of people, Bradley said.

"Someone who, on their job, has to give presentations and feels reluctant or nervous," she said. "Or if someone's taking classes and has to give presentations, or someone going into education; anyone

who wants to get involved with their church or an organization where they have to speak. It can help so many people depending on where they're at in life."

Toastmasters membership is economical, Bradley said, costing \$51 twice a year. Members receive access to a wealth of materials.

The Zoom meetings usually attract six to eight members, "but we'd love to have guests," Bradley said.

Ages 18 and older are welcome to check out a Northeastern Toastmasters meeting, which take place 7 to 8:30 p.m. the second and fourth Mondays of each month. To obtain the Zoom meeting ID and password, contact Bradley at (313) 720-8444 or wenbra787@outlook.com.

"We are eager to share our program with whom ever," she said. "People can benefit from it in any walk of life they're in. There's something in it for everyone."

## GPYC provides trifecta of support

The Grosse Pointe Yacht Club's response to COVID-19 includes showing appreciation and support for its community, members and employees.

First, the club wanted to show its appreciation for essential workers. On April 15, the GPYC donated and delivered 250 meals to Ascension St. John Hospital in Detroit. The meals were prepared by the club's kitchen staff and funds for the food were donated by a group of GPYC members. The club also hung a supportive banner, created by Towar Productions, on the fence facing Lakeshore that reads, "Not All Heroes Wear a Cape. Thank You to All Front Line Workers."

Another part of the club's current mission is taking care of its employees. Like most businesses in the area, the club had to lay off



Club members donated and delivered food to staff at Ascension St. John Hospital.

most of its employees, many of whom must be on the property to do their jobs. To ease the stress of these layoffs, the GPYC has committed to continue health-care coverage for its full-time employees.

As for its members, the GPYC has stayed connected by offering curbside carryout, which also is available to Grosse Pointe Shores residents. Club mem-

bers also have been enjoying virtual events such as "Happy Hour," where one of the club's bartenders demonstrates how to make various cocktail recipes via Zoom.

In an effort to thank members during this difficult period, the club's board also offered all members spending food and beverage credits over the next transitional months.



COURTESY PHOTOS

The banner posted by Grosse Pointe Yacht Club thanks local heroes.

# Dining & ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTO COURTESY OF STEVE GERESY

Filmmaker and YouTube personality Zach King met virtually with students from high school and middle school TV production classes May 13.

## Virtual TV production class stars internet king

Grosse Pointe North and Grosse Pointe South television production programs and the middle school broadcast programs had the opportunity to speak with internet video sensation Zach King virtually on May 13. Forty-five students asked King several industry-related questions.

Brian Stackpoole, North's TV production teacher, applied for this opportunity on behalf of the district's broadcast program. King, an American filmmaker who launched his career creating online illusion videos and video editing tutorials, has been meeting virtually with broadcast programs throughout the nation during stay-at-

home orders. King has 21.4 million followers on Instagram, 2.3 million subscribers on YouTube and 43 million on TikTok.

During remote learning, TV production students had the opportunity to speak with Matt Morawski, executive producer for WDIV's morning show and a 2001 North graduate, and Grand Rapids-based WOOD TV8 news reporter Jacqueline Francis, a 2013 South graduate. These professionals, both TV production alumni, shared their perspectives on the challenges of news reporting during the pandemic.

— Mary Anne Brush

# Greenhouse Gardens

# 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.

## Lois A. Watson

Longtime former Grosse Pointe Park resident Lois Ann Watson, of St. Clair Shores, passed away Monday, May 11, 2020, due to cardiac arrest. She was 91.

The oldest of five children, Lois was born to Wilfred and Winifred Hillebrand. She attended St. Clare of Montefalco grade school and graduated from Dominican High School in 1946.

Lois and her husband, Gerald "Jerry" Watson, were married in 1950. Together they raised seven children in their Tudor-style home on Bishop Road. The Grosse Pointe Park house was built by Jerry's maternal grandfather, Francis Beaupre.

Lois performed book-keeping, payroll and banking for the full-service gas station she and Jerry owned more than 30 years, Watson's Pointe Service, at the corner of Mack and Neff in the City of Grosse Pointe.

Lois and Jerry moved to St. Augustine, Fla., in the mid-1980s, where they lived 23 years. Lois worked at The Christmas Shop in downtown St. Augustine a few years. There, she easily added to her growing Hummel collection and began her love for Minnetonka moccasins, which was her shoe of choice thereafter. Lois and Jerry returned to St. Clair Shores in 2007.

Lois was predeceased by her husband, Jerry; children, Kathy Dunstan (Tom) and Michael Watson; and brothers, Roy Hillebrand and Tom Hillebrand (Inge). She is survived by her sisters, Audrey Lemieux (Jack) and Donna Hill (Jack); children, Patti Schollenberger (Ted), Janet Drekich (Dan), Dick Watson (Irene), Dave Watson (Nancy) and Diane Smith (Eric); 12 grandchildren, Hayley Kirby (Chris), Heath Schollenberger (Lauren), Katie Chapman (Jason), Bridget D'Angelo (Cody), Dani McGarry (Dan), Jack Drekich, Richie Watson, Jerry Watson, Willie Watson, Samantha Watson, Derek Watson (Jeanette) and Vaughn Smith (Kaila); and 11 great-grandchildren, Aidan, Daphne and Finn Kirby, Lennon and Carver Schollenberger, Charlotte and Sophia Watson, Christina and Chase Watson and Lane and Calleigh Smith.

Due to the COVID-19

pandemic, no funeral or memorial services are scheduled. A celebration of Lois' life will be held at a later date.

Arrangements were handled by Chas. Verheyden, Inc. Share a memory with the family at [verheyden.org](http://verheyden.org).

## Herbert D. Levitt

Grosse Pointe Park resident Herbert David Levitt died Monday, May 18, 2020.

Herb was a husband, father, grandfather, newspaper reporter, court administrator, attorney and comedian.

Born Aug. 1, 1928, in Cleveland, Ohio, Herb moved to Detroit as a teen and made the city his home. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean conflict and graduated from Wayne State University in 1950.

Herb worked as a reporter and bureau chief for the Detroit Free Press and Detroit News from 1952 to 1962, before moving to Common Pleas Court as chief administrative officer. He was appointed Region 1 State Supreme Court administrator and administrator of Detroit Traffic Court and Wayne County Circuit Court in 1971. Well-known in legal and governmental circles, he is credited with great improvements in the performance and accessibility of southeast Michigan courts.

Herb used vacation time in 1980 to work as a local liaison for the ABC News broadcast of the Republican National Convention. He had a similar role at the inaugural Detroit Grand Prix in 1982.

After judges told Herb on many occasions he did not understand because he was not a lawyer, he enrolled in law school at age 53. Herb attended Detroit College of Law at night, graduated and passed the bar in 1985. At this point, Herb told the same judges he now was a lawyer and still did not understand.

Meeting once with Mayor Coleman Young, police and anti-crime officials who made suggestions about fighting crime, Herb suggested they could cut street crime in half by doubling the number of streets. The mayor was not amused.

Herb retired from the court system in 1992, going out at a bash

attended by around 400 of his closest friends. He practiced law in so-called retirement and specialized in criminal defense and juvenile law. He took pride in mounting actual defenses of his clients, rather than quick plea bargains. Herb also tried to do the most he could for juveniles he represented.

Herb, along with friends Ed Jacoby, Jim Ransom and Joe Hartmann, founded the Most Holy Trinity smelt fry in 1959, a charitable event to benefit the church school, which still continues 60 years later.

He was a great and vocal supporter of civil rights and women's rights; he did his best to elevate everyone regardless of race or gender.

Herb was a loving grandfather and friend, supporter and mentor to Samantha, Emma and James. He is survived by his wife, Jacqueline; sons, Michael (Colleen) and Daniel (Cristina); and sister, Rosalind Plantikow. He also will be remembered with love by friends and family too numerous to mention.

A celebration of Herb's life will be held at a later date.

## William R. Bryant Jr.

Former Grosse Pointe resident William "Bill" Robert Bryant Jr., of Kiawah Island, S.C., passed away Wednesday, May 20, 2020, after a 10-year tug-of-war with Parkinson's disease. He was 82.

At Bill's request, a funeral service will be held for family only. His ashes will be spread on the waters of Lake Huron at the family's beloved cottage on Drummond Island.

Bill was born May 4, 1938, his father's 30th birthday, in Detroit, and grew up in Grosse Pointe. A 1956 graduate of Grosse Pointe High School, Bill graduated with honors from Princeton University in 1960, and University of Michigan Law School in 1963.

Bill practiced law in Detroit and soon developed an interest in politics. He successfully ran for a seat on the Wayne County Commission in 1968. Loving the challenge and complexity of work in a legislative body, he campaigned as a Republican and was elected to the Michigan



Lois Ann Watson



Herbert David Levitt



William R. Bryant Jr.

House of Representatives where he represented the Grosse Pointes, Harper Woods and part of Detroit.

In his distinguished legislative career, Rep. Bryant served in the Michigan Legislature for 26 years. His legislative duties included Republican leader, floor leader, Republican leader emeritus and chairman and co-chairman of the House Education Committee. Honors bestowed on Rep. Bryant included recognition as a National Legislator of the Year by President Ronald Reagan and the National Republican Legislators Association.

Bill was an outstanding player of racquet sports, primarily badminton and squash. He won junior doubles and mixed doubles championships in badminton and was a member of Princeton's winning NCAA squash team.

Bill retired from the Michigan Legislature in 1996. He and his wife, Lois, moved to Kiawah Island, S.C., where Bill volunteered in public school second-grade classes for several years and was known as "Mr. Bill." He also served a term on the Kiawah Planning Commission and enjoyed painting and photography. Bill continued to play tennis and squash; he also added a couple rounds of golf to his weekly schedule. An avid shell collector, Bill scoured the beaches with his ever-present golden retriever, C.J., or one of her sisters, Molly, Maggie or Cassy; Maddie recently came on board and accompanied him on short walks around the neighborhood.

Bill also authored two books of stories, poems and drawings, "Love is the Gift" and "Love is the Rule," and a New Age politics book, "Quantum Politics."

Bill is survived by his loving wife of 57 years, Lois Anne Rupp Bryant; children, Jennifer Bryant Hampton (Wade) of Richmond, Va., and Andrew David Bryant (Tammy) of Charlotte, N.C.; and grandchildren, Dylan Michael Bryant, Rowan William Bryant, Raleigh Irene Bryant, Peyton Anne Bryant, Sydney Jane Hampton and Catherine Anne

Hampton. He also is survived by his brother-in-law, David W. Rupp, four nieces and four nephews. He was predeceased by his brother, John Arthur Bryant III.

In his life, he loved deeply, shared generously, protected fiercely and would do anything for the ones he loved. He will be missed and loved always by his devoted family.

Memorial gifts may be made to Heifer International at [heifer.org](http://heifer.org).

Funeral arrangements were handled by Simplicity Lowcountry Cremation & Burial Services, North Charleston, S.C.

## Charles G. Cawley

City of Grosse Pointe resident Charles G. Cawley, 72, passed away peacefully Friday, May 15, 2020, at home. He was born Oct. 6, 1947, in Salt Lake City, Utah, to Commander Max E. and Virginia Dee Cawley.

Charles attended Stephen Decatur High School in Sigonella, Sicily, Italy; he graduated second in his class in 1965. He attended the University of Kansas and graduated from Detroit Institute of Technology with a bachelor's degree in business finance in 1970.

Charles was retired from a career in commercial mortgage banking.

He is survived by his loving children, Charles Brink Cawley and Laurie Z. Cawley; former wife, Nancy M. Posselius; loving sister, Carolyn Rodewald (the late Clark) of Pennsylvania; and devoted brother, Max E. Cawley Jr. of Idaho. He also is survived by his nieces and nephews, Christopher Knief, Cecilia Dobi, Max Cawley III, Alexander B. Cawley, Bridget Ford, Lindsey Buhl, Wendy Behbehani, Barbara Veverka and Leroy H. Wulfmeier IV; great-nieces, Rosa and Lucia; great-nephews, Henry and Theodore; and extended family members, Marina Cawley, Barbara M. Posselius, Betsy Posselius, John Henry Posselius, Peter Z. Posselius, Mark F. Posselius, Jim and Georgia McKee, Wendy Gallup Pollock and



Charles G. Cawley

Valerie O'Keeffe-Short.

In addition, Charles is survived by lifelong cherished friends, including Rod Luzi, John Quinlan, Gregory Kassab, Robert Phillips and Robert Larson. He was predeceased by his dear friends, Robert Cole and Dennis Egan. Charles always held a special place in his heart for Carol Kassab Reno and the late Carolyn Candi Royer.

Charley traveled around the world as part of his military family. A passionate athlete, he tried out for the Detroit Lions in the late 1960s. He also played softball on Madam Zena's Crystal Balls team, played squash and racquetball at Detroit Athletic Club and enjoyed boating with family and friends.

His true passion in life was spending time with family and friends; golf was a close second. An avid golfer, Charley often played the Selfridge Air National Guard golf course with family and friends Saturday mornings for more than 50 years or Black River Country Club in Port Huron, where he was a member for several years.

His barbeque skills were incomparable and he loved his golden retriever grand-dogs, Weezy and Lily, with all his heart.

Known as a kind, humorous and generous gentleman and always an optimist, Charley was full of love, positivity, compassion and respect. His infectious smile and laugh will echo in his family's memories and hearts forever.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the family of Charles G. Cawley. Arrangements are entrusted to A.H. Peters Funeral Home, Grosse Pointe Woods.

# Stefek's Auctions launches interactive website

Stefek's Auctioneers & Appraisers, a full-service estate liquidation management company established in 2000 and based in Roseville, has launched the e-commerce website [stefeksauctions.com](http://stefeksauctions.com), allowing visitors to bid on live auction items, purchase items securely from the new site, view upcoming estate sales and make arrangements with Stefek's to provide various professional services, including appraisals of personal property, estate sales and clean-out services to liq-

uidate and prepare the home for sale.

Stefek's also provides secure, insured, climate-controlled storage for valuables and luxury items, both short- and long-term.

A full-service international auction house, Stefek's is headed by Grosse Pointe resident Lori Stefek, a Certified Appraiser of Personal Property, or CAPP, with the International Society of Appraisers, ISA. She is an expert on estate liquidation management and a member of ISA Private Client

Services. All Stefek's appraisal team members are Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice compliant and have professional affiliations, including membership and accreditation in the ISA, as well as expertise in personal property evaluations and consignment management.

Stefek's newest online auction goes live at 6 p.m. Thursday, May 28. The Stefek's Miniature Machinery and Collectibles auction features a collection of salesman sample machin-

ery, including miniature functional machines, vintage and antique Michigan license plates, several colorful swirl agate slag glass gear shift knobs and more. Other unique collectibles will be available for bidding and purchase. Bidding is available on [liveauctioneers.com](http://liveauctioneers.com) through a link on [stefeksauctions.com](http://stefeksauctions.com). All auctions will be listed on the site, including an upcoming auction featuring Pre-Columbian and Asian artifacts.

The website also lists

details on upcoming estate sales, including one at a 5,000-square-foot home in the historic West Village neighborhood of Detroit that features more than 100,000 items from an eclectic collector. The sale date will be released on the site and Stefek's will institute new estate sale patron protocol for the physical health and safety of all participants.

Stefek's Auction offices and gallery are located at 20100 Cornillie, Roseville. Call (313) 881-1800 or visit [stefeksauctions.com](http://stefeksauctions.com).

# Church offers drive-in worship; all are welcome

By Jody McVeigh  
Editor

It's been a month since First English Evangelical Lutheran Church, 800 Vernier, Grosse Pointe Woods, began offering drive-in worship services Sundays at 10 a.m. The church regularly welcomes 40 to 45 cars — around 75 worshippers, the Rev. Sean Motley estimated — each of which is strategically arranged by volunteer ushers.

The services even feature communion, which parishes have been lacking since church buildings were shuttered in March due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Church is a gathering community," Motley said. "We know it's important for people to be able to come together when possible, to celebrate together, worship together, take part in the sacraments."

Each Sunday, families are invited to 10 a.m. worship, driving into the parking lot via one of two entry points. They are greeted by members who are masked and gloved, then handed a preprinted bulletin of the entire service, as well as prepackaged communion — bread and juice.

"None of the materials have been touched," Motley said. "We're doing everything we can so there's no possibility of transmission."

Church staff also offer packages for children — crayons, coloring pages, activity sheets — so parents feel comfortable bringing young ones.

"We want parents to know their kids aren't



PHOTOS BY JACK RYAN

First English Evangelical Lutheran Church has been hosting drive-in worship services for more than a month.

going to be climbing over their heads," Motley said. "This way, the family is together, too. We tried to make sure we're covering everything we can."

Ushers guide and arrange cars to face a stage, from which Motley preaches. Using an FM transmitter, Motley's words, as well as organ music and live singing are broadcast on station 91.1. The singers and musicians are all inside the church, distanced from each other.

The services are kept short — 30 to 35 minutes, Motley said — and attendees are asked to stay in their cars. Bathrooms are available if needed.

"If you come, you're not exposed to other people," he said. "People are happy just being able to see their friends, even if they can't communicate directly. Just knowing

they're there is a big boost."

At the end of each service, ushers guide people out.

"We're fortunate to have a number of families who said they would usher cars," Motley said. "It's wonderful having so many great people around who can do these things."

Attendees have ranged in age from children and teens to octogenarians. Many are members at First English, some are not — and all are welcome.

"Anybody who wants to come can come," Motley said. "This is not about us. It's about being able to worship together. I'm glad they're comfortable coming and worshipping together."

Motley said the church plans to offer drive-in worship throughout the

summer and into early fall. The parking lot, he added, can easily accommodate 75 cars while maintaining a good line of sight.

"For a lot of people, it's been a psychological uplift," Motley said, noting the church has begun collecting food donations at its drive-in services for those in need. "It gets them out of the house for a purpose and they know they're safe."

"The drive-in allows us to come together, to worship at our church home and be with others," he added. "There's a lot to be said about being together, even if you're separated by steel and glass. If this allows people to be able to worship and not be burdened with fear, it's a good thing."

"We have to adapt to the situation. We're glad to be able to do this.

We're following the rules. We want to get together and get together safely. This gives us the opportunity to do that."

The parish also is examining how to reopen its doors when the time comes. Even then, Motley admitted, some members

## An alternative

Grosse Pointe Congregational Church, 240 Chalfonte, Grosse Pointe Farms, also has begun offering drive-in worship services at 10 a.m. Sundays.

Members and guests are asked to stay in their vehicles and keep their windows closed. Once in the parking lot, they will be guided to a parking spot.

The service will be broadcast on 88.9 FM.

An offertory will be collected as cars exit the service.

For more information, visit [gpcong.org](http://gpcong.org) or call (313) 884-3075.

still may not be comfortable coming back to church right away.

In addition to its drive-in services, First English currently offers online worship and will continue to do so after it reopens. The services are prerecorded in the sanctuary and cover the same lessons as the drive-in services. They're available on the church's website — [feelc.org](http://feelc.org) — and its YouTube page.



The Rev. Sean Motley preaches to parishioners during a drive-in worship service.

# Drive-by birthday



DRONE PHOTOS BY JACK RYAN/SKYVIEW AERIAL PRODUCTIONS

Grosse Pointe Park resident Philip Hessburg, M.D., turned 90 years old Saturday, May 16, and family and friends celebrated the occasion by driving by his Park Lane house to honk, wave and share their well wishes.

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(313) 884-5040

10:00 am - Drive-In service on Sunday mornings.  
Service on youtube at [FEELC-GPW](http://FEELC-GPW) and on our facebook page [First English Lutheran Church](http://First English Lutheran Church).

Rev. Sean Motley, Senior Pastor  
~ "Go Make Disciples" ~  
[www.feelc.org](http://www.feelc.org)

**Grosse Pointe Congregational Church**  
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Sunday 10AM services are on Zoom Meeting online and phone <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4105997963>  
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SUNDAY  
8:15 & 10:45 a.m. - Worship Service  
9:30 a.m. - Bible Study  
10:45 a.m. - Sunday School

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

WEDNESDAY  
10 a.m. - Bible Study







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

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## King Crossword

### Solution for last week's puzzle 5/21/20

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

**ACROSS**

1 Dallas cager, briefly	41 Eaves dropper?	20 Tussaud's medium
4 Frat party supply	45 Deserve	23 Barber's concern
8 Prejudice	48 Played in water	24 Otherwise
12 Expert	50 United nations	25 Mi. or km
13 Sicilian spouter	51 Twistable treat	26 Walked hard (on)
14 St. Louis landmark	52 Singer DiFranco	27 Juno's counterpart
15 Flogged	53 "Little Women" woman	28 Barbecue entree
17 Tardy	54 Agrees silently	29 Promise
18 Vigorous	55 Banned bug killer	32 Midwestern capital
19 Puncturing tool		33 Breaker of Ruth's record
21 Fa neighbor	<b>DOWN</b>	35 Apiece
22 Pulverized	1 Numbers course	36 Chocolate sources
26 Pitch	2 Liniment target	38 Intuitive feeling
29 Irritate	3 Couturier Wang	39 Lubricated
30 Foreman opponent	4 Give	42 African nation
31 Check	5 - alcohol	43 Give temporarily
32 Calendar pgs.	6 Compass pt.	44 Fix manuscripts
33 Pageant winner's address	7 He loved Aida	45 Recede
34 Scepter topper	8 Poolroom supply	46 Heady quaff
35 Fido's foot	9 A Gershwin brother	47 Deteriorate
36 Insertion mark	10 Performance	49 Paid athlete
37 Ran	11 The girl	
39 Scull tool	16 Insurance fraud factor	
40 Mentalist Geller		

**Solution Time: 27 minutes**

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**Weekly SUDOKU**  
 by Linda Thistle  
**Solution for last weeks puzzle 5/21/20**

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

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

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

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◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging  
 ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

  
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