

COVID-19 CASES UPDATE - 1/5			
	Cases	Deaths	
All Pointes	1,982 (+60)	45 (+1)	
Harper Woods	626 (+19)	39 (+0)	

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2020 Chevy Bolt LT Purchase a 2020 for \$25,359 Stock #400210

# Grosse Pointe News

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ONE DOLLAR (DELIVERY 86¢)

Your community newspaper since 1940

JANUARY 7, 2021  
GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

## In tribute

### Beloved councilman McMullen succumbs to pancreatic cancer

By Kate Vanderstelt  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE WOODS** — Grosse Pointe Woods Councilman George McMullen, who stepped down from office in March due to a pancreatic cancer diagnosis, died from the disease Tuesday, Dec. 29. City hall's flag was flown at half-staff Friday, Jan. 1, in his honor.



George R. McMullen Jr.

McMullen was extremely involved in the community, thus becoming a dear friend to many. He was featured in the Grosse Pointe News as a little boy in 1970, and later — and often — in his adult life beginning in 2009.

councilman for the Woods, he attended many other communities' council meetings and Grosse Pointe Public School System board meetings. He was a member of

Besides serving as a See **TRIBUTE**, page 2A



## Time to hit the slopes

This 1931 Georges Arou lithograph poster features a woman skiing the slopes of France. It's among many 1800s and 1900s vintage posters from around the world available at South Pointe Vintage in Grosse Pointe Woods. Check out our special section all about skiing, beginning on page C1.

PHOTO BY RENEE LANDUYT

## 2020 IN REVIEW

### Plans put in motion

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE FARMS** — The Pier Park gate yet again did not escape gate crashers, The War Memorial worked with the community to finalize plans for large-scale improvements to its campus and efforts were continued toward a fix for the Lakeshore seawall, in 2020.

This is the year in review:

#### January

◆ The Grosse Pointe War Memorial announces plans to improve its campus, including an addition, a terrace off the ballroom, restored Ellen Biddle Shipman gardens and better accessibility.

◆ The Farms and Shores councils both approve an intergovernmental engineering study, in partnership with Wayne County, on the approximately three-mile stretch of the Lakeshore seawall between Warner Road and the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club. To be conducted by Hubble, Roth and Clark, the two Pointes will split half the cost of the \$72,000 study, intended to be the first step toward a permanent fix for the deterioration of the seawall.

#### February

◆ The War Memorial receives preliminary site plan approval for its planned improvements, although community concern is raised over

## 2020 IN REVIEW

### Changes abound in 2020 for Shores

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE SHORES** — It was a year of the changing of the guard in the Shores as many long-term department heads made the decision to leave amid contention surrounding city council and its controversial decision to change the retiree healthcare plan in May.

This is the year in review:

#### January

◆ The city is honored for the second consec-

utive year with the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada, or GFOA, Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020 budget.

◆ The Shores and Farms councils both approve an intergovernmental engineering study, in partnership with Wayne County, on the approximately three-mile stretch of the Lakeshore seawall between Warner Road and the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club. To be conducted by Hubble,

See **SHORES**, page 8A

### Signage dispute going in circles

By Laurel Kraus  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE FARMS** — It has become a matter of Wayne County and the Michigan Department of

Transportation pointing fingers at each other in the issue of approximately 180 signs placed on the stretch of Lakeshore from Warner to just past Moross.

The signs were placed

See **SIGNS**, page 3A

See **FARMS**, page 9A

### Brown water leaves residents seeing red

By Kate Vanderstelt  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE PARK** — Many Grosse Pointe Park residents experienced discolored water in their homes Tuesday, Dec. 29.

The Great Lakes Water Authority had been doing routine

maintenance on valves in the area of Kercheval and Alter when residents near Kercheval between Wayburn and Nottingham began to see their water turn brown.

A Facebook post by the city of Grosse Pointe Park told residents the discolored water was safe to use. The Park instructed residents to turn on faucets and, if

the water is brown, run the faucet on cold at the lowest point in the home until the water runs clear. If after 20 minutes the water is not clear, residents were instructed to try again in two hours.

Residents expressed unease with the situation.

“Unfortunately, it was a mis-

communication of Great Lakes Water Authority to the Park,” City Manager Nick Sizeland said. “They did not communicate to the city that they were flushing hydrants and checking valves. Typically, you might see a street or two that could have some discolored water. It spidered into our (entire) water system. We ended up having some cases of

See **WATER**, page 5A

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Week Ahead . . . . .	3A
Public Safety . . . . .	5A
Opinion . . . . .	6A
Features . . . . .	1B
Obituaries . . . . .	4B
Classified ads . . . . .	7B
Skiing . . . . .	1C

## Pointer of INTEREST

See story, page 4A



### Terry Ayrault

Home: Grosse Pointe Park  
Award-winning children's book author



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