

COVID-19 CASES AS OF 12/7		
	Since tracking began in March 2020	
	Cases	Deaths
All Pointes	5,031 (+202)	72 (+0)
Harper Woods	1,879 (+66)	54 (+0)
	(Increase 11/30-12/7)	

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# Grosse Pointe News

VOL. 82, NO. 49, 32 PAGES  
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DECEMBER 9, 2021  
GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN

Complete news coverage of all the Pointes

## McMillan appointed

### Applications for 2nd seat due Friday

By Kate Vanderstelt  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE PARK** — Filling a two-year partial term, Martin McMillan was appointed to Grosse Pointe Park's city council by a unanimous vote at a special meeting Monday, Dec. 6.

The seat, vacated by Michele Hodges when she was elected mayor, was filled by an application and interview process. With 15 applicants, the current council narrowed the field to six via primary interviews, then narrowed it further to a top three: Brian Brenner, Michael McCuish and McMillan.

McMillan was nominated by Councilman Vikas Relan, seconded by Councilwoman Christine Gallagher, to ultimately fill the spot.

A unanimous vote confirmed McMillan as the Park's newest council member.

"I was truly humbled to think people thought enough (of me) to support me," McMillan said of the unanimous decision. "... I think it's part of being a team, is working together. ... I want to work with people and support people and come out of that meeting with a common goal."

Married to his wife, Donna, for 39 years, the



Martin McMillan

couple raised three children in the Park, where he has lived most of his life. He has been involved with the recreation commission since 2015, Park Little League since the '80s — and as president since 2000 — St. Clare of Montefalco Church since the '80s and the Grosse Pointe Men's Club. He also has volunteered at local schools.

At the age of 64 and now retired, McMillan said applying to the position came down to timing.

"At this point in my life, it just seemed like it was a good fit," he said. "I've got the time. I've worked with so many in the community throughout the years. ... The timing was just right for me to have the time to give. This is going to

See MCMILLAN, page 3A

## Parcells student arrested for threat

By Kate Vanderstelt  
Staff Writer

**THE GROSSE POINTE** — Following a school shooting at Oxford High School Tuesday, Nov. 30 — a horrific attack leaving four students dead and others injured — similar threats poured in to schools spanning the metro Detroit area. One such threat at Parcells Middle School led to the arrest of a 14-year-old Grosse Pointe Woods boy late afternoon Friday, Dec. 3.

Due to the threats, many schools, including Grosse Pointe public schools and Our Lady Star of the Sea and St. Paul Catholic schools,

shut down operations Friday.

In the Grosse Pointes, threats were reported at Grosse Pointe South High School and a mes-

sage circulated about a shooting threat at Parcells Middle School. "On any hint of a complaint or a threat, we follow up on every single

one as soon as we can," Grosse Pointe Woods City Administrator Bruce Smith said on behalf of

See THREAT, page 9A

## Brownell student charged in threats

By Kate Vanderstelt  
Staff Writer

**GROSSE POINTE FARMS** — A Brownell Middle School student was charged Tuesday, Dec. 7, for shooting threats, similar to threats pouring in around metro Detroit following a school shooting that took place

in Oxford Tuesday, Nov. 30.

According to a press release, Farms public safety received a report Monday, Dec. 6, of a 13-year-old boy making threats to shoot at two separate Grosse Pointe schools. Students who saw the threat reported it to parents and school staff, who then con-

tacted police. The Farms detective bureau deemed the threats credible and passed the case on to Wayne County.

The boy's parent brought him to the police station and he was taken into custody. He was housed at Wayne

See CHARGED, page 8A



## Welcoming winter

COURTESY PHOTO

Walter Launt Palmer's "Snow Scene with Stream" helps us settle in to the winter months with peace.

## Approval of advisory committee plan raises questions

By Michael Hartt  
Staff Intern

**GROSSE POINTE PARK** — Following the decision by the Grosse Pointe Public School System Board of Education at its Nov. 22 meeting to approve a plan drafted by the Early Childhood Advisory Committee, questions are being raised about the future of early

childhood care in the district and the facilities where these services previously were provided.

The plan discontinues Trombly as an early childhood care center, removes infant education operations from the early childhood care program in 2022-23 and eliminates toddler education operations from the program in 2023-24.

A concern raised by many community members during the Nov. 22 meeting's public comments section was the role of Trombly for GPPSS and Grosse Pointe Park going forward.

Board President Joseph Herd said while the board would like to see Trombly remain open, it is not financially or logistically viable, considering the building

was designed as a larger elementary school compared to the smaller and single-story early childhood care facility the district needs.

"(The committee said) they had a really hard time making sure that they had adequate staffing for the facility. (Also), the number of children that

See PLAN, page 2A

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### Pointer of INTEREST

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#### Mia Mattaliano

Home: Grosse Pointe Woods  
Woods native dedicates life to helping others.



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