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**John F. Martin conquers
New York City Marathon**

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**Where, When and What
to do in Grosse Pointe**

Vintage Cars

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Please call or visit our website for further information.

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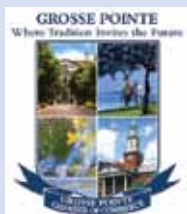
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Seasons Greetings

On the Cover

This photo taken by professional photographer John F. Martin at the Edsel & Eleanor Ford House truly captures the spirit of the season. Christmas is one of the busiest, and prettiest times at the Ford House. Some of this year's activities include Santa Workshop, Nutcracker Tea, Candlelight Stroll, Holiday Tea and Tour and Christmas Story Time. While there, don't miss an opportunity to dine at the Cotswold Café, featuring genuine J.L. Hudson menu items, holiday specials and beer and wine.



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John Minnis
Editor and Publisher

Happy Christmas!

I have been reading a British book, *Rumpole of the Bailey*. In England, they wish each other “Happy Christmas.” The phrase always gives me pause. As we often tell foreigners new to this country, “It is ‘Merry Christmas’ and ‘Happy New Year!’”

As I write this, Thanksgiving is still

“

By finishing on our Christmas-New Year’s issue, we are already looking forward to exercise and making — and breaking — New Year’s resolutions.

”

a week away and Christmas five weeks away or so. With magazine deadlines weeks ahead of publication dates, it is hard to fix in one’s mind what week it is. For example, by finishing on our Christmas-New Year’s issue — December-January — we are mentally putting the holidays behind us. We are already looking forward to exercise and making — and breaking — New Year’s resolutions.

Worse yet, I haven’t even started my Christmas shopping! I’m not necessarily one of those men who just starts shopping on Christmas Eve, yet you will find me out there with maddening procrastinators.

At this time I would ask that you do as much of your shopping as possible in Grosse Pointe and surrounding commercial districts. Not only do you not have to fight the mall and big-box-store crowds, you also get to run into neighbors and friends and support our local businesses.

If we don’t support local businesses — who make this magazine possible — they won’t be here next time you need them.

My former employer and friend, Robert “Butch” Edgar, once told me how he owned the Punch and Judy Theater. Eventually he had to close the theater due to lack of attendance. There was a hue and cry when it closed, but when questioned, most folks admitted they hadn’t gone to the Punch & Judy in years ... but they liked the idea of it being there for nostalgic value. Unfortunately, nostalgia doesn’t pay the rent.

I tell this story because the same thing will happen if we don’t support our local businesses — and cultural and civic venues like the War Memorial and libraries, for that matter.

So shop and re-create locally and Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to one and all! Let’s count on 2012 being a better, more prosperous year!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John".



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Friday
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4 - 9pm

Meet Erika

Name	Erika Arora
Age	17
City	Grosse Pointe Park
School	Grosse Pointe South
Parents	Shail and Laurie Arora



Photo by Dana Kaiser

Erika's Favorites

Music Artist

The Beatles

TV Show

I don't watch much TV, so it's hard to name a favorite.

Store

Forever 21

School Subject

AP Psychology

Food

Mashed potatoes and gravy

Thing to do on a Saturday night

Watch movies with friends

Athlete

Magglio Ordonez

Teacher

Terese Edelstein, my violin teacher. I have been taking lessons with her for 10 years. She's the best!

What song on your iPod would people be surprised by?

"Comptine d'un autre ete" from the Amelie soundtrack. It's unique and moving. I was pleasantly surprised when my cousin used it in his wedding this past summer.

What chore do you absolutely hate doing?

All of them.

If you could have three wishes granted what would they be?

1. I wish I could have another cat.
2. I'm instantly fluent in French. Currently, I'm taking the slower route through many years of study.
3. A lifetime supply of Diet Coke.

Where do you see yourself in five years?

In five years I will be graduating from college (I haven't selected a school yet). I would love to find an apartment in an urban area, like Midtown Detroit, and work at a job where I can express my creativity. I want to enjoy all the city has to offer while I'm doing what I love.

About Erika:

Erika's hobbies include playing the violin, drawing, painting and sculpting.

She has an older sister, Simone, 18, who attends Kalamazoo College and a brother, Evan, 13, who attends Pierce Middle School.

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Michigan tide rising for boats

By Ted Everingham

I was surprised and a little disappointed to read recently that the number of registered boats in the United States had declined 2.2 percent (or a total of 282,615 boats) in 2010 compared to 2009, according to the National Marine Manufacturers Association.



But my spirits were lifted by the fact that Michigan moved from fourth to third (behind Florida and Minnesota) in the total number of boat registrations by state. Michigan's advance was at the expense of California that dropped from second place to fourth.

According to the NNMA report, the Great Lakes region again ranked first, accounting for 27 percent of the boat registrations in the United States in 2010.

Looking for ways to spend a few wintry evenings learning about boats and boating? Check out the 2012 **Detroit Regional Yacht-Racing Association seminars** that start on Jan. 4 at Grosse Pointe Yacht Club. There are 12 seminars in the series, which will be held at various locations and deal with a wide variety of subjects. Many of these informative sessions will interest sailors and power boaters alike, and all of them are **free**. For a list of the seminar topics, dates and venues, click on www.drya.org, and check back frequently for updates.

Enjoy our Great Lakes...even in the dark and cold months now beginning.

Ted Everingham's Great Lakes Log can be seen daily at 1:30 & 4:30 a.m. and 1:30 & 10:30 p.m. on WMTV, a service of the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, on Comcast channels 5 & 915 in the Pointes and Harper Woods and on AT&T's U-verse in seven counties in Southeast Michigan.



horseplay

Teaching life skills in one unique way

By Kim North Shine

Christina Pitts and Lynne Aldrich are used to horsing around on the job and they make sure that clients of their Grosse Pointe Woods consulting firm do the same.

Through their Pitts-Aldrich Associates, they use horses - and many other approaches - to teach better communications skills, management style, business and life strategies and more.

Pitts, Aldrich and their team of coaches lead group and individual workshops, conferences and one-on-one lessons locally and around the country.

Horseplay, which was added to the menu of their approaches less than a year ago falls in line with their philosophy of being experiential not passive so that more and deeper learning takes place.

Grosse Pointers can get a taste of Horseplay in February when *Optimizing NOW: Small Practices to Enrich the Moment* comes to the Family Center to lead a workshop.

"The same things that can be used to improve relationships in the business world can be used for families," says Pitts. "For example,

how to build a strong family cohesion, manage conflict, build awareness, self-esteem, have better communication."

While horses won't be on site, as they are when the pair teach Horseplay at one of three horse farms around Michigan, the lessons the animals impart will include building trust, being present and slowing down.

Pitts, who's led the consulting firm for 20-plus years, and Aldrich, who has worked as an executive at nonprofits and lends that experience to the consulting firm, have studied horses and communication for hundreds of hours.

"Our goal is that every human being would have a day with our horses," says Pitts. Aldrich adds, "We know

how changed you are after you walk out of that pasture." ☺



Above, Christina Pitts and Lily; left, Lynne Aldrich and Thunder



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IVANKA TRUMP EXCLUSIVE AT AHEE JEWELERS

By Lauren Beaver

*I*vanka Trump Fine Jewelry Collection has formed an exclusive partnership with Edmund T. Ahee Jewelers, where on Oct. 19, Andrea Hansen, CEO of the New York company, met with Grosse Pointe Magazine to discuss the jewelry line and the decision to make Ahee Jewelers an exclusive location.

Ivanka Trump, successful businesswoman, model and daughter of Donald Trump, handpicked the Grosse Pointe location to debut her new line.

“It was not about how well the business did, but what kind of business they did,” says Hansen. “We wanted to use markets that have already built relationships with customers. I was extremely excited when John Ahee showed interest in the line. Like Ahee Jewelers, we are not an anonymous company. Ivanka Trump is an individual, she has a face. It makes it much more personal.”

“I am thrilled to have my collection exclusively available in Grosse Pointe with Ahee Jewelers,” says Trump. “Their customers are aligned

with my own target audience - a smart, sophisticated, modern woman who appreciates quality and craftsmanship.”

Trump wanted the line to embody the sophistication and elegance of the past century, with a focus on the 1920s-60s. “It’s not a trendy collection. There’s endurance to it,” says Hansen.

Bette Jean Ahee comments that the line is, “elegant, wearable and timeless.”

The Ivanka Trump jewelry line has 10 collections, entirely in black and white, and including black and white diamonds, pearls, onyx and rock crystals. “It is ‘heirloom chic,’ a reinvention of a classic style,” says Hansen. “Our motto is ‘rock tradition.’”

The line is also “green,” built on eco-friendly ideals. “Social responsibility is very important to Ivanka and this line,” says Hansen. For example, the jewelry uses recycled platinum and diamonds from a Canadian mine.

Stop into Ahee Jewelers today to see the new Ivanka Trump Fine Jewelry Collection. [P](#)



Top, Marilyn Waldmeir, center, models the signature oval earrings and pearl tassel necklace, with Peter Ahee and Ivanka Trump Fine Jewelry Collection CEO Andrea Hansen, who holds the rose and gold mother of pearl necklace and models the octagonal bib necklace. Above, seed pearl and diamond tassel earrings and the rose gold rock crystal cocktail ring with diamond accents

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Full Circle Foundation, Inc. Fills GP Niche

By Patti Theros

Each day Grosse Pointe’s Full Circle Foundation, Inc. provides opportunities for young adults with special needs to contribute to their Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods communities. The idea developed in 2008, “when the economy was very dismal and we noticed that many of our young adults were losing their jobs because local businesses were closing,” says volunteer Foundation Director Karl Kratz. “We (parents) wanted to provide an opportunity to get those youth involved, stay busy and feel good about themselves.”

So Kratz and Mary Fodell, a retired Grosse Pointe public school teacher, partnered with The ARC and the Grosse Pointe School System to establish Full Circle, an upscale resale shop that provides training and

opportunities for local young adults with special needs.

“In July of 2008 we asked for 1,000 fancy dresses from the community and we got them,” says Volunteer Director Fodell. “We sold them in the lobby of Grosse Pointe North’s Performing



Arts Center and it was a huge success. The kids loved trying on the dresses, organizing them and selling them.”

Eventually the store needed new space and moved to an old movie store on Kercheval at Beaconsfield Ave. “We knew we could only be there

for a year, so in order to raise money for a new location, we sponsored ‘Bridal Fashion Show’ at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial,” says Fodell. The fundraiser stemmed from the original “fancy dress” donation drive. Seamstresses, hair and makeup artists

and other professionals donated their time to make the kids feel extra special at the runway extravaganza. This year’s “Bridal Fashion Show” is Saturday, Feb. 4 at the War Memorial.

Today, Full Circle Resale Shop is located at 15201 Kercheval at Lakepointe Rd. in Grosse Pointe Park.

In addition to the resale shop, Full Circle Foundation, Inc. provides training programs, cooking programs and community gardens in Grosse Pointe. For more information about “Bridal Fashion Show” or the Foundation, visit www.fullcirclefdn.org or call (313) 469-6660. ☎

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Meet Jennifer

Name	Jennifer Flynn
Age	49
City	Grosse Pointe Woods
Occupation	Owner - Urban Attic at Ardmore Park Place in St. Clair Shores



Photo by Donald Schulte

Jennifer's Favorites

Color

Purple

Ice Cream

Butter pecan

Season

Summer

Book

The Secret Life of Bees

Animal

My dog - Lucky

Childhood TV Show

Partridge Family

Thing to do on a Sunday afternoon

Spend time outside

Best thing about living in Grosse Pointe?

We are spoiled having Lake St. Clair and the beautiful parks so close by.

Item you cannot leave home without?

My Chapstick

List two of your best personality traits.

I'm a good listener and I try to look for the best in every day.

List two of your worst personality traits.

I'm a procrastinator and I take on too many projects at once.

One thing not many people know about you?

I moved to San Diego when I was 19 and worked in the deli at the Hotel Del Coronado.

Best vacation ever?

Summer trips to Glen Arbor when [sons] Patrick and Andrew were little.

You win the million dollar lottery, what do you do?

The work that I love without ever attaching a price tag and sharing it with the people who come into my shop - that's how I'd use my million-dollar magic wand.

About Jennifer

Jennifer and husband Richard have two sons, Patrick and Andrew.

Her hobbies include running, swimming, repurposing flea market finds, sewing and writing.

"Opening my shop has been a dream, to create the things I love most and to share the work of wonderful, local artisans with my customers. I am grateful every day for the people who have encouraged and inspired me along the way," says Jennifer.

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MARATHON MAN: JOHN F. MARTIN TAKES A BITE OF THE BIG APPLE

By John Minnis

*I*f it weren't for surviving kidney failure 11 years ago, John F. Martin would not have been where he was recently — running (and finishing) the New York City Marathon.

"I loved it," says Martin, 38, who began running four years ago. "I'd go back and do that race in a heartbeat. It's the best race in the world."

With nearly 50,000 runners and 2.5 million spectators, the 26-mile course through five boroughs in NYC is among the major marathons in the world. Nearly every ethnic neighborhood is traversed.

"It was like taking a 26-mile ethnic tour of New York City neighborhoods on foot," Martin says. "The crowd



John F. Martin was among some 47,400+ runners in this year's New York City Marathon. Photo by John F. Martin

support is absolutely incredible. It blew my mind. I had a smile on my face the whole time."

A professional photographer, Martin brought a light-weight point-and-shoot

along on the run. A college friend and photographer got shots of Martin before and after the race. (They're on Facebook.)

Most runners get in the NYC Marathon by lottery. Martin got in through the National Kidney Foundation as a kidney recipient (from his father). He raised \$6,800 for the foundation.

"It was my second full marathon," Martin says. "My first for a cause."

While he acknowledges the NYC Marathon can never be topped, Martin admits: "There will always be a next one." ☺

John F. Martin lives in Grosse Pointe Woods with his wife, Sara, and 4-year-old daughter, Elena.



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Family Features

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The celebration experts from Wilton share party tips and irresistible recipes to help create a fabulous cocktail buffet complete with all the trimmings.

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"When it comes to the food, a mix of savory and sweet is a must," Siler adds. "Tree-shaped Merry Mushroom Bites and tiny Savory Southwest Donuts piped with avocado to resemble a wreath will wow both the eye and the palate. For another

unexpected twist on tradition, stack peppery spritz crackers in a clear glass canister."

And for the sweets, beautifully decorated snowflake shaped holiday butter cookies are displayed on stacked pedestal plates alongside a bowl of truffles adorned with festive candy drizzles and luminescent pearl dust. Both treats make a fitting finale — and can be made in advance.

Recipes for the Parmesan Pepper Spritz Crackers and the Merry Mushroom Bites are found below. For more holiday recipe and decorating ideas, visit www.wilton.com.

Parmesan Pepper Spritz Crackers

Makes about 7 dozen crackers

- 1-1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 tsp. cracked black pepper
- 1/2 tsp. ground white pepper
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 2 cups grated Parmesan cheese
- 1/2 cup (1 stick) butter, softened
- 2 cloves garlic, finely minced
- 1/3 cup milk

Preheat oven to 375°F.

In small bowl, combine flour, black pepper, white pepper and salt. In large bowl, beat cheese, butter and garlic

until smooth. Gradually add flour mixture to cheese mixture. Mix until dough forms a ball. Gradually add milk, mixing until fully incorporated. Shape into small logs and place in Cookie Master Ultra II. Using desired disk, press crackers onto ungreased cookie sheet.

Bake 11 to 13 minutes or until edges are light golden brown. Cool 2 minutes on cookie sheet on cooling grid. Remove from sheet and cool completely. Store in airtight container up to 1 week.

Merry Mushroom Bites

Makes 24 bites

- 1/3 cup diced yellow onion
- 3 tbsp. butter
- 12 oz. portobello mushrooms, coarsely diced
- 4 tsp. finely chopped fresh rosemary
- 1-1/4 tsp. black pepper
- 3 eggs
- 3 tbsp. all-purpose flour
- 1-1/4 tsp. salt
- 1 package (4 oz.) favorite crackers
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 1/2 red bell pepper, thinly sliced
- Chopped rosemary or parsley (optional)

Preheat oven to 350°F. Prepare Bite-Size Silicone Tree Mold with vegetable pan spray.

In large skillet, cook onion and butter over medium-low heat stirring occasionally until soft, about 5 minutes. Add mushrooms, rosemary and black pepper. Cook until liquid has evaporated, about 10 minutes. Cool slightly. Transfer mixture to food processor. Add eggs, flour and salt. Pulse until mixture is pureed with no large pieces of mushroom or onion. Fill cavities of silicone mold completely with mushroom mixture, patting flat.

Bake 15 to 18 minutes or until top of the mushroom mixture is firm. Cool in pan 15 minutes; carefully remove and place on cracker. Top with sour cream, sliced red pepper and, if desired, rosemary. Serve warm or at room temperature.



Potato Chowder with Pancetta and Aged Cheddar

- 6 oz. pancetta or bacon, chopped
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 pound Yukon Gold potatoes, unpeeled, cut into 1/2-inch chunks
- 1 cup chopped celery
- 1 1/2 cups chicken broth
- 1 cup low-fat buttermilk
- Salt and pepper
- 1 cup (4 ounces) shredded Kerrygold Aged Cheddar

In large saucepan over medium-high heat, cook pancetta, stirring, until crisp, about 5 minutes. Remove pancetta and drain on paper towels. Discard all but 1/2 teaspoon fat from pan. Add onion and sauté over high heat until lightly browned, 4 to 5 minutes. Add potatoes, celery and broth. Cover, bring to a boil and simmer until potatoes are tender, about 12 minutes. Add buttermilk and pancetta and stir until hot, 1 to 2 minutes. Season with salt and pepper. Remove from heat, stir in cheese and serve immediately. Makes 4 servings; multiply recipe for a crowd.



And for Every Holiday Get-Together, a Cheese Board

A universal favorite of guests and the easiest choice for the host is a cheese board. An assortment of Irish cheeses like Dubliner, Cashel Blue and Kerrygold Aged Cheddar with fresh fruit and chutney make a spectacular presentation.

For more holiday recipes, visit www.kerrygoldusa.com.

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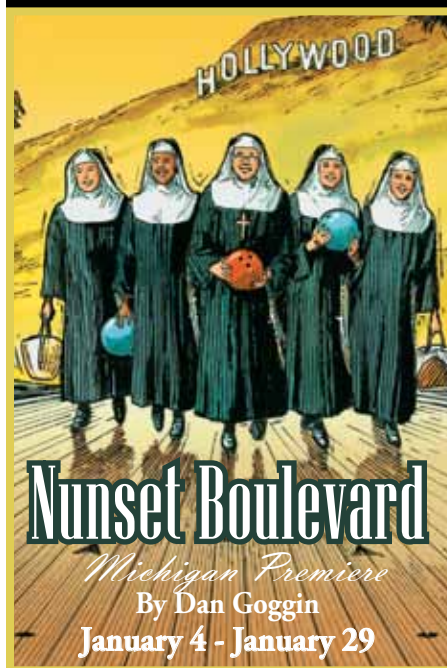


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RIGHT at Home

By Virginia Ficarra



Q *I am ready to purchase a new fixture for my dining room. How large of a chandelier can I use over my dining room table?
-Kristin, Grosse Pointe Farms*

A Here is a simple formula to estimate the proper dimensions for a chandelier. First measure the length and width of your room. Next, add these two measurements together. For example, this room is 14 feet by 14 feet, so $14 + 14 = 28$. Now simply use this number, 28, as a guide for your chandelier, in inches. Therefore, a chandelier 28 inches in diameter will work best.

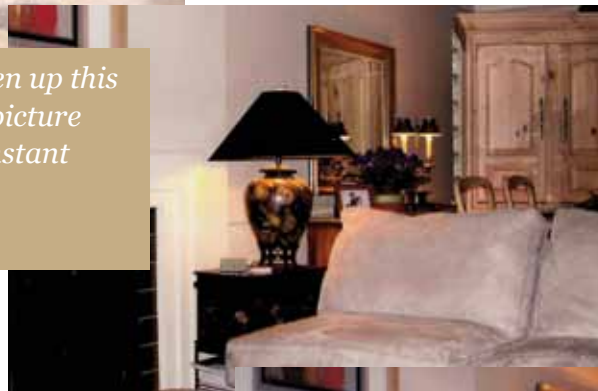
For safety, hang the fixture so the bottom of it is at least 42 inches above the table top. Of course, the table should also be visually in proportion to the size of the room. To sit comfortably and allow a walk space behind the chairs, you will need at least 4 feet between the table edge and the wall on all four sides.

Also, for your holiday dining you may want to add small shades to the chandelier candles. They can be black, off-white or even red to match the color of your centerpiece.

Q *We need some quick tips to freshen up this room for the holidays. Here is a picture of the room. Can you give it an instant makeover?
-Melanie, Grosse Pointe Woods*

A Yes, here is the result of an instant makeover which we achieved in a couple of hours. This is when home shopping really means home shopping. Not one penny was spent on accessories.

A good place to begin is in your storage areas. We kept the picture over the fireplace a focal point and pulled hues from it. We added some red flowers to a 'tired' arrangement, a throw pillow from a guest room and a small needlepoint pillow from the attic. Grandma's hand-blown bowl, retrieved from the kitchen cabinet, was the finishing touch. Note how the table centerpiece, the glass bowl and the throw pillows pick up the red in the picture. They complete the ribbon of color that ties the room together.



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A Goal-Scoring Visionary

Grosse Pointe Chill captain owns the ice - and is legally blind

By Melissa Walsh

Great hockey players apply a skill known as “split vision” -- critical for handling the puck heads up while reading and reacting to what’s happening on the ice.

The Grosse Pointe Chill women’s hockey team’s high-scoring center, Kristine Anderson, has an uncanny knack for applying split vision. This is especially remarkable because Anderson is legally blind.

Diagnosed in 1997 with Stargardt’s Disease, a form of macular degeneration, Anderson was declared legally blind in 2005. Though she struggles to see images directly in front of her, Anderson’s peripheral vision remains in tact. This is known as “eccentric vision.” Anderson works with vision therapists who teach her how to hone her eccentric vision.

“I rely on [eccentric] vision like nothing else. It’s all that I use to see. It’s how I function in life,” she says.

Less than two years ago, at the age of 41, Anderson met Biz Williamson at a hockey skills drop-in skate at Civic Arena. Williamson, a defenseman

with the newly formed Chill, invited Anderson to join the hockey club.

“She was incredible on the ice and she had so much enthusiasm,” Williamson recalls. “It was skate at first sight.”

“Hockey has saved my life,” says Anderson. “It’s the one thing that I can do successfully. And it’s the one thing I can do where no one really knows that I’m struggling.”

People with macular degeneration crave light. The brightness of the white ice and contrast of the black puck make hockey an ideal competitive environment for Anderson. And though she cannot identify individuals by sight, she can recognize a teammate from an opponent on the ice because of the contrast of dark versus light jerseys.

“Kristine seriously sees the puck better than anyone on the team,” says left winger Jane Ann Ruffing. “Whatever vision quality she may be lacking, Kristine has made up for it in every other aspect of the game.”

Anderson says that since becoming

a hockey player, her dreams

have changed. She dreams about scoring goals and hopes to score a hat trick. Her parents, husband Johnny, son Grant and daughter Maren are her biggest fans.

“At the age of 43, every time I go out, it becomes like my Olympics,” Anderson explains. “[Hockey] is a very empowering sport. It’s a therapeutic sport. It’s a sport where you think about nothing else except the task at hand. And to me, I know it’s about more than just scoring goals, but I love to score goals.”

The Grosse Pointe Women’s Hockey Club, The GP Chill, is an instructional and lower-level women’s recreational competitive hockey club. Find The Chill on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/gpchill>.

Pictured above, winger Krista Wortman, center Kristine Anderson and defenseman Biz Williamson

Photos by Melissa Walsh

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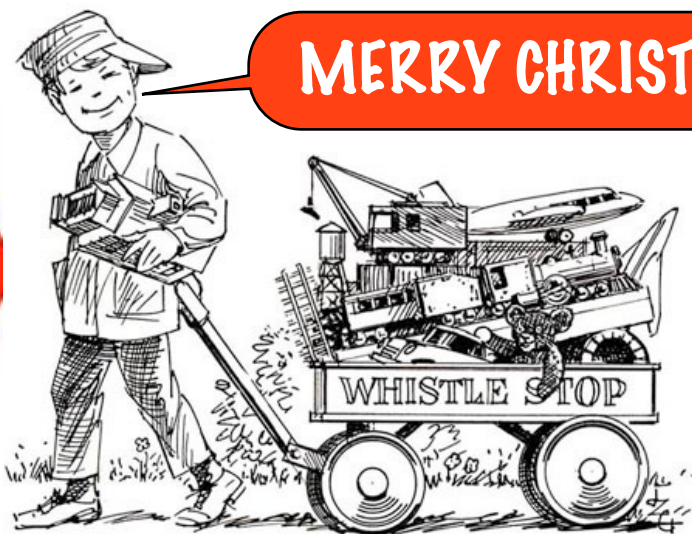
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Tuesday, Dec. 6:

Grosse Pointe War Memorial Bedtime Stories with

Santa: Wear pajamas and bring a blanket and stuffed animal to gather around Santa's chair beside the towering Christmas tree for stories read by Santa himself! Enjoy milk and cookies afterward. Ages 4 and up, in the Alger House Reception Room, \$10 per child, adults free, Dec. 6, 12, 14, 15, 7-7:45 p.m.

Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Santa Workshop: Enter a workshop filled with antique toys and crafts inspired by the Santa's Workshop created by Henry and Clara Ford. Santa visits Saturdays in December! Bring a new, unwrapped toy to donate and receive \$2 off admission for a general, holiday tour. Runs through Dec. 31 during regular tour hours.

Wednesday, Dec. 7:

Grosse Pointe War Memorial Holiday Luncheon

Enjoy lunch, music and decorations at the War Memorial. The luncheon features door prizes and a gift boutique, \$25 per person, 12-2:30 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 8:

Grosse Pointe Woods Senior Holiday Social

at Assumption Cultural Center. Enjoy dinner, drinks, gifts and dancing. Purchase tickets at the GPW Community Center, \$23 for residents, \$30 for guests, 12-4 p.m.

"A Christmas Tea" at St. James Lutheran Church, sponsored by SOC, 2-3:30 p.m.

The Family Center's 9th annual Holly Fest: Enjoy cocktails, dinner and a silent and live auction at the Grosse Pointe Club, \$85 per person, 6 p.m.

Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Nutcracker Tea: Warm drinks, tasty treats and a visit with Santa for children and their adult companions, 4 p.m. seatings: Dec. 3, 4, 8, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18; 6 p.m. seatings: Dec. 3, 4, 8, 12, 15, 18, 20

Friday, Dec. 9:

Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Candlelight Stroll:

Enjoy holiday music, trees, ornaments and other trimmings, and hear stories of the Ford family holiday traditions at the Estate. \$15 per person, Dec. 9-10, 16-17, 23, 5-8 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 10:

Grosse Pointe War Memorial's Breakfast with

Santa: Enjoy a family-style breakfast as you await Santa's arrival by helicopter! One family per table offers a personal experience with Santa as he visits each family. After breakfast travel to the Auditorium to hear the Merry Music Maker perform. Dress your very best for a formal family photo opportunity with Santa. Don't forget the camera! \$16 per person, tickets must be purchased in advance, Dec. 10 & 11, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Grosse Pointe Historical Society's Izzy's Saturday

Christmas Event: Come and melt white chocolate, hammer candy canes in a ziplock bag and pour them into Christmas molds to create very sweet treats! 1-3 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 11:

Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Holiday Tea and Tour:

A favorite holiday outing for ladies to enjoy a holiday house tour, followed by a light meal of tea, sandwiches and pastries. Each guest receives a special Ford House gift. Dec. 11, 19, 20, 3-5 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 13:

Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Christmas Story Time:

Gather 'round the towering tree in the grand Ford House Gallery to hear a memorable reading of "Twas the Night Before Christmas." Top the night off with hot cocoa and cookies. \$5 per person, Dec. 13 & 14, 6-8 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 16:

SOC Christmas Party at St. James Lutheran Church, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 17:

Grosse Pointe Woods Polar Express: Travel to the North Pole on GPW Polar Express, visit with Santa and snack on holiday fare. \$4 per person, Dec. 17-21, for more information check out page 53!

Thursday, Dec. 22 - Friday, Dec. 23:

Judson Center Winter Break Away: Activities and social opportunities for children with special needs, ages 6-13, \$75/2-day session, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Depression: 'tis the season

By Dr. Saima A. Khan

Most people experience depression at some point in their lives; for many, it is situational and resolves with time and support from friends and family. For some, however, depression can be severe and debilitating.



Common signs of depression are sadness, fatigue, lack of enjoyment of things once pleasurable and change in eating and sleeping patterns. Some less-common symptoms are anger, vague aches and pains, including abdominal pain and digestive problems, feeling overwhelmed and having difficulty concentrating. Get help if any of these symptoms go on for more than two weeks, affect relationships or jobs or if there are thoughts of hurting oneself.

Depression can sometimes be caused or exacerbated by life-altering events (death, job loss, birth of a child), a family history of depression or a substance-abuse problem; sometimes, however, there may be no "good" reason.

Initial treatment can consist of exercise, a healthy diet consisting of "good" carbs (fruits, vegetables, and whole grains) and protein and taking a vitamin D and omega-3 supplement.

If these don't work or if the symptoms are severe, a doctor may try antidepressants, talk therapy or, ideally, a combination of the two. If at anytime thoughts of suicide arise, call your doctor or 800-SUICIDE immediately. Help is always available.

Dr. Saima A. Khan, MD, MPH grew up in Grosse Pointe Farms and lives in the Woods with her husband and three daughters. She practices internal medicine in Warren, 28351 Schoenherr, (586) 393-6500.

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Stahl's Automotive Museum...



...now open to all



By John Minnis

Comedian car collector Jay Leno has nothing on Ted Stahl — except maybe 90 motorcycles. The famous Leno owns about 100 vintage automobiles and so does the not-so-famous Stahl. However, unlike Leno's, Stahl's collection

can be readily seen just about every Tuesday afternoon or by appointment at the Stahl Automotive Museum that recently opened on 26 Mile Road in Macomb Township.

The collection of 90+ cars was until recently spread among three buildings in St. Clair Shores. The new building

acquired in Macomb Township provides the opportunity to see many of Stahl's classics under one roof.

To make it interesting for more than just car enthusiasts, the Stahl Automotive Foundation has created "A Trip On Route 66" from Illinois to California, complete with mural backdrops and vintage signage from days gone by.

Stahl began collecting cars about 20 years ago. His gems include a 1919 Meisenhelder that took first at the 2010 Pebble Beach Concours with Stahl at the wheel, a Hupmobile and a Brewster, and names such as Dusenbergs, Stutz, Mercer, Pierce-Arrow, Packard and Cord. He is very proud of his 1948 Tucker Torpedo,



The sprawling Stahl Automotive Museum is housed in a building on 26 Mile in Macomb Township. Ted Stahl (with plaque) was recently named to the Sporting Goods Hall of Fame by the National Sporting Goods Association, joining executives from the likes of Nike, Spalding and Wilson. Stahl comes from a long line of businessmen, including his father, grandfather and uncles who operated Stahl's Repair Shop in Indian Village. "A Trip On Route 66" at the Stahl Automotive Museum begins with a 1904 Oldsmobile and culminates with a 1967 Pontiac GTO (not shown).



Photos by John Minnis

made famous in the Jeff Bridges movie on the Michigan auto pioneer.

“He was way ahead of his time,” says Stahl, who likes vintage cars because “they were designed by individual designers, not committees.”

Stahl’s fabulous car collection is made possible by the success of his GroupeStahl global enterprise of companies. Stahl’s grandfather, A.C. Stahl, developed the first heat-applied garment lettering, mostly for sports. Stahl’s father, Ernie, spun off the sportswear lettering company, and son Ted took it over and grew it into a worldwide company that is the leader in the industry.

In fact, Stahl was inducted earlier this year into the Sporting Goods Hall of Fame by the National Sporting Goods Association, joining executives from the likes of Browning, Wilson, Spalding, Cabela and Nike.

“It was really a humbling experience,” Stahl says.

The 1919 Meisenhelder, above, took first at the Pebble Beach Concours last year with Ted Stahl behind the wheel. Other vintage automobiles include a 1934 Lasalle, right, and a 1910 Packard, far right, middle. All cars are drivable and kept in immaculate condition, even under the hoods.

Stahl has put five children through University Liggett School, “a hidden gem in Grosse Pointe.” He and wife, Mary, live in Grosse Pointe Woods and have a home on Boblo Island.

“I’ve been blessed,” he says. ♡

More information on the Stahl Automotive Museum may be found at www.stahlsauto.com





Pointe Carolers at Home for Christmas

By Amy Miller

Grosse Pointers love to carol, and the tradition — from Burt carols to The Grunyons to the St. Stephen Carolers — is alive and well. Pointe resident and bass singer Bill Gard, a 1949 Yale University graduate and member of its Whiffenpoofs a cappella group, co-founded The Grunyons, the local men’s vocal jazz a cappella group, now in its 62nd year.

The Grunyons have a dozen performances slated for the Advent season, says Park resident John Prost, a 48-year Grunyon tenor. “The engagements are mostly private parties and for charitable organizations,” he says. “We rehearse every Tuesday in the homes of one of our 22 members, and we’re well prepared to sing anywhere anytime for everyone.”

Another local vocal group, also founded by Gard, The St. Stephen Carolers, comes together exclusively during December. The co-ed, multi-generational singing group’s specialty is Alfred Burt carols. “Some of the most beautiful Christmas carols

ever written were by Alfred Burt,” Gard says. “And, he’s got a local connection.”

Pontiac Episcopal minister Bates Burt composed original carols for his family’s annual Christmas card for two decades, from 1922 through 1942. Grosse Pointers were among the 500 recipients of the Christmas carols. His son, Alfred (Al) Burt, a jazz musician and graduate of University of Michigan’s music school, took over the annual composition task from 1942 to 1954, collaborating with church employee Wilha Hutson for lyrics, creating 15 now-famous carols.

Country star Tennessee Ernie Ford recorded Burt’s “The Star Carol,” and named his 1954 album the same. Nat King Cole sang Burt’s “Caroling, Caroling,” and Kenny Loggins recorded Burt’s “Christmas Cometh Caroling.”

Top, The Grunyons; right, St. Stephen Carolers

John Williams arranged two medleys of Burt’s work for the Boston Pops Orchestra. And James Taylor recorded Burt’s “Some Children See Him.”

Gard’s favorite is “Burt’s Come Dear Children.” “I love the text and the music; they go beautifully together,” Gard says. “The song is about the excitement of Christmas approaching.” ☐



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T.N. Thai — the Pointes' best!



Frank Cherro is Head Chef at the Grosse Pointe Hunt Club

It's hard for me to write this article about a restaurant that I eat at more than four times a month. That should tell you how good it is without even reading to the end. I first learned about T.N. Thai Bistro from a friend who insisted it was the first Thai food in Grosse Pointe and the best. I will agree with her.

Located at 17100 Kercheval in The Village, this well-dressed gem is decorated in authentic Thai art and rich, orange-colored walls. The owners, Tom Lee and Naly Yang, make up the T.N. in the name of the restaurant. There is a long history of successful restaurants in the Metro-Detroit area associated with the family.

The menu includes all of the traditional favorites in the noodle and curry dishes. The Pad Thai, Curry Noodle and even a Cheesy Noodle are sure to satisfy the critics. The Peanut Curry is one of my favorites, along with both the Drunken and Udon noodle dishes. Their spring rolls taste fresh, and everyone knows about Krab Rangoons. My new favorite, however, is the Chicken Satay. The gigantic skewer of well-seasoned meat went very well with the peanut dipping sauce.

The sushi menu is pretty standard with all your favorites like California Roll and Spicy Tuna, but the two must-try rolls are the Shrimp Lovers Roll and the Dragon Roll. The Dragon comes topped with barbecued eel,

T.N. Thai Bistro


Grosse Pointe



Chef Frank's rating

and Chef Kai is always topnotch with presentation. Whenever I'm not really in the mood, Kai and his crew have more than impressed me with their improv-style rolls and sashimi. It is traditional to sit at a sushi bar and let the chef know that you trust him, plus it allows them the opportunity to release their creative juices. Frankly, that's the only way I order with Chef Kai, who was trained by one of the premier sushi chefs in the country.

To put out the fire from the evening meal — if you chose to dial up the heat — the coconut ice cream is the way to go. It is homemade, using real coconuts they shave daily, and perfectly sweet. The mango and lychee flavors are also good. If you are looking for that evening out, T.N. Thai has a wonderful selection of beer and wine, including sake.

I was told that this style of Thai food was very close to home-style cooking in Thailand. Well they sure make you feel at home, with friendly service with a smile. I would recommend this restaurant to anyone. 



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	1/2 LB. HAMBURGER Served w/cottage fries, coleslaw or soup.....	\$7.49
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Meet Edie

Name	Edie Bogle
Age	Still young! (with silver hair)
City	Grosse Pointe Park
Occupation	Registered nurse



Edie's Favorites

Dessert

Blueberry Grunt

Movie

Gone with the Wind

Ice Cream Flavor

Grapenut

Activity

Dancing, I dance every week

Book

Any historical book

Restaurant

Fresh Seafood - Canadian East Coast

Vacation Spot

Maritimes/Ocean, Nova Scotia, Canada

Childhood TV Show

No TV at the time. Radio - The Lone Ranger, The Green Hornet and Canadian Hockey

What is your guiding principle or words to live by?

The Golden Rule plus kindness, caring, trust, sharing, honesty and humor

One thing you miss about being a kid?

Freedom and where I grew up, a large house on a hill, hundreds of maple trees and acreage, rivers and the ocean

What was your first job?

A long-distance telephone operator. You really learn a lot about people!

Are you a collector of anything?

Antiques and historical items

Your biggest accomplishment?

Completing both my undergraduate and master's degrees with honors after three bouts of cancer, chemotherapy, surgery and radiation.

What is your biggest regret?

To have accomplished more in music. Music has always been in my life (piano and voice).

Most historical day in your lifetime?

The day I graduated in nursing from the Victoria General Hospital in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.

About Edie:

Edie, of Grosse Pointe Park, is mother to David, Janet and Susan.

She has worked as a nurse for 42 years and continues to do so for Hospice Care.

"I enjoyed every day in nursing. It was such a special gift to me to have such a wonderful experience," Edie says.

Edie's hobbies include music and dancing, which she does weekly and considers the most wonderful form of exercise.

Fall prevention

By Ronda Maniaci

Falls are the number one threat to the health and independence of seniors. Falls can cause moderate to severe injuries, such as hip fractures, head traumas, and can increase the risk of death. Many individuals, who fall, even if the fall doesn't result in an injury, develop a fear of falling. This fear can limit a senior's physical activity, causing loss of strength and balance, making falls more likely.



There are a host of other contributing risk factors that can lead to falls—poor vision, hearing loss, high blood pressure, loss of bone mass due to osteoporosis, sleeping problems, and medications. A number of other health issues such as urinary infections, dehydration and depression are often unrecognized and can be associated with falls.

The good news is there are things you can do to lower the risk or even prevent falls:

- Exercise regularly
- Rise slowly after sitting or lying down
- Wear sturdy shoes (not slippers)
- Have vision checked yearly
- Make sure that all medications are taken as prescribed
- Report any over the counter medications and unusual or abrupt behavioral changes to your physician
- Install handrails and grab bars
- Place regularly used items within reach
- Remove rugs and clutter from walkways
- Improve lighting
- A 24-hour home alert device provides immediate help if a fall occurs

Ronda Maniaci is a Certified Senior Advisor, Owner of Comfort Care and "Home Alert" provider. Ronda can be reached at (313) 881-3390 or at ronda.comfortcare@sbcglobal.net.



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Academy Chapel Giving Tradition

GROSSE POINTE ACADEMY TEACHES FAITH AND GENEROSITY FOR THE HOLIDAYS

By Lauren Beaver

The Grosse Pointe Academy Chapel Giving celebrates its 42nd year of Christmas giving with a holiday tradition incorporating faculty, staff and students in a two-day assembly of singing, instruments, praying and stories.

“This is what I recognize as the beginning of Christmas. Having us all together, from two and a half year olds to eighth graders, all of the staff and faculty,” says Academy Early School and Lower School Principal Jennifer Kendall. “It is the tradition of being together.”

The two-day assembly begins Dec. 13 with first to eighth grade students. Children bring gifts down the aisle following a musical introduction and performance by the eighth grade bell choir. Faculty play an enormous

role in the assembly, as they tell an important story and deliver a spiritual message. They also sing “Hush, Be Very Quiet,” a song that has been a part of the Chapel Giving tradition since its beginning in 1969. The music and tone for the two-day Chapel Giving is one of overall spirituality.

“The theme of Chapel Giving is to prepare children for the giving aspect of Christmas and the spiritual side of the holiday,” says Ellen Krease, Middle School Christian Life Director and key organizer for Chapel Giving. “Jesus, the Holy Family and generosity are at the center of Chapel Giving.”

Day two of Chapel Giving, which takes place Dec. 14, includes all Academy students, from two and a half year olds to eighth graders. Academy students and family members fill the entire chapel to hear

gifted performer and Academy mom Melissa Gray sing “Oh, Holy Night.”

“There isn’t a dry eye among the adults,” says Krease.

To strongly connect the children with the act of giving, students carry the donated items down the church aisle to the leaders of the Academy, the eighth grade students.

“We are concentrating on giving and not receiving,” Krease explains. “We’re reaching out to the people who need the basics of everyday life.”

On the second day of Chapel Giving, a Capuchin bus waits outside the church, ready to be filled with the necessities so many local families go without.

Chapel Giving is an important tradition to the Academy. “It touches everyone’s heart and it starts Christmas for us,” says Krease. ☪



Photos by Mary Anne Brush



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Front Row: Carol vandenBerg, Office Manager; Karen Gunn, Owner/Groomer 31 years; Lisa Porter, Groomer 30 years.

Back Row: Debbie Johnson, Groomer 28 years, and Beki Markey, Groomer 5 years

Photo courtesy of The Portrait Place

GROSSE POINTE PET SALON

Grosse Pointe Pet Salon has been a fixture in the Grosse Pointe community for 20 years. The experience, professionalism and knowledge found at Grosse Pointe Pet Salon, in owner Karen Gunn and in her employees is what makes the pet salon particularly special.

Karen has bred over 25 champion dogs and has had the honor of having entries in the prestigious Westminster Dog Show. Her extensive background in the breeding and showing of Wire Fox Terriers, Border Terriers, Bearded Collies and Mini Wirehaired Dachshunds is one of note. A grooming stylist for 32 years, Karen is proficient in all breeds' styling and show trims and states that the foundation for her styling skills lies in a college degree in Art and Interior Decorating. She also has a background in obedience training. "Obedience

helps in understanding animals' behavior and body language. There's so much to it and we have a strong background in this," Karen says.

The knowledge found at Grosse Pointe Pet Salon merely starts with Karen. Her highly experienced team has been with Grosse Pointe Pet Salon for years. Karen says, "We all bring different talents to the table. It makes everything run smoothly."

Debbie, lifelong friend of Karen, has worked at GPPS since the very beginning and has 30 years of professional grooming experience. Lisa, who comes from a family of showing and breeding champion dogs, joined GPPS 10 years ago and boasts 28 years of grooming experience. Beki, the newest and youngest groomer at GPPS, has worked with the team for three years and has a background in animal rescue. Carol, the cheerful and

friendly office manager keeps business running smoothly. Karen says one benefit of having such a wide range of skills and experience on the GPPS staff is that, "I can find the right groomer to fit the right dog or cat."

"Grosse Pointe Pet Salon does not rest on its laurels," says Karen. Each employee is required to continuously attend grooming seminars and training sessions to remain up-to-date on the newest innovations and techniques. Every staff member is a pet owner and brings a love of animals to work every day. Above all, GPPS offers personalized and highly knowledgeable service in the Pointes.

Grosse Pointe Pet Salon is located at 20947 Mack Ave. in Grosse Pointe Woods and opens at 9 a.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

SOROPTIMIST FEATURES NEIGHBORHOOD CLUB ON HOLIDAY ORNAMENTS

By Patti Theros

Get a piece of Grosse Pointe history this holiday season and help a good cause by purchasing a unique Christmas ornament presented by Soroptimist International of Grosse Pointe.

“This year we’ll be selling ornaments featuring the Neighborhood Club, which is celebrating its 100th anniversary,” says SICP President Mary Ellen Burke. These one-of-a-kind ornaments are great keepsakes and make great gifts for friends, teachers and relatives.

“This is our third year for the fundraiser, which supports educational awards and scholarships for local women,” says Burke. “In previous years our ornaments featured the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club and the Grosse Pointe War Memorial.”

SIGP plans to continue the fundraiser and feature Grosse Pointe historical sites for years to come. Soroptimist International of



Grosse Pointe is a volunteer service organization dedicated to improving the lives of women and girls through grants; community service projects such as Positive Images, Inc., a women’s residential rehab program in Detroit; and by raising awareness

for human trafficking in the U.S. by hosting local meetings and seminars.

The ornaments are \$10 each and can be purchased at businesses and organizations around Grosse Pointe, including the Grosse Pointe Art Center, The League Shop, Mack Ave. Drapery, Flagstar Banks (Mack and Kercheval branches), Grosse Pointe Florist, Moehring Woods Florist, Circare, Mr. C’s Car Wash (Mack Ave.), Village Toy, Harper Sports, Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce, Aretee Spa and Wild Birds Unlimited. Some locations will also have the 2010 and 2009 ornaments available for purchase.

For more information, visit grossepointesoroptimist.org or contact SIGP co-chairperson Roseanne at (313) 417-9963 or rosewa33@aol.com.



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Kids on the Go September 23

Photos by Christine M.J. Hathaway



Ginny Lezotte and Celia Wade



Kris Piana and Kristy and Diane Schena



Adrian Gatzaros and Michael Seago



Carol Sine, Carol Kucharek, Tom Youngblood and Shana Cameron



Adam George, Peter Collins and Chris George



Liberta and Lillian Licata

Angels FUR Animals September 24 @ Lochmoor Club

Photos by Christine M.J. Hathaway



Corinne and Paul Martin



Kristyl Girschner and Mary Ann Ribaud



Pete Kennedy and Sandy



Gina DeLuca, Gail Miller, Ellen Weeks and Nancy Pillsbury



John Cousias, Cherly Brozovic and Richard Gillespie



Margaret and Dr. Dave Balaj

SOC Grosse Pointe Yacht Club Auction September 30

Photos by Christine M.J. Hathaway



Marita Grobbel and John and Lorie Stefek



Tony and Theresa Selvaggio



Vicki and Bob Liggett



Chris Arendoski, Kenneth Bresnan, Donna Rochester and Jeff Goudie



Diane Kashuba, Beline Obeid, Susan Kopf and Mary Fodell



Kathleen and Greg Solecki, Marie Boyle Reinman and Estelle and Randy Hamm

University of Michigan at DuMouchelle's October 13

Photos by Christine M.J. Hathaway



Bob Anderson, Kathy Kosmatka and Cynthia Blake



Dr. John and Karen Barks and Fran Anderson



Matthew, Jill and Ernest DuMouchelle

The Family Center Hayride October 14

Photos by John Minnis



Diane Strickler, Lisa MacLean and Torrey Stackpoole



Laura Parthum and Mary Beth and Rob Garvey



Heleen and Bob Heaton, Ann Williams and Paul and Sherry Bourgeois

Daughters of the British Empire Luncheon October 20 @ War Memorial

Photos by Lauren Beaver



Anne Carroll and Doris Erickson



Diana and Dennis Wortman



Eleanor Marsh and Maureen Selin



Michael Marsh and Nancy and Jack Renick



Susan Davies and Marleine Ricca



Father Mike Bedford, Nancy Renick and Sharon Amluxen

Wayne State University Journalism Day October 26

Photos by Lauren Beaver



WSU Journalism Alumnus of the Year John Minnis and WSU Journalism Director and Professor Ben Burns



WSU professor Jack Lessenberry and WSU Journalist of the Year Joel Thurtell



WSU Journalism Graduate of the Year Jillian Grandison and WSU Director of the Journalism Institute for Media Diversity Alicia Nails

Grosse Pointe Historical Society Legends of Le Detroit October 28

Photos by John Minnis



Karen Zielecki, Sandie Fischer, Henry Fischer, Maichael Zielecki and Dave Walter



Max Rakozy, Aidan Clements, Donovan Dunham, Kenny Gross, Matt Gross, Griffin Clements and Matthew Fleckenstein



Tyler Cassey, Mitchell Mills, Joey Cezech and Joey Sabella

St. Michael's Party for the Pipes October 28 @ Assumption Cultural Center

Photos by John Minnis



Rev. Jack Trumbath, Rev. Keith Mackenzie, Regina Trumbath, Derek Farr, Christa Albrecht, Rev. John Albrecht and Rev. Marianna Gromek



John and Jeanne Flynn, Nancy and Jack Renick, Sally Graham and Jim and Beverly Veit



Steve and May Jean Chan, Pat Dyble, Liz Palen, Mary Scrace, Carolyn Skaff, Dale Scrace, Kathy Zmyslowski, Bob Bashara, Jane Bashara and Dave Zmyslowski



Bob Waters, Barbara Pappas, Martha Miller, Rosemary Berger, Gavin Craig, Karen McCarthy, Gillian and Drew McSkimming, Dianne and Dale Pegg and Stephanie Stallings

Roast & Toast for Superintendent Dr. Klein November 2 @ War Memorial

Photos by C.M.J. Hathaway



Dan Raeske, Michael and Alice Kosinski, Judy Gafa and George McMullen



John Minnis, Ted Everingham, Beth Moran, Jack and Dr. Suzanne Klein, Debbie Liedel, Theresa DiVirgil, Bob Bashara, Diane Strickler and Kim Towar



Ted and Marcia Everingham, Kathleen Mullins and Debbie and Jack Liang

GPFFE Honors Superintendent Dr. Klein November 8 @ Wardens' home

Photos by Christine M.J. Hathaway



Donna and Greg Ridella and Lynn and Harry Kurtz



Dutch Mandel and Jef Fisk



Laura Huebner, Dr. Suzanne Klein and Christie Scoggins

pets



Buddy and Scooby welcome your hi-res Pointe Pets pictures at 18530 Mack #106, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236 or e-mail buddy@grossepointemagazine.com

Bella and Duke



Bella Sophia DeYonker of Grosse Pointe Woods, left, with her buddy Duke Rieth of Grosse Pointe Woods.

Nacho



Nacho enjoying the weather with his pal Andee Baker in Grosse Pointe Park.

Dee Dee and Lilly



Dee Dee, foreground, resides with Arthur Kesteloot in Grosse Pointe. Lilly lives with Andrew, Tricia, Ben and Kate Kesteloot in Grosse Pointe Woods.

In Memory of Chester



Chester, 25-year old Siamese cat of the Krasner family, recently laid himself down to sleep and gently passed away. He was a wonderful friend who outlived three dogs and his fellow-feline, Frannie.

Chloee



Chloee, a Maltese puppy, lives with Marianne E. Ruffini in Grosse Pointe.

Griffy



Griffy lives with Jena Novak of Grosse Pointe. His favorite pastime is parkour.

Rocky



Rocky, who lives with Matt and Amy Brauer of Grosse Pointe, loves the water and will endlessly swim around. He is especially great at keeping the area free of all geese and dragonflies.

Waffles



Waffles (Surf Dog) owns Wendy and Casey Wise. She is from a very old established breed of Mongrellas and relishes her jaunts in the surf of Saginaw Bay at Point Lookout.

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Meet Chuck

Name	Chuck Gabel
Age	52
City	Grosse Pointe Woods
Occupation	Financial Consultant



Gabel Financial Services

Charles Gabel ChFC, CLU has been in the financial services industry for 30 years. The firm provides insurance, retirement and investment planning for individuals and businesses.

Gabel Financial is an affiliate of the Financial Legacy Group and AXA Advisors with offices on Mack Avenue in Grosse Pointe Woods and on Corporate Drive in Troy. Gabel's achievements include earning the Chartered Financial Consultant (ChFC) and the Chartered Life Underwriter (CLU) professional designations from the American College.

Gabel is also a member of the AXA Equitable Hall of Fame and a perennial qualifier of MDRT (Million Dollar Round Table).

Something about you that most people don't know? I was one of the youngest Eagle Scouts in Michigan.

What was your first job? Macomb Pet Shop at the age of 10.

Your most often used phrase? Be careful what you wish for, you may just get it.

Best advice you have received? Try to learn from other people's mistakes.

If you weren't a financial planner what would you be? Architect or rock star

What is your next goal? Get my daughters through college

Favorite thing to do outside of work? Travel with my family

Words to live by? Choice, not chance, determines destiny!

About Chuck:

Chuck and his wife, Lisa, live in Grosse Pointe Woods with their two daughters, Jaclyn and Jessica. He is a member of the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, the St. John Men's Guild and is on the Board of the Ruby McCoy Foundation.

What are they doing there?

By the Rev. Jim Rizer

Several years ago, as I was picking up the living room, I found something quite surprising. I noticed several new visitors to

our children's manger set. A group of elephants had come to pay their respects. Off to the right were various dinosaurs, which traversed from more than afar to worship the new-born King.



In front was Thomas the Tank Engine with several of his engine buddies. In expanding, concentric circles was a conglomeration of representatives from just about every toy family we had, including the little, green, three-eyed alien from the movie, "Toy Story." As I examined the scene, I wondered, "What are they all doing there?"

This question can really be posed to all in the account. Shepherds were considered some of the lowest of the Jewish pecking order, nomadic wanderers, who were counted as thieves and as ritually unclean. Much later, the Magi, outsiders by both race and profession, encounter the Christ and believe.

What are they doing there? Responding to the "good news of great joy for all people" (Luke 2:10) that God in grace has flung open wide the gates to the kingdom of God, even to shepherds and to the Magi. The wonder of the Christmas story is that all are welcomed to encounter the Christ and believe. There is room for shepherds, Magi and for you.

Yours in Christ,
Jim Rizer

The Rev. Jim Rizer is pastor of Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church.



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Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 11:00 PM

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Polar Express A Magical Ride through the Woods

By Lauren Beaver

The Polar Express, Grosse Pointe Woods' magical holiday ride, returns this Dec. 17 - 21 after a highly successful 2010 season. Over 400 Woods residents and friends boarded the express that took them from the Community Center, through the Pointes, and onward to the North Pole.

"Our Polar Express Nights have become a wonderful holiday tradition," says Grosse Pointe Woods councilwoman Vicki Granger. "Our city employees work very hard to make the Polar Express a memorable event for our children and their parents and grandparents."

Passengers tour the festively lit Grosse Pointe neighborhoods on heated GPW park buses while listening to the story of the Polar Express. In order to preserve the



original setting of the holiday story, children are encouraged to wear pajamas for the journey. When the Polar Express reaches the North Pole, passengers are greeted with hot chocolate and cookies. Children are invited to visit with Santa who will gift each child with a sleigh bell, representing the first gift of Christmas.

Advanced registration and payment at the Community Center are required. Tickets are \$4 per person. The Polar Express will depart from the GPW Community Center Dec. 17-21 at 5:30, 6, 6:30, 7 and 7:30 p.m.

Top, Santa and Colin Hexter; left, Polar Express Conductor Ashley Zimmerman and Addison Oliver

Photos courtesy of the City of Grosse Pointe Woods



06 TUESDAY

- Grosse Pointe War Memorial presents Bedtime Stories with Santa, 7-7:45 p.m.
- Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Santa Workshop: Runs through Dec. 31, for more information, see page 28!
- Grosse Pointe Public Library Crafts from around the World: Saint Nicholas in the Ewald Program Room, 4-5 p.m.
- Grosse Pointe Public Library Woods Branch showing of "A Christmas Story" in the Woods Program Room, 7 p.m.

07 WEDNESDAY

- Grosse Pointe War Memorial Holiday Luncheon featuring door prizes and a gift boutique, 12-2:30 p.m.

08 THURSDAY

- Grosse Pointe Woods Senior Holiday Social at Assumption Cultural Center, dinner, drinks, gifts and dancing, buy tickets at the Grosse Pointe Woods Community Center, \$23 for residents, \$30 for guests, 12-4 p.m.
- "A Christmas Tea" at St. James Lutheran Church, sponsored by SOC, 2-3:30 p.m.
- The Family Center's 9th annual Holly Fest at the Grosse Pointe Club, 6 p.m.
- Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Nutcracker Tea: Warm drinks, tasty treats and a visit with Santa for children and their adult companions, 4 p.m. and 6 p.m.

09 FRIDAY

- Grosse Pointe Art Center's Ugly Sweater Party, 6 p.m.
- Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Candlelight Stroll, \$15 per person, 5-8 p.m.

10 SATURDAY

- Grosse Pointe War Memorial's Breakfast with Santa, \$16 per person, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Candlelight Stroll, \$15 per person, 5-8 p.m.
- Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption Society Adoption Day at Camp Bow Wow Training Center, 12-3 p.m.

- Grosse Pointe Historical Society's Izzy's Saturday Christmas Event, come and melt white chocolate, hammer candy canes in a zip lock bag, and pour them into Christmas molds, 1-3 p.m.
- Grosse Pointe Historical Society's Second Saturday Open House, 1-4 p.m.

11 SUNDAY

- Grosse Pointe War Memorial's Breakfast with Santa, \$16 per person, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Holiday Tea and Tour, 3-5 p.m.
- Christ Church Grosse Pointe's Soaring Sounds in a Sacred Place Music Program presents "Messiah" by George Frideric Handel, \$25 per person, 4:30 p.m.

12 MONDAY

- Grosse Pointe War Memorial Bedtime Stories with Santa, ages 4 and up, in the Alger House Reception Room, \$10 per child, adults free, 7-7:45 p.m.
- Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Nutcracker Tea: Warm drinks, tasty treats and a visit with Santa for children and their adult companions, 4 p.m. and 6 p.m.

13 TUESDAY

- Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Nutcracker Tea, 4 p.m.
- Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Christmas Story Time, \$5 per person, 6-8 p.m.

14 WEDNESDAY

- SOC December Birthday Celebration, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Nutcracker Tea, 4 p.m.
- Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Christmas Story Time, \$5 per person, 6-8 p.m.
- Grosse Pointe War Memorial Bedtime Stories with Santa, ages 4 and up, in the Alger House Reception Room, \$10 per child, adults free, 7-7:45 p.m.

15 THURSDAY

- Grosse Pointe War Memorial Bedtime Stories with Santa, ages 4 and up, in the Alger House Reception Room, \$10 per child, adults free, 7-7:45 p.m.

- Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Nutcracker Tea, 4 p.m. and 6 p.m.

16 FRIDAY

- SOC Christmas Party at St. James Lutheran Church, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Candlelight Stroll, \$15 per person, 5-8 p.m.
- Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Member Shopping Days, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

17 SATURDAY

- Grosse Pointe Woods Polar Express, through Dec. 21
- Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Candlelight Stroll, \$15 per person, 5-8 p.m.
- Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Member Shopping Days, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

18 SUNDAY

- Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Nutcracker Tea: 4 p.m. and 6 p.m.

19 MONDAY

- Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Holiday Tea and Tour, 3-5 p.m.

20 TUESDAY

- Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Nutcracker Tea, 6 p.m.

- Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Holiday Tea and Tour, 3-5 p.m.

22 THURSDAY

- Judson Center Winter Break Away, ages 6-13, \$75/2-day session, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- Grosse Pointe Public Schools Winter Break begins

23 FRIDAY

- Judson Center Winter Break Away, ages 6-13, \$75/2-day session, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Candlelight Stroll, \$15 per person, 5-8 p.m.

25 SUNDAY - Christmas

January

Calendar

01 SUNDAY - New Year's Day

04 WEDNESDAY

- Grosse Pointe Public School System students returns to school
- The Family Center presents "Awakening the Heart" from "Stressing Less," a four-week series, presented by Jill Wrubel at the Lavin's Center, \$85 for all classes or \$25 per class, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

08 SUNDAY

- Neighborhood Concert Series by DSO at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 7:30-9:30 p.m.

14 SATURDAY

- Grosse Pointe Historical Society's Izzy's Saturday Snowman Kit Event, ages 8 and up, 1-3 p.m.
- Grosse Pointe Historical Society's Second Saturday Open House, 1-4 p.m.

15 SUNDAY

- Grosse Pointe Theatre presents *Jekyll and Hyde*

16 MONDAY - Martin Luther King Jr. Day

18 WEDNESDAY

- The Beaumont Spirit of Women presents "The Help" at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, \$12 per person, wine and hors d'ouvres at 6 p.m., movie at 7 p.m.
- The Family Center presents "Trusting Yourself: Once Upon a Time You Knew" from the "Stressing Less" series by Jill Wrubel at the Lavin's Center, \$25 per class, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

19 THURSDAY

- Grosse Pointe Theatre presents *Jekyll and Hyde* at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial through Jan. 22 and Jan. 26 - 28.
- Grosse Pointe Public Library presents Paul Daniels - South Pole Documentary "Living in the Shadow of the Moon-Dog - A South Pole Diary" in the Grosse Pointe

South Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

22 SUNDAY

- Christ Church Grosse Pointe's Soaring Sounds in a Sacred Place Music Program presents An Afternoon at the Opera, enjoy this second installment of the afternoon of opera arias and scenes performed in concert by the professional singers of the Christ Church Choirs, freewill offering, 4:30 p.m.

25 WEDNESDAY

- The Family Center presents "What I Know for SURE: Excavating the Real YOU" from the "Stressing Less" series by Jill Wrubel at the Lavin's Center, \$25 per class, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

26 THURSDAY

- Friends of the Grosse Pointe Public Library present Classic Books Lecture Series featuring distinguished, award-winning professors from the University of Michigan Department of English and Literature, Sir Thomas More's Utopia, lecture by Dr. Terri Tinkle in the Grosse Pointe South Auditorium, \$10 for non-members, 7:30 p.m.

28 SATURDAY

- Edsel & Eleanor Ford House present Quilt Art: International Expressions through March 25
- Grosse Pointe Woods Winterfest at Lake Front Park, 12-2 p.m.

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New Year's Resolutions: Book Worm Style

By Margie Reins Smith

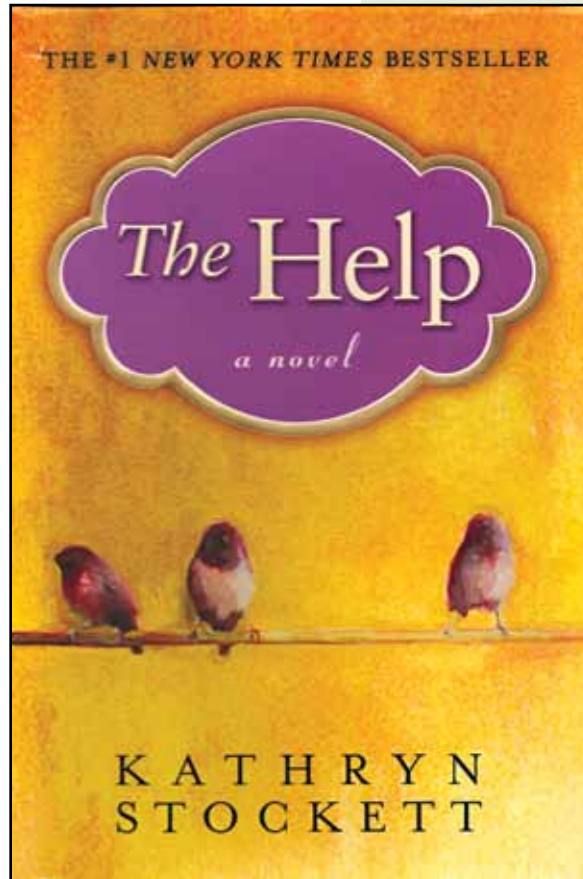
Snowy winter evenings, cozy fireplaces, good books. What do Grosse Pointers curl up with? We asked a few what they're planning to read in 2012; why; and whether they'll choose hardcovers, paperbacks or e-readers.

The Great Big Book of Horrible Things: the Definitive Chronicle of History's 100 Worst Atrocities by Matthew White is on Grosse Pointe Woods Mayor Robert E. Novitke's nightstand. Mayor Novitke, who prefers paperbacks, will read it to gain insight and perspective on history.

Ken Eatherly, former columnist and Professional Grampa, says his hobby is science. He likes Carl Sagan. Eatherly plans to delve into English literature classics next year. "I found a free download of Dickens' *Great Expectations* for my iPhone," he says. He read it in college, but "I seem to recall about one percent of these stories, so it's all new and much better than back then."

When Rosemary Bay, artist, potter and photographer, finds an author she likes, she devours everything that author has written. She just finished *The Great Typo Hunt: Two Friends Changing the World, One Correction at a Time* by Jeff Deck and Benjamin Herson, and enjoyed it so much she's searching for other books the authors suggested. Also on her list: *A Room of Her Own* by Chris Casson Madden, a description of personal retreats created by interesting women; and *A Trillion Dollar Conspiracy: How the New World Order, Man-made Disease, and Zombie Banks are Destroying America* by Jim Marrs. Bay is a fan of the Grosse Pointe Public Library.

Izzy Donnelly, director of education for the Grosse Pointe Historical Society, plans to read *The Help* by Kathryn Stockett in paperback. "I grew up in the '60s," she says. "This is my experience."



Vickey Bloom, director of the Grosse Pointe Public Library plans to read a hardcover version of *Every Day by the Sun: A Memoir of the Faulkners of Mississippi* by Dean Faulkner Wells. "I am originally from Louisiana," she says, "and anything about the South interests me."

Sharon Maier, Executive Director of Services for Older Citizens (SOC), is going to read *The Perfect Tribute* by Mary Raymond Shipman Andrews. "I just received it as a gift. A friend picked it up at a used book sale and noticed (former Grosse Pointer) Frank Sladen's name on the inside cover," Maier says. "I really admired Frank. He passed away several years ago, but he had a profound effect on my life. He was a role model for what a good citizen is."

Margie Reins Smith is a Grosse Pointe freelance journalist. Her blog, The Newfangled Gramma, can be found at margiereinssmith.weebly.com.



NEW DSO SERIES IN THE POINTES

By Jim Stickford


Grosse Pointe Memorial Church will play host to the Detroit Symphony Orchestra for a series of neighborhood concerts on Jan. 8, Feb. 5, March 11 and April 29.

Jim Biery, minister of music for Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, says he was delighted to be approached by the DSO to host concerts. “I like to think that our church is pretty,” Biery says. “But there are a lot of nice churches in Grosse Pointe and they could have picked one of those. We do have a wonderful music program. Our church has a German Klaus pipe organ, as well as an adult choir, a program for children and a bell choir.”

Biery details his behind-the-scenes role. “As the host, my work will be on the hospitality side,” Biery says. “I’ll be attending the concerts as a member of the audience. We want to sell tickets. Each concert ticket costs \$25, but it’s \$75 to buy tickets for all four events.”

Karen George, neighborhood concert series coordinator, says that Grosse Pointe is one of six communities that will be hosting neighborhood concerts. The DSO will also be performing at locations in Southfield, Dearborn, Beverly Hills, Bloomfield Hills and West Bloomfield.

“This is about accessibility for us,” George says. “Leonard Slatkin, our music director, has a vision to bring music to the largest audience possible. He wants to serve the community through art. We’ve performed concerts in the greater community before, but this is the first concerted effort to have a broad and deep musical impact in Detroit.”

George says Grosse Pointe has always strongly supported the DSO. Grosse Pointe Memorial Church was selected as a partner because it is a beautiful venue and they were a partner who came forward. Leonard Slatkin will conduct the first concert on Jan. 8. There will be different conductors over the course of the concert series. All concerts take place on Sundays at 3 p.m. 

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A FEW GOOD SAMARITANS CAN HELP THOUSANDS OF 'BABY DONUTS'



Pete Waldmeir, long-time columnist, lives in Grosse Pointe Woods.

This is the story of Baby Donuts and how the love of her birth mother and some perfect strangers assured her the precious gift of life.

It was a year ago this Christmas season and our daughter, Patti, was on her way to work in Shanghai, China, where she lives. She ducked into a Dunkin' Donuts. She had just met a friend there when they heard the wailing of an infant coming from a bitter cold alleyway nearby. Patti easily recognized the sound. She's spent the better part of the last decade raising our two Chinese granddaughters, Grace and Lucy, who were 1 day and 6 days old, respectively, when they were abandoned and later put up for adoption.


Alas, this little bundle in the alley was on her way to becoming just another cold, impersonal statistic unless she could be found in the right area by the right people. Her distraught mother had swaddled the tiny girl in layers of warm clothing and left her near a business frequented by foreigners, along with a bundle of baby clothes, several cans of formula, clean baby bottles and even a stack of diapers. "Whoever she was, the mom knew she wanted her baby to live to have a better life," Patti said later.

The police were called and toe-tagged her "Baby Doe." But to Patti and her friend, she was Baby Donuts, an infant with three strikes already against her — a heart defect, a cyst on one eyelid and some webbed toes. So they went to work.

Chinese officials clamped a ring of secrecy around the child. Hey, they've had more than 100,000 abandoned girls who, for cultural reasons, have been "exported" as adoptees in the last 20 years. But Patti and her friend pleaded and cajoled officials and doctors to find her, even bribed nurses gently with candy and other goodies to make sure they knew that Baby Donuts had interested friends.

Now, a year later, Baby Donuts has been given a name, Jaing. And a future. She's in a government orphanage and soon will be eligible for adoption. Her heart defect and

other ailments have been fixed. She'll likely go to a Chinese family at some point because it now takes roughly 5 years for foreigners to adopt a Chinese orphan.

Chances are she'll never know her mother. But Patti will follow her progress and she vows that one day she'll tell Baby Donuts that her mom must have loved her a lot to plan so meticulously for her new life. "I just hope that the girl will think about that and forgive her." 

Personally autographed copies of Pete Waldmeir's hardcover collection of Detroit News columns, "Little Beads of Blood," make perfect gifts for the holidays and other special days. Pointe Magazine sale price: \$9.95. Email: pwaldmeir@aol.com or call (313) 882-5490.

How to help orphans like 'Baby Donuts'

Looking for a special gift for that special someone? The Half the Sky Foundation is a U.S. based tax-deductible charity that provides extra care for China's orphaned infants and children like little Baby Donuts, helping to pay for nannies to hold and care for them in a nurturing environment, among other services. Check 'em out at www.halfthesky.org.



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