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GROSSE

POINTE MAGAZINE

A story of hope

**Academy student's
remarkable recovery**

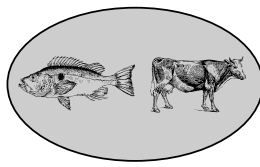
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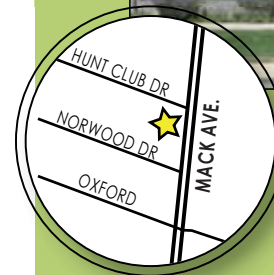
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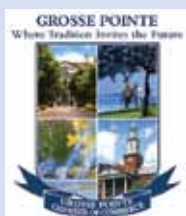
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On the cover

We would like to thank Father Timothy Pelc and Terri Harthen at St. Ambrose Catholic Church for providing this year's cover photo for our "Holiday Issue." This photo by professional photographer Larry Peplin does seem to capture the spirit. Happy Holidays!

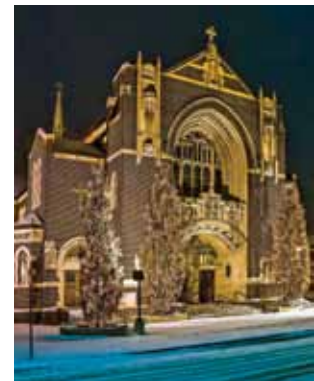


Photo by Larry Peplin

Where in the Pointes?



Where in the Pointes is this object? On Monday, Dec. 10 we will ask this question on our Facebook wall. The first person to respond with the most specific answer will win a \$20 gift card to Whistle Stop Hobby Center. Participants MUST wait for the question to be posted by Pointe Magazine. Good luck!

To find us on Facebook, search "Grosse Pointe Magazine"

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GROSSE POINTE MAGAZINE



John Minnis
Editor and Publisher

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

As I write this, the election is over — thank goodness! — and Thanksgiving is nigh. The days are getting crisper and shorter, dark by 5 p.m. Yet there is excitement in the air.

Last weekend, Terry and I attended The Taste at the Our Lady Star of the Sea School. It was great! And so many of our advertisers were there. We enjoyed offerings from The Hill, Marchiori Catering, Blue Pointe, Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, Lochmoor

“

There are so many events this time of year, it seems we had somewhere to be every night of the week!

”

Club and the Country Club of Detroit. Blufin Sushi was there and sold out early. For dessert we sampled Sweet Little Sheila’s and the Chocolate Bar Cafe.

The Taste was great. If you missed it — as a sampler or a vendor — plan on it next year. We are!

There are so many events this time of year, it seems we had somewhere to be every night of the week! Of course, the big events, Christmas and New Year, are just around the corner.

Be sure to shop at our many Grosse Pointe and nearby businesses this holiday season. This is the “make it or break it” time for them. So shop well and shop often!

For New Year’s Eve, make reservations at any of the many fine restaurants that advertise in Pointe Magazine. Too bad New Year’s Eve doesn’t last a week because we enjoy all our restaurants!

And, fittingly, the New Year brings good-intended resolutions to, well, get fit. We have many fine fitness facilities in and near Grosse Pointe. So after the holidays and partying are over, be sure to re-up with your favorite gym and “get out there”! Better yet, buy your family a membership to your favorite gym!

We have a new feature debuting in this issue of Pointe Magazine. It is called “Where In the Pointes?” and consists of a fragment of a photo taken here in the Pointes. If you are the first to guess its origin, you will win a gift certificate from one of our great advertisers.

For those of you looking for the next installment of our new, popular feature, *Pointe Prose*, we regret we could not include one in this issue. But in February-March we will have an excerpt from John Kozak’s book, *Through the Eyes of Rose*, about the Nazi occupation of Czechoslovakia through the eyes of Rose Kozak.

At this time of year, we would like to thank you for all the kind words and support you’ve shown us and this magazine. So on behalf of all of us at Pointe Magazine, may you have a Merry Christmas and an even better New Year in 2013! ☺



*Merry
Christmas!!*

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Meet Madelyn



Name
Madelyn Louise Domas

City
Grosse Pointe Farms

Mom & Dad
Peter & Lisa Domas

Siblings
Lucille Domas

Birthdate & Time
March 9, 2012 at 8:38 a.m.

Cute fact
Favorite nursery rhyme song is "How Much is that Doggie in the Window?"

First word
Up

About Mady *in Mommy and Daddy's words*

From the moment Mady quickly came into the world on a Friday morning, she has been a true gift from God. She is a very sweet, affectionate and happy little baby girl. She has rarely ever awakened crying. Every morning when Mommy or Daddy walks into her bedroom, Mady has a huge smile on her face.

She loves being sung to, read to, bathed, carried around and most of all, watching her big sister, Lucy, who is 15 months older, play. She has the cutest smile, which shows her first two teeth, and the saddest frown, which she sometimes uses when Daddy leaves for work. She gives the biggest belly laugh when she sees her favorite dog, Pancake. The same week Mady started crawling, she started cruising furniture. Her big sister, Lucy, absolutely adores her, along with her Nana, Papa, Gran, Grandad, aunts and uncles. We love you very much, Madelyn!

Meet Max

Name: **Max Klaasen**

Age: **9** Parents: **Tiffany & Dan Klaasen**

School: **Grosse Pointe Academy** Siblings: **Fletcher, 7 and Annabel, 4**

Interests: **Sailing and building with Legos**

Favorites

Game
Air hockey

School subject
Computers

Outdoor activity
Capture the flag

Food
Tacos

Family Activity
Going on the boat

Vacation
Surprise cruise on the Oasis of the Seas last Christmas

What do you want to be when you grow up?
Like my Dad

About Max

I have Type 1 Diabetes. I got it when I was 5. I used to have to take at least 4 shots a day. But now, I have an insulin pump that is waterproof and I can wear when I am sailing. I just got a Dexcom (continuous glucose meter) that helps tell my blood sugar. It is cool and looks like an iPod.



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Courtney Mecke in the Grosse Pointe Academy Library

Photo by Lauren McGregor

COURTNEY MECKE

The birth, injury, recovery and life of a Grosse Pointe child as a true testament to hope

By Lauren McGregor

The remarkable story of Courtney Mecke’s birth, injury and recovery begins with the hopes of her father and mother, Hart and Mary Alice O’Brien Mecke.

After having had her first child six years previously, and believing the chance of pregnancy to be very slim at her age, Mary Alice was astonished to find herself expecting in June 2002. She rushed to tell her hospitalized mother the news. As if waiting for her daughter’s wish for another child to come true, Patricia Courtney O’Brien passed away that evening, taking to heaven with her news of Courtney’s existence.

When Courtney was born in February 2003, Mary Alice was stunned to see her mother’s blessing upon the baby. Courtney had the exact same birthmark as her grandmother, in the same location on her leg.

This joyous time, however, would end with tragedy at the Mecke home nine months later. On a quiet New Year’s Day in 2003, Courtney crawled at the feet of her father, just below the kitchen stove. Hart reached for something in the cupboard, and as he lowered his arm, accidentally hit and spilled a boiling kettle of tea being brewed by Mary Alice. As

Courtney was drenched in boiling water and turning red rapidly, Mary Alice sprang into action. “Something told me to stick her head under cold water,” she says. It was this instinct that would lead to an easier recovery for Courtney.

After rushing Courtney to Bon Secours, the doctor and nurses assessed the burns and immediately called for an ambulance to transport the family to Children’s Hospital of Michigan. “They were ready when we arrived and immediately started her care,” says Mary Alice. “The level of treatment she received is part of her story.” With burns covering 28 percent of her body, Courtney underwent two graft surgeries to repair her shoulders, arms and stomach. She would be in recovery for the next two years.

When Courtney’s six-year-old brother and best friend, McCalla, was able to see his sister, the staff at Children’s Hospital threw McCalla a big party, cake included. They treated the situation with great sensitivity and prepared McCalla for how different his baby sister would look. “I can’t get over how unbelievably close they are,” says Mary Alice of the bond between Courtney and McCalla.

Courtney remembers several parts of her recovery, saying, “I remember my dad

holding me and putting me into the dud. The only way he could get me into it was by doing the airplane.” She imitates being flown around with her arms outstretched before landing in the “dud.” Courtney was required to wear this “dud,” or full body compression garment, 24 hours a day, unless bathing.

Along with the wonderful staff at Children’s Hospital, Mary Alice also credits Dr. Marc Cullen, a resident of Grosse Pointe Shores, with her daughter’s recovery. “Dr. Cullen has an incredible way with these children. You could see his passion unfold,” she says. “I’ll never be able to thank him enough. We were so lucky to have Courtney in the best hands.”

Dr. Cullen, now Division Chief of Pediatric Surgery of St. John Hospital and Medical Center, even connected Mary Alice with another mother whose child had experienced similar injuries and recovery.

“Courtney sustained a significant injury but her story is a great example of how the body and soul can heal with great medical care and the love and faith of a supportive family,” says Dr. Cullen. “Injuries like Courtney’s change the needs of a family in a split second. It is difficult to move past their fears after the initial stages of

an injury. The Meckes have always kept Courtney's needs at the center of every decision. They have done a stellar job of understanding what was involved in each step of her recovery and how they could best prepare her for these changes. Courtney's story and recovery embodies what I love about caring for children. They are resilient, irrepressible, and forever thankful for our efforts."

Though there is some scarring, Courtney is now completely healed. A fourth grader at Grosse Pointe Academy, she shows a mature appreciation for her wellness today. The Meckes have deep roots at the Academy. Both Hart and Mary Alice attended the school, were married there and the children have received some of their sacraments there. McCalla graduated from the Academy and is currently a sophomore at Cranbrook.

The Academy is a place of wonderful memories for the Meckes and the perfect school for Courtney to express her amazing talent, kindness and love for art. Her teacher, Didi DeBoer, says, "Courtney is a ray of sunshine. She comes in the morning and is so happy to be there. She brings us such happiness."

Her incredible spirit is in everything she does. Mary Alice recounts an incident this year, in which Courtney begged her swimming coach to allow her to swim in place of the absent 11-12 year olds on her swim team. Even if she couldn't win in an age bracket above her, Courtney was



Hart, Courtney, McCalla and Mary Alice O'Brien Mecke


determined to put her team on the board.

This same determination is evident in her talent as a skier. On the slopes since age two, Courtney competed in the NASTAR Nationals at Winter Park in Colorado this year. When she started racing in NASTAR events at five years old, she won a gold medal. Courtney also participates in soccer, basketball and

piano lessons.

But what's most remarkable about Courtney is her wisdom and compassion. When asked what she's learned from her experiences she answers simply and beyond her years, "Everything will be fine." On the school playground you can often find Courtney with children who are unable to play. She says she does this because, "I understand how they feel when they can't do as much."

This same compassion compelled her to spend long weekends with her ill paternal grandmother. "We would pack up and move into my mother-in-law's home on the weekends to care for her," says Mary Alice. "You expect most children Courtney's age to grow bored, but she would crawl into bed with her grandmother. She would sit for hours talking to her and playing cards. Courtney was the only one who could make her smile." Eleanor Mecke passed away from cancer last year.

"Because of what she's been through, she sees things in a wiser way," says Mary Alice. "I'm so blessed to have been given this child." As are Grosse Pointe Academy and the Grosse Pointe community. 

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RING IN THE HOLIDAYS

WITH GROSSE POINTE COMMUNITY CHORUS'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY

By Patti Theros

*H*ear the ringing of handbells, joyous uplifting notes and sounds of the holiday season at “Ring Those



Chorus Director Joseph Palazzolo

Christmas Bells.” This annual Grosse Pointe Community Chorus concert will take place Sunday, Dec. 6 at 3 p.m. at the First English Evangelical Lutheran Church.

The Chorus is celebrating its 60th anniversary of singing and performing concerts in the Grosse Pointes. “Ring Those Christmas Bells” will feature the Hand-bell Choir from First English

Evangelical Lutheran Church. “This season we’re also pleased to have the renowned men’s a cappella group, The Grunyons joining us,” says President Diane Andriotakis.


With the collaboration of the FELC hand bells, the concert will feature a variety of holiday bell themes such as “Sleigh Ride,” “It’s Time to Ring Those Christmas Bells” and “Carol of the Bells.” Directed by Joseph Palazzolo and accompanied by Ron Peitrontoni, the GPCC has received wide critical acclaim.

“For 16 years we’ve performed our holiday concert in First English’s sanctuary,” says Andriotakis. “The sanctuary holds 500 and last year the church had 42 decorated trees. It certainly helps to get everyone in the Christmas spirit.” Andriotakis has been a member of the Chorus for 20 years and president of the group for the past decade.

“For our anniversary celebration

we’ve asked our Chorus alumni to come back and sing ‘The Hallelujah Chorus’ from Handel’s Messiah with us. It’s a tradition that our finale includes this piece and since it’s our anniversary, it’s extra special to have the alumni with us,” Andriotakis adds.

The Grosse Pointe Community Chorus hosts two concerts a year and practices Tuesday evenings in Grosse Pointe North’s chorale room. All are welcome and Andriotakis adds, “You don’t have to know how to read music, just love to sing. We have new members who join every year.”

First English Evangelical Lutheran Church is located at 800 Vernier Rd. Tickets for the holiday concert are \$10 for adults and \$3 for children (12 and under) and are available from any chorus member, at Moehring Woods Flowers at 20923 Mack Ave., at Do by hair co. at 15227 Kercheval in Grosse Pointe Park and at the door. For more information call (313) 882-2482. 



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Friday
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Saturday
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Sunday
4 - 9pm

Meet Elyse



Name	Elyse Beach
Age	16
City	Grosse Pointe Park
School	Grosse Pointe South
Parents	Dona Johnson-Beach and Michael Beach

Elyse's Favorites

Music Artist

Sugarland

TV Show

House

Store

American Eagle

School Subject

Science

Food

My Nannie's (Grandma's) Polish food

Thing to do on a Saturday night

Watch a Disney movie with my best friends

Athlete

Ryan Lochte

Teacher

I am grateful for all the amazing teachers the Grosse Pointe Public Schools has provided me with, I couldn't pick just one favorite.

What song on your iPod would people be surprised by?

"Roxanne" by the Police

What chore do you absolutely hate doing?

Cleaning up after my pets

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

1. Go back in time to meet my Grandma Beach whom I never got to meet
2. To become successful, and that my success can be used to help people
3. 1000 more wishes so I would be able to give them to others in my life

Where do you see yourself in five years?

In five years I hope to be finishing my last year as an undergraduate at either Michigan or Michigan State. Then that following year I would like to be heading off to graduate school to work toward an advanced degree, most likely in a science related field.

About Elyse:

Elyse, a student at Grosse Pointe South High School, is in Grosse Pointe South Choir. She loves dance, horseback riding, student government, volunteer work and being with family and friends.

She has one sibling, a sister, Jaclyn.



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What Makes Winter Wonderful?

University Liggett School Kindergarteners weigh in on their favorite part of the season.



"I like building snowmen."
- Molly Alcott, 5



"I like to make snow angels."
- Rebekah Tate, 5



"I like sledding with my family."
- Peighton Hall, 5



"I like to celebrate Christmas."
- Lauren Bickerdt, 5



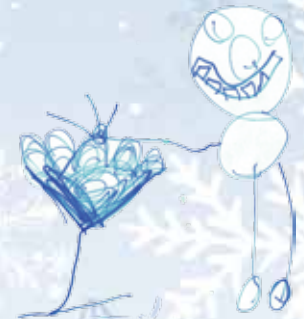
"I like throwing snowballs at my brother."
- Nadia Le, 5



"I like walking in the snow."
- Rachel Isbey, 5



"I like making a snow 'Lightning McLean'.
- Peter Laethem, 5



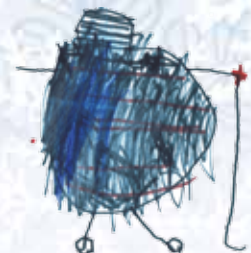
"I like making snow cones."
- Matthew Nicholson, 5



"I like sled riding."
- Isabel Wimmer, 5



"I like drinking hot chocolate."
- Finn Brewer, 5



"I love the Timberwolves hockey team."
- Fred Talan, 6

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T.O. ON ICE

Entrepreneur launches Rebel Spirits

By John Minnis

Terry “T.O.” Olson has always been at home on ice. At the age of 16, he left his western Canada home to play hockey. His “personal drive” and skill on the ice led to a successful season and to a four-year full-ride Division 1 hockey scholarship at Western Michigan University.

After graduating with a B.A. in business administration, he played a couple seasons in the professional hockey minor leagues. “For those of you who’ve seen the movie ‘Slap Shot,’” Olson says, “that wasn’t comedy, that was the life!”

When an opportunity opened up to join a small tech firm in Detroit, he jumped at the chance. It was a job. Back then, he couldn’t afford to buy a round of drinks for his buddies. Olson spent 17 years working, managing and ultimately owning the company. When he sold it in 2000, he retired at the age of 40.

Not one to sit around doing nothing, Olson decided to build another career on ice — that of a vodka maker, Rebel Spirits Group. He and partner and hockey buddy, Bruce Carroll, CEO,



Photo by John Minnis

Terry “T.O.” Olson, left, and partner and CEO, Bruce Carroll, right, introduce their new line of vodka, ZIM’s 81 and ZIM’s 59, to Bill Matouk at Woods Wholesale Wine.


learned a lot about the business. For one thing, contrary to popular belief, most vodkas are not made from potatoes. In fact, many premium brands come from wheat, barley and even grape. That would never do for Olson, the perfectionist.

Using potato ethanol from Poland, Olson formulated his own recipe and contracted a 300-year-old distiller in southwest Poland, the “Motherland of Vodka,” to bottle his product, called “ZIM’s.” (“ZIM” comes from “ziemniak,” Polish for potato.)

In early November, The Rebel Spirits Group, received its first shipment of product — ZIM’s 81 and ZIM’s 59. “Most vodka is 80 proof,” Olson says.

“Ours is 81 proof. That’s the Rebel Spirit.” ZIM’s 59 is a “lighter” vodka with less alcohol and fewer calories, but not less taste, Olson says. “I think ZIM’s 59 is going to resonate with a lot of people, not just ladies, but men,” he says. “Remember Miller Lite back in the ’70s? Did I mention we’re also gluten free and zero carb?”

Delivery of ZIM’s Vodka to top restaurants and liquor stores, including Woods Wholesale Wine, began in early December. Olson and Carroll plan to host tastings at various venues during the launch.

“We’re confident people are going to like it,” Olson says, “and then they’re going to buy it.” 




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Meet Nancy

Name	Nancy Cotton
City	Grosse Pointe Farms
Occupation	Mom



Photo by Christine's Portraits

Best thing about living in Grosse Pointe?

Being able to walk or bike everywhere.

Item you cannot leave home without?

iPhone

List two of your best personality traits.

Outgoing and positive

One thing not many people know about you?

I studied the violin for 25 years.

Best vacation ever?

To Italy and Greece with my husband before we had kids and to Disney World with our kids

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

Take my family to Ireland where I studied abroad in college and then donate the rest to local Grosse Pointe charities as well as the Hurricane Relief Fund for my beloved home state of New Jersey

Nancy's Favorites

Color

Green

Ice Cream

Haagen Dazs coffee

Season

Summer in Grosse Pointe

GP Charity

Services for Older Citizens and Grosse Pointe Housing Foundation

Restaurant

DelFrisco's in NYC, Morada Bay in Islamorada and looking forward to the new restaurant Red Crown opening this winter in Grosse Pointe Park

Thing to do on a Sunday afternoon

Cuddling and watching a movie with our boys

About Nancy

Nancy grew up in Ridgewood, New Jersey and then lived in New York City before moving to Grosse Pointe four years ago with her husband Sean whom she met in law school out east.

Sean's family business is based in Detroit and she is so happy to be raising their family in such a close-knit community with all their wonderful friends as well as their two families. Nancy's sisters and Mom also moved to Grosse Pointe from New Jersey. Nancy loves to travel, cook and spend time with family and friends.



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*With love and affection,
Mary Ann & Ahmed Ismail, The Portrait Place*



Full Circle Makes a Move!

By Patti Theros



Back row, Director Bill Mestdagh, Jerry Tocco, Briana Weaver, Thomas Smith, Dwayne Wilcox and directors Mary Fodell and Karl Kratz; Front row, Ann Marie Bokatzian and Amelia Breskin.

Full Circle Foundation, a local non-profit for the developmentally disabled, is making its final move by the end of this year, says volunteer director Mary Fodell. Their new location will be a large, soon-to-be renovated building at 14006 Mack Ave. at Harvard St. in Grosse Pointe Park. The building will serve as their headquarters and will house the Foundation's upscale resale store as well as their Micro Enterprising projects all under one roof.

"We've moved several times in

the last few years," says Fodell. "I'm calling this our 'final resting place' since the Foundation has purchased this building. We're excited to have all of our projects in one location."

Volunteer director Bill Mestdagh says the new building's expansion will allow for classrooms, a larger resale store and the ability to offer eBay services. "This will be especially helpful for those in the community who are downsizing and have a few large items to sell and want help doing it via eBay. For a commission,

the Foundation will help provide the services."

During the move, the resale store on Kercheval Ave. will remain open and Fodell asks everyone to continue to shop and donate items. "We're so grateful for the wonderful donated items we receive every day," she adds.

Full Circle Foundation works in partnership with Grosse Pointe Public Schools and together they provide jobs and training for the developmentally disabled. For more information, visit www.fullcirclefdn.org.

Holiday Concerts

The Pointes hum with Christmas cheer



GP North/South Choirs
Holiday Concert & Tea
December 5, 1 p.m.
North PAC



GP North Vocal Holiday Concert
December 14 & 15, 7 p.m.
First English Lutheran Church



Grosse Pointe Community Chorus
"Ring Those Christmas Bells"
December 6, 3 p.m.
First English Evangelical Lutheran Church



GP South Choir Holiday Pops Concert
December 14 & 15, 8 p.m.
North PAC



Grosse Pointe Symphony Orchestra
December 9, 7 - 9 p.m.
GP Woods Presbyterian Church



GP South Jazz Ensemble Winter
Concert- Yule Be Boppin'
December 18, 7 - 9 p.m.
South Auditorium

Gift cards and certificates

By Randall D. Cain

During the holiday season, consumers spend approximately \$25 billion on gift cards and certificates and several billion more during the rest of the year. They're an easy and popular way to say thanks to your favorite teacher, employees and whomever else you wish to recognize. But be careful, there are some drawbacks to consider before purchasing or using gift cards.

Issuers must disclose applicable fees, expiration dates and other restrictions. It is wise to ask about all of these restrictions.



Yours truly has had the awful experience of trying to use a gift certificate to a restaurant and finding it had expired. The good news is that cards and certificates issued after Aug. 22, 2010 cannot expire within five years of purchase.

Michigan law now prohibits merchants from any of the following:

- Refusing to accept a card or certificate for personal, family or household use unless the card is presented after the expiration date.
- Changing the terms and conditions after the card was issued.
- Failing to disclose terms and conditions.
- Refusing to apply the value of the card to the purchase price of goods even if the goods are valued more than the gift card.

A merchant cannot charge an inactivity or other service fee and deduct it from the value of the card. However, financial institutions can charge an inactivity fee after one year from the date of purchase.

Finally, shop carefully and wisely for the best fees and remember it's always better to buy a card directly from the merchant.

Randall D. Cain is a partner at Wilson & Cain, P.A., Attorneys and Counsellors, in Grosse Pointe Farms.

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Welcome to Antonio's in the Park. We are authentic Italian food offered in an attractive setting that is part casual, part romantic. We offer great appetizers such as Scamorza (think mozzarella French toast grilled cheese topped with a lemon, butter and olive sauce). Some of our main dishes are Baked Ravioli, Fettuccine Alfredo, Vitello Porcini, Cozze Alla Marinara. Our dishes are traditional, timeless recipes. Enjoy your meal with our fine wines. Plus, we stock our bar well, and our taps flow with the local brews along with domestic and imported beers. Bring your kids. We have a kids menu that is sure to please the little ones. We can seat larger groups in our back room. If you have never tried Antonio's in the Park, visit us soon and taste why we have been a feature of the East side dining scene. **Book your Holiday Party now for the Holiday Season!!!!**

Hours: Tues. - Thurs. 5-9 pm, Fri.-Sat. 5-10 pm, Sun. 5-8 pm

Web: antoniosinthepark.com



Photo by Diane McIntyre

Ardmore Café & Banquet Facility

26717 Little Mack, St. Clair Shores • (586) 443-4597

Our café specializes in healthy and smart cuisine. No deep frying here. Our service is exceptionally friendly; you are greeted with a smile when you enter the door. Our food and presentation are extraordinary. Come dine in an atmosphere that is relaxing and comfortable. For lunch we have an array of salads, sandwiches and hot entrees and new specials daily. Some of our wonderful dinner menu items include steaks, lamb chops, stuffed salmon and much more. Dinner specials now include 1/2 roasted duck and prawns. **We also host private parties, showers, weddings, birthday parties and more!** We offer beer, wine and cocktails from our full bar. Enjoy \$6 martinis all day, everyday! Ardmore Park Place — it's more than dining; it's a shopping experience. **Book your business or family holiday parties now! NEW YEAR'S EVE reservations are available from 5 to 9 p.m.**

Hours: Lunch: Mon. - Sat. 10:30 am - 4 pm Dinner: Thurs.-Sat. 5-9 pm

Web: www.ardmoreparkplace.com



Photo by Donald Schulte

Blufin Sushi

(313) 332-0050 • 18584 Mack Avenue, Grosse Pointe Farms

Blufin is located on Mack just south of Moross. We have a great atmosphere in a cozy setting. At Blufin, we offer fresh, healthy foods using only the finest ingredients. We offer a wide variety of sushi, including our signature rolls like the Blufin, Las Vegas and Grosse Pointer made with only the freshest Alaskan King Crab. All our rolls are plated with amazing artistry, led by head sushi chef Lucky. Also on our menu are entrees such as Japanese fried chicken, ahi tuna, Mongolian Beef, fried rice and tempura vegetable. Blufin Sushi has so many items to choose from we can't list them all. We also offer salads, soups, sliders, desserts and a kids menu consisting of chicken fingers, grilled chicken, fish tacos, etc. Delivery available, \$40 minimum. We now have our liquor license serving sake, wine, beer and cocktails. **Don't forget to order your holiday platters early! You can also ring in the New Year in front of our big-screen TV!**

Mon. - Thurs. 11:30 am - 10 pm, Fri.-Sat. 11:30 am - 11 pm, Sun. 3 - 8 pm.

Web: WWW.BLUFINSUSHIGP.COM



Champs Rotisserie & Spirits

20515 Mack Avenue, Grosse Pointe Woods • (313) 886-7755

Champs is located on Mack just three streets south of Vernier. Our soups, sauces and dressings are made daily using only the freshest ingredients from Michigan companies when possible. Champs is known for its Rotisserie Ribs and Chicken, served with our homemade BBQ sauce for which Champs has been known for the past 40 years since it was the BBQ House of Grosse Pointe. We also offer an exquisite variety of seafood, salad entrees, sandwiches, appetizers and a full children's menu. We also offer daily specials that we have become known for. For those cool fall nights, try our heated patio with a big screen TV or you may choose to stay inside and snuggle by our beautiful fireplace. With this unique atmosphere, comes a full-service bar to make your dining experience complete. Call ahead on those busy days for a carry-out. Our specially designed carry-out boxes will ensure your food gets home fresh and hot. We will cater your next event. Call and speak to one of our catering specialists after 4 p.m. Order off our catering menu or create your own.

Hours: Mon.-Thur. 4-10 pm, Fri.-Sat. 4-11 pm, Sun. 3-10 pm

Web: www.champsrotisserie.com



City Kitchen

16844 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe • (313) 882-6667

Located in the heart of The Village, City Kitchen prides itself on being a unique neighborhood eatery that serves quality fare in an upscale, yet relaxed and casual setting, as well as carry-out and on- and off-site catering. The restaurant offers fresh seafood from Foley Fish Co., Boston's famous fish house, as well as Great Lakes perch, pickerel and Lake Superior whitefish delivered daily. From the grill, try "Certified Angus Beef" New York strip or tenderloin steaks and some of the best burgers in town. Also enjoy seasonal salads, desserts, appetizers and wood-fired pizza. Join us for Happy Hour Monday-Friday from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. and enjoy your favorite cocktail, beer or wine of your choice at our special Happy Hour pricing Mon.-Fri. 4:30-6:30 pm. Late-night menu available Mon.-Sat.

Hours: Lunch: Mon.-Fri. 11:30 am-3:30 pm; Dinner: Mon.-Thurs. 4:30 - 10:30 pm, Fri. 4:30-11:30 pm, Sat. 5-11:30 pm, Sun. 4-9 pm.

Web: www.city-kitchen.com



Photo by Donald Schulte

Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe

97 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms • (313) 882-5299

Hour Detroit Magazine's 2010 Restaurant of the Year, Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe features top guest musicians and award-winning food. Two-time "Best Chef" winner André Neimanis offers an American bistro menu in a well-appointed, 65-seat dining room with white-linen round tables surrounded by red-fabric walls with dark wood, wainscoting, Tudor carriage lights and dog-themed paintings and sculptures. Favorites include the foie gras terrine, the jumbo lump crab cake with scallop mousseline and the short rib beef burger with foie gras and sautéed forest mushrooms — to name a few! Live jazz Tuesday through Saturday offers patrons a unique and memorable experience (reservations are strongly recommended). Private dining is available for up to 25 people in The Boardroom, which also features full meeting and conference capabilities.  

Hours: Tues. 11:30 am-8 pm; Wed-Thur. 11:30 am-10 pm; Fri. 11:30 am-11:30 pm; Sat. 4 pm-11:30 pm

Web: www.dirtydogjazz.com



Mack Avenue Grille

(313) 886-0680 • 19841 Mack Avenue, Grosse Pointe Woods

The new Mack Avenue Grille, under the ownership of veteran restaurateurs Louie and Dino Ropotos, offers fine dining at diner prices! Choose from three homemade soups du jour or freshly homemade chili daily. Or choose from 31 salads that come with warm pita bread and tomato vinaigrette. Of course, burgers and all manner of diner sandwiches are offered on the extensive menu. True to the owners' heritage, Greek specials include gyros, souvlakis and spinach pie, to name a few. To start your day, Mack Avenue Grille offers fresh-squeezed orange juice and three-egg, whipped omelets of all combinations. Dinner specials are offered daily, so you never know what culinary treats you will have to choose from besides the menu regulars. All ingredients are fresh — no frozen fish here! For a fresh change of pace, give the new Mack Avenue Grille a try!



Hours: Mon. - Sat. 7 am - 8 pm, Sun. 8 am - 3 pm



Morning Glory Coffee & Pastries

85 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms • (313) 647-0298

Welcome to Grosse Pointe Farms' newest "go-to" hot spot! Morning Glory's menu boasts everything from fresh breads, torts, cakes and pies from its full-service bakery to soups, salads, paninis and flat breads. A standout for the new coffee shop is its liquor license — Morning Glory is serving specialty coffee drinks such as Spanish Coffee as well as wine by the glass. Stop in early for that first fresh brewed "cuppa" with a homemade pastry and come back for a Mediterranean Veggie Wrap for lunch!



Hours: Mon.-Sat. 6 am-10 pm; Sun. 8 am-2 pm

Web: www.MorningGloryGrossePointe.com



Pepperoni Grille

22411 Greater Mack, St. Clair Shores • (586) 774-3998

As its name implies, Pepperoni Grille is a cheerful spot set in a welcome, casual atmosphere. The eatery features a small bar and dining room on one side of the central open kitchen, and a second dining room on the other side. It offers notable pizza along with a number of popular dishes from Calamari, Chicken Picatta and Lake Michigan Perch to Filet Mignon and New York Strip Steaks and Baby Back Ribs. The staff is friendly and courteous. The full bar offers wine, liquor and beer. Our Reverse Happy Hour from 8 p.m. to close 7 days features \$2 domestic beers, \$5 martinis and 1/2-off appetizers. Tuesday is half-off pizza all day, dine in or carry out. Wednesdays feature 2 signature pasta dishes and a bottle of wine \$38.



Hours: Mon. 4-10 pm; Tues.-Thurs. 11 am-10 pm; Fri. 11 am-11 pm; Sat. noon-11 pm; Sun. 3-9 pm

Web: www.pepperonigrillescs.com



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Hours: Mon.-Thur. 11 am - 10 pm, Fri.-Sat. 11 am - 11 pm, Sun. Noon-10 pm
Web: ShogunMichigan.com



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Hours: Mon.-Sat. 7 am - 8 pm; Sun. 8 am - 3 pm
Web: www.SideStreetDiner.com



Steve's Backroom

24317 Jefferson, St Clair Shores • (586) 774-9337

Since the 1980s, Steve's Backroom has been providing quality Mediterranean Cuisine. Old World recipes are prepared under the careful eye of Bouchra Raffoul. Many traditional favorites, such as Stuffed Grape Leaves, Cabbage Rolls, Lamb Kabobs, Chicken Tawook, Fattosh Salad, Steve's Backroom Chicken Salad and the more popular Steve Salad with homemade Pomegranate dressing, just to name a few. In 2010, Steve's won the Small Business Award from the Macomb Region of the Small Business Administration, and in 2012 Macomb Daily readers awarded Steve's as its favorite Middle Eastern restaurant. Steve's bakes fresh pita bread for dine-in customers, and serves a limited pizza menu baked in a stone oven. A full bar is available as well as a banquet room that seats up to 40. Carry out catering is available. Steve's also serves breakfast seven days a week starting at 8 a.m. **Book your Holiday Party now!!!!** 

Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 8 am-9 pm; Fri.&Sat. 8 am-9.30 pm; Sun. 8 am-8 pm
Web: stevesbackroomjefferson.com



The Hill Seafood and Chop House

123 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms • (313) 886-8101 • (313) 886-9653

The Hill, in its 11th year as the premier dining destination on the east side, is UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP and is DEBUTING A NEW MENU. Don't worry, the Hill of Perch is still there! But new menu items include Berkshire Chops, Allen Brothers® USDA Prime New York Strip Steak, Zingerman's Desserts. The Hill continues to satisfy its guests with the finest steaks, seafood and Michigan-grown produce. Whether you're out for a "night on the town" or just looking for a great burger and fries in our upscale bar, The Hill's diverse menu will please the most discerning diners. The vibrant bar scene offers Happy Hour Monday-Thursday, 5-7 p.m., featuring \$3 Beer, \$5 Well Drinks and \$6 Appetizers. **Make Your Holiday Reservations Today!**

Hours: Lunch Mon.-Fri., 11:30 am-3 pm, Sat. 11:30 am-2 pm.
Dinner: Mon-Thur 5-10 pm, Fri & Sat, 5-11 pm. Closed Sunday.
Web: www.thehillgrossepointe.com



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300 River Place Drive, Detroit • (313) 567-4400

Locally Grown Since 1988! Detroit's finest dining experience celebrates 25 years of providing exceptional cuisine and award-winning service on the Detroit River and RiverWalk. Join us for lunch or dinner in our elegant Dining Rooms offering sweeping views of the River and city skylines. In the warmer months, our Garden Terrace provides a lush retreat. Executive Chef Chris Franz and his team feature the highest-quality local and seasonal foods, including Prime Certified Angus Beef and non-farmed, sustainably-harvested seafood. Our Wine List, prepared by Claudia Tyagi, Master Sommelier, presents rare and boutique wines and an all-Michigan Craft Beer list complements a bar stocked with the finest local-to-global products. Don't miss our food and wine events held throughout the year! The Rattlesnake's Private Dining rooms will add an intimate ambiance to your next dinner party and the Stroh River Place Atrium, a breathtaking blend of marble, brick and glass, is perfect to accommodate corporate functions, vehicle displays and charity auctions. Add our riverfront brick patio to create the wedding of your dreams!



Hours: Tues.-Thurs. 11:30 am-10 pm; Fri. 11:30 am-11 pm; Sat. 5:30-11 pm
Happy Hour: Thurs. & Fri., 4-7 pm
Web: www.rattlesnakedetroit.com



Photo by Joe Hakim/The Hungry Dudes

Village Grille

16930 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe • (313) 882-4555

Village Grille is located on the corner of Notre Dame and Kercheval in the Village. Established in 1994, Village caters to families and sports enthusiasts. The sports bar has more than 15 TVs, full bar and 25 different draft beers to choose from. The Village Grille also has a banquet room (The Point Room) that can hold up to 64 people and is perfect for hosting showers, wedding rehearsals, birthdays, Christmas parties and team parties. Many different menus to choose from or you can customize your own. Monday is 1/2 off pizza night and Mexican specials; 10 buck Tuesday offers select entrees for \$10; Wednesday is Italian night. Visit www.villagegrillegp.com for pictures and menus. Happy hour from 4-6 p.m. Open daily for breakfast, lunch and dinner.



Hours: Open 8 am daily
Web: www.villagegrillegp.com





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FRIDAY – SATURDAY 4:00 p.m.-11 p.m.
SUNDAY 3:00 p.m.-10 p.m.



Photo courtesy of the Edsel & Eleanor Ford House

Josephine's Pooches, and Yours Too

*Edsel & Eleanor Ford House asks for pictures of your canine friends
in honor of Josephine Ford and Christmas*

Josephine Ford and a young William Clay Ford take their Dalmatians for a walk around Ford House grounds in this 1930 photo. Benson Ford, one of Josephine's older brothers, once described her as "a very lively character, the kind of kid who was always up to something."

Josephine was known in her family for her love of animals, especially

dogs, and art. In honor of Josephine's love of dogs, Edsel & Eleanor Ford House is asking community members to share pictures of their precious pooches.

The photos, which can be e-mailed to info@fordhouse.org, will be used in the creation of photo ornaments to adorn Josephine's Play House this Christmas.

In addition, Edsel & Eleanor Ford

House is partnering with the Humane Society and the Michigan Anti-Cruelty Society. Ford House visitors who bring an item to donate to these organizations will receive \$2 off admission.

For more information about the partnership and how to send in a favorite Fido photo, go to www.fordhouse.org. [!\[\]\(e1c624d4757f08486e89482c18364c17_img.jpg\)](#)



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Pointers *Crash* Landing

By Pete Waldmeir

A couple of years back, when I asked Chuck Champagne what he was doing to occupy his time now that he was retired, he told me he was building an airplane in his Grosse Pointe Woods basement.

A what?

“Not an airliner,” Champagne says, smiling. “But it’s not just any cheap little model either. It has about a six-foot wingspan and a fuel tank that’ll keep it in the air for 14 to 16 minutes.”

The cost: \$400 for the basic kit from which Champagne built his favorite model. Then another \$300 for the engine and \$300 more for the special model aircraft radio control unit.

So where does one find a landing field big enough to fly a model aircraft of that size and speed? Well, you go out Groesbeck Highway, past downtown Mt. Clemens and turn left



at the Macomb County Jail...

“Even us club members get lost out here sometimes,” Champagne says. “But we like the fact that our airstrip is

pretty secluded.” Actually, it’s in the outback behind the outback, a well-manicured 1,000 foot grass runway with staging areas along one side and tall grass and weeds protecting the 36-acre strip along the Clinton River.

“We’ve leased this field from Macomb County for a number of years,” explains Lenny Grandmason, a 40-year member and president of the Fraser Flying Club. “The first time I flew one of my planes out here I missed the approach on landing and it ended up snagged in a high tree at the end of the runway.

“Luckily one of our members was a forester and he climbed up and got it for me.”

Each year the Club holds a “fly-



in” on one Sunday, serving roast corn and hot dogs, and invites the neighbors. “Members can fly here any day that the wind is under 10 m.p.h.,” Champagne says. “Our planes make some noise. We like to be good neighbors.”

Oh, yes. About the tall grass alongside the runway, Champagne’s bright yellow bi-plane lost a wheel while he was doing show-off spirals and that called for an emergency landing. After making a couple of touch-and-go approaches, he just dropped it - softly and undamaged - into the tall grass.

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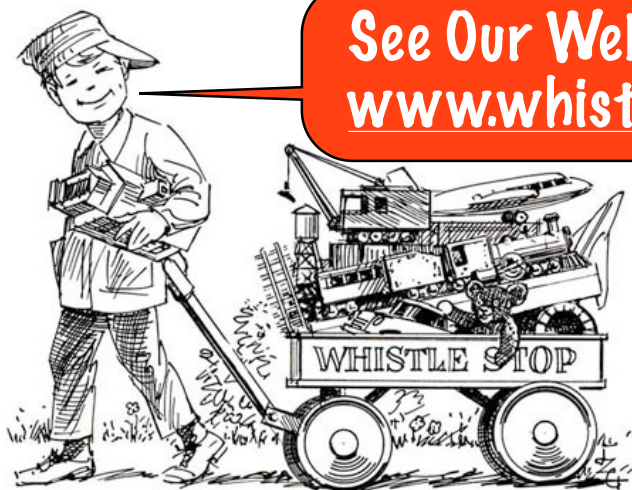
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Encore: Mack Avenue Grille

By John Minnis



The new Mack Avenue Grille defies classification. It's not a diner. It's not dress-up fancy. Rather it is, according to owners Louie and Dino Ropotos, "fine dining at diner prices."

The brothers, who both live here with their families, their children attending Grosse Pointe schools, bought the 25-year-old Mack Avenue Diner last year. In April, they closed it for a three-month interior renovation. Their new Mack Avenue Grille's grand opening in June lasted only five days before the brick facade of the adjoining store fell off. The businesses were closed for three months while the building was rebricked.

"We did get a new facade," says Louie, looking at the bright side.

The wait was worth it. The new eatery is bright, with windows added to the south. The interior is upscale but family-friendly. The parquet floor and granite table and counter tops are complemented with modern, whimsical art pieces on the earth-tone walls. "The look ties in with Grosse

Pointe architecture," Louie says.

Not only is the new Mack Avenue Grille a pleasure to visit ("You don't go home smelling like a diner."), but the food is top-notch. This is no accident. "We grew up in the restaurant business," Dino says. "We tried to take the best experiences we've had and bring them to one place."

The key to their success: freshness. Everything — except pastry from a Greektown bakery and Achatz pies — is homemade daily. That includes chili and three soups daily, 31 different salads and many specials, such as meatloaf and fish. "We don't use frozen fish," Dino says.

The brothers' Greek heritage is very much included in the extensive menu. If fact, they are bringing an uncle in Greece out of retirement to offer his expertise at the Mack Avenue Grille. "We're kind of excited about that," Dino says.

"The neighborhood is finally discovering this as a good place to eat," Louie says. He's right. ☐



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Allesee Gallery of Culture



DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM GRAND RE-OPENING

By John Minnis

The newly renovated Detroit Historical Museum, which celebrated 84 years last month, is something to behold. The recently completed \$12 million, six-month renovation includes many new, hands-on exhibits, including the Kid Rock Music Lab; the Allesee Gallery of Culture, featuring Tiger Stadium and the 12th floor brass elevator doors from J.L. Hudson's; The Arsenal of Democracy, depicting Detroit's role during World War II; and the Gallery of Innovation, showcasing Detroit's many inventors and problem-solvers, to name but a few

of the additions.

"The Tiger Stadium letters are getting a lot of interest," says Bob Bury, executive director of the Detroit Historical Society.

From major donors to docents, many Grosse Pointers are involved with the renovation campaign, the museum and the Detroit Historical Society. Heading the list is Bury and campaign co-chairs Dave Nicholson and Kevin Broderick. Tom Buhl, chairman of the DHS board, and trustees and advisory committee members Bernadette Dennehy, Stephanie Germack Kerzic, Chuck Bayer,

Dennis Levasseur, Doug Dossin, Bob Hoban, Marty Krall, Rob Lubera, Rick Ruffner, Tom Shea, Sean Cotton, Hon. Robert Young and Judy Christian all made a contribution to the campaign.

Major donors from the Pointes included PVS Chemicals/Nicholson family for the new Grand Trunk Railroad Station in the Streets of Old Detroit, and John and Marlene Boll for a new gallery at the Dossin Great Lakes Museum, which will be closed until May for its renovations.

Marianne Endicott helped fund the acquisition and restoration of the



Kid Rock Music Lab



Streets of Old Detroit

SANDERS CONFECTIONS, DETROIT TIGERS, KID ROCK AND MORE

“moose” used as a barber chair for children at the old Hudson’s downtown store, and Rick and Cat Ruffner helped fund the restoration and display of the original Tiger Stadium letters in the new Allesee Gallery of Culture.

Even the Glancy Trains, a long-time favorite donated in 1973 by the late Al Glancy, also a Grosse Pointer, has been refreshed with interpretive background on Detroit’s rail history.

The Kid Rock Foundation donated \$250,000 for the interactive gallery covering more than 100 years of Detroit music history, including jazz, blues, gospel, Motown, rock and hip hop. The Kid Rock Music Lab even has its own

stage for future “Idols.”

The Streets of Old Detroit, the museum’s most popular exhibit, has not been neglected. It, too, has been made more interactive and more accessible. The Grand Truck Railroad waiting room and Sander’s Confectionery store are new additions.


Bury is most excited about the museum’s greatly expanded coverage of the Underground Railway, which was formerly relegated to two glass cases on a stairway landing. Doorway to Freedom explores Detroit’s role in the anti-slavery movement and, specifically, its “station” on the Underground Railroad. With its proximity to Canada, Detroit literally was

the “doorway to freedom” for African Americans.

Upon entering or leaving the museum, do not miss the Legends Plaza, where Detroit’s biggest names — and handprints — reminiscent of Hollywood’s Grauman’s Chinese Theatre are frozen in time, er, cement.

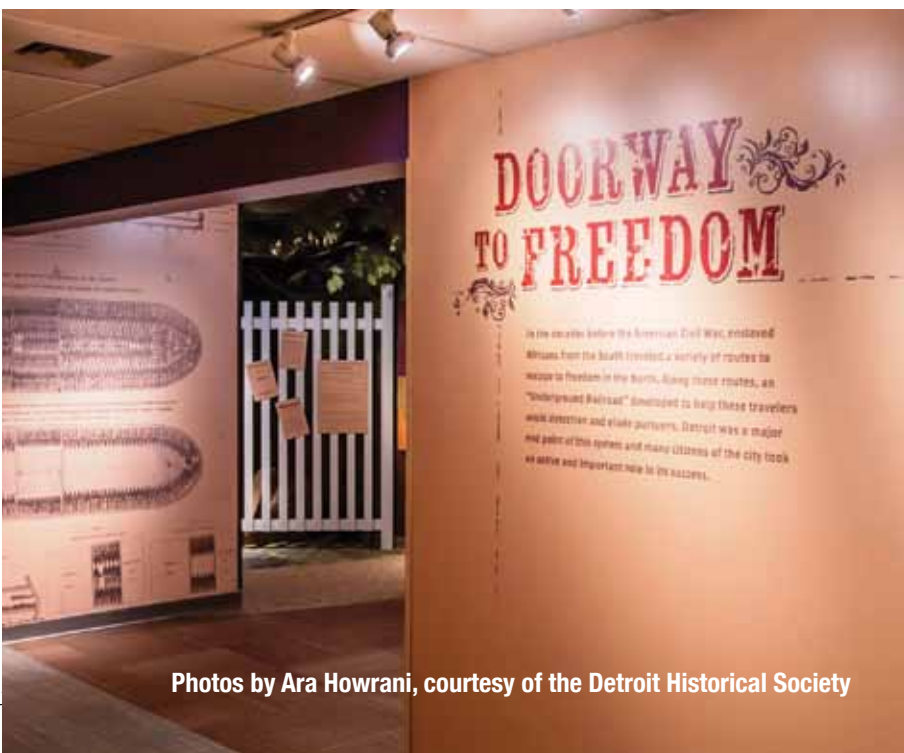
Rather than expand the museum, the DHS decided to make better use of its 75,000 square feet.

“I would say every part of it has been touched,” Bury says.

But just don’t take his word for it. See for yourself. (Donations always accepted!) Admission is free! For more information, visit detroithistorical.org. 



America’s Motor City



Photos by Ara Howrani, courtesy of the Detroit Historical Society



very merry

Holiday Bites

Family Features



Holiday parties should be fun — so why not serve up some tasty appetizers with a creative seasonal twist that will be sure to spice up your gathering?

These clever bites start with versatile party favorites Hillshire Farm Lit'l Smokies — and then the fun begins. Start off with an impressive — and edible — wreath for the centerpiece and serve with a cranberry-barbecue dip. Next, turn them into tasty reindogs.

For more recipes to add merriment to your celebrations, visit www.hillshirefarm.com.

Holiday Appetizer Wreath

Servings: 16

Prep Time: 30 minutes

Cook Time: 15 minutes

Ingredients

- 32** Hillshire Farm Lit'l Smokies
- 1/2** cup whole berry cranberry sauce
- 1/2** cup barbecue sauce
- 1** can (8 ounces) refrigerated crescent dough rolls

Optional: Roasted bell pepper strips, cherry tomato halves and fresh rosemary for garnish

Directions

Preheat oven to 375°F.

Open package of sausages and drain off liquid.

Combine cranberry sauce and barbecue sauce in a small saucepan; heat over low heat, stirring until smooth and hot.

Unroll dough, separate at perforations, creating 4 rectangles. Press perforations to seal. With knife or pizza cutter cut each rectangle lengthwise into 8 strips, making a total of 32 strips.

Wrap 1 strip of dough around each sausage. Place crescent-wrapped sausages with sides touching on ungreased cookie sheet or round baking stone in a circle, forming a wreath shape.

Bake for 11 to 15 minutes or until golden brown. Cool slightly.

Carefully remove wreath onto serving platter, if desired. Garnish wreath with bell pepper strips to form a bow, and cherry tomato halves and rosemary sprigs for ornaments, if desired.

Serve with cranberry-barbecue sauce.

Reindogs

Servings: 20

Prep Time: 30 minutes

Cook Time: 2 to 3 minutes

Ingredients

- 1** package Hillshire Farm Lit'l Smokies
- Pretzel twists
- Mustard
- Ketchup

Directions

Heat sausages according to package directions.

Break a small pretzel twist in half. Stick a pretzel half into both sides of sausage to resemble antlers.

Use 2 small drops of mustard for eyes and a small drop of ketchup for the nose.

We made history!



Tiger Stadium sign on display in the new Allesee Gallery of Culture.

After six months of renovation, the Detroit Historical Museum is now open.

Come explore and experience the remarkable stories of the people, places and events that define who we are. Enjoy favorites like the *Streets of Old Detroit* and discover new favorites like the *Allesee Gallery of Culture* and the *Kid Rock Music Lab*.

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CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS IN OUR COMMUNITY

Thursday, December 6

Holiday Luncheon & Gift Boutique at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, enjoy delicious food, soft piano music, a glistening Christmas tree, gift boutique and door prizes, \$25 per person, limited to 60, reservations required, 12-2:30 p.m.

Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce Holiday Mixer at the Grosse Pointe Hunt Club, 5 p.m.

Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Nutcracker Tea, Warm drinks and tasty treats will be served and Santa will be waiting in the Playhouse to hear children's Christmas wishes, \$15 per person, seatings at 4 & 6 p.m., also takes place Dec. 10-13, 16, 19 at 4 p.m., and Dec. 10, 13, 16, 19 at 6 p.m.

Saturday, December 8

Breakfast with Santa at Grosse Pointe War Memorial, Santa visits each table during breakfast, followed by a performance by the Merry Music Maker in the Auditorium, dress for a formal photo op! Reservations required, \$18 per person, also takes place Dec. 9 & 16, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m.

Grosse Pointe Historical Society Gingerbread Cookies at the Provencal-Weir House, reservations must be made by Dec. 6 at (313) 884-7010, ages 6 and up, \$15 per member, \$20 per non-member, event begins at 1 p.m.

Sunday, December 9

Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Holiday Tea & Tour, along with tour and light meal of

sandwiches, pastries and tea, guests will receive a special Ford House gift, \$35 per person, also takes place Dec. 17 & 18, 3-5 p.m.

Tuesday, December 11

Bedtime Stories with Santa at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, ages 4 and up, wear pajamas, bring a blanket, \$10 per child, also Dec. 12 & 17, 7-7:45 p.m.

Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Christmas Story Time, gather around the towering tree to sing carols and hear stories, followed by hot cocoa and cookies, \$5 per person, also takes place on Dec. 12, 6-7 p.m.

Wednesday, December 12

Grosse Pointe South "Let it Go and Let it Snow" Lunch at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, de-stress for the holidays.

Thursday, December 13

SOC Holiday Tea sponsored by Brightstar Care at St. James Lutheran Church, refreshments and wonderful holiday music, \$5 per person, call (313) 882-9600 for reservations, 2-3:30 p.m.

Friday, December 14

Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Candelit Stroll, guests will be welcomed with the sound of holiday music filling the grand halls, enjoy the decor and storytelling, \$15 per person, also takes place Dec. 15, 21, 22, 28, 29, 5-8 p.m.

Saturday, December 15

Grosse Pointe Woods Polar Express,

residents and guests leave from the community center to tour the Woods' holiday lights in a heated bus, while the Polar Express Story plays. Upon arrival at the North Pole, guests will enjoy hot cocoa, refreshments and carols. Registration is required at (313) 343-2408, \$4 per person, also takes place Dec. 16-19, departures are 5:30, 6, 6:30, 7 & 7:30 p.m.

Monday, December 17

SOC Christmas Party at St. James Lutheran Church, Polish Village of Hamtramck catering, a special visitor with surprises for each guest and entertainment by Heart of the Hills Players, 90 person limit, reservations must be made by Dec. 3 at (313) 882-9600, \$18 per person, 11 a.m.

Save lives, give blood

By Dr. Saima A. Khan

I have a wonderful job where I can help people live healthier lives and even save some lives along the way; but people who donate blood save more lives than I do — up to three people per donation.

Someone needs donated blood every two seconds. One pint of blood is removed at each donation, but the average transfusion is three pints, and some car accident victims need 100 pints.



Blood donation is extremely safe and easy, and anyone over the age of 17 and 110 pounds can donate blood, and as often as every two months. You can prepare several weeks before by eating iron-rich foods (red meat, fish, spinach, beets and eggs) and being well hydrated.

On the day of donation, drink an extra 16 ounces of water. You will need ID (a driver's license or two other forms of ID) and a list of your medications. You will have your heart rate, blood pressure, temperature and hemoglobin checked and will have to answer questions about your health and travel history.

You cannot donate blood if you are anemic (hemoglobin below 12.5), pregnant or have known HIV, tuberculosis, hepatitis or have ever used IV drugs.

Please donate, especially if you have the rarest blood type, O-negative, as it is a "universal donor" type and can be given in emergencies to anyone.

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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Meet Ann

Name	Ann Yeamans
Age	Seasoned!
City	Grosse Pointe Park
Occupation	Public Health Nursing Consultant



Ann's Favorites

Dessert

I like them all, darn it!

Ice Cream Flavor

Black raspberry chip (homemade brand)

Activity

Doing anything outside!

Book

Tutu

Restaurant

Park Grill

Vacation Spot

Camp Michigania, Walloon Lake

Childhood TV Show

Roy Rogers and Dale Evans

Movie

War Horse

What is your guiding principle or words to live by?

We are all connected.

One thing you miss about being a kid?

My mom's cooking

What was your first job?

Nurse's aide at Memorial Hospital, Fremont, Ohio

Are you a collector of anything?

The letter Y

Your biggest accomplishment?

Being an Emeritus nurse

What is your biggest regret?

My husband missing out on knowing his grandchildren

What is the most historical day in your lifetime?

The landing of Neil Armstrong on the moon!

About Ann

Ann is the widow of Willis and mother of Jeffrey and Sarah.

She is a nurse, grandmother, sister and friend. She's also a proud Episcopalian, University of Michigan and University of Maryland alumna and IBM surviving spouse.

Ann has taught public health in the Czech Republic, carried health supplies to Castro's Cuba and observed polar bears in Manitoba, Canada.

Ann is also the nurse who is developing the Transition Care Coordinator pilot project for SOC.

In her free time, Ann enjoys learning, gardening, traveling and her grandchildren.

The 12 Gifts of Christmas

By Nancy Piatek

When bringing good tidings and gifts to the elderly on your list, you may want to think outside the traditional gifts of flowers, plants and candy. Here are twelve suggestions.

For avid readers whose sight is not what it was, you may want to give a large magnifying glass¹, large print books², books on tapes³ or CDs⁴.



A gift booklet of stamps and envelopes⁵ will be most useful by those who cannot get out like they used to.

If your loved one is in an assisted living center or nursing home and has a room with a view, you may want to purchase a garden hook with a bird feeder⁶. The enjoyment of watching the birds feed will be a gift that keeps giving all through the year.

Puzzles⁷ can keep the merriment in the season. They are very therapeutic. They beckon all visitors to engage in the socialization of finding that missing piece.

Gift certificates for restaurants⁸ can be a most welcome change for those who are not interested in cooking or making “figgy” pudding. Gift certificates for grass cutting,⁹ snow removal,¹⁰ or salon services¹¹ are most appreciated, too.

Errands, housekeeping and transportation are some of the needs that can be met with a gift certificate from Nursing Unlimited.¹² Socialization and medical assistance can lessen stress during this season.

However, no matter what gift you choose, remember the most precious gift of all is your time.

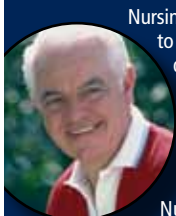
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Photos by Margie Reins Smith

WHO IS MAH JONGG ANYWAY?

By Margie Reins Smith

Two afternoons a week, just before 1 p.m., the clatter and click of game tiles echoes from an upstairs room in the Community Building at Farms Pier Park. A dozen women are setting up three tables of Mah Jongg, a game with roots in ancient China.

Mah Jongg is enjoying new favor with Grosse Pointers. It's like the game of rummy in which players collect sets of numbers, but it's played with 152 rectangular tiles instead of 52 cards. Tiles are divided into three suits - bamboos, craks and dots. Other tiles don flowers, dragons, the four winds and eight much-coveted Jokers.

Tiles are distributed and exchanged among players, who then take turns drawing and discarding until someone collects one of the prescribed winning hands and calls, "Mah Jongg."

Neophytes can sign up for a four-week class at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, where they'll learn the basics of the game from instructors Julie Sutton and Mary Jo Katchmark.

"Mah Jongg is one big math problem," Katchmark says. "It's a lot about probability."

Sutton played the Chinese version of the game as a child. She and Katchmark met at the War Memorial three years ago in a Mah Jongg class. They loved the game, became friends and put together a weekly group.

"We wanted to share the game with others," Sutton says.

In addition to Tuesdays and Fridays at Pier Park, enthusiasts gather at Sidestreet Diner on alternate Monday evenings. Others play two afternoons a month at Christ Church Grosse Pointe.


Pam Gialloretto started learning last

July. "It was August before I actually got a Mah Jongg," she says.

"It makes you think in a different way," says Kathryn Smith.

Sandy Gillespie started playing in April. "It's a challenge I look forward to it every week," she says.

Sutton says the game is gaining popularity with people 50 and up. "It's good for us. It's tactile, it's social and it involves counting, strategy, skill, focus and a bit of luck. It gets us away from the electronic world we live in."

The next class begins in January. Call the War Memorial at (313) 881-7511 or email Sutton at sutton@gmail.com or Katchmark at katchmarks@aol.com. 

Margie Reins Smith is a retired journalist, a freelancer and blogger. "The Newfangled Gramma," which is updated twice a month, presents the humorous aspects of aging, grandmothing and being human. Visit margiereinssmith.weebly.com.



Top: Donna Carloni (in red) taught many of the Mah Jongg regulars how to play the game. Clockwise, Donna matches skills with Marcia Bonahoom, Susan Chapman and Sandra Gillespie; Left: Kathryn Homan Smith, Pam Gialloretto, Carolyn Ugval and Karin Garrett

Give the gift of a good gym

By Ken Welch

What do you want for Christmas? This year it most likely will be something related to exercise and fitness. From workout attire and healthy diet cookbooks to DVDs, fitness balls and running shoes, we'll either give or get something for our workout, but what is the best fitness gift? A gym membership.



Wait a minute; why not invest in a home piece of exercise equipment and save money on membership dues not to mention the hassle of getting there? OK, how about price?

A decent piece of cardio equipment, such as an elliptical or treadmill, is going to cost somewhere between \$1,500 and \$3,200, and that's all you'll have.

Then there's the maintenance of that machine, the wear and tear, the depreciation, the cost of getting bored with it as it grows out of date as newer models come out, the room it will take up and, did we mention, all you'll have is a treadmill or elliptical? No classes, no weights, no other pieces of cardio, no one to ask for help or advice, no getting away from home for some "me time."

For the money spent on that one cardio piece, you could have 3-5 years worth of membership in a professional gym and all it offers. A good gym is always upgrading its equipment and provides a constant source of workout options as well as continual education on how to use it all. It is by far the best value and way more fun.

Ken Welch is owner and trainer at Pointe Fitness on Harper south of Allard. Online: www.pointefitness.com.

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WIGS 4 KIDS

AIMS TO HEAL THE WHOLE CHILD

By Michelle Balconi

Cancer is the leading cause of death from disease among U.S. children. Treatment can be an extreme departure from your daily life, feeling weak and not looking at all like yourself.

Maggie Varney, a 40-year beauty industry professional and entrepreneur, personally learned just how upsetting cancer treatment can be for children when a client's

daughter voiced her frustration over looking different after hair loss and having to wear an ill-fitting, synthetic wig. Varney offered to help that young girl and with that single act of kindness Wigs 4 Kids was founded in October 2003.

For more than 20 years, Varney has been a volunteer with the national Look Good Feel Better Adult and Teen Program, assisting cancer patients dealing with the appearance related side effects of chemotherapy and radiation. But it still came as a surprise to her that there was not a Michigan-based program offering natural wigs to pediatric cancer patients and the out-of-state services were extremely expensive.

Wigs 4 Kids, by contrast, offers natural hair wigs that are custom cut and fitted along with products and education on maintenance all free of charge. Hair donations can be made in Varney's Go Green Salon in St. Clair Shores or at other facilities. The cost of manufacturing from natural hair costs around \$800 per wig and the non-profit Wigs 4 Kids relies on monetary donations. It has served an estimated 1,000 children since 2003.

Ashleigh Deveroux-Tucker, a 10-year-old Grosse Pointe girl, has always enjoyed making cookies and lemonade and then selling them in her neighborhood with friends. After hearing Varney's presentation at her elementary school, she decided to donate her saved earnings as well as her hair to Wigs 4 Kids.

"I reach out to local schools weekly to educate the students so they no longer make fun of their peers – instead, they become engaged, grow their hair out and often are motivated to help raise funds to sponsor a child; that is how Ashleigh became aware of the Wigs 4 Kids program," says Varney. "Not only did Ashleigh donate her hair, so did her mother. This is a great example of our kids inspiring us!"

With a goal of offering extended support, Varney opened Wigs 4 Kids Wellness Center in 2010 so that children have access to art and music therapy, nutrition and can participate in a positive social setting with other children.

The ultimate affirmation that Varney can truly empathize with the children she serves is that she herself became a cancer survivor two years ago. [P](#)

Wigs 4 Kids founder, Maggie Varney, provides an updated hairstyle for a client at her Go Green Salon.

Photo by Michelle Balconi





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Wellness Chef's simple health and wellness rules


By Wellness Chef Doug Cordier

Wellness is a natural state of equilibrium or being in balance. Saint Luke said "heal thyself." When your body and mind are in balance your body will heal itself. Unfortunately, we Americans have become lazy. We have let others take charge of our health. "Just take a pill." Look around and you you'll see this doesn't work.

We all need to become more self reliant and serious about a healthy lifestyle. Today, over 33 percent of Americans are obese. We could eliminate obesity by following some simple guidelines and improve our chances of living a longer and healthier life.

- Consume fresh organic foods close to their source
- Avoid hydrogenated foods
- Learn to read and head food labels
- Drink lots of filtered water
- Avoid high fructose corn syrup
- Avoid white flour and white sugar
- Avoid high glycemic foods
- Be active, "when you rest you rust."
- Add fiber to your diet
- Replace processed foods with fresh veggies, fruits, nuts and whole grains
- Use only olive, coconut and grape seed oils.

Wellness cooking is preparing nutritious meals that are delicious and yet nutritious.

If this sounds impossible, try the following simple no fuss dish. 

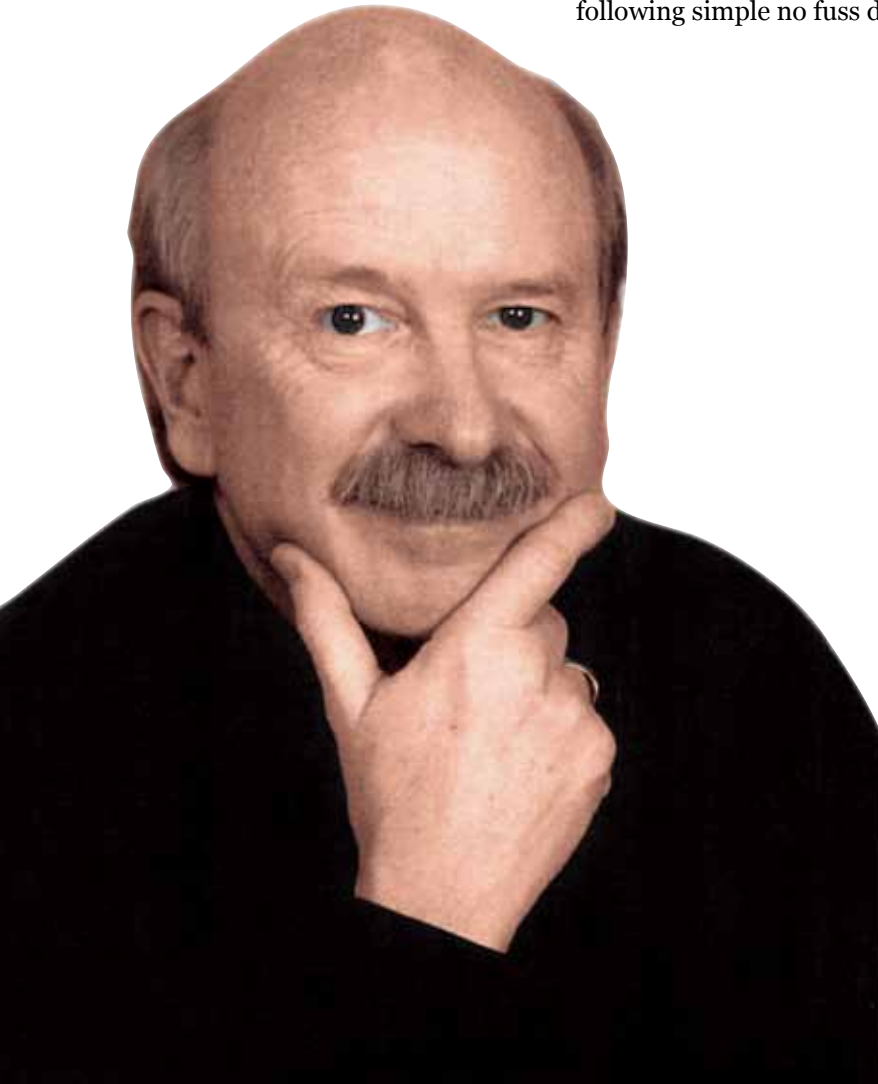
Chicken Scaloppini with labna

Ingredients:

1 large chicken breast
1 cup PANKO bread crumbs
3 tbs labna (Lebanese yogurt)*
Sea salt & pepper
Olive oil or grape seed oil for sauté
Lemon wedges
Chopped parsley for garnish

1. Dry surface of chicken breasts, lay flat on cutting board
2. Carefully place hand on top of breast, start at thick end and cut chicken breast in half length wise, making a cutlet or scaloppini.
3. Place chicken pieces between two sheets of waxed paper or plastic wrap.
4. Pound chicken breasts until they are uniform thickness of 1/4 in.
5. Season chicken with sea salt & pepper
6. Make sure chicken surface is dry and spread labna evenly on one side of chicken
7. Dredge chicken in bread crumb, spread other surface and flip over
8. Lightly sauté breaded chicken pieces in olive or grape seed oil until golden
9. Serve with lemon wedges and chopped parsley garnish.

* Labna is thick Lebanese yogurt on steroids, available at Middle Eastern shops.



Wellness Chef Doug Cordier is a food writer, TV cook and Certified Nutrition Wellness Consultant. Owner of Cascom Group Travel, Doug has been teaching corporate and Italian cooking classes plus leading culinary tours to their villa in Tuscany. For more foodie thoughts and recipes, try www.cookingwithcordier.com or call (313) 881-6699.

Armchair sailing with DRYA

By Ted Everingham

The outlook for the “dark” months — January, February and March — became much brighter recently when the Detroit Regional Yacht-Racing Association (DRYA) announced its 12-week Wednesday evening seminar schedule for 2013.

This always-popular series starts on Jan. 9 at Grosse Pointe Yacht Club with



a “double feature” that includes Captain Sam Buchanan’s fascinating tales of *J.W. Wescott II*, the current version of the several boats that have delivered mail to freighters plying the Great Lakes since 1874. A 27-year veteran of the mail boat service, Captain Buchanan is uniquely qualified to describe his work and that of the *Wescott* and her predecessors delivering “mail by the pail.”

The Jan. 9 kickoff evening will conclude with a breathtakingly colorful program about cruising on a chartered *Beneteau 50* sailboat along the Dalmatian Coast, considered by many to be one of the best cruising areas in Europe.

The DRYA’s 2013 season is being hailed as its best ever, appealing to sailors, powerboaters and anyone who enjoys being on or near the water. The 12 programs, one each Wednesday evening Jan. 9 through March 27 are held at various clubs, and all except one on CPR are free. The public is welcome. For a list of seminar topics, dates and venues, go to www.drya.org.

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, on WOW channel 10 in Grosse Pointe Woods.

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“I teach my clients how to define, then to create and finally to live the life they were meant to enjoy.”

Self investment yield highest rewards

Make a personal New Year's resolution according to UrBalance Coach Chin Rivard

By Michelle Balconi

For many, it is necessary to analyze data and make financial decisions but little thought is given to personal goals. While it is common to enlist the advice of an advisor to navigate investment choices it is nearly unheard of to solicit professional advice in order to enjoy life to the

fullest. How would you even begin to define that objective?

Enter Chin Rivard, certified Life Coach and founder of UrBalance Coaching. Think of her as a professional organizer for your mind, someone that sorts through the clutter of thoughts, assists you in prioritizing goals, encourages next steps and

ultimately holds you accountable for the things you most want to accomplish. Goals could include being healthier, spending more time with family, assisting an aging parent, changing careers or getting into a top university.

Rivard has worked in pharmaceutical sales for 16 years and is now channeling her passion for helping others manage their time and activities in a way that keeps them true to personal goals. She is a Certified Personal Coach and has earned that designation since completing hundreds of hours of training offered through the International Coach Federation.

Unlike a therapist who assists in resolving and healing wounds of the past, Rivard sees her role for clients as a guide to the future. She feels best utilized in helping others achieve work-life balance.

“Coaching is about breaking it down and going after a very specific result,” says Rivard. “I teach my clients how to define, then to create and finally to live the life they were meant to enjoy.”

Rivard has already helped local and out-of-state clients realize personal achievement and sees tremendous opportunity to partner with corporations so that employees can live more balanced lives. Rivard regularly encourages clients to simply write down definable goals, citing a Harvard study that goal realization increases with this simple act.

Rivard's advice is to pursue personal growth with the same committed approach as investment. After all, you are your best asset. [P](#)

*Chin Rivard, CPC - Life Coach
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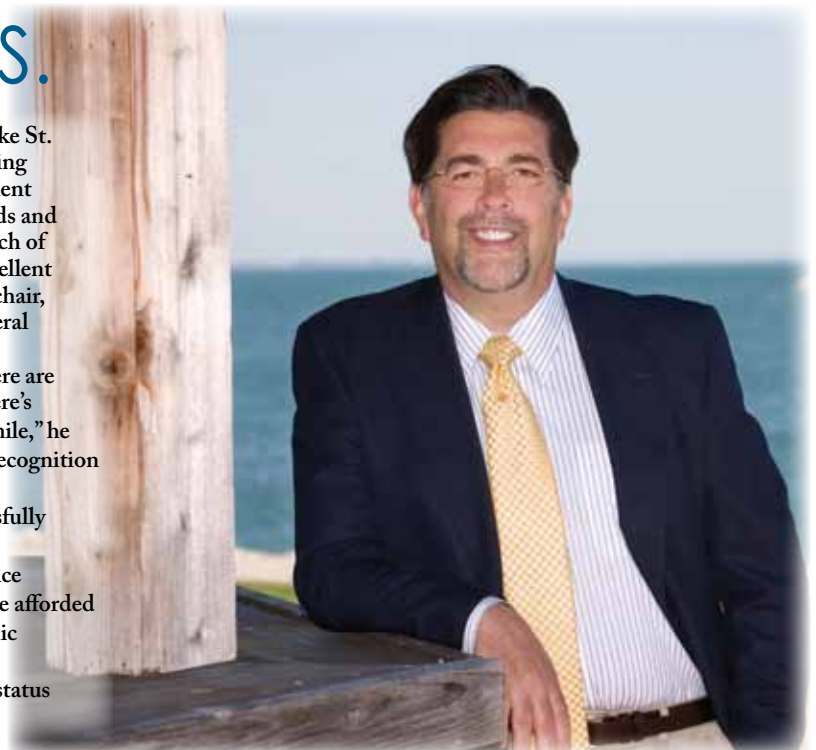
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Brian J. Hunt, D.D.S.

Located on the Nautical Mile, along the banks of beautiful Lake St. Clair, is the office of Dr. Brian J. Hunt, who has been practicing dentistry for 25 years. His practice prides itself on individual patient service and comfort. "Each patient is unique, with their own needs and concerns. I take the time to listen to, and individually address, each of their issues. This one-on-one approach helps me produce the excellent results each patient expects and deserves," Dr. Hunt says. In his chair, Dr. Hunt's patients receive the highest quality cosmetic and general dentistry available.

Dr. Hunt believes this is a very exciting time to be a dentist. "There are several new techniques available for smile-enhancement, and there's no reason for a patient to be anything but delighted with their smile," he says. Dr. Hunt is quick to point out that achieving Top Dentist recognition is a team effort. With the help of his experienced and dedicated staff, and a highly skilled group of specialists, he is able to successfully transform smiles and restore dental health.

"I value each patient as a personal friend, appreciate the confidence they have in my ability, and am thankful for the support they have afforded me over the years," Dr. Hunt says. During these difficult economic times, Dr. Hunt reassures his patients that his office doors will always be open to them, regardless of their current employment status or financial situation.



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RIGHT at Home

The Mansard Roof

This stately home, lower right, on

Mansion Hill, in Madison, Wisc., combines a French Mansard roof with a Victorian flair; featuring elaborate dormers, decorative brackets, ornate window hoods and iron cresting on the roof.

The major design resource for builders prior to 1850 was a “pattern book.” Therefore, many homes were a conglomerate of styles. The variety of mansard roofs is practically infinite, some so elaborate; they referred to them as a ‘wedding cake.’

The term “mansard” comes from the French architect, Francois Mansart (1598-1666), of the Beau Arts School of Architecture, who revived interest in the four-sided gambrel-style hip roof with two slopes on each of its sides. The lower slope looks like a vertical wall with dormers, with an upper lower slope. The mansard roof offers a way to add more stories without requiring masonry.

Another revival occurred during The Second French Empire, when Paris was rebuilt by Napoleon III (1852- 1870). Monsieur Mansart’s

Built in 1979, the shape of our lot inspired me to design a mansard roof home. The style allowed me to take advantage of the space on the second floor for spacious bedrooms, and an upper balcony in the bay that overlooks the great room

in the front of the house. The best feature advantage is the windows above the roofline to welcome the morning sun and lots of natural light without adding extra height to the structure.



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design claimed to circumvent the senseless unpopular Parisian taxes that supported the grandeur of the court. The number of floors that sat below the roofline levied taxes. The fashionable roof design was economical because it was easy to incorporate into formerly high pitched-roofs. It created a tax-free habitable garret for living quarters as well as profitable office space for business owners.

Several private homes and stately civic and government buildings boast the design. You may see some with a single story in the roof, and up to three or four. For example, the lavish Louvre Museum of Paris, remodeled during Napoleon’s reign sports the fashionable roof, and here in the United States, a stately reminder is the Eisenhower Executive Office building in Washington D.C. ☐

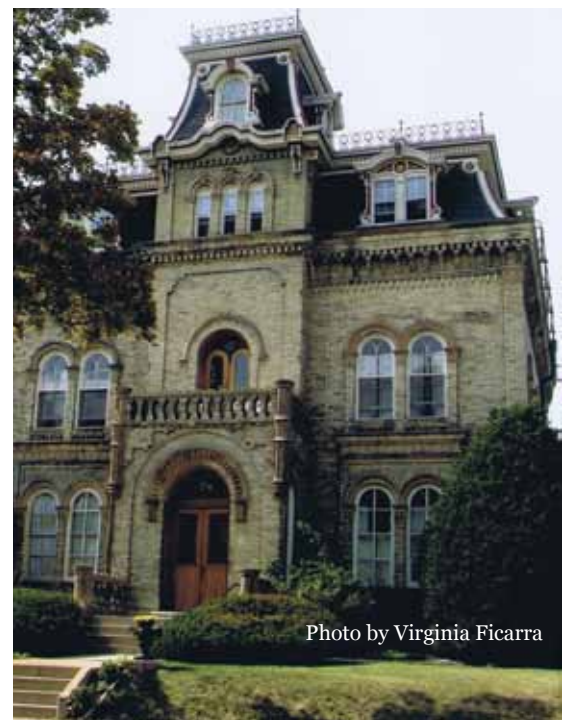


Photo by Virginia Ficarra



The Man Behind the Hammer

Master Builder, Master Carpenter, lifelong Grosse Pointer, Steve Makos has over a quarter of a century of construction to his credit in the Pointes. His crews call him a relentless perfectionist. His customers call him back to do more work. His two kids just call him dad.

When he's not building things, Steve is an avid outdoorsman who enjoys skiing, hunting and fishing. His favorite toys are his tools, his truck and his restored Dodge Challenger.

Asked to describe himself professionally he is unhesitating. I am, at heart, a craftsman. I take great pride in each of my projects and believe that the only satisfactory approach is to do it right the first time. The Pointes have their own unique architecture. Whether replacing a window or door, adding or renovating a room, doing a complete remodel or building a new home, we respect the character and tradition of where we live. Much of our work is on homes that were built to last. The quality of our workmanship needs to be done in that same tradition — built to last.

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J. Lewis Cooper Jr.



J. Lewis Cooper III

Father like son: Anything but ‘ordinary’

By Pete Waldmeir

J. Lewis Cooper Jr. and his son, J. Lewis Cooper III, both are members of what the Sports Car Club of America calls the “weekend warriors” of amateur auto racing — supposedly “ordinary” people doing extraordinary things with race cars.

Lew Jr., 69, is building a go-kart in his Grosse Pointe Woods garage. Elsewhere in the Pointes, son Lew III, 47, is readying his Ford-powered race car for his second shot in three years at the Sports Car Club of America’s Formula F National Championship in 2013.

Like father, like son? You bet. Ordinary people? Well, the jury’s out on that.

“We both compete on the SCCA circuit every year,” says the retired Lew Jr., who also pilots his Toyota-powered Formula Atlantic open-wheeled vehicle on tracks across the Southeast U.S. “But we run in different classes.

“I’m really proud of what my son Lew’s accomplished

in the last two seasons. He won the SCCA National Championship in 2011 in his class and finished second in the title race this year, losing by only about 6 feet in the 52-mile championship race at Elkhart Lake, Wis., in September.”

The Coopers are long-time Grosse Pointers. J. Lewis Cooper Sr., the patriarch of the family, founded the Detroit-area wine distributorship that bears the Cooper name in 1947. Lew Jr. ran it for years, and Lew III manages it now — between races.

“My dad got me into go-kart racing at 15,” says Lew Jr. “And that started my love for racing.” Lew Jr. eventually graduated to the sports car circuit and Lew III joined him there when he turned 21. Last year Lew III won five major races and finished with the best point total in his SCCA class. His dad finished fifth in the Formula Atlantic class national point totals.

In case you’re wondering about the “ordinary people” tag on SCCA competitors, check this out: SCCA “graduates” include racers like Roger Penske, Mark Donohue, Michael Andretti, Bobby Rahal and even actor/racer Paul Newman. So much for “ordinary.”

What’s next?

“We start the new Southeast Region SCCA season at Sebring (Fla.) in January,” says Lew Jr.

But what’s with building a go-kart?

“There’s a race at Sebring for them too,” he says, smiling. “This one has two 40-horsepower engines. It’s so light weight, I can hit 80 m.p.h. on the straightaway with it.”



Lew Cooper III at the turn

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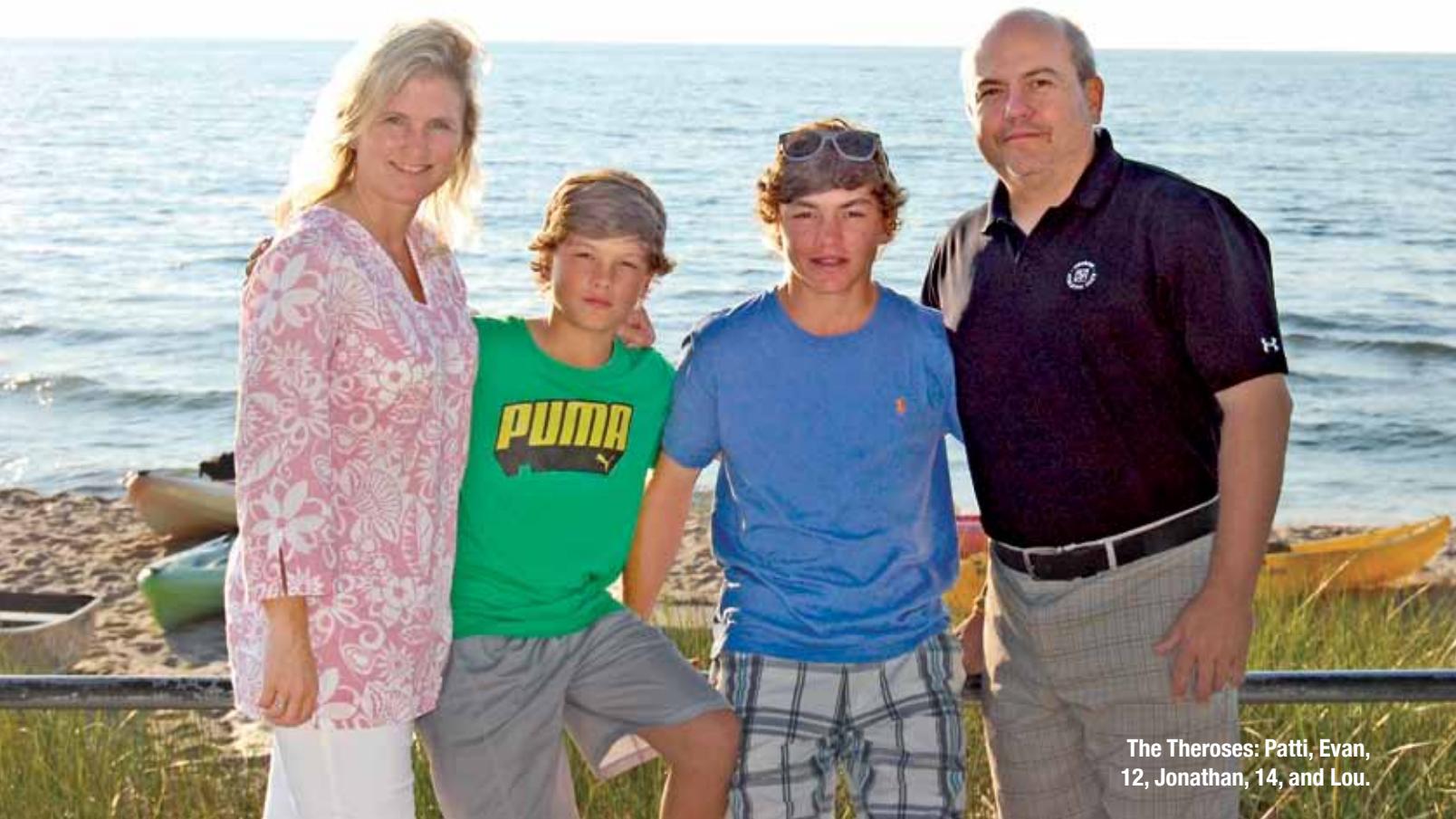
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The Theroses: Patti, Evan, 12, Jonathan, 14, and Lou.

SUPER LAWYER/GROSSE POINTE DAD

By John Minnis

Jonathan has two hockey games on Friday night. Evan has a game on Saturday. Both boys have practice on Sunday. Monday night, Evan has a game in Rochester. Tuesday, Jonathan is in Melvindale, and he's back in Grosse Pointe for a game Wednesday night. Evan has a game at the University Liggett School rink on Thursday. On Friday night, it starts anew. And baseball is just around the corner!

Such is the life of Lou Theros, a Grosse Pointe hockey/baseball dad, Super Lawyer and Grosse Farms city councilman. Wife Patti double teams as the Grosse Pointe hockey/baseball mom, freelance writer and volunteer for DAR, Tau Beta, Toys for Tots, Junior League of Detroit and myriad other organizations. Both are active in their parish, Assumption Greek Orthodox Church.

"I joke, you know, that my kids don't quite understand how dad gets paid," Lou says, "but it's by the billable hour. So when I spend billable time leaving early ... it costs me money. But I've taken the attitude that once they're in college, I can work many hours. You can't recapture those years."

The son of Greek immigrants, Theros grew up in Grosse Pointe, graduating from North in 1982. He went to the

University of Michigan as an undergrad and to Vanderbilt University for his law degree. His active family life has not prevented him from being named by his peers as a "Super Lawyer" every year since 2007. He has the distinction of being named a Super Lawyer as a partner with two different law firms — Dickinson Wright and Butzel Long.

A labor attorney representing Detroit casinos, the Big Three auto makers and Tier 1 and 2 automotive suppliers, Theros also served on numerous committees at Dickinson Wright, including as chair of the Recruitment Committee. In 2009, just shy of his 20th anniversary at Dickinson Wright, he left to become a partner at Butzel Long. In 2011, after 18 months with his new firm, Theros was elected to the Butzel Long board of directors where he serves as vice president.

He is most honored and humbled by his Super Lawyer designation. "At a certain point in your career, you will hope that there is some recognition that you've done it right," Theros says. "When people recognize you as being a good person and a good practitioner, that gives you a sense of accomplishment."

For the Theroses, there is no place like Grosse Pointe. "I mean, in Michigan," Lou says, "I can't think of a better place to live." ☐



How to Stay Fit in the New Year Chill

Family Features

Don't Skip the Warm Up – In colder weather, your muscles are tighter, making them more prone to muscle pulls and strains. Spend a little more time warming up your body to help you avoid injury.

Stay Hydrated – When it's cooler outside, you generally drink less water. But when you exercise, you still sweat and lose fluids and electrolytes. Be sure to drink plenty of water before and during your workout to avoid dehydration.

Dress in Layers – Exercising generates body heat and sweat, and when sweat starts to dry in cold weather you can get chilled. Dress in layers that can be removed when you start to sweat. Start with a thin layer of synthetic material which will draw sweat away from your body. Then add a layer of fleece or wool, and top it all off with a waterproof and breathable outer layer.

Protect Your Extremities – When it's cold outside, the body tends to concentrate blood flow to the core, which can leave your hands, feet and ears susceptible to frostbite. Wear gloves, warm socks and a hat or headband.

Vary Your Routine – Beat the winter workout blues by changing up your routine – and by having fun. Get the whole family moving by doing things together such as building a snowman, going ice skating or sledding, making snow angels, and having a snowball fight.

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LOCHMOOR CLUB

Keeping Michigan Beautiful

By Jim Stickford



The Lochmoor Country Club in Grosse Pointe Woods was honored by Keep Michigan Beautiful President's Plaque at an awards dinner held on Oct. 19 in Dearborn for its work on updating its gardens and horticulture.

Keep Michigan Beautiful is a state-wide organization that got its start in 1962 when Gov. John Swanson appointed a 17-member committee to fight litter in Michigan. The organization was later turned into an official state organization by Gov. George Romney in 1965.

Anita Marini, membership services director, says credit for the award belongs to the club's horticulturalist Leslie Lindbloom.


"It was so exciting when we were nominated for the award," Marini says. "It's always a pleasure to be recognized for hard work. The Keep Michigan Beautiful award reflects several years of hard work on the part of our staff. We hope to have some tours of the club when the spring flowers bloom."

Lindbloom says that when she started as the club horticulturalist 18

years ago, Lochmoor really didn't have much of a garden.

"It was really just a golf course," Lindbloom says. "The landscape looked very 1960s. When I took over, we updated the shrubberies and planted gardens. Because we were losing so many trees from disease on the property we were able to do a lot."

Lindbloom says that Michael Jones, the superintendent at the time, decided that they needed not only diversification of forest, but to create gardens out of waste spots around club. They were able to create a natural-bottom pond. And over the years the club also, in 2001, began a major project that allows the club to capture rain run-off that allows the captured water to be used in irrigation and it also keeps water out of the local sewer system during heavy rains.

"Over the years we've given tours of our gardens," Lindbloom says. "One of the women who took a tour was from Keep Michigan Beautiful. She suggested we enter the competition, we did and we won. It's such an honor." 



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Meet Ed

Name	Ed Lazar
Age	55
City	Grosse Pointe Woods
Occupation	Owner, State Farm Insurance Agency, Grosse Pointe



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About Ed:

Ed has been married to his wife Karen, a 5th grade teacher at St. Joan of Arc School, for 21 years. They joined their families together in marriage, her two girls, Julie and Alison, and his two boys, Alex and Andrew.

Daughter Julie works with autistic teenagers in North Carolina and Alison, who is married and pregnant with the family's first grandchild, is a speech therapist in Colorado. Son Alex sells Mercedes Benz cars in Chicago and Andrew is a combat medic with the 82 Airborne out of Ft. Bragg.

In his free time, Ed enjoys community service, hockey, canoe racing and cooking.

What was your first job? I worked on a commercial fishing boat on Lake Erie at age 10.

Your most often used phrase? "Glad to help!"

Best advice you have received? Mom said, "Be nice!" so I guess I better!

If you weren't the owner of State Farm Insurance Agency what would you be? A high school or college track coach

What is your next goal? To grow my current business and start a second business in 2013.

Favorite thing to do outside of work? Spend time with Karen just doing anything together ... traveling, working in the yard, or cooking.

Tell us something about you that most people don't know. At age 15 I was the youngest person ever to finish the AuSable River Canoe Marathon.

Words to live by? "To rejoice in another's prosperity is to give content to your own lot. To mitigate another's grief is to alleviate or dispel your own."

- Thomas Edwards

Women's Caring Program 2012 Twilight Gathering July 19 @ Cragg Home Photos by John Minnis



Melissa Cragg, Mollie Fletcher, Colleen Robar, Layla Simpson and Almolye Trammell



Bruce Wyman and Ira Jaffe



Ellen Doyle, Lisa Baird and Aleksandra Miziolek

McDonald's Ribbon Cutting Aug. 2 @ Mack & Canyon Photos by John Minnis



Owners Errol and Savarior Service and Grosse Pointe Park Mayor Palmer Heenan



Shana Gonda and Steven Rybicki



Grosse Pointe Farms Mayor Jim Farquhar wielding the ribbon-cutting scissors

Fairy Tales: A Grimm Celebration Aug. 4 @ Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Photos by Jennifer Doser



JT, 3, and Kate Ricci, 2, with Charles Krasner, poet



Reese Edwards, 5 with Snow White (Caryn Leonard)



Nicole Ballentini and Rudy, 2, Little Red Riding Hood and the Big Bad Wolf in back

WCCCD Senior Fun Day Aug. 15 @ War Memorial Photos by John Minnis



Heidi Uhlig, Suzy Berschback, Dr. Julie Corbett, Sean Southers and Dr. Sandra T. Robinson



Claire Morrison, Grosse Pointe South



Dr. Werner Spitz and Stephen Poloni, director of public safety, Grosse Pointe

GreekFest Aug. 16 @ Assumption Greek Orthodox Church

Photos by John Minnis



Members of the Assumption Hellenic Society for the Performing Arts



Alejandro Borrego, Caroline Mrsan, Kate, Emma and Lexi Hazen and Laini and Gabi Sharifi



Haley Roch, Taylor Piccarella and Joseph Mielke

Greening of Detroit Live Love Local Gala Aug. 16 @ Roast

Photos by Jennifer Doser



Food Network Chef Michael Symon with gala co-chair Sandy Riney



Don and Mary Lou Coe and Sheila O'Hara



Jackie Cole, Lionel Bradford, John Cole and Trish Hubbell

Greening of Detroit Live Love Local Celebration Aug. 25 @ Eastern Market

Photos by Jennifer Doser



Rattle Snake Club's Rebecca Hunter, Chris Franz and Alexandria Franz



Helena Wilson and Gianna Robbins



Afriah Mukbil, Terri Hollis, Michele Edwards, Dorva Dowdy, Christine Rogers and Juanita Alexander

Open House Aug. 18 @ St. Clair Shores Pilates

Photos by Lauren McGregor



Patti Parenteau and Terri Boyle



Paulette Brockington and Pamela Sarney



Barbara Chase and Kelsi Parenteau

Sweet Little Sheila's Ribbon Cutting Aug. 21 @ The Village

Photos by John Minnis



Grosse Pointe Mayor Dale Scrace performing the ribbon cutting



Christina Court, Rachel Spicer and Rob Weathers



Meghan Spicer and Sheila Taylor

Racing for Kids Aug. 29 @ The Hill

Photos by Christine M.J. Hathaway



Jon, Shery and David Cotton



Ken Fruehauf and Tom Buhl



Libby and Dan Jensen, director of public safety, Grosse Pointe Farms



Ed Russell and Charley Mancuse



IndyCar driver Oriol Servia



Peter Waldmeir and George Jerome Sr.

GPW Foundation New Member Reception Sept. 8 @ GPYC

Photos by Vicki Granger



Dennis Hyduk and Pam and Bruce Anderson



Mark Fossee, Liz Rader, Geri Unger, Dennis Hyduk, Beline Obeid, Peter Ahee, Kevin Hendrick, Mark Wollenweber, Annie Warnez, Ed Vermet and Mark Miller



Peter Ahee, Bettejean Ahee and Dr. Lisa Gilbert Ahee

VillageFest Sept. 8-9 @ The Village

Photos by John Minnis



Art Road Mobile Art Classroom art contest judges Jacquise Purifoy, Mary Fodell, Nancy Connors, Casey Wise, Lisa Amori, Bob Vandenberg and David Santia



Grosse Pointe Theatre's *Oklahoma!* cast members Xander Carson, Erin Ginger and Kate Connolly



Lindsey Gannan and Autumn Kozicki

SOC Afternoon Tea Sept. 13 @ St. James Lutheran Church

Photos by Lauren McGregor



Hazel Hart and Joanna Penszynski



Pat MacIntosh, Darlene Smith and Phyllis Jensen



"Singing Nurse" Jackie Speich

GPAAS Gimme Shelter Fundraiser Sept. 23 @ Assumption Center

Photos by Christine M.J. Hathaway



Lynn Carpenter, Penny Sauve and Corinne Martin



Gail Jarvis and Connie Parmenter



Sandy Portzel, Dr. David Balaj and Terri Lloyd



Linda Sandercott and Judy Bedwell



Corinne Martin and Dr. David Balaj



Elaine Smith, Margaret Balaj and Derek Smith

LWV-GP Hosts NLWV President Sept. 26 @ War Memorial

Photos by Christine M.J. Hathaway



George McMullen, Martha Shumaker and National LWV President Elisabeth MacNamara



Cheryl Harvey and Fran Schonenberg



Wilhelmina Giblin, Christina Schliff, Elisabeth MacNamara and Susan Smith

SOC Swinging Sixties Gala & Auction Sept. 28 @ GPYC

Photos by John F. Martin



The Rick Lieder Band



Kathryn Johann, Michael Damman and Nancy Cotton



Fred Segal, Ray Bezy and Pat Barton



Sergio and Laura Mazza and Marlene and John Boll



David and Katie Lubera and Mary and Rob Lubera



Chris and Jenny Boettcher and Sara and Shane Reside

G.P. Symphony Orchestra Oktober Fest Oct. 3 @ Pier Park

Photos by Jennifer Doser



Rob and Michelle Smith, Virginia and Jeffrey Zacharias



Scott Schroeder, Paul Miller, Richard McClelland, Bill Hulsker, Virginia Cunningham back row standing with violin is Ray Stone and Erich Hintzen with tuba



Sister Rosemary Sam and Sister Barbara Zimmer

pets

Molly welcomes your hi-res Pointe Pets pictures at 18530 Mack #106, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236 or e-mail molly@grossepointemagazine.com.



Zoey Louise

This is 1-year-old Zoey Louise! She lives in Grosse Pointe Woods with the Bloomhuffs and loves long naps, sleeping and playing with all her toys. She brightens everyone's day.



Bixby

Bixby was adopted by the Irving family of Grosse Pointe Woods on Dec. 24, 2004. The shelter estimated that he was 3 years old. He celebrates his birthday every Christmas Eve. Bixby is an avid walker, barker and snuggler.



Jackie-O

Jackie-O shares her home with the Eric Goosen family in St. Clair Shores.



Kipper

Kipper, a 9-year-old sheepdog, lives with Shari and Joe Lombardo in Grosse Pointe Woods.



Zoe & Pixie

Zoe, 8, and Pixie, 5 months, got all dressed up for the VillageFest Pet Parade, accompanied by Andrew Augustine and Lyndsay Dahl of Grosse Pointe Park.



Lucy

Lucy, a 4-month-old Cocker Spaniel-Poodle mix, shares her Grosse Pointe Farms home with Chip, Suzy, Maddie and Charlotte Berschback.

Choose the right food for your pet

Family Features

While there are a variety of pet foods on the market boasting recipes made using wholesome ingredients, if pets aren't digesting that food correctly, they may as well be eating the inexpensive fillers you've been trying to avoid.

In fact, many pet owners don't know their dogs and cats have sensitive stomachs, which may make it hard for them to properly digest their current food, and could lead to a host of problems. "Pets need consistency, they need to eat the same food every day to avoid digestive upset," explains Dr. Al Townshed, staff veterinarian with Holistic Select natural pet food, "If pets can't absorb the nutrients in the food they eat, it can lead to malnutrition, lethargy, frequent vomiting and worse." Dr. Townshed shares these tips for choosing the right food for your pet:

Check the Label

Look for natural, wholesome ingredients and avoid fillers. While proteins, carbohydrates, vitamins and minerals all play an important role in the health benefits of your pet's diet, there are other ingredients to consider to help ensure your pet is properly absorbing these key nutrients.

Probiotics

Your pet's digestive tract requires a careful balancing act of bacteria.

Probiotics – or good bacteria – help keep your pet's immune system healthy. Some natural pet food contain live probiotics that are added to the food after it has been cooked and cooled. This process assures maximum survival of the probiotics, so that your pet reaps the full benefits of their food.

Prebiotics

Prebiotics stimulate the growth and maintenance of good bacteria, like probiotics, in your pet's digestive tract. Examples of prebiotics include beet pulp and inulin, which is a fructose found in plant roots and is believed to aid in the absorption of calcium and magnesium, according to a 2005 study published by the National Institutes of Health.

Natural Fibers

Fiber-rich foods such as oatmeal and flaxseed promote digestive regularity. Flaxseed, for example, helps with the movement of food through your pet's digestive tract, is rich in Omega 3 fatty acids and offers benefits for your pet's cardiovascular, endocrine and immune systems.

Easily Digestible Enzymes

Several organs such as the pancreas help break down food within the digestive process by producing enzymes. Adding enzymes to pet food actually helps with this process by ensuring your pet is getting the nutrients from their food, while reducing stress on their organs – this is especially crucial for aging pets.

What to give?

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December

Calendar

04 TUESDAY

- The Family Center presents Connect to Calm, one of two 75-minute classes held monthly at Steve's Backroom, mail \$15 payment to Jill Wrubel at 24770 Jefferson St., St. Clair Shores 48080 by Nov. 30, events begin at 6 p.m.
- Grosse Pointe Senior Men's Club Cabaret Night at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, enjoy Jack Mulloy's band with Denise Stevens perform music from the 30s-70s, dinner will be served, BYOB, \$40 per person, 6-10:30 p.m.

05 WEDNESDAY

- Grosse Pointe North and South High School Choirs present the 2012 Holiday Concert and Tea at the Grosse Pointe Community Performing Arts Center, 1 p.m.
- Grosse Pointe Audiology "Hear for the Holidays"
- The Family Center presents "Meet & Greet for Professionals - Working with Youth and Families" in the GPPSS Board Room, 9-11 a.m.
- The Lake House Cancer Women's Support Group Meeting, 6-7 p.m.

06 THURSDAY

- Grosse Pointe War Memorial Holiday Luncheon & Gift Boutique, enjoy piano music, Christmas decor, a delicious lunch, door prizes, and shopping, \$25 per person, 12-2:30 p.m.
- Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce Holiday Mixer at the Grosse Pointe Hunt Club, 5 p.m.
- The Lake House presents "A New Normal: Moving on After the Loss of a Partner," 6-7:30 p.m.
- Bow Wow Bake Shoppe Ice Cream Social: Frozen yogurt for dogs and ice cream for you! 7-9 p.m.
- Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Nutcracker Tea, 4 & 6 p.m. seating, for more information see page 42.

07 FRIDAY

- Grosse Pointe Historical Society Christmas Party at the Provencal-Weir House
- Judson Center Support Services: Parents' night out for children 6-16, \$25, 6:30-

8:30 p.m.

- SOC presents Sara Klett's "A Very German Christmas," Klett is from Kirchheim Unter Teck, Germany and will give a glimpse into her life in Germany and how Christmas is celebrated with her family and in her town, 11:30 a.m.
- Grosse Pointe Art Center Ugly Sweater Party, 7 p.m.
- Grosse Pointe Woods Senior Holiday Social at the Grosse Pointe Woods Community Center, music, dinner and dancing, register by Nov. 29 at the Community Center, \$25 for non-residents, \$20 for residents, 12-4 p.m.

08 SATURDAY

- Breakfast with Santa at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m., for more information see page 42.
- Grosse Pointe Animal Adoption at Camp Bow Wow Training Center, 12-3 p.m.
- Grosse Pointe Historical Society Baking Gingerbread Cookies at the Provencal-Weir House, 1-3 p.m., for more information see page 42.
- University Liggett All School Holiday Concert, 1-3 p.m.

09 SUNDAY

- Breakfast with Santa at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m., for more information see page 42.
- Grosse Pointe Symphony Orchestra at Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church, 7-9 p.m.
- Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Holiday Tea & Tour, 3-5 p.m., for more information see page 42.

10 MONDAY

- Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Nutcracker Tea, 4 p.m., for more information see page 42.
- Grosse Pointe Audiology "Hear for the Holidays"

11 TUESDAY

- Judson Center Sibling Workshops, \$10, 4:30-6 p.m.
- The Lake House Cancer Support Group Speaker Series with Therese Spano, 6:30-8 p.m.
- The Lake House Cancer Support Group Holiday Party, 7 p.m. - midnight
- Bedtime Stories with Santa at the Grosse

Pointe War Memorial, 7-7:45 p.m., for more information see page 42.

- The Family Center presents Connect to Calm, second of two 75-minute classes held monthly at Steve's Backroom, mail \$15 payment to Jill Wrubel at 24770 Jefferson St., St. Clair Shores 48080 by Nov. 30, events begin at 6 p.m.
- Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Christmas Story Time, 6-7 p.m., for more information see page 42.
- Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Nutcracker Tea, 4 p.m., for more information see page 42.
- WCCCD's December Delights Scholarship Fundraiser at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, \$75 per person, reservations at 313-496-2510, includes reception, shopping, chef demonstration, dinner and fashion show, 5:30 p.m.

12 WEDNESDAY

- Mothers' Club of Grosse Pointe South "Let it Go and Let it Snow" Lunch at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, call 313-882-4802 for more information, \$35 per person, 12 p.m.
- Bedtime Stories with Santa at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 7-7:45 p.m., for more information see page 42.
- Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Nutcracker Tea, 4 p.m., for more information see page 42.
- Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Christmas Story Time, 6-7 p.m., for more information see page 42.
- SOC December Birthday Celebration at SOC on Kercheval, \$3 per person, 11 a.m.

13 THURSDAY

- Bow Wow Bake Shoppe Ice Cream Social: Frozen yogurt for dogs and ice cream for you! 7-9 p.m.
- Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Nutcracker Tea, 4 & 6 p.m. seatings, for more information see page 42.
- SOC Holiday Tea at St. James Lutheran Church, \$5 per person, call 313-882-9600 for reservations, 2-3:30 p.m.

January

Calendar

14 FRIDAY

- Grosse Pointe North Holiday Concert at First English Lutheran Church, 7 p.m.
- Grosse Pointe South Choir Holiday Pops Concert, 8 p.m.
- Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Candlelight Stroll, 5-8 p.m., for more information see page 42.

15 SATURDAY

- Grosse Pointe Woods Polar Express, through Dec. 19, for more information see page 42.
- Grosse Pointe Audiology “Hear for the Holidays”
- Grosse Pointe North Holiday Concert at First English Lutheran Church, 7 p.m.
- Grosse Pointe South Choir Holiday Pops Concert, 8 p.m.
- “Sweet Noels” Holiday Bake Sale at St. Michael’s Episcopal Church, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Candlelight Stroll, 5-8 p.m., for more information see page 42.

16 SUNDAY

- Breakfast with Santa at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m., for more information see page 42.

17 MONDAY

- SOC Christmas Party at St. James Lutheran Church, for more information see page 42.
- Bedtime Stories with Santa at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 7-7:45 p.m., for more information see page 42.
- Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Holiday Tea & Tour, 3-5 p.m., for more information see page 42.

18 TUESDAY

- Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Holiday Tea & Tour, 3-5 p.m., for more information see page 42.
- Memory Screening at Nursing Unlimited, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- Grosse Pointe South Winter Jazz Concert “Yule Be Boppin’” at Grosse Pointe South High School, 7-9 p.m.

19 WEDNESDAY

- Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Nutcracker Tea, 4 & 6 p.m. seatings, for more information see page 42.

20 THURSDAY

- The Lake House presents “A New Normal: Moving on After the Loss of a Partner,” 6-7 p.m.

21 FRIDAY

- Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Candlelight Stroll, 5-8 p.m., also on Dec. 22, for more information see page 42.

25 TUESDAY - Christmas Day

27 THURSDAY

- LWVMI Voter Registration Day Rally at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, 11 a.m.

28 FRIDAY

- Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Candlelight Stroll, 5-8 p.m., also on Dec. 29, for more information see page 42.

31 MONDAY - New Year’s Eve

January

01 TUESDAY - New Year’s Day

07 MONDAY

- Detroit Waldorf School Parent-Child Classes, \$200 for six sessions: Mondays, Jan. 7 - Feb. 18 (no class Jan. 21) or Fridays, Jan. 11 - Feb. 15, children 1-3 years old and their parents enjoy a morning of songs, movement, circle time, crafts, snacks and conversation, 9:30-11:30 a.m., call (313) 822-0300 for questions.

09 WEDNESDAY

- Grosse Pointe Park’s Pasta in the Park, Mary Lou Muer and Blue Pointe Restaurant serve up all you can eat pasta

dinners with salad and rolls, 5-6 p.m. seating and 6:30-7:30 p.m. seating, you can bring your own wine, \$10 per person, must be purchased in advance, contact Jackie at (313) 822-2812 ext. 201.

12 SATURDAY

- Grosse Pointe Historical Society Rockhopper Penguin Fleece Scarf at the Provencal-Weir House, \$15 per member, \$20 per non-member, 1-3 p.m.

14 MONDAY

- GPCC Business After Hours at Colosseum International Salon & Day Spa, 5:30-7 p.m.

15 TUESDAY

- Grosse Pointe Woods Senior Lunch and Movie: The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel, register by Jan. 4, \$9 for residents, \$11 for non-residents, 12-4 p.m.

19 SATURDAY

- 2013 Winter Master Gardener Class at WCCCD Campus Center, classes held Saturday mornings, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

21 MONDAY - Martin Luther King Day

24 THURSDAY

- DIA Art Appreciation Series: Women and Art, Female Trailblazers at Grosse Pointe War Memorial, \$15 per lecture, \$5 per student, 7-8:30 p.m.

26 SATURDAY

- Grosse Pointe City Ninth Annual Winter Fest

29 TUESDAY

- GPCC Annual Meeting and Pointer of Distinction Awards at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 6-9 p.m.
- Memory Screening at Nursing Unlimited, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

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HE'S A JOLLY GOODFELLOW!



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

How'd you like to have a \$1.2 million budget and 12 months a year to go Christmas shopping? Sounds like fun, right? Well, for Grosse Pointe Farms resident Conrad Koski, it's more than fun. It's not only serious business, it's a labor of love.

The 67-year old Koski, a practicing CPA, has for the last 30 years served as head of purchasing and distribution operations for the 98-year-old Old Newsboys' Goodfellow Fund of Detroit. Like many of the 300 Goodfellows members, he became a volunteer worker because he received Goodfellows Christmas packages as a child.

"My dad was a Detroit police officer who died in an accident when I was 8," Koski explains. "My Mom had to raise us kids and there wasn't a lot of money. Things were tough at Christmastime. If it wasn't for the Goodfellows we wouldn't have had anything from Santa. Now it's 'give back' time."

Over those 30 years, Koski has become Santa to some 32,000 Detroit area boys and girls between the ages of 5 and 13. Accordingly, his shopping list is huge and takes literally months to complete.

"When you're shopping for things like 325,000 pairs of socks, 36,000 sweatshirts and sweat pants, 40,000 mittens and gloves, 11,000 dolls, 6,400 teddy bears, 46,000 toys and 150,000 age-appropriate books, you have to get started early to get the best prices," Koski says, smiling.

"This year I had to buy everything from 24,000 coloring books for the little ones to 11,000 math flash cards for the older kids. And, of course, 36,000 packages of Christmas candy, too."




Conrad Koski

Once the Goodfellows' warehouse is filled, the packaging and shipping to seven Detroit-area distribution centers is handled under Koski's direction by another Grosse Pointe resident, Emmett Iglesias. Yet another Grosse Pointer, Dr. Michael Jennings, a member of the Michigan Dental Foundation, sees to it that the packages contain \$35,000 worth of tooth brushes, paste and dental hygiene kits.

Even a Grosse Pointe Woods retailer, The Pointe After, gets in the

act. "We buy our sweatshirts and have the silk-screening done there," Koski says. "They give us a great deal."

Who's Koski's best Christmas customer? "We have one mom who asks for 12 gift packages," he says. "She breaks the packages down and wraps each item separately for each of the 12 kids. Just like Santa brought them."

Want to help? Send tax-deductible donations to GOODFELLOWS, c/o Pete Waldmeir, 514 Hollywood, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236. Detroit Goodfellows is a 501 (c)(3) charity. 

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



Conrad Koski, in background, supervises Grosse Pointe South students assisting Goodfellows in boxing gift packages for 'kiddies.'

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Ahee

Timing is everything. Over a billion years ago and some 320 miles beneath the surface of the Earth, a miraculous process began. With the help of intense volcanic heat and enormous pressure, our planet gave birth to the diamonds you see here.

These are 65 carats of the most precious and most beautiful materials ever created by nature. In the hands of the Ahee family experts, these treasures, in the purest of color, were crafted and designed into settings made of platinum, one of the rarest metals in the world. The result is 65-carat necklace, bracelet, and earrings set that is truly one for the ages.

Coincidentally, just in time for Ahee Jewelers' 65th Anniversary.

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