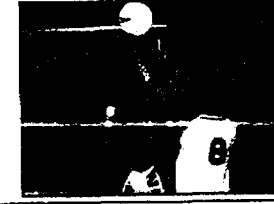


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Feature
 Unchaperoned senior trips: Are they a good idea?
 —1B



Sports
 South spikers clinch title
 —1C



Grosse Pointe News

Serving the five Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods

Vol. 65 • No. 8 • 38 pages

Grosse Pointe, Michigan

Home Delivery 71¢

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February 19, 2004

INSIDE

■ Crime in Grosse Pointe Woods rose 6.5 percent in 2003, but the number of crimes were the second-lowest in the past 10 years. Page 3A

■ The Pointes' current and former state representatives think Gov. Jennifer Granholm should have done her homework before proposing a community service requirement for merit scholars. Page 3A.

■ Lansing representatives are backing legislation to protect the nurturing role grandparents play in the upbringing of grandchildren. Page 3A.

■ Two Grosse Pointe North seniors try to discover the oldest stars in the Milky Way galaxy. Page 13A.

■ Elementary and middle school enrollment declines, high school enrollment goes up. Page 14A.

■ Grosse Pointe South's basketball team got contributions from several different players last week as the Blue Devils upset Macomb Area Conference Red Division leader Eisenhower 55-49. Page 1C.

WEEK AHEAD

Monday, Feb. 23

Rep. Edward Gaffney, R-Grosse Pointe Farms, holds an open office hour from 9 to 10 a.m. in the first floor conference room at the Grosse Pointe Park City Hall.

Services for Older Citizens presents a talk about starting a walking program aimed at lowering risks for heart attacks, strokes and diabetes at 11:15 a.m. at the Neighborhood Club. Peggy Kurza, who is with Bon Secours Cottage Health Services, will discuss the benefits of brisk walking and how to keep track of how far you walk each day.

For more information, call Susan Kopf at (313) 882-9600.

The Grosse Pointe Park City Council meets at the Park city hall at 7 p.m.

The Grosse Pointe Public Library Board meets at the Neighborhood Club at 7 p.m.

The City of Grosse Pointe and Grosse Pointe Woods city councils meet in their respective city halls at 7:30 p.m.

The Most Rev. Thomas J. Gumbleton, auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Detroit, will address a public forum sponsored by Pointes for Peace at 7:30 p.m. at St. Ambrose Catholic Church.

For more information, call Carol Bendure at (313) 882-7732 or Mary Read at (313) 822-2702 or e-mail pointesforpeace@yahoo.com.

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	Wholesale Water	Wholesale Sewage	Total Wholesale	Total Retail	Markup %
Grosse Pointe Farms	6.13	15.20	21.15	38.06(a)	1691/80
Grosse Pointe Shores	11.01	7.94	18.95	39.25	2030/107
Harper Woods (part of)	7.84	7.94	15.58	36.77(a)	2219/142

(a) Based on water consumption of 1,000 cubic feet or 7,500 gallons per month.
 (b) Recycling fee not included.

Granholm's budget means \$5.2 million shortfall for GP

By Carrie Cunningham
 Staff Writer

Governor Jennifer Granholm's recently unveiled budget proposal will result in a shortfall of \$5.2 million for the Grosse Pointe Public School system in the 2004-05 school year, assistant superintendent for business affairs and support services Chris Fenton said.

The school system will not have its mid-year pupil cut of \$74 restored, meaning that the funding amount will remain the same.

Additionally, the retirement rate paid by local school districts will increase from 12.99 percent to 14.87 percent, resulting in \$1.1 million in added retirement

costs for the 2004-05 year. This move increases earlier projections of a \$4 to 4.8 million shortfall to \$5.2 million.

Cuts in the 20-J state categorical funds are also still possible, Fenton said.

These cuts are troubling the school system, which has already seen cuts of \$1.9 million last year and \$3.1 million this year.

Fenton said the budget pinch increases the necessity for the sinking fund, which the school system has asked voters to consider in an election on March 16.

The measure would impose a 1-mill levy for six years raising \$2.8 million each year. The money would go toward mid-range

repair projects, thereby freeing up money in the general fund for instructional purposes.

Rep. Edward Gaffney R-Grosse Pointe, who has been working with the district to protect funds, is also concerned.

"The sting of previous cuts to Michigan schools is still being felt in the Grosse Pointe public schools," he said.

Gaffney said he would keep working legislatively for Grosse Pointe schools.

"Maintaining the high quality of education in the Grosse Pointe public schools is a top priority for me. In this round of budget negotiations, I will continue to fight for education and for our students," he said.

Water bills vary from city to city

By Bonnie Caprara
 Staff Writer

As wholesale water and sewage charges to cities vary much, so do markups passed along by those cities, according to a comparison of bills conducted by the Grosse Pointe News.

Combined wholesale water and sewage prices based on per 1,000 cubic feet (MCF), or 7,500 gallons, of water ranged from \$13.99 in Grosse Pointe Woods to \$20.81 in the City of Grosse Pointe.

Average monthly retail bills based on the MCF benchmark ranged from \$39.25 in Grosse Pointe Shores to \$45.55 in Grosse Pointe Park.

Average retail markups based on the MCF per month factor ranged from 80 percent in Grosse Pointe Farms, where an average monthly bill based on the MCF factor is \$40.39, to 195 percent in the Woods, where an average monthly bill based on the MCF factor is \$41.40.

Depending on use from community to community, those averages may or not change.

"It's not like comparing apples to apples," several city administrators have said.

Confusing? Here's why.

Fixed and variable costs

Not all municipalities bill for water and sewage in the same way. The Park and the Woods bill their customers bimonthly. The City, Farms, Shores and Harper Woods bill their customers quarterly.

The City and Shores assess billing solely on variable rates.

"We see no reason to split up our water bill," said Shores Village Superintendent Michael Kenyon.

"We bill at a variable rate for the simplicity of billing; it's easy to understand," said

City Finance Director Glenn Mach.

The Farms, Park, Woods and Harper Woods blend their markups into their variable and fixed costs. The Farms assesses \$16.50 flat charge and a \$6.15 water improvement charge onto every quarterly bill. The Park bills its sewage charge as a flat rate of \$38 in every bimonthly bill regardless of water usage. The Woods tacks on a \$19.30 meter charge, an \$8 capital improvement charge and a \$1.30 billing charge onto every bimonthly bill. Harper Woods charges \$1.50 for a meter charge on every quarterly bill.

"The city felt the water improvement and flat charges would help stabilize the revenue stream so that if we had a low usage year, we wouldn't get hit hard," Farms Controller John Modzinski said.

"That's just the way it's always been done," Harper Woods City Manager Jim Leidlein said.

However, there are some advantages for consumers when municipalities break down their variable and fixed charges.

For instance, if a Shores customer uses 2,000 cubic feet of water a month instead of 1,000 cubic feet of water a month, his or her water bill goes up 100 percent.

If a Park customer, who pays \$38 in fixed charges in every two-month billing cycle, increases water consumption from 1,000 cubic feet of water per month to 2,000 cubic feet of water per month, his or her bill will only go up 66 percent.

"If a customer (in the Park) doubles his or her water use, his or her bill would be less as it would be if he or she lived in the Shores," Park City Manager Dale Krajniak said.

See WATER, page 2A

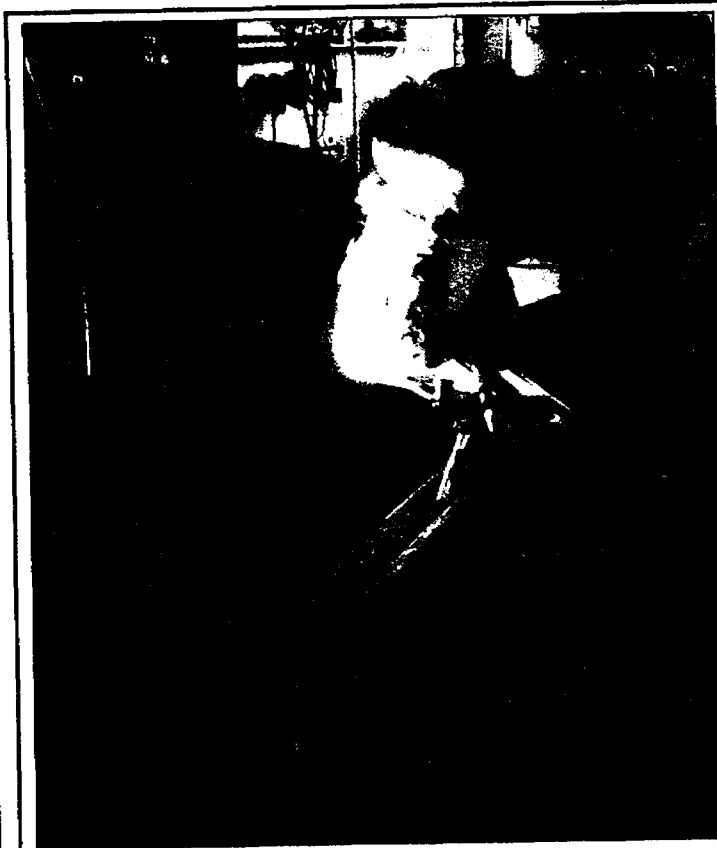


Photo by Brad Lindberg

Winter welding

Maintaining snowplows is important if equipment is to be available during storms. Kevin Webb of the Grosse Pointe Farms public works department outfits a sidewalk plow with a fitting that will apply more downward pressure on the blade, resulting in greater efficiency when clearing snow. Cold winter weather has caused a slight increase in road salt usage this year in the Pointes, but ample supplies are on hand.

POINTER OF INTEREST

Jim Mansfield

Home: G.P. Park

Age: 60

Family: Single; son, Brian Mansfield, 33, is a Lieutenant in the Air Force and a former member of the Thunderbirds aerial demonstration team.

Occupation: Retired U.S. Air Force officer; retired Westin Hotel operations manager

Quote: "There's nothing more important than friendship."



Jim Mansfield

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yesterday's headlines

50 years ago this week

■ Designs of the Detroit University-Grosse Pointe Country Day School now under way on Cook Road in Grosse Pointe Woods win national honors for the architectural firm of Lineweber, Yamasaki and Hellmuth.

■ Jack Simpson's Shoe Repair shop, located at 17018 Kercheval in the City of Grosse Pointe, is torn down to make way for a two-story structure.

Simpson's building dated to 1914. At that time, it was a grocery store operated by Henry O'Hooghe.

25 years ago this week

■ Composite scores on this year's Michigan Education Assessment Program unofficially earn the Grosse Pointe school district the number one ranking in the state.

■ Seniors Onward for

Change, or SOC, continue preparations to establish a minor home repair program in four Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods.

SOC officials are lining up individuals and contractors to carry out the program, which will be reserved for such small tasks as fixing leaky faucets and minor roof work.

10 years ago this week

■ Grosse Pointe Farms residents could become owners of 5.6 acres of commercial property at the southeast corner of Mack and Moross.

If the transaction goes through, it will cost a Farms resident who owns a \$200,000 home approximately \$100 per year in additional city taxes over 10 years.

■ A 17-year-old Grosse Pointe Park man is bound over in 36th District Court on charges of felonious assault stemming from the October stabbing of a 16-year-old Woods man.

The altercation occurred during late-night hours at Detroit's Angel Park at the foot of Alter Road. The victim suffered two stab wounds, one to the leg, the other to the back where it collapsed a lung.

5 years ago this week

■ U.S. District Judge Nancy Edmunds rejects arguments that members of the Grosse Pointe Shores village council have a conflict of interest regarding expansion of the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club harbor.

Edmunds says grounds for a suit by Neighbors concerned about Yacht Club Expansion (NYCE) were "iffy at best." She indicates the dispute could be addressed by the electorate.

■ A referendum of Grosse Pointe Shores residents reject the idea of joining with the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club to apply for a government permit to expand and modernize their joint harbors.

50 years ago this week



Gridiron greats attend Scout dinner

When the St. Paul Cub Scouts held their Father and Son dinner this month, much of the attention centered around George Wilson, left, assistant coach of the Detroit Lions, and Bob Smith, halfback of the world championship team. (Photo by Fred Runnells. From the Feb. 18, 1954 Grosse Pointe News.)

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WATER

From page 1

Recycling charges

In the early 1990s when area municipalities added recycling pickup to their city services, they were challenged on how to incorporate the new costs into their budgets.

The City, Farms, Park and Harper Woods chose to add user fees for recycling pickup into their water and

sewer bills.

In the City, where customers are charged \$7 every three months for recycling pickup, Mach said, "We didn't want to send a separate bill for that. It wouldn't have been worth it."

The Farms also charges \$7 every three months for recycling pickup.

"That was the decision of the city council," Modzinski said. "It felt it was the most equitable way to distribute that cost."

Harper Woods, whose council also made its decision to bill customers directly for recycling pickup, passes along a charge of \$2 to its customers in their quarterly water bills. The Park passes along a bimonthly fixed charge of \$3.30 per month for recycling pickup.

Monies collected for recycling pickup are not considered water/sewer fund revenues in any of the cities.

Markups

In a sample comparison of water/sewage bills, there was a considerable range in

wholesale to retail markup costs on the MCF per month benchmark — from 80 percent in Grosse Pointe Farms (when recycling charges are not included) to 195 percent in Grosse Pointe Woods — although markups can vary depending on use and each municipality's variable and/or fixed cost formulas.

Modzinski credited the Farms' relatively low markup rate by the city's efforts in carefully planning its capital improvement projects.

Maison said the Woods has taken on a number of considerable projects in the past 11 years.

"We have a four-year note on our water meter replacement in which our last payment is in August," Maison said. "Plus we have a bond we took out in 1993 for water improvement projects that will be paid in 2007, and the repayment of our Mack Avenue water main replacement bond won't be finalized until 2023."

However, the Woods' markup will creep beyond the 200 percent markup on

Water/sewage bills issued quarterly*

City of Grosse Pointe	
Water/sewage charge (v)	\$120.00
Recycling (f)	7.00
Total	\$127.00
Per month cost	\$42.33
Grosse Pointe Farms	
Water charge (v)	\$32.43
Sewage treatment charge (v)	59.10
Water improvement charge (v)	6.15
Recycling (f)	7.00
Flat charge (f)	16.50
Total	\$121.18
Per month cost	\$40.39
Grosse Pointe Shores	
Water/sewage charge (v)/total	\$117.75
Per month cost	\$39.25
Harper Woods	
Water/sewage charge (v)	\$118.50
Meter charge (f)	1.50
Refuse/recycle (f)	2.00
Total	\$122.00
Per month cost	\$40.66

*Based on water consumption of 1,000 cubic feet per month.
(v) Indicates variable charge
(f) indicates fixed charge

March 1. Most of markup will be realized in its variable water and sewage charges in which customers will see a 0.70 percent to 11.79 percent increase in their bills.

"It's all dependent upon how much water you use," Maison said.

The Park, which passes along a 166 percent markup, spends a considerable amount of its markup paying off its 20-year note on its sewer separation bond.

Harper Woods has not taken on any significant water and sewage projects in the past several years. However, it deals with two separate systems of wholesale sewage billing. The wholesale sewage for a large part of the city is billed through the Northeast Sewage System, which also is comprised of Shores,

Woods and St. Clair Shores. That consortium pays a variable wholesale sewage rate of \$7.94 MCF. A small portion of the city pays \$23.43 MCF directly to the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department.

"We blend those rates together," said Finance Director Laura Stowell.

In the meantime, Leidlein said, "We'll be appealing the portion of our sewage that is billed through DWSD. It has quietly crept up on us. This spring, we'll put some meters in those pits to get some accurate readings."

The Shores passes a 107 percent markup to its customers. The village has realized some savings in refinancing its sewer separation bond in 2002. It has not passed along any retail

See WATER, page 3A

Water/sewage bills issued bimonthly*

Grosse Pointe Park	
Water charge (v)	\$49.80
Sewage charge (f)	38.00
Recycling charge (f)	3.30
Total	\$91.10
Per month cost	\$45.55
Grosse Pointe Woods	
Water charge (v)	\$15.60
Sewage charge (v)	38.60
Capital improvement (f)	8.00
Meter charge (f)	19.30
Billing charge (f)	1.30
Total	\$82.80
Per month cost	\$41.40

*Based on water consumption of 1,000 cubic feet per month.
(v) Indicates variable charge
(f) indicates fixed charge

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Amira Soheim, M.D., 20340 Harper Ave. Harper Woods

Last week ended on bear note, Dow up slightly

The Dow squeezed out an up tick of 35 points, closing last week at 10,628, slightly above its top 10,600 channel. Walt Disney (DIS), about 26.92, up 3.57 last week) contributed to the Dow's rise.

The tech stocks on nasdaq posted their 4th consecutive weekly decline, drifting down 10 points to close at 2,054. Comcast (CMCSA, about 29.90, off 3.48) was a major factor in nasdaq's slight decline last week.

Individual investors remain bullish, pouring \$4 billion net cash inflows into equity mutual funds for the week ended Wednesday, Feb. 11th.

Investment bankers are cheered by the revival of blockbuster merger and acquisition deals. Each announcement involves scores of bankers, attorneys and consultants for each side, and even more if a "White Knight" (another buyer) appears to "up the ante."

Institutional investors reacted favorably to the JP Morgan acquisition of Bank One (awaiting closing) and the unsolicited bid for Walt Disney last week by Comcast.

Individual investors' confidence is strengthened by the premiums offered for museum-quality companies. Main Street is impressed that Wall Street pays above-market prices, a sign that the overall market should work higher.

Congressional testimony last week sparked a 124-point rally that Wednesday afternoon, only to be almost wiped out by Friday's profit-taking, in anticipation of this week's market holiday.

The Fed Chairman also said the economy "has made impressive gains," but progress "has been limited" in job creation. He also redefined what he meant about being "patient" before raising rates.

But the economic traffic light turned yellow later last week. The US dollar weakened against both the yen and the euro. The euro has gained 50 percent since its \$0.85 in 2000 to its present \$1.28.

The trade deficit hit a record \$489 billion last year, 17 percent larger than its previous record in 2002.

Also unnerving was the news that the Univ. of Michigan consumer sentiment index collapsed to 93.1 in early February from January's 103.8. This 10.7-point drop was contrary to economists' forecasts of a slight increase.

OPEC, concluding its February meeting last week, announced a proposed crude oil production cut of 1 million barrels (1 barrel is 42 gallons) per day, commencing April 1. Crude oil closed last Friday at 34.56/bbl., up 2.08/bbl. from the prior week.

Who pays for your 401(k) plan

Let's talk... STOCKS

By Joseph Mengden



"Pay-to-Play" — Did you know that many mutual funds are paying to appear on your 401(k) investment menu? But, these revenue-sharing arrangements are not being disclosed to you, as the 401(k) plan member.

Your employer selects a vendor as the 401(k) Administrator — usually a mutual fund, brokerage, insurer, bank or consultant — to oversee the plan's daily operations.

Most employee plan members have no idea how much their 401(k) plan expenses are or who pays them. Most think their 401(k)'s are free.

Since all mutual fund earnings belong to the plan member, and all expenses are deducted from earnings, you, the plan member actually pay all fees, which are not disclosed because they have been buried. The New York Times (Feb. 15) featured a lengthy article, "A 401(k) Picks a Mutual Fund. Who Gets a Perk?", which describes the "Pay-to-Play" game used by about 90 percent of the 401(k) plans.

Lynn O'Shaughnessy, NYT reporter wrote, "Under revenue-sharing arrangements, often called 'bundling,' workers pay

401(k) costs based on how much money they have in their accounts, not how much it costs to manage them," which is estimated at \$100 to \$150 per year.

The typical mutual fund pays the administrator an annual revenue-sharing fee of 1/4 of 1 percent to 1 percent of the assets in a worker's account. Payment is made out of the mutual fund's 12b-1 expense account, labeled as "marketing and distribution."

But, employers can structure a 401(k) without revenue-sharing fees. IBM's 401(k) pays an average annual expense ratio of only 1/10 of 1 percent for the plan's investments, which are administered by institutional money managers.

When account balances average \$20,000, or higher, consultants urge employers to unbundle (a) record-keeping, (b) administration, and (c) investment management, and put these functions out separately for the bid.

Others urge selecting only low-expense mutual funds, or use only the lowest cost investments, like exchange funds.

The S.E.C. and the New York Attorney General have

begun to investigate 401(k) plans and their corporate sponsors, who fail to monitor costs. The inquiries are reported to be in an early phase, with no charges filed yet.

Joseph Mengden is a resident of the City of Grosse Pointe and former chairman of First of Michigan. "Let's Talk Stocks" is sponsored by the following Grosse Pointe investment-related firms: John M. Rickel CPA, P.C. and Rickel & Baun P.C.

Stock Market at a Glance	
Friday Close, 2/13/04	
Dow Jones Ind.....	10,628
Nasdaq Comp.....	2,054
S&P 500 Index.....	1,146
\$ in EUROS.....	1.2743
Crude Oil (Bbl.).....	34.56
Gold (Oz.).....	410.30
3-Mo. T-Bills.....	0.90%
30-Yr. T-Bonds.....	4.92%

Business People



Kevin G. Liederbach of Grosse Pointe Park was elected to serve on the board of directors of Henry Ford Village, a retirement community managed by Erickson.

Liederbach, a vice president and treasurer for Ford Motor Land Development Corp., will help guide operations at the 1,250-resident retirement community built on the birth site of Henry Ford in Dearborn.

Flagstar Bank recently named Nathan M. Steiner of Grosse Pointe Farms a mortgage loan officer.

In his new position, Steiner is responsible for providing financing for new home purchases as well as refinancing for existing properties. Previously, he served as assistant loan officer.

Steiner is a recent graduate of the Eli Broad College of Business at Michigan State University.

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A monkey, his car and his cell phone

By Michael Maurer

We interrupt our regular scheduled column for this important announcement: There are a number of things to cover this week, but first I have a request. Send me your questions.

Does your computer, or a program, require a password when you didn't install one? Have you wondered what those "F" keys at the top of the keyboard are for? Do you have to maximize a program's initial screen every time you open it? Do you have to switch back and forth from keyboard and mouse too many times? Does your chewing gum lose its flavor...never mind.

My e-mail address is below and I have assembled a cracked team...I mean a crack team, to help solve those nasty little problems or inconveniences. So give me a whirl, or an e-mail, if you don't dance. I look forward to hearing from you and using my sources to make you think I'm a computer wizard.

We now return you to your regularly scheduled program...umm...column.

March is Women's History Month, and Farmington Hills-based database and content company, Thomson Gale, has announced a free Web site full of history, biographies, literature and activities to help families and students observe the month.

And since 2004 is a presidential election year there's a special focus on women in politics.

Each week in March, one lucky user who has taken the site's weekly quiz will win Thomson Gale reference materials. Find out more at the Web site gale.com.

There are biographies of everyone from Joan of Arc to Abigail Adams to Charlize Theron to Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm.

Last week I wrote about Wayne State University's Walter Reuther Library "Virtual Motor City" photo collection. The treasure trove of Detroit News photos of the city from 1973 to 1983 is now available. The starting point for the Web site is lib.wayne.edu. Then you follow the links.

If you don't laugh, or at least chuckle, at the end of this next item, you need serious assistance from a neurologically oriented medicinal practitioner. (That means a shrink, but I get paid by the word.)

The Cranbrook Institute of Science in Oakland County and Verizon Wireless have announced an agreement to offer free Cranbrook museum admission to those bringing in wireless phones that are no longer used. The phones and accessories are then refurbished and resold, or recycled.

All proceeds benefit

Pointers on Technology
By Mike Maurer

Verizon Wireless' HopeLine program, which offers new wireless phones to domestic violence survivors and agencies. The program has collected more than a million wireless phones from consumers since 1995. It also prevents the dumping of more than 200 tons of electronics waste into landfills. Learn more at the Web site verizonwireless.com/hope-line.

The program runs during the duration of the Cranbrook museum's "Chimpanzee Challenge" exhibit, which runs from now through Sunday, May 2. Here it comes.

The exhibit allows visitors to experience the real-life challenges and threats facing chimpanzees in the wild, such as "driving a car and talking on a cell phone at the same time." Their words, not mine.

For this next item, I'm going to assume you know what friendship Web sites are, exactly what the name says. Go there and find a friend. But...

If you have signed up with

Friendster, Tribe or Plaxo, your privacy is at risk.

A security program out of Australian National University said those Web sites are "harvesting" members' address books as part of the network set-up process.

Every IP address, every e-mail and every social-network relationship that arises appears to be entirely free of any express contractual constraints. That means they can use the information culled from your participation any way they want. And that is definitely a bad thing. By the way, the bad guys are called marketroids and stalkers.

Now I have to see if Cheetah will give me back my cell phone. I can't get a dial tone on his banana.

Have a tech question or subject you would like addressed in this column? Want to comment or add your two cents worth? My e-mail address is mtmaurer@comcast.net.

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The deadline for news copy is Monday 3:00 p.m. to insure insertion.

Advertising copy for Sections "B" and "C" must be in the advertising department by 10:30 a.m. on Monday. The deadline for advertising copy for Section A is 5:00 p.m. Monday.

CORRECTIONS AND ADJUSTMENTS: Responsibility for display and classified advertising error is limited to either cancellation of the charge for or a return of the portion in error. Notification must be given in time for correction in the following issue. We assume no responsibility of the same after the first insertion.

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November 18, 2003	7:00 p.m.	Clinton Township Civic Center 40700 Romeo Plank Road Clinton Township, MI. 48036 586.286.9313
November 20, 2003	7:00 p.m.	Village of Grosse Pointe Shores 795 Lake Shore Road Grosse Pointe Shores, MI. 48236 313.881.6565
January 13, 2004	7:00 p.m.	Village of Grosse Pointe Shores 795 Lake Shore Road Grosse Pointe Shores, MI. 48236 313.881.6565
March 9, 2004	7:00 p.m.	City of Harper Woods 1961 Harper Avenue Harper Woods, MI. 48225 313.343.2500
May 11, 2004	7:00 p.m.	City of Grosse Pointe Woods 20025 Mack Avenue Grosse Pointe Woods, MI. 48236 313.343.2440

For further information, please contact our General Counsel:

John J. Gillooly
Garan Lucow Miller, P.C.
1000 Woodbridge Street
Detroit, MI. 48207
313.446.5501

Grosse Pointe Woods sees crime increase in 2003 Stats, however, are 2nd lowest in 10 years

By Bonnie Caprara
Staff Writer

Crime in Grosse Pointe Woods rose 6.5 percent in 2003, but the number of crimes were the second-lowest in the past 10 years.

Part 1 crimes in the Woods fell from 262 in 2002 to 243 in 2003, representing a 7.25 percent decrease.

There were three robberies in the Woods in 2003, two less than the year before.

Felonious assaults fell from 10 in 2002 to four in 2003. The number of larcenies fell from 191 in 2002 to 172 in 2003. There was one sexual conduct complaint and no reports of arson or homicides.

There was, however, a significant increase in motor vehicle thefts from 19 in 2002 to 31 in 2003.

"We arrested several people, and so have the rest of the Pointes, most of them teens," Public Safety Director Michael Makowski said. "We're part of a task force that is looking into these thefts. Luckily, we're recovering 95 percent of these cars."

Part 2 crimes — which include minor assault, narcotics and weapon violations and drunken driver arrests — rose 12.8 percent from 2002 to 2003.

Assaults rose from 17 in 2002 to 32 in 2003, narcotics violations rose from three in 2002 to 14 in 2003, and OUIL arrests rose from 46 in 2002 to 55 in 2003.

"We have more aggressive enforcement, and the lower alcohol limit has to do with the increase," Makowski said.

The department also saw a sharp rise in narcotics-related arrests — up from three in 2002 to 14 in 2003.

"We've made a lot of these arrests during traffic stops," Makowski said. "I hope it's not an upward trend."

Makowski said the economy, and sometimes an election year, can be indicators of crime and narcotics use.

Total arrests, however, were down from 583 in 2002 to 542 in 2003. The number of traffic tickets was down, too, from 7,056 written in 2002 to 5,138 in 2003.

"It's because we had six new officers who were in training during 2003," Makowski said. "Because they ride with field training officers, that's 12 people I had in training for 14 weeks."

The new public safety hires amassed a total of 3,360 hours of in-house training.

The rest of the department took part in slightly

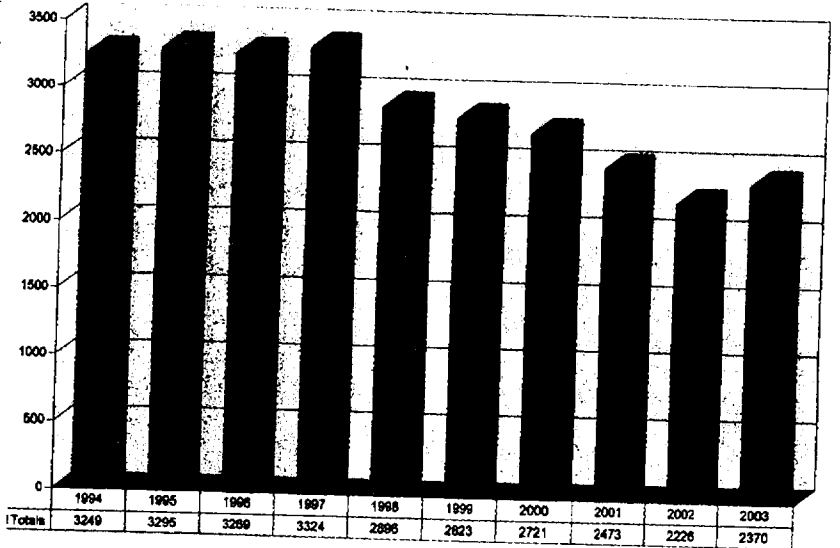
more in-house training — 3,537 hours.

"There's some training they need to keep up on for certification such as our Datamaster," Makowski said. "They're also being trained on new equipment such as our Tasers. There are legal updates. There's a lot of technology we're adding. We try to keep our officers updated on a lot of new techniques."

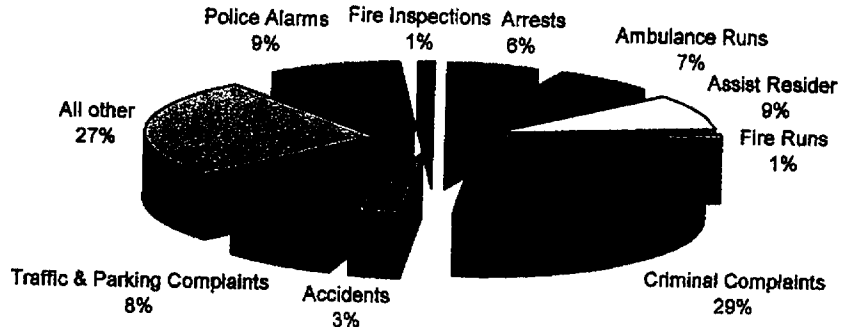
Overall, the department devoted the following percentages of time to its operations as follows:

- Investigating criminal complaints: 29 percent;
- All other: 27 percent;
- Responding to police alarms: 9 percent;
- Assisting residents: 9 percent;
- Responding to traffic and parking complaints: 8 percent;
- Ambulance runs: 7 percent;
- Processing arrests: 6 percent;
- Investigating accidents: 3 percent;
- Conducting fire inspections: 1 percent; and
- Fire inspections: 1 percent.

"It's a lot of work we do because we're doing the work of three departments," Makowski said. "There are a lot of services to provide."



PUBLIC SAFETY ACTIVITY



Gaffney sees no merit in Gov's scholarship idea

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

The Pointes' current and former state representatives think Gov. Jennifer Granholm should have done her homework before proposing extra duties for merit scholars.

Granholm said she'll ask next year's class of college-bound high school seniors to do more than master MEAP tests in order to win state-funded \$2,500 merit scholarships.

She wants to add "at least" 40 hours of community service. Work would have to be completed before winning students graduate high school.

"Merit does not only mean one's ability to pass a standardized test," Granholm said last week in her 2004 State of the State speech. "To be meritorious is something nobler than that."

"I wouldn't have made that requirement," said Ed Gaffney, R-Grosse Pointe Farms. "Merit should be based on merit. If you're a merit scholar you should get the \$2,500."

Granholm recommended high school seniors contribute their time helping senior citizens, mentor elementary students and volunteer at homeless shelters.

Students in Greg Heffner's environmental science class at Grosse Pointe South High School trumped

Granholm's suggestion that highschoolers volunteer to help clean Michigan waterways.

Each spring for the last few years, classmates have donated labor during the Nautical Coastal Cleanup. Students spend a Sunday walking up and down the Lake St. Clair shoreline filling garbage bags with debris and litter.

"I'm a big believer in community service, particularly for young people," said Heffner, whose school last week received the state's A rating for quality education. "There's too much expectation for kids that the world owes them a living."

"We don't have a district requirement for community education," said Dr. Marjorie Parsons, the district's assistant superintendent of curriculum and evaluation. "Our kids are involved in so many things, we've never felt we had to formalize it. If the state does, we'll cooperate."

Merit scholarships have become a tasty carrot for Grosse Pointe high school students and parents seeking a break from increasing costs of higher education.

Last year, approximately 600 students from the Pointes and Harper Woods earned the award.

Money can only be used at Michigan colleges and universities.

Legislation creating the program was introduced by Gaffney's term-limited predecessor, Andrew Richner, a Grosse Pointe Park Republican.

"There is a need and place for scholarships based on merit," said Richner, who now holds state-wide office as a University of Michigan regent. "We have scholarship programs of all variety. Very few are based strictly on merit."

Richner doesn't think students who qualify for the program should be singled out for community service.

"There are all kinds of government benefits provided to residents of the state," he said. "Why should we put these regulations on a scholarship program and not on others: welfare, healthcare and everything else."

Facing a huge budget deficit upon wining office, Granholm wanted to cut scholarships to \$500. Gaffney and other Republican legislators saved the program at its original funding level.

As a high school student growing up in Connecticut, Gaffney had his hands full juggling homework with working at a grocery store.

"I don't want to see anyone who earned a scholarship by his or her test score have to do community service," Gaffney said.

Detective Rick Good received a citation for spearheading a successful investigation of a professional burglar who specialized in houses.

Ferber noted Good's "careful and precise attention to detail" during the investigation.

"His unwavering persistence led to the recovery of stolen items, which included a string of ocean pearls that tied the burglary suspect to yet another home invasion," Ferber said.

The suspect turned out to be responsible for home invasions in the Farms, City, Park and Woods.

"As the result of Detective Good's initiative and professional ability, a professional residential burglar was arrested and convicted of multiple charges of home invasion," Ferber said.

Lansing backs Grandparents

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

LANSING — The ties that bind are being strengthened.

Lansing representatives are backing legislation to protect the nurturing role grandparents play in the lives of grandchildren.

House Bill 5039 has completed a nearly half-year of debate and testimony with minor changes from what Rep. Edward Gaffney, R-Grosse Pointe Farms, introduced in August.

"The bill retains grandparents' right to visit their grandchildren," Gaffney said. "This is a victory for children. Grandparents are an integral part of a child's growth and development."

Yet the wishes of parents take precedence. "This bill provides a presumption in favor of what parents want," Gaffney said. "Grandparents have to overcome the presumption by a preponderance of evidence."

The bill sets standards for judges to grant grandparent visitations. Representatives also want to protect grandchildren from being used as pawns

by feuding elders.

Gaffney's measure was fine-tuned in the House Committee on Judiciary.

Chairman Jim Howell, R-St. Charles, proposed language to dissuade grandparents from bolstering their case for visitation by falsely accusing parents of child abuse.

"If the court finds grandparents allegations are unreasonable, the court shall assess actual attorney fees and costs, which could run into the thousands of dollars," Howell said.

Legislators were trying to prevent a worse-case scenario in which the presentation of false claims of abuse could somehow achieve standing.

"All they have to say is a problem is taking place," said Rep. Ken Bradstreet, R-Gaylord. "There could be no abuse at all. The concept is

onerous."

Instead, legislators limited how often grandparents can petition the court for visitation.

"You can only file a claim once every two years," Gaffney said. "If the judge finds it's an abuse, he or she can award attorney fees and court costs to the other side."

The House bill has been forwarded to the Senate Committee on Senior Citizens and Veteran Affairs. Chairman Sen. Laura Toy, R-Livonia, hasn't taken it up, according to Heather Foley, Toy's chief of staff.

"The Senate has been working on its own bill," Foley said.

In September, Sen. Alan Sanborn, R-Richmond Township, introduced legis-

See GRAND, page 20A

Farms officers earn citations

By Brad Lindberg
Staff Writer

James Farquhar, mayor of Grosse Pointe Farms, says his public safety officers are top-notch.

"They don't just sit in their cars looking for speeders," Farquhar said. "They don't dilly-dally. We have a great group who keep our community safe."

Farquhar spoke recently to a capacity crowd attending a public safety award ceremony during a meeting of the city council.

Two-dozen officers received honors for superior service.

"It makes me feel very proud," said Robert Ferber, director of public safety. "I wouldn't trade 'em pound-for-pound for anybody else in any other department."

Among a long list of award recipients, the follow-

ing three officers received Department Citations:

• PSOs Michael Buckley and Stephen Puckett were honored for their April arrest of a career criminal caught burglarizing a house on Colonial Court.

Responding to a report by a citizen, officers arrived at the scene and positioned themselves at the front and rear of the house.

The suspect tried to escape by diving through a side window.

"After a short foot chase, the suspect, an adult with a long history of burglary arrests, was arrested at gun point," Ferber said. "A search of the suspect revealed property taken from a home invasion in the Farms earlier that day, and not yet reported."

The man was convicted as a habitual felon.

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Park man takes every challenge in stride

By Jennie Miller
Staff Writer

Jim Mansfield can handle every challenge life throws his way.

He took in stride his 20 years of service in the U.S. Air Force, but didn't rest when it was all over. He went on to spend a decade and a half moving up the ranks of the hospitality industry at the Westin Hotel in downtown Detroit. After a second retirement, Mansfield now dedicates his life to the challenges on the golf course; and recently battled one of life's most

POINTER OF INTEREST

devastating tragedies: losing everything he owns in a ravaging fire.

Growing up in Saugus, Mass., a suburb of Boston, Mansfield was the picture of an ideal youth: president of his class at Saugus High School and a star athlete, showcasing his talents in basketball, baseball and football. He decided to enter the Air Force to fight the anxieties he was feeling while studying business at

Boston College. He wanted to travel the world, and the military gave him that opportunity.

"I'm proud of the time I spent in the military," he said, looking back. "I served my country and I served it well. It's a great way of life."

During his 20-year stint, Mansfield traveled around the globe, landing in places like Labrador and Vietnam. Through the experiences, Mansfield made many great friendships.

"With all the friends I made, I could travel straight across the U.S. and never have to spend a night in a hotel," he said.

His last term in the military was spent at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, and he's stuck around in Michigan ever since. He began working part-time at the Westin as the weekend beverage supervisor, a career path that led him to becoming the operations manager for the entire hotel.

"I went into the business with curiosity because I didn't know anything about it," Mansfield explained. "Hospitality is like the military in that it is a structured environment, and you have to produce if you want to be successful. The more I learned about it, the more I liked it. It is a rewarding industry, but it demands a lot of you."

For 17 years, Mansfield worked his way up the ranks before retiring in 1997. For a few years, he lent his expertise to his good friend Dennis Dallacqua, who owned Grumpy's Pub in Grosse Pointe Park. He also moved in to the apartments above the restaurant, a move that later almost cost him his life.

"I was woken up at 6:30 in the morning by Dennis," Mansfield said of the fire that ravaged the building last month. "Once I was out of the building, I turned



Park resident Jim Mansfield's son Brian followed in his footsteps and joined the U.S. Air Force. Pictured above, Mansfield (center) visited his son (right) at Selfridge Air National Guard Base while he was with the Thunderbirds aerial demonstration team. "This was a very proud moment for me," Mansfield said.

around, and you could see the fire. The first thing I thought was, 'Thank God I'm safe.' But the next day, I began to think about everything I lost. I realized I had to start my life over with nothing. That realization crescendos down on you after something like this. But on the other hand, something I learned from the military, is that I realized I had to step back and take one thing at a time. I was so overwhelmed."

Mansfield moved in with his friend, Dave Weber, in East English Village. He began making a list of all the things he needed to take care of, such as handling credit cards and bank accounts, finding a new place to live, buying clothes to wear the next day and somehow contacting his family, whose phone numbers were lost in the blaze.

"It's all the little things you never think of," he said, thinking back to that list. "The list grew to be two legal pads long. I'm happy to say, however, that I've managed to accomplish almost everything I set out to do."

Mansfield found a new apartment on Maryland in

the Park and is settling in on his new furniture.

"It's a very traumatic experience," he said. "You don't realize how difficult it is to restart your life."

But he also gained a positive outlook on the more important things.

"The experience reminded me that there's nothing more important than friendship," he said of the overwhelming support he was given by friends and family.

Weber, who owns the Park pub O'Flaherty's, threw a benefit for Mansfield on Jan. 25. Friends poured in to donate clothing and money, and demonstrate their devotion to the man who is hailed for his unfailing kindness.

"I've known Jimmy for a long time, and he's always helped anyone who needed it," Weber said. "He's a good man."

The benefit was a humbling experience for Mansfield.

"It was overwhelming," he said. "I've never had an experience like that in my whole life. All these things that people have done for me, it means so much. That to me is true friendship, and

I'll never forget it."

In the meantime, Mansfield is watching the weather, hoping for the sun to break.

"I can't wait for summer so I can play some golf," he said, thankful his clubs were spared by the fire.

Mansfield has traveled the country to feed his generous appetite for golf.

"I've been to a lot of places, from California to Florida," he said, hailing his trip to Costa Rica with Dallacqua as his favorite golfing experience.

"We golfed, we went white water rafting, we hiked through the rainforest, and we golfed some more," he laughed. "It was great."

His favorite course is in Myrtle Beach, S.C.

"My buddy from Boston owns a condo on the ocean and lets me use it when I go down there," Mansfield said.

Like his other passions in life, Mansfield enjoys the sport for its challenges.

"I think, as it must be for all golfers, that it's a great challenge to play well consistently," he said.

At 60, Mansfield has proven that he can handle a good challenge.

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Funk rock band Bump to play at Fifth Avenue

Grosse Pointe's own funk rock band, Bump, will headline all three of Detroit's Fifth Avenue blues clubs in a one-week span.

Having just put out its first live album, Bump will perform at Fifth Avenue in downtown Detroit, located on Woodward in Comerica Park on Friday, Feb. 20. The following night, the band will perform at the Fifth Avenue Ballroom in Novi, and conclude with a performance at Fifth Avenue Billiards in Royal Oak on

Friday, Feb. 27.

Bump has been making the transition from college band to full-fledged independent touring machine with ease. In 2003, the group opened for national touring acts such as Ekoostik Hookah, Fareed Haque, MOFRO and The Shantee and GUEST, and drew a sold-out crowd to Detroit's Majestic Theater on the eve of Thanksgiving.

In addition to being nominated for two "Jammies" by WCYE 88.1 FM in Grand

Rapids, Bump was also invited to headline the New Year's Eve 2003 extravaganza at Wise Fools Pub in Chicago. The group was chosen by Entropy Enterprise to record tracks for the soundtrack of its upcoming documentary on youth basketball in Michigan, as well as a live performance on PBS Detroit's Motor Town Music Central airing this month.

Bump will be promoting the Fifth Avenue shows in a live performance on the

Mitch Albom show on Detroit WJR AM 760 on Tuesday, Feb. 24.

Bump's sound combines elements of funk, jazz, Motown and prog with the organic feel of straight-up rock n' roll and the hooks and harmonies of modern pop. The group is comprised of Yorg Kerasiotis, Clint Carpenter, Eric Novak and Chris Sterr, all natives of Grosse Pointe, and Pat Blizinski, who grew up in Eastpointe. The band now resides in Royal Oak.

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TV dinners

While working on a story about cable television rates a few weeks ago, Jerome Espy, Comcast's director of communications for the Michigan region, mentioned in passing that television viewers now watch more cable programming than regular network programming.

That surprised me, but it shouldn't have. I'm one of those viewers.

With so many channels, there's literally a channel for everything: cartoons, history, computers, home and garden, health science, aviation and sports — including specific sports such as golf and motor sports.

One of my favorite channels is Food Network.

I've almost given up on my cookbooks in favor of my satellite TV. On TV, I can pick up meal ideas from the

extravagant to the inexpensive. I can learn to prepare an impressive dish like roast rock cod with fennel and beurre blanc from the likes of Wolfgang Puck with a lot more ease and confidence after watching the step-by-step preparations. If I'm strapped for time, I can learn how to throw together a dinner of cod with fennel and onions paired with gemelli, tuna and cherry tomatoes on "30 Minute Meals."

Of course, there's also Emeril Lagasse and his two shows. Then there are "The Surreal Gourmet," "Sara's Secrets," "Barefoot Contessa" and "Semi-Homemade Cookie with Sandra Lee." Great Britain's sweetheart of the kitchen, Jamie Oliver has three shows of his own: "Jamie's Kitchen," "Oliver's Twist" and "The Naked Chef" (No, he's not naked — the food is!).

Some chefs need shows just to highlight a specific genre of cooking. Bobby Flay



Bonnie Caprara

has two shows on grilling. For the backyard propane kings there's "Hot off the Grill with Bobby Flay." Then there's the uptown New York rooftop-inspired grilling show, "Boy Meets Grill."

Italian cooking almost could have its own network. There are four shows, three of them hosted by Mario Batali.

But finding new recipe and meal ideas isn't the only reason I watch Food Network.

"Good Eats" is another one of my favorite shows. It's part "Bill Nye the Science Guy," part "Saturday Night Live" and part any other

cooking guru you'll see on Food Network. Want a scientific explanation of why egg whites peak better in a copper bowl while learning how to master the perfect angel food cake? Watch "Good Eats."

I'm not one for watching shows such as "The Bachelor," "The Bachelorette" or "My Big Fat Obnoxious Fiance," but I will watch "Date Plate." In this show, two contestants try to woo the heart — and stomach — of a member of the opposite sex by preparing a meal with \$50 worth of groceries under the guidance of a professional chef.

Now that's what I call reality TV. After all, now many people have been wooed by a home-cooked meal?

Speaking of reality TV, many of my Saturday nights are spoken for "The Iron Chef." Each week, one of Japan's top chefs goes *mano-a-mano* against one of the sequined robed Chairman Kaga's hand-picked Iron Chefs.

For those who get their freak factor on by watching people eat worms and bugs, try watching what the battling chefs do with things such as carp and giant eel as appetizers, soups, entrees — and sometimes desserts.

If watching the cult Japanese cooking show seems too surreal, try watching William Shatner in his brocade glory emcee the few rare episodes of the American version of "The Iron Chef." Bean me up, Scotty!

I do, however, get around to watching other networks

and shows on TV. After all, one of the primary reasons I pay for satellite TV is to watch HBO's "The Sopranos," which makes its fifth season debut on March 7.

I'm dying to find out how Tony and Johnny Sac will deal with Carmine, how Tony and Carmella's impending divorce will play out, and if Janice will find true love with Bobby Bacala (and his kids).

I also want to see how many more family scenes are staged around Carmella's baked ziti, Paulie Walnut's spaghetti sauce, a box of Uncle Ben's rice or in Artie Bucco's Vesuvio restaurant.

When aren't these characters eating?

By the way, Artie Bucco's olive oil, balsamic vinegar and marinara sauce are available at www.hbo.com.

Most of all, I want to see if any of the characters will buy any meat from Satriale's pork store.

Grosse Pointe News

February 19, 2004, Page 9A

The Op-Ed Page



Visit the Grosse Pointe Dogs website: <http://gpdogs.keenspace.com>

Streetwise

Question of the Week:

On the week of President's Day, who do you think was the greatest U.S. President and why?



Dan O'Reilly

"(Abraham) Lincoln, because he was in volatile times with the Civil War and slavery."

Dan O'Reilly
Grosse Pointe Park



Gentian Mataj

"(Ronald) Reagan, because he applied the most effective economic policies to date and was the main player in the collapse of communism."

Gentian Mataj
Grosse Pointe Park



Carl DeKeil

"JFK, because the way he handled Cuba is a far cry from Iraq, and there's no question about his service."

Carl DeKeil
Detroit



Nancy Sparrow

"George Washington, because he had the sense to step down after eight years when he could have become a czar."

Nancy Sparrow
City of Grosse Pointe



Anne Fritch

"Jimmy Carter, because he's such a humanitarian, and he's still doing things for Habitat for Humanity."

Anne Fritch
St. Clair Shores



Shirley Caren

"(Jimmy) Carter, because he went beyond being a regular politician. He's a humanitarian."

Shirley Caren
Harrison Township

fyi

by Ben Burns



Pedal Power

Susan Rhee made a 4,000-mile commitment and needs a little help from her friends, acquaintances and anyone else willing to battle the "Big C" and provide a few dollars for cancer research.

The '02 Grosse Pointe North High School graduate has pledged to raise \$3,000

by the end of March for the race to find cures. Then on May 30, Susan and 27 others, having raised \$60,000, will strap on their helmets, climb aboard their bikes and pedal for Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore to San Francisco. They plan to spread the awareness of the need for more cancer research dollars with their ride.

Along the way they will do community service by helping with the Relay for Life in Cleveland and visiting cancer patients at the Midland Hospice in Topeka, KS.

When they reach the Golden Gate Bridge they will donate the \$60,000 to cancer research through the

American Cancer Society.

Susan is a pre-med major in biology with a minor in history at Johns Hopkins. She is the daughter of Dr. Kenny and Mrs. Joanne Rhee of the Woods; her sister Rebecca is a sophomore at North and another sister, Monica graduated from North in '91.

Susan has the typical resume credits of North's top students: concertmaster of the orchestra and the pit orchestra for four years, a member of the National Honor Society who was inducted into the Academic Hall of Fame on graduation, a member of the Valkyries, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and a member of Fiddlepointe and the Science Olympiad. She also played on the tennis team and ran cross-country and track.

"I've always wanted to do something to fight for a good cause," she said. "I have lost some people who were very close to me. This made me very aware of how prevalent cancer is among people of all ages and races."

"The opportunity to spend the summer spreading cancer awareness information and providing hope to cancer victims, not just on a local level but nationwide, struck me as truly amazing."

But not any more amazing than Ms. Rhee. She tells us they will ride 70 to 110 miles each day on this third Hopkins 4K. Donations can be made payable to "Hopkins 4K for Cancer" and sent to Susan Rhee at Wolman No. 3808, 3339 N. Charles St., Baltimore, MD 21218.

If you just want to e-mail her to wish her well on the journey or you have a question, you can contact her at Suz8423@yahoo.com

Top Sailor

It should be no surprise that the Milwaukee Community Sailing Center has named Tim Kent, a Grosse Pointe North High School graduate, "Sailor of the Year." He will be honored at the 10th Anniversary Sailor's Ball in Milwaukee on March 6.

Kent successfully completed the 28,900-mile Around Alone Race last year and then survived the loss of his craft on a race from New York to Bermuda and back. "Horizontal Everest" was then salvaged, towed to Bermuda and further damaged in a hurricane.

A former textbook salesman, Kent is now crafting his tales of the great adventure for a possible book.

Points about the Pointes

Parents saved the seven period day for now... so where will the \$1.9 million be sliced from?

In response to public outcry at last Monday's School Board meeting, the School Board backed down from voting on their proposed change from a seven to six period day in the middle and high schools. If the change had been made, it would have saved the school system \$1.9 million, which could have been used to help offset the \$5 million deficit in next year's school system budget.

There is no question that the School Board made the right decision in not adopting the seven for six change for this fall. If they had, our incoming seniors would have been in deep trouble. If the change is adopted in the future, the right thing to do is to make it effective for the following rather than the upcoming year so that high school students have enough notice to juggle their schedules accordingly.

While I am sure the parents who made their opinions known at the last Board meeting felt relieved that their child's school day for next year wasn't changing, I am also sure that they didn't leave the meeting with an understanding that the change is financially inevitable. A proposed scenario for cuts for the coming two school years was reviewed by School Board

members at the untelevised work session meeting last Monday just prior to their televised meeting. A copy of this proposal was printed in the Grosse Pointe News last week. If you don't have a copy, e-mail me for a copy today!

Under the published scenario, the seven for six period change will happen in 2005-06, so plan accordingly. Our \$1.2 million after school sports budget will be cut by 5%. In contrast, the elementary schools will feel the pain in 2004-2005 with the elimination of the Grade 4 instrumental program, class sizes being increased, and the elimination of 7 teachers, 7 classroom assistants, and their share of 14 Special Ed staffers. In 2005-2006, the elementary schools are again slated for similar elementary staff reductions, additional class size increases and the elimination of the 5th grade instrumental program.

The School Board announced the formation of a budget review committee to review the cuts they are considering. If you're an elementary school parent, it may be time for you to call 432-3004 to join this group and get involved in setting the course of your child's education.

.....Ahmed Ismail (tahmed.ismail@comcast.net)

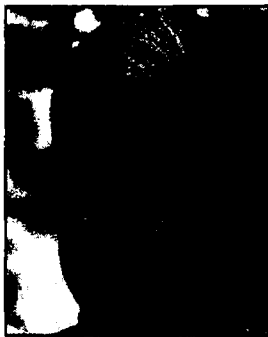
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If you have a question you would like asked, drop us a note at 96 Kercheval on The Hill in Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236 or email to editor@grossepointenews.com



Christl Albrecht

Christl Albrecht
Grosse Pointe Farms resident Christl Albrecht, 64, died Tuesday, Feb. 10, 2004. Born on Sept. 27, 1939, in Stuttgart, Germany to Rudi and Lydia Seifried, Mrs. Albrecht attended Handel Schule in Stuttgart, graduating in 1958. She met her husband, Frederick, who was stationed in Germany as part of his service for the U.S. Army in the Judge Advocate Section, VII Corps. Coincidentally, Mrs. Albrecht lived directly across the street from where her husband's father was born in 1892. A homemaker, she loved animals, especially cats, reading, gardening and sweets. In addition to her husband, she is survived by daughter Heidi S. Kramer (Michael), son Peter F. Albrecht; grandchildren Megan Kramer, Lauren Kramer and Bradley Kramer; sister Barbel (Jurgen) Schwarz in Germany. A memorial service was held at A.H. Peters Funeral Home on Saturday, Feb. 14. Interment will be at the Grosse Pointe United Church Columbarium. Memorial contributions can be made to the Michigan Humane Society, 26711 Northwestern Highway, Suite 175, Southfield, MI 48034.



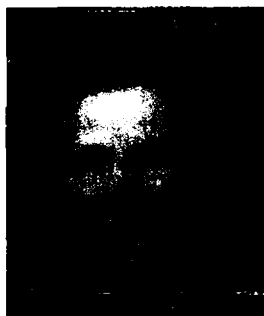
Mary Elizabeth Berger

Mary Elizabeth Berger
Mary Elizabeth Berger, 77, died peacefully on Tuesday, Feb. 10, 2004, at the St. John Senior Community in Detroit. Born on Notre Dame in the City of Grosse Pointe, she was known for her loving smile and caring heart. She worked for 20 years at Neff City Park as a guard and at Maire Elementary School on the playground, lunchroom and latchkey. She volunteered at Bon Secours Hospital and could often be seen walking her dogs and cats. Private arrangements were made by her loving family, as she requested. Memorial contributions may be made to any animal rescue association or to the Alzheimer's Association of Michigan.

Ralph Cooper, M.D.
Grosse Pointe Farms resident Ralph Cooper, M.D., 90, died Friday, Feb. 6, 2004, at Bon Secours Nursing Center in St. Clair Shores. Born in Leesville, he graduated from the University of Michigan with a bachelor's degree in 1933 and earned a medical degree in 1937. He was a member of the Alpha Omega Alpha medical honor society and the Trigon Fraternity. Dr. Cooper was inspired to become a doctor from a physician who helped him when he was ill as a child. He worked at St. John, Harper University and Receiving Hospitals, and Bon Secours Hospital. He was an instructor of internal medicine at Wayne State University and was president of the Michigan Society of Internal Medicine and the Wayne County Medical Society. A lifelong traveler, Dr. Cooper took annual trips to southern France. He visited the Hebrides islands in Scotland and Kenya during his 80s. He photographed wildflowers and ran church socials for seniors. During the summer, Dr. Cooper spent time at his summer home near Eagle Harbor and was a member of the Keweenaw County Historical Society and Miscowaubik Club. He is survived by his wife Ann Garred Cooper; his son, Dr. Michael (Sylvia) Cooper; daughters Lynne (Dr. Robert) Robertson and Elizabeth Jessup; stepdaughters Lynne (Dr. David) Cameron and Tracy (Jeffrey) Meyers and 12 grandchildren. A memorial service was held at Christ Church Grosse Pointe on Feb. 11. He will be interred in Forest Hills Cemetery in Houghton. Memorial contributions may be made to Christ Church Grosse Pointe, 61 Grosse Pointe Boulevard, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236 or the Keweenaw County Historical Society, 670 Light House Road, Eagle Harbor 49950.

Eugene H. Crawley, M.D.
Eugene H. Crawley, M.D., 85 died on Monday, Feb. 9, 2004. Crawley practiced pediatrics in the Detroit area for over 30 years. He is survived by sons William E. (Pamela), John, Charles; daughter Mary (Max) Brill; grandson Eric (Cathy) Maki, great grandsons Lamar, Jeffery, Leemon and Jonathon and niece Sue Heinsohn. He was predeceased by his wife Lottie. A memorial service will be held Saturday, March 20 at 11 a.m. at the Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church, 211 Moross, Grosse Pointe Farms. Please sign the online guest book at www.cremationmichigan.com.

Charlotte B. Failing
Grosse Pointe Farms resident Charlotte Bush Failing, 99, died Wednesday, Feb. 4, 2004. Mrs. Failing was a 1923 graduate of the Liggett School and a 1927 graduate of Goucher College. She served on the Goucher College Board of Trustees from 1958 through 1974. Mrs. Failing was well known throughout the metropolitan Detroit area as a long-standing prominent leader and benefactor in the health care field. She served on the Board of Trustees of Hutzel Women's Hospital for 59 years beginning in 1936. She also served as its recording secretary. She became Chairman of the Board in 1946. During 30 years as Chairman, Mrs. Failing guided Hutzel's expansion and renovation program, chaired the long-term planning committee for the Greater Detroit Hospital Council. She established the Charlotte Bush Failing Endowed Chair in Obstetrics and Gynecology for Prenatal/Fetal Diagnosis and Therapy at Hutzel Women's Hospital and Wayne State University in 1996. This endowment recognizes in perpetuity Mrs. Failing's visionary leadership and contributions to the health of women and children throughout the community.



Charlotte B. Failing

Eleanor V. Gauss
Grosse Pointe resident Eleanor V. Gauss, 83, died Sunday, Feb. 8, 2004 at the Georgian East Nursing Home in St. Clair Shores. Born in Cleveland, Mrs. Gauss attended Central High School in Detroit and Michigan State University. She is survived by her husband of 62 years, Calvin J. (Sue) Gauss; son Calvin J. Gauss III; daughter Carole Hastings and four grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the charity of your choice.

Dylan John Gehrke
Grosse Pointe Park resident Dylan John Gehrke, 3, died Wednesday, Feb. 11, 2004, in Minneapolis, Minn. after a one-year battle with JMML, a rare form of leukemia. In June 2003 Dylan's mother, Sarah Foley Gehrke and his grandmother Meg Brophy took Dylan to Fairview-University Medical Center for treatment and a bone marrow transplant. "Dylan is my hero," said his mother. "Through the many months of chemo, medicines, hospital stays and pain, he never asked why. I wish I had had the patience and courage Dylan had." Dylan had a sense of wonder about the world around him. He loved watching cranes, trains, buses and the food channel and would listen to books read to him for hours. He touched everyone who knew him or knew about him. Dylan's grandmother, "Ahma," spent every night with Dylan anytime he was in the hospital, and Dylan promised to be her guardian angel. In addition to his mother and grandmother, Dylan is survived by his grandfathers, John Gehrke and Gary Whitford; father figure Thomas Wecowski; his great-grandmother Anne Muer Gehrke; uncle Hans Brophy Gehrke; great aunts and uncles, William and Joan Gehrke, Susan O'Rourke, Mary Ray Brophy and Philip Kessler, Kathleen and Peter Whitman, Daniel and Lori Brophy and Hope and Mark Lesperance. He was predeceased by great-grandparents Hans Gehrke, James Brophy and Hope Foley Brophy. Visitations will be held on Friday, Feb. 27, from 1 to 8 p.m. at Verheyden Funeral Home, 16300 Mack, Grosse Pointe Park. A Mass of Remembrance will be celebrated at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 28 at St. Ambrose Church, 15020 Hampton St., Grosse Pointe Park. See QBITS, page 7A

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Dylan John Gehrke

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Grosse Pointe News & SHORES CONNECTION

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SO MANY PETS TO CHOOSE FROM

Grosse Pointe News and The St. Clair Shores Connection newspapers are planning their 3rd special edition featuring your pet! This yearly group of pages will be published April 16, 2004. Please send a good quality color photo of your pet dog, cat, bird, fish, rabbit, snake, gerbil, etc. to Grosse Pointe News & The St. Clair Shores Connection, 96 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan 48236. Attention: Kim Mackey, Display Advertising (313) 343-5586. Complete the information slip below and return it with your photo. Your picture must be received in our office no later than Friday April 2nd, earlier would assist our production schedule. Grosse Pointe News & The St. Clair Shores Connection require a \$10.00 fee to cover production costs. Please include a check, money order or credit card number with your photo. If you would like your photo returned to you please include a self addressed stamped envelope.

ONLY \$10

SAMPLE

Pets Name: SYLVESTER
Age: 5 yrs. old
Type of Pet: Black Cat
Favorite Activity: Being chased around the house.
Owners: Kim & Scott Mackey

Send photo and \$10.00 to:
Grosse Pointe News & The Connection
96 Kercheval Avenue
Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan 48236
Attention: Kim Mackey, Display Advertising

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Pets Name: _____
Type of Pet: _____ Age: _____
Favorite Activity: _____
Lifespan (for Memorial pages if deceased) _____
Owners: _____ Phone # _____
Signature: _____
Exp. Date: _____

Included will be Memorial Pages in remembrance of the loss of your pet, \$10.00 a pet.

Thank you... and please return no later than July 2nd, 2003

Obits

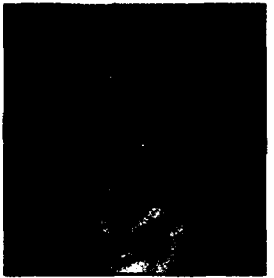
From page 6A

Interment is at Resurrection Cemetery.

In keeping with Dylan's spirit and love of life, the family requests balloons in lieu of flowers.

Memorial contributions may be made to "Dylan's Wish Memorial" at the Minnesota Medical Foundation, 200 Oak Street SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455.

Robert Grambo



Robert Grambo

Grosse Pointe Farms resident Robert Grambo, 74, died Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2004, at St. John Hospital.

Born on Jan. 9, 1930 in Detroit to Corinne Walz and Art Grambo, he graduated from Grosse Pointe High School in 1948, attended the University of Detroit, and graduated from University of Virginia Consumer Banking

graduate school.

For 43 years, he worked at the National Bank of Detroit, having served as a first vice president working in Utica, Troy and Renaissance Center locations.

Mr. Grambo served in the Air Force during the Korean War.

He was a past member of the Detroit Yacht Club, the Grosse Pointe Farms Boat Club, the Senior Men's Club, St. Paul's Bowling League, Utica Kiwanis and the Monicatti Golf League.

He served as a Grosse Pointe Farms Little League coach and manager and enjoyed bowling, fishing, hunting, golf and boating. He never missed the Antique Mahogany Boat Show in Hessel, Mich.

He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Susanne Grambo, sons Robert Jr. (Jane), Peter (Julia) and Bill; grandchildren Kimberly, Megan, Pierce and Thomas Grambo; and sister Doris Grambo.

A Memorial Mass was celebrated on Feb. 7 at St. Paul Catholic Church.

Interment is at St. Paul on the Lake Columbarium.

Memorial contributions may be made to Bon Secours Assistance League, 468 Cadieux, Grosse Pointe, MI 48230 or the St. Paul Education Fund, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236.

Harry W. Mellen

Former Grosse Pointe resident Harry W. Mellen, 82, died Thursday, Feb. 12, 2004 at Bay Bluffs Medical Center in Harbor Springs.

Born on April 12, 1921, in Highland Park to Harry and Margaret (Barth) Mellen, he grew up in Detroit and graduated from Detroit Central High School in 1939. He attended the University of Detroit and graduated in 1943 with a degree in accounting.

Mr. Mellen served in the U.S. Army during World War II in Europe as an infantryman.

Following the service, he went to work for Ross Roy Advertising as an auditor and later became the controller and finally the chief financial officer and senior vice president in 1961. He retired in 1981 and continued on the board of directors for 10 years and as a consultant for five years.

He and his wife moved to Cross Village in 1981.

Mr. Mellen was a member of the American Association of Advertising Agencies, the National Association of Accountants, served on the board of directors of the Detroit United Way, Goodwill Industries, Northeast Guidance Clinic and was treasurer of the Hannah YMCA, Franklin Wright Settlement House and the

Grosse Pointe War Memorial.

He was a trustee of the Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church and served as treasurer and trustee of the Grosse Pointe Memorial Church. He was an elder of the First Presbyterian Church in Harbor Springs and treasurer of the Redpath Memorial Presbyterian Church in Cross Village.

Mr. Mellen was a special life member of the Detroit Boat Club and served as director and treasurer, a director of the Grosse Pointe Hunt Club, membership chairman of the Indian Village Tennis Club and a member of the Birchwood Country Club. He was a board member of the Little Traverse Conservancy, Harbor Springs United Way, treasurer of the Emmet Co. Lakeshore Association, treasurer of the Cross Village Community Services and a member of SCORE (Senior Corps of Retired Executives.)

He also loved to play tennis and sail.

Mr. Mellen is survived by his wife Mary Elisabeth (Hitchcock); sons Andy Mellen, Tom Mellen, Fred Gillespie (Pamela Cunan); daughter Margaret Snider (Larry); 6 grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Little Traverse Bay Humane

Society or the Bay Bluffs Medical Care Facility.

Suzanne Sippola

Former Grosse Pointe Park resident Suzanne Sippola, 53, of Portage died Friday, Feb. 13, 2004 after a courageous fight with cancer.

She is survived by her husband of 33 years, Bob; son Paul (Hope); daughter Emily (Brooke); granddaughter Hannah Suzanne; mother Almeda Nemanis; brother William (Pam) Nemanis and several nieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Life Service was held on Tuesday, Feb. 17, at the Congregational United Church of Christ in Galesburg.

Burial will be in Maple Grove Cemetery in Kaleva.

Please visit Mrs. Sippola's personal Web page

at www.lifestorynet.com where you can read her complete life story, leave a memory for her family or make a memorial contribution to YWCA Domestic Assault Program, Hospice of Greater Kalamazoo or the American Cancer Society.



Charles R. Smith

Charles R. Smith

Former Grosse Pointe resident Charles R. Smith, 87, died on Monday, Jan. 26, 2004, at Naples Community Hospital.

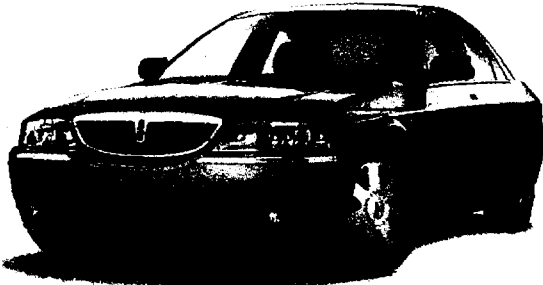
He moved to Naples, Fla. in 1995.

He is survived by his son, Charles R. Smith II; two grandchildren, Charles R. Smith III and Kimberly; two great-granddaughters, Emma and Destiny; and sister Marilyn Smith Wood.

Mr. Smith was predeceased by his wife of 34 years Elizabeth Byers; his wife of 19 years Helen Hickey; sister Doris Smith Spitzley and friend Martha.

At his request, a private service will be held and his ashes interred at Oakridge Cemetery in Arcadia, Fla. See OBITs, page 20A

A MULTIPLE CHOICE WITH NO WRONG ANSWERS. JUST ANNOUNCED! – SPECIAL OFFERS FOR PRESIDENT'S DAY ON MOUNTAINEER AND AVIATOR THRU FEBRUARY 21ST.



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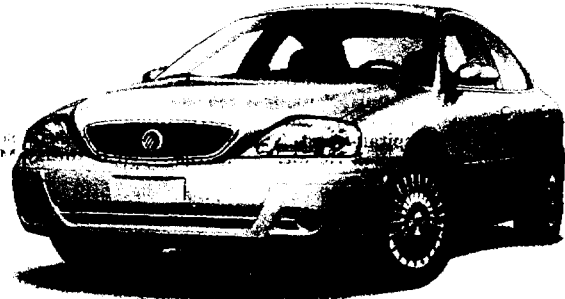
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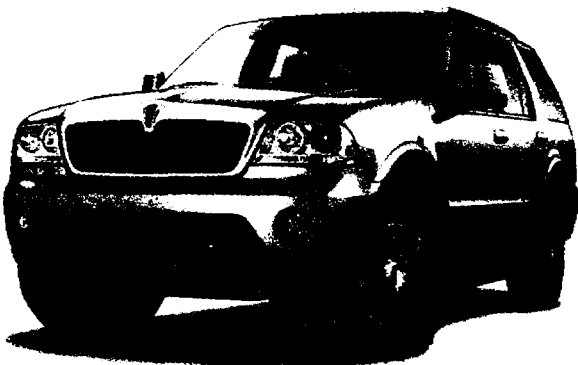
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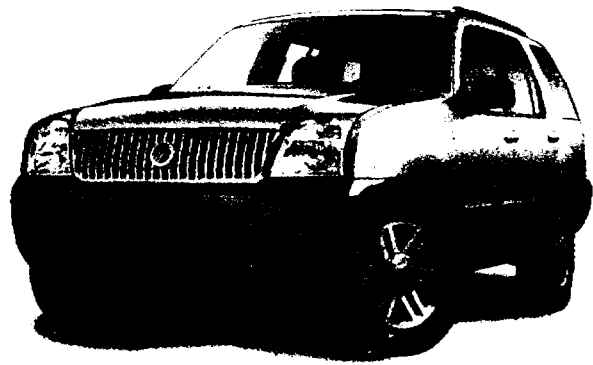
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2004 MERCURY MOUNTAINEER - CONVENIENCE V6 AWD
HURRY OFFER ENDS FEBRUARY 21!

RED CARPET LEASE FOR A/D/Z FORD EMPLOYEE, RETIREES AND ELIGIBLE FAMILY MEMBERS.

\$287 A MONTH/36 MONTHS

\$2,207 CASH DUE AT SIGNING*** (AFTER \$4,000 CASH BACK, INCLUDING \$1,000 FORD CREDIT CASH)

MERCURY MOUNTAINEER CONVENIENCE V6 AWD A-PLAN PRICE STARTING AT \$24,977**

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Poll: Don't increase class sizes!

A Grosse Pointe News Internet poll shows that reducing class size is the least appealing option favored by readers.

The poll, an unscientific query featured on the Grosse Pointe News' enhanced Web site, www.grossepointenews.com, offered readers four poll options, answering the question, "If you were a school board member and needed to make budget cuts, what would you do?"

- Cut or charge for athletics/clubs
- Increase class sizes
- Eliminate 4th/5th instrumental music
- Demand teacher salary concessions.

Increasing class size was the least-favored option by those completing the poll. Only 8 percent thought bigger classes was a good idea to save money.

But 17 percent thought eliminating fourth- and fifth-grade instrumental music was acceptable.

Surprisingly this time around, a third of those responding to the poll favored cutting or charging for athletics, clubs and other extracurricular activities.

Known as "pay for play," this con-

cept has been shunned by educators in the past and to some extent today.

Grosse Pointe Schools Superintendent Dr. Suzanne Klein and others feel sports, clubs and other non-classroom programs add to the well-roundedness of students and help them to determine who they will be for the rest of their lives. They have consistently resisted any curtailment or obstruction in these activities.

Parents and taxpayers who must shoulder the costs may feel differently.

Dr. Klein says only \$1.2 million would be saved by eliminating sports. But if we were to charge each participant to cover costs, it would equate to \$500 a player. True, spectators benefit from sports, too, but is the athletics expenditure fair?

But by far, and not surprisingly, the cost-cutting measure most favored by those taking the poll was demanding teacher salary concessions.

It is common knowledge, or so some believe, that school teachers in the Grosse Pointe Public School System are among the highest paid in the

state and nation. This may or may not be true.

In November 2002, an Associated Press story headlined: "Michigan Teachers Rank 4th Highest Paid; Union Reports Average Salary Nationwide is \$44,499; Calif. at Top."

These findings were reported by the National Education Association, the nation's largest teachers union.

The average salary of a public school teacher for the 2001-02 school year was \$44,499, nationwide, with 36 states paying salaries below that level. California teacher salaries averaged \$53,870. Teachers in South Dakota were paid \$31,295.

The point is that Michigan teachers, Grosse Pointe teachers included, were among the highest paid, and taxpayers here have not forgotten.

Grosse Pointe school administrators point out that many of the teachers at that time had been with the district many years and had acquired high salaries. Through retirements — buyouts and otherwise — the average salaries have come down considerably, administrators say.

Still, perceptions are hard to

counter.

At a time when many outside public education are taking more work for the same or less pay, when many are wondering if they will even stay employed until they plan to retire, teachers getting automatic pay hikes rankles.

If there were any time when a teachers union should heed a word of wisdom, now is the time. Don't push it. Take the status quo and wait for the economy to recover. Now is not the time for greedy demands.

We are not saying our teachers do not deserve good pay. Quite the contrary. We are second to none in our respect for teachers and their crucial roles, to instruct our youth, our future.

But often reality weighs in, and the fact is that in the schools' and economy's current economic woes, we must all chip in, including the teachers' union.

We understand that the Grosse Pointe Education Association is part of the larger District No. 1 unit of the Michigan Education Association.

We realize that no matter how sympathetic Grosse Pointe teachers may be to our local situation, they will still be subject to "pattern" agreements.

But we urge our local union representatives to preach restraint until we surpass the current budget shortfalls. After all, we all want one thing: What is best for our students.

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Letters

Strings attached

To the Editor:

Poor President Bush. He is appearing more and more like a patay. Actually, he is a likable guy. He likes dogs and is good to his wife. What more can one ask?

However, it is obvious to anyone with one functioning brain cell that he is the fall guy for his administration.

I might even reconsider my choice if he weren't controlled by representatives of the inordinately powerful special interest groups.

How did this nice guy get coerced into getting into bed with such controllers as Dick Cheney, Donald Rumsfeld, Paul Wolfowitz just to mention the obvious?

This is the core group that pulls the strings which make nice guy George, who likes dogs, dance to their tune.

I must add I am disappointed in Colin Powell and Condoleezza Rice who I believed had more character than to remain on board with such a dubious group. The taste of power must be overwhelming.

Be that as it may, this is a classic case where the nice guy will finish last.

Too bad.

Lud Schomig
Grosse Pointe Woods

Safe sport

To the Editor:

As a former participant in the junior rifle program at the Grosse Pointe Woods range during the 1970s, I am disappointed to read of its closing to the public, especially for the reasons stated. According to some of the council members and the public safety director, the range was closed for safety concerns and risk.

That logic is perplexing, considering the safety record of the range (zero injuries in 40 years) and the relative risk of some of the city's other facilities such as the pool, boat launch, playground equipment and athletic fields.

Except for golf, the shooting sport draws more participants than any other sport and has always been one of the safest competitive or recreational activities.

In fact, more injuries

occur in any one weekend of soccer than have occurred in the history of the organized shooting sports. It is too bad that safety misconceptions and other minor issues will force Woods residents to drive for hours to get range time at similarly designed ranges.

Some excellent shooting athletes have shot at the Woods range over the years and have represented the area at the National Matches at Camp Perry and the National Junior Olympics at the Olympic Training Center. Some have earned athletic scholarships to shoot on collegiate teams, and others have gone into law enforcement.

I would like to extend an open invitation to the council members and the director of public safety to come see some of the Grosse Pointe area smallbore shooting athletes at the Detroit Sportsman's Congress (49800 Dequindre, in Utica) any Friday evening between 7:30 and 9:30 p.m.

There is one Woods junior particularly who shows great promise as an international shooting athlete. You will have to pay to see athletes of this caliber at Athens or Beijing. You won't see them at your own range.

Tom Sullivan,
Certified Range Safety Officer,
Instructor, DSC Junior Rifle Coach
Grosse Pointe Park

Special election

To the Editor:

I have learned about the proposed special election for the sinking fund tax vote to be held in March for another tax increase for maintenance and repair. I have heard little opposition to this.

I am opposed to this attempt to increase taxes so soon after a vote for pools, football fields, etc., which should have included basic M&R issues as well. Now realizes we are short of funds. Swimming pools, football fields, etc., could have waited until times got better; but no, we had to spend the money.

Well now, let's reexamine that package and stop spending money on frills

and reallocate some of the money for M&R which I would think is more important.

I have listened to the public channel and heard individuals praise our schools, I agree to a point. But I say that economic situations change and fiscal responsibility needs to take hold. Belts need to be tightened and not continue to impose the "wannabes" attitude on all of the community. People who want these niceties should make a contribution to the school board to pay for them and with tax dollars.

Who is going to help my family who has experienced layoffs? Who is going to help my family pay medical bills, insurance, utilities, etc.? I have to tighten my belt and do the best I can with what I have.

As to the March vote, I believe that it is an injustice to rush a vote when all of the constituents are not present. This timing isn't critical no matter what the budgetary people say. All constituents should have the opportunity to vote on this measure.

Let's get serious the school system is good, but I have to sacrifice some programs and frills in these times like the rest of us; otherwise, I would propose that the board get real and start saying no to wish lists that are not economically feasible now.

I believe that nothing is impossible and that alternatives are always found, even though they may be tough to swallow. Let's think of the community as a whole and not only the few self interests.

The Majewskis
Grosse Pointe Woods

Gospel words

To the Editor:

I appreciated the view from the outside (Grosse Pointe News, Opinion, "Catholic reform misplaced") about some of the distracting tactics the Catholic Church is taking.

My main question is when are we going to put all of our time, money and effort into really being the church for people instead of trying to micromanage?

There's a scene at the end of The Wizard of Oz when Dorothy and friends have



Address comments to cartoonist Phil Hands at phands@grossepointenews.com or go to www.philtons.com

finally done everything they were supposed to do and still the wizard isn't happy — until the mighty wizard is found out to be a bumbling man behind a curtain.

What a great analogy to the present situation in the Catholic Church — the powerful hierarchy continues distracting itself by focusing on the "minutiae" and further widening its credibility gap.

But just as there was hope for Dorothy to "return home," I still have hope that the faithful will lead the leadership back home and the church will return to its gospel roots to be a place of healing and comfort, of building the kingdom of justice and peace, of feeding and clothing the poor.

Kathy Calcatera
Detroit

Accountability

To the Editor:

President Bush is exactly on target when he proposes emphasis on early childhood education and accountability for all educators.

As an experienced expert in education, I know that change and progress in our nation's classrooms can only occur when school personnel know that parents will support a school that does what it says — educates, informs and guides its students in learning.

Those schools that fail to do what they are being paid to do should also not be given the trust to educate. Parents should always be given the right to choose

where they want their children educated and have their education tax dollars spent where they see that happening.

The first formative years of a child's formal education are important in how that child approaches learning for the rest of his/her life. The best teachers in the best schools are the only ones that should be modeled for all to follow. Each child is given one chance at each learning developmental level to achieve — no school nor educator should be allowed to waste that opportunity with mismanagement, low skills or excuses.

Few school districts place their students first — in district decisions, in school personnel, in their very budgets. It is time for all to know that schools must work successfully with parents, must succeed with students, and must have the authority and power to put their student-based policies in effect with the full backing of all available resources. Anything less is unacceptable and will not be tolerated — by parents, by taxes, by student enrollment.

Dr. Janice Pemberton
Grosse Pointe Shores

Puzzled

To the Editor:

I was very surprised and displeased to read the editorial which appeared in the Dec. 11 Grosse Pointe News. I wonder what the motivation and religious background of the writer is to

cause him/her to write such a meddling and mean-spirited piece.

I realize that the media have legitimately (although, perhaps, at times too gleefully/zealously) covered the sexual scandal that sullied and pained the church. However, I cannot find a legitimate reason for your paper to cover the changes that have been instituted in relation to the laity's posture during Mass.

Those changes only affect the people who attend Mass, and I am sure that the majority of your readers are not interested if Catholics, to quote your editorial, "nod, bow, genuflect, stand, sit, kneel, sing and not sing."

Therefore, I am puzzled by the palpable anti-Catholic animus in the editorial.

Cecilia Block
Grosse Pointe Farms

Shocked

To the Editor:

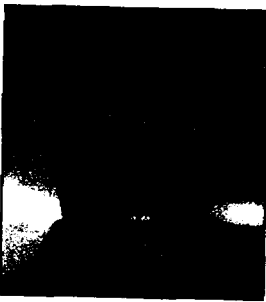
As a subscriber to your paper for over 60 years, to say I was shocked is putting it mildly.

Of what is the Grosse Pointe News thinking to use the article, "Catholic reform misplaced," as an editorial? Whoever wrote it could benefit by studying all the directives emanating from the Vatican.

Whoever chose it as an editorial should reexamine the purpose of the Grosse Pointe News and the consideration of its readers.

Margaret Cody
St. Clair Shores

Obits



Douglas W. Stanley
Former Grosse Pointe Shores resident Douglas W. Stanley, 55, died in San Diego, Calif., on Saturday, Dec. 31, 2003.

A 1966 graduate of Grosse Pointe High School and of Western Michigan University in 1970, Mr. Stanley had a long career in building materials sales in the greater Detroit area.

He was an avid golfer and member of Gowanie Golf Club until his move, first to Chicago, then to the West Coast.

He is survived by his father Henry Stanley, of Pompano Beach, Fla., and by his sister, Carol Anshaw of Chicago.

He was predeceased by his mother, Virginia Stanley. Memorial contributions may be made to Pathfinders, 2980 Cedar St., San Diego, Calif. 92102.

Marion von Schwarz

Longtime St. Clair resident Marion Chantler von Schwarz died Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2004, at Mercy Hospital in Port Huron.

Born in London, Ontario, she was the daughter of George and Laura Chantler. She moved with her family to the Detroit area in her late teens. During her marriage of 63 years to Franz

Josef von Schwarz, the couple lived in Detroit and Grosse Pointe before moving to St. Clair.

Mrs. von Schwarz was a member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, St. Clair Country Club and Friends of the St. Clair Public Library.

She enjoyed playing golf and bridge with her friends. In addition to her husband, she is survived by two sons, Karl Franz von Schwarz (Lisa) of Annapolis, Md. and Jeffrey von Schwarz (Kathie) of Grosse Pointe Farms; and five grandchildren, Sean von Schwarz, Laura Green (Sean), Catharine, and John and Elizabeth von Schwarz.

She was predeceased by her parents and sister Barbara Sutherland.

A memorial service was held Friday, Feb. 6 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in St. Clair.

Memorial contributions may be sent to Friends of St. Clair Public Library, 310 South 2nd Street, St. Clair, MI 48079 or St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 115 N. Sixth Street, St. Clair, MI 48079.

dent Helen Margaret Yaeger, 98, died Tuesday, Feb. 10, 2004 at the Shelby Nursing Center.

Born on Nov. 9, 1905 to Adam and Catherine Larkins, she was a member of the Lochmoor Club and the English Speaking Union.

She enjoyed playing bridge and golfed regularly into her 80s.

She is survived by her daughters Joan Baker Sphire and Marilyn Baker Pelkey; 13 grandchildren; many great-grandchildren and sister Louise Nowicki.

She was predeceased by husbands Gilbert Joseph Yaeger and Merrell Emerson Baker; son Merrell Baker Jr. and grandson Robert Baker.

Elizabeth Murphy Wilson

Grosse Pointe resident Elizabeth Murphy Wilson, 76, died on Tuesday, February 17, 2004.

Born in Grosse Pointe to Charles Riley Murphy and Mary Selenan Butler, she attended the Grosse Pointe Country Day School and earned her associate's degree from Stephen's College in Missouri, where she studied journalism and

aviation. Upon graduation, she served in the Civil Air Patrol.

After traveling throughout Europe, she married Bayard Wilson of Detroit in January 1950.

She worked as a copywriter at J.L. Hudson's in Detroit for many years while also raising three children. She volunteered and served on the board of the Junior League Senior Center and the Detroit Orthopedic Clinic, now the Detroit Institute for Children.

She was a member of the Junior League and also a member of the Sigma Gamma Association.

She will be remembered by her friends and family for her wonderful sense of humor, keen intelligence, personable nature and love of animals, especially dogs.

She is survived by her sister, Laura Murphy Creamer of Mt. Pleasant, SC; her brother John Harold Murphy of Brookfield, WI and her daughters Lisa and Laura Wilson who reside near Boston, MA.

She was predeceased by her husband, Bayard Wilson and her daughter Andrea Murphy Wilson.

The family will receive callers at Verheyden's Funeral Home on

Saturday, Feb. 21 from 2 to 4 p.m.

An entombment service will be held at the Columbarium at St. Paul's Catholic Church at 11 a.m. on April 17, 2004.

Grand

From page 3A

lation similar to Gaffney's. Both versions favor the will of sound parents.

"There is a presumption that a fit parent's actions and decisions regarding grandparenting time are in the child's best interests," reads Sanborn's SB 727.

House and Senate legislation differ in technical respects. Gaffney hopes to combine the best of both bills.

"We have a negotiation session next week with Sanborn and Howell," Gaffney said.

The Pointes' state senator, Martha Scott, D-Highland Park, supports grandparent's visitation rights.

"The benefit is for the child," Scott said. "There's nothing like having a grandparent in your life. It gives kids well-rounded love and nurturing."

The National Nonprofit Grandparents Rights Organization and AARP support the House effort but have not yet testified before the Senate committee.

Gaffney wrote the bill in response to the Michigan Supreme Court's June ruling that the state's grandparent visitation law was unconstitutional. Justice Elizabeth Weaver asked legislators to correct the matter.

"Circuit courts have done a pretty good job to delay and let the legislature work on the issue," said Howell. "But they're not going to go on forever. I've been warned by a number of circuit judges in my jurisdiction that this is a problem. We have to address it."

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Helen Margaret Yaeger
Grosse Pointe Woods resi-

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

Messed up

Grosse Pointe Woods public safety officers are awaiting blood tests taken from a 47-year-old Woods man who was unable to drive, stand up and use the restroom facilities.

A call came from a store in the 21000 block of Mack at 3:17 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 9, complaining of a customer who appeared to be very intoxicated and had defecated on himself.

An employee saw the man get into a blue Jeep and drive erratically on Roslyn.

The employee got the license plate number of the Jeep and gave it to public safety officers.

Officers found the man at home a few blocks away from the store.

His description and odor matched that given by the store employee and three other witnesses. The man was barely able to stand, so no field sobriety tests were given.

He was then taken to a local hospital for blood tests and then was arrested for drunken driving.

— Bonnie Caprara

Legal eagle

Minutes after talking with his attorney, a man who was arrested last weekend for drunken driving in Grosse Pointe Shores discarded unknown pills in a toilet at public safety headquarters.

An officer retrieved the pills for chemical analysis.

Police cited the 50-year-old Harper Woods resident for drunken driving and operating a motor vehicle under the influence of drugs. Police impounded his gray 2002 Ford Explorer.

The incident occurred on Sunday, Feb. 15, at 12:10 a.m., after a traffic stop on Lakeshore near Webber.

— Brad Lindberg

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North students search for oldest stars in galaxy

By Carrie Cunningham
Staff Writer

Gazing up at stars in a clear sky can sometimes be riveting, suggesting feelings of hope, the future and the wonder of discovering what might be beyond our small planet. But when did all the startling beauty up in the sky begin?

Students from Ardis Maciolek's Grosse Pointe North High School astronomy class are pondering this question, trying to locate the oldest stars in our galaxy, the Milky Way.

As part of their search, seniors Julie Krugler and Amelia Altavena traveled to Kitt Peak Observatory in Arizona, being one of the first groups of high school students to visit the center.

Before they went to the observatory, they, along with other classmates, compiled a list of candidate

stars that might be some of the oldest in the galaxy. They contacted an astronomer named Timothy Beers from Michigan State University, and he suggested a few additional stars in a catalog known as Hamburg-Eso.

At Kitt Peak—in addition to being treated like astronomers and sleeping in the scientists' dorms—Krugler and Altavena collected data on their list of stars.

"Star scientists said they had died off, but some people are saying, wait; they still exist," Krugler said.

There are many facets associated with the oldest stars, also known as Population III stars.

"The first stars were big and bright, and they burned quickly," Krugler said. "They left remnants so other stars could form."

As for their possible current location, some might reside in the halo of the Milky Way, which is the outer reaches of our galaxy.

Additionally, they are metal poor, with a low hydrogen to iron ratio. Krugler is working on mapping out the chemical properties of their collection of stars. Stars with a low iron to hydrogen ratio have a flat spectra, and she is delving into data to find such spectra.

One very metal poor star has been discovered by scientists, and while a daunting task, Krugler hopes to discover other ones.

"Theoretically, a star that was slightly smaller than the sun could be around," she said.

Krugler plans to present her findings at the Science Fair on March 30. Since the science fair allows only one

project per person, Altavena will present another project at the fair: astrophotography of the Orion Nebula.

Both students want to continue with astronomy in some fashion. Krugler has been accepted into MSU's astrophysics and astronomy program as well as a similar program at the University of Arizona. Altavena wants to minor in astronomy at one of the nine colleges she has applied to.

"I'd always like to continue it as a hobby," Altavena said. "You can always take a telescope and go outside."

Both students are enormously grateful to Maciolek, who they say was instrumental in having them travel to Kitt Peak.

"She's the most dedicated teacher I've ever encountered," Krugler said.

The students said that North is one of the only high



Photo by Carrie Cunningham
North seniors Julie Krugler, left, and Amelia Altavena have done work searching for the oldest stars in our galaxy. They are in between a computer display of a star with an atypical spectra.

schools in the country that has a radio telescope, a fact that reveals how passionate Maciolek is about her job.

"It's really inspiring," Altavena said.

For their ground breaking work and steadfast dedication, Krugler and Altavena

were given certificates of achievement in astronomy by the Grosse Pointe Board of Education.

Whether the students discover the oldest stars in the Milky Way or not, it is clear they are already stars themselves for their efforts.

South science class visits medical examiner's office

By Carrie Cunningham
Staff Writer

Life is valuable. By visiting Oakland County's Medical Examiner's office on a field trip, students in Greg Heffner's environmental science class at Grosse Pointe South High School learned this truth.

Employees of the office, like the chief medical examiner Dr. L.J. Dragovic, talked about their profession of investigating deaths and allowed students to see actual autopsies performed.

The students saw four people who had died the previous day from a gunshot, a car accident, heart failure and in a house. There are five types of

death: natural, homicide, suicide, accident and undetermined. The medical examiner's office handles deaths that are thought to be non-natural, but around half of them end up being natural upon examination.

Students were mostly uncomfortable with seeing a body carved up, but some realized that it was important work and wanted to go into the medical field.

"It was more real than I thought it would be. They died yesterday," Vinnie Panizzi said.

"I thought it was really disturbing. I've never seen a person cut up like that," Maggie Shumaker said.

"At first I thought it was pretty gross, (but) it kind of makes me want to work



Photo by Carrie Cunningham
Students from Greg Heffner's environmental science class went to the Oakland Medical Examiner's Office as part of a unit on food, nutrition and health. Three of the students stand above: They are Chris Welch, Andy Manardo and Amber Jennings.

with people who are hurt," Amber Jennings said.

Students were made to

the visit.

"I just think they could have treated the bodies with more respect. They could have been a little more careful," Andy Manardo said, adding that seeing corpses has made him think about making responsible decisions so he would not end up in the medical examiner's office.

"It made me realize how fragile life is," Chris Welch said.

Dragovic's position is part law enforcement and part medicine.

"Without him, there would be a ton of unanswered questions from family members," Welch said.

Dragovic himself thinks his work is essential.

"I don't think there are

enough forensic pathologists. It's great work," he said.

Heffner visits the medical examiner's office every year with his students. The field trip is part of a unit on food, nutrition and health. Previously, his students went to a meat processing plant. Similar themes of the value of the body percolated in students' minds from that field trip.

While the trip to the medical examiner's office was difficult due to the gruesome nature of autopsies, some students were appreciative of the trip.

"I think it was a good experience. I was really depressed, but I was really glad I went," Jennings said.

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Enrollment at GP schools stays same overall

By Carrie Cunningham
Staff Writer

Enrollment data in the Grosse Pointe Public School System shows a slight decrease at the elementary and middle school levels and a slight increase at the high school level.

The 2003-04 year compared with next year shows the elementary schools going from 3,516 students to 3,459 and the middle school going from 2,097 to 2,059. The high school level enrollment will increase from 3,066 to 3,162.

"The decline at the elementary and middle schools offsets the increase at the high school," said Chris Fenton, assistant superintendent for business affairs and support services.

"Overall our enrollment is flat."

Much of this increase is at the ninth grade level, which will increase from 756 students to 786. Fenton said the increase in this population could mean more classes at the freshman level.

Fenton said that without the budget challenges, these data would call for possibly hiring high school teachers, but that in all likelihood the district will see some teacher layoffs. The data is serving as part of the district's decision calculus.

To make sure the numbers are accurate, Fenton said the district will examine census data from

	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Dexter	454	480	484	485	482	463
Ferry	448	421	407	399	379	360
Kerby	347	367	369	368	350	336
Mable	347	335	324	317	283	266
Mason	244	258	253	247	244	241
Montell	565	574	562	544	536	521
Poupart	327	307	297	276	274	261
Richard	483	440	418	388	370	336
Thromby	297	273	268	261	229	207
Warren	24	24	23	26	26	28
Total	14,886	14,477	14,433	14,390	14,340	14,166
Elementary	3,516	3,459	3,459	3,459	3,459	3,459
Middle	2,097	2,059	2,059	2,059	2,059	2,059
High	3,066	3,162	3,162	3,162	3,162	3,162
Special Education	207	207	207	207	207	207

Grosse Pointe Farms and Grosse Pointe Woods.

In a more extended time period, five years out, the data reveal a similar pattern: decreases at the elementary level and increases at the high school level.

Special education will remain flat at 284 students.

Fenton said the district will revisit the data as the year completes.

"This is our first go around. We'll give another look at it in 30 days and then another 30 days and then in June," he said.

Pierce Coney Island Night

Fifth graders who plan to attend Pierce Middle School next year, along with their families, are invited to attend the school's annual Coney Island Night on March 4 from 6 to 8 p.m. Students and staff representing extracurricular and elective activities will be on hand.

The dinner is sponsored by the Pierce PTO and supported by volunteers of the Pierce Student Council. Tickets will be sold at the door. For additional information, please call (313) 432-4700.

Star of Sea forensics team wins contest

By Carrie Cunningham
Staff Writer

Their words soared. The forensics team at Our Lady Star of the Sea competed in a public speaking contest among other area schools, and by talking eloquently and thinking on their feet, the team won for the first time in 10 years.

"It was quite an experience. They had gotten into this mode of second place. They decided this year, we're going to change the tradition," said Paul Ignagni, the coach of the team.

Ignagni shaved his head after their win, having told his students he would reach for his razor if they came in first.

Eight categories were involved in the contest:



Photo courtesy of Kathy Uitalo

The Forensics team at Our Lady Star of the Sea spoke its way to victory in a public speaking contest among area schools. Kneeling in front from left to right are Melissa Raffoul, Gregg Kent, J.P. Bolton. Standing from left to right are Michael Thomas, Carson Cueter, Star Principal and Forensics coach Patty Stumb, T.J. Mason, Nick Hinz, Lindsay Astalos and Christa Bertakis. Ignagni is in the center.

prose, poetry, drama, story telling, multiple interpretation, declamation and duo interpretation. Students read works by famous, inspiring people like Charles Schultz and Martin Luther King, Jr. In the declamation section, students were given a piece, and they had to interpret it in a couple of minutes.

The other schools involved in the competition were St. Paul, St. Lawrence, St. Joan of Arc, St. Thecla (which usually came in first) and The Grosse Pointe Academy. Star received a trophy for its efforts.

"They're enthusiasm was at a peak. They were out for victory," Ignagni said.

Correction

Dr. David Cameron was misquoted in the Feb. 12 article. "School board calls timeout on 6-hour day." He does not support the proposal changing the school day from seven to six periods.

To clarify: in the Feb. 12 article, "Art program at GP Academy helps students grow", the DIA employs the Visual Thinking Strategies curriculum in a program underwritten by the museum called Thinking through Art.

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Give this 4 cylinder gem a look

By Greg Zyla

We recently test-drove the 2004 Mitsubishi Lancer ES, an affordable four-cylinder sedan that offers better looks and more amenities than you'd expect from a compact model.

This plain Lancer, while lower in horsepower and lacking the flashy style of the high-performance Lancer Ralliart model we tested in mid-2003, is attractive in part because of its base price: \$14,172 delivered. As we all know, there just aren't many cars out there anymore priced that low.

The Lancer's look is a clean, uncluttered design, highlighted by wraparound headlights that create a sporty front-end appearance. A few details — a roof-mounted antenna, foldaway power mirrors and pull-type door handles — give the Lancer a better-than-compact look and feel. Mitsubishi has redesigned the front and rear bumpers, hood and front fenders for 2004 as well.

The Lancer's interior makes it seem even less like a compact model. With a cab-forward design and long wheelbase (102.4 inches), the Lancer has an overall roomy interior and tall roofline. Mitsubishi says there's 93.9 cubic feet of overall passenger room. It

will seat five, but, as is the case for almost any compact, three adults in the rear is a tight fit.

You can see well out of all windows, and the dash is attractive and functional. The front and rear seats even feature an elevated hip point designed to help passenger entry and exit. (We didn't particularly notice this feature, but maybe that means it works.)

Standard interior features include power-windows, door locks and side-view mirrors; air conditioning; wood-grain interior trim accents; adjustable steering column; rear defrost; height-adjustable driver's seat; 140-watt AM/FM stereo CD player; digital clock; and auto-off headlights and trunk lamp. One of the major items not included is cruise control.

Perhaps the biggest drawback to the Lancer cabin is noise, particularly road rumble heard up through the floor.

Again, this wasn't the tricked-out Ralliart model, but even in a plain wrapper the Lancer still sports a rally-racing heritage. We experienced this by taking the 2.0-liter, 16-valve four-cylinder through its paces with the ES model's standard five-speed manual transmission. The engine puts out 120 horsepower,

enough to have fun with, particularly driving a stick. While it won't throw you into the back seat, we never found our tester lacking for power. And it delivers 27 mpg city, 33 mpg highway EPA numbers.

The ride on the 14-inch wheels was solid, too. The Lancer offers four-wheel independent front strut and rear multi-link suspension. Also, it has strengthened the flat cross-member that attaches to the front strut's lower control arm, another step toward improving driver control and "feel."

The Lancer's approach to safety, starting with driver and front passenger air bags, is impressive for the compact market. The Lancer has energy-absorbing front and rear crumple zones, a reinforced passenger safety cage, three-point safety belts for all occupants and front seat-belt pretensioners and force limiters. Also, the 2004 model has improved front head restraints, padded interior roof pillars with crushable ribs, impact-absorbing blocks in all four doors and special door-latch releases.

Finally, the Lancer is covered by Mitsubishi's standard three-year, 36,000-mile new-vehicle limited warranty; five-year, 60,000-mile powertrain limited warranty; and seven-year, 100,000-

mile anti-corrosion limited warranty.

Other important numbers include a 13.2-gallon fuel tank, 2,656-pound curb weight and 11.3 cubic feet of trunk space.

There is a lot to talk about with the Lancer ES considering its \$14,000 price tag. Those shopping in the inexpensive compact market may want to give this



2004 Mitsubishi Lancer ES

Japanese-made gem a look. scale of 10. We rate Lancer an eight on a — King Features Syndicate

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Cruisin'

From page 18A

someone to lay down \$1,700 to \$2,000 for it, I'd sell real quickly.

Q. What was the best-selling Edsel model ever during the car's three-year run? How well did the station wagon do?

— Polly M., e-mail from Texas.

A. Polly, the 1959 Edsel

four-door sedan sold 12,814 units, far ahead of second place: 7,778 units for the 1959 two-door sedan. The Edsel was produced by Ford for three years from 1958 through 1960, and the best a station wagon ever did in a year was 7,820 total wagons, broken down to 5,687 Villager six-passenger wagons and 2,133 Villager nine-passenger wagons.

In the car's first year in 1958, when both Villager and Bermuda wagons were offered in six- and nine-passenger models, a total of just 5,507 wagons moved off the assembly line.

Write to Greg Zyla in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475, or send an e-mail to letters.kfws@hearstsc.com.

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2004 Mountaineer features luxury

By Greg Zyla

This week, we test drive Mercury's 2004 Mountaineer Luxury AWD sport utility vehicle, aimed at younger, affluent consumers who appreciate the efforts made by Ford in this division. The Mountaineer, although fairly new in its own right, joins the new model Monterey minivan, Sable, Marauder and Grand Marquis in the Mercury offerings for 2004.

Mountaineer is similar mechanically to its sibling, the Ford Explorer. However, where Explorer is aimed at a larger consumer base, Mountaineer is more luxurious in its final statement. This vehicle is one of the best-looking SUVs out there,

thanks to an impressive front end that features a large waterfall-style grille and Mercury badges. Mountaineer's rear styling is also noteworthy, as large tail lamps highlight the design. Standard on our tester were color-keyed running boards, 17-inch all-season tires and beautiful machined aluminum wheels.

Inside, our Mountaineer featured standard third-row seating and optional Quad Seating (\$490). Additionally, a \$1,295 rear-seat entertainment center, featuring a DVD player, made for a nice advantage if longer trips are in your itinerary. The auxiliary climate control also featured rear heating and cool-

ing, a must these days for the rear passengers.

The instrument cluster featured white-face instrumentation that is easy to read, while Mountaineer's leather seating surface is standard, with front-seat heaters. The seats are comfortable, and we found that even the third-row passengers had adequate head and legroom. Standard power-operated adjustable foot pedals help those with shorter torsos sit in a better driving position. We also liked that you can fold the third-row seat under, eliminating the need for removal of heavy seats for more cargo room.

Mountaineer's second-row seats are 40/20/40, which

means you can access the third row easily. You can fold down the center "20" and leave room for two passengers on either side of the pass-through to the back.

Under the hood, a 4.6-liter V-8 producing 239 horsepower moves Mountaineer flawlessly. Towing should be a breeze, and you'll find this engine is better situated for Mountaineer than the 4.0-liter V-6 that powers lesser-equipped models.

Mountaineer's all-wheel-drive system is fully automatic and activates whenever wheel slippage occurs. The only transmission available is the five-speed electronic automatic overdrive with overdrive lockout switch.

Stopping Mountaineer is easy, thanks to four-wheel power disc brakes.

The suspension system is fully independent, helping in both cornering and comfort. The ride is more luxurious than "off road," something we expect in a



2004 Mercury Mountaineer Luxury AWD

Mercury. Mountaineer's cabin is also very quiet and features all of the expected safety equipment that top-of-the-line SUVs offer, including side curtain air bags.

In addition to its long list of standard equipment and aforementioned options, our Mountaineer also featured an Audiophile Audio System for \$510 that features AM/FM stereo/six-disc in-dash CD changer with seven premium speakers and an 8-inch subwoofer, and a \$795 safety group. With \$645 added for destination, the base went from \$35,901 to \$40,295.

Important numbers include a wheelbase of 113.8 inches, a 22.5-gallon fuel tank, seven-passenger seating, 81.3 cubic feet of maximum cargo space and EPA numbers of 15 mpg city and 19 mpg highway.

We like Mountaineer, and at \$40,000 plus, it no doubt appeals to those special consumers who want the very best in a mid-size SUV. However, a Ford Explorer can be purchased in the \$20,000 bracket and shares basically the same platform mechanicals, so the choice is yours. We rate Mountaineer an eight on a scale of 10.

— King Features Syndicate

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1964 Chrysler 300

By Greg Zyla

Q. I own a 1964 Chrysler 300 four-door hardtop. It has been under a shed for a few years, but the body is in good condition and needs a little work. The engine has about 100,000 miles on it. I turn it over regularly to keep the parts moving, but it will need a going over. It will also need tires and interior work. As for options, it has the pushbutton Torqueflite transmission but does not have air conditioning. What would be a fair price for this car? Is it worth restoring?

— Howard B., Petersburg, Va.

A. Howard, it's only worth restoring if you really want



with coupes and convertible production added. This statistic shows up in the retail value of the car in Old Car Price Guide. Your 300 is listed at \$3,100 in "good" condition, which your 300 is not.

The top price for a 1964 like yours is \$15,500 in completely restored condition. The same year's 300K goes from a low of \$6,200 to a high of \$37,000, so you can see the difference. For a complete frame-off with a rebuild, I believe you'll go through more than the return on investment would be worth, considering it needs engine, body and interior work. As for its current value, I'd say if you can get

to and have the considerable money it will take to do so. Personally, I would not invest the money because your 300 is not an official "letter series" 300, which carries more value. That it is the four-door model also diminishes its value.

It is the "300K" from 1964 that carries the "restorable" tag, as only 3,645 coupes and convertibles were built that year compared with the non-letter 300 series you have, which saw production in the 33,000 unit range

See CRUISIN', page 19A

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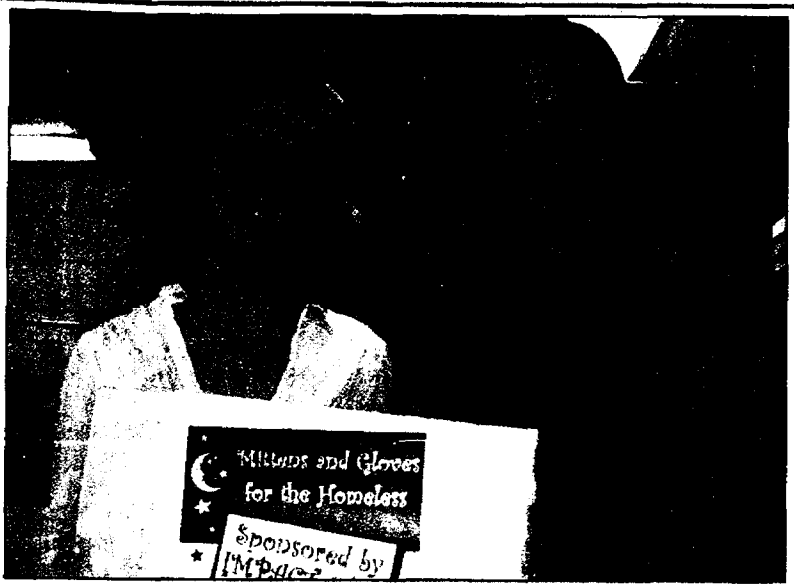


Photo by Carrie Cunningham

Helping the needy

With the Christmas season and its often charitable ethos ending almost a month and a half ago, two North students decided to spearhead a mitten and glove drive for the less fortunate during this cold Michigan winter. From Monday, Feb. 9, to Thursday, Feb. 12, Junior Katy Ralko and senior Andrea Sheridan, both members of the service club Impact, have placed a box in the North office for students and staff to donate old mittens and gloves. The drive is being run in conjunction with the Coalition of Temporary Shelter or COTS program.

"It's just a good activity. A lot of people have gloves lying around the house," said Sheridan. "It will help out the community and people in need."

Ferry Elementary and Grosse Pointe South High School have joined in the drive with North.

"It's exciting to network with different schools," said Ralko.



Photo courtesy of ULS

Annual geography bee

University Liggett Middle School hosted its 15th Annual Geography Bee on Friday, Jan. 9. Some 20 top spellers competed against each other, showcasing their knowledge of locations around the world. Sponsored by National Geographic, the top scorers of the event were sixth-graders Ben Gellman and Sam Robinson, who were winner and runner-up respectively.

Pictured above are teacher John Bandos, Robinson, Gellman and teacher Jeffrey Bond.

The top 100 scores in Michigan will participate in a State Bee at Central Michigan University, and the state winner will be invited to the National Geographic Bee in Washington, DC.

ULS Junior learns tenets of leadership

The attendance of Mark Baun, ULS junior and Grosse Pointe Farms resident, at the National Young Leaders Conference (NYLC) in Washington, D.C., from Tuesday, Feb. 3, to Sunday, Feb. 8, was a success. Baun, along with other NYLC scholars, worked through important current issues in simulations and face-to-face meetings with members of U.S. Congress or their staff as well as other influential personalities.

"By participating in the National Young Leaders Conference, students like Mark Baun will become better equipped to address the challenges facing communities around the world," said Mike Lasday, executive director of the Congressional Youth Leadership Council (CYLC), the organization that sponsors NYLC. "Rarely does someone so young come to our nation's capital to interact with today's elected officials, presidential appointees and nationally recognized opinion makers. This program offers young leaders Washington, D.C., as their classroom."

Former U.S. representative Tim Roemer of Indiana welcomed the students to the floor of the House of

Representatives. The students filled the chamber where the State of the Union Address takes place.

"This country needs your involvement. For you, maybe leadership means taking part in the fight against terrorism or assuming a role within a corporation," Roemer told the students. "Put politics aside and make finding answers your chief pursuit. By taking your ideas back home and putting them into action, you will create a rip-

pling effect that is felt throughout your community."

Baun also had the opportunity to interact with renowned journalists such as Eleanor Clift of Newsweek, John Diamond of USA Today, David Kestenbaum of National Public Radio and Tamara Lytle of the Orlando Sentinel. Students asked questions regarding national and international events, ethics in journalism and advice on how to start a

career in the news industry.

Founded in 1985, CYLC is a nonpartisan nonprofit organization that is committed to fostering and inspiring young people to achieve their full leadership potential. More than 400 members of the U.S. Congress join this commitment by serving on the CLYC Honorary Congressional Board of Advisors. In addition, more than 40 embassies participate in the Council's Board of

North Pointe on internet

North's student newspaper can be accessed online at the North homepage, according to an article by Jonathan Ismail in the January 16 issue of North Pointe.

District readers can look at articles as well as photographs. "It is very convenient for those who are unable to pick up a paper from the stand. All they need is access to the internet on the school computers," North Pointe co-editor-in-chief Christina Spagnulo, '04, told Ismail.

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Young writer receives state recognition

Katherine Platz, a student at St. Clare of Montefalco, was selected for publication in Kaleidoscope 2004, a collection of student writings assembled by the Michigan Reading Association. Katherine's piece is titled Looks Are Not Everything.

Kaleidoscope is in its 13th year of publication. Its purpose is to celebrate the talents of Michigan's young authors. Each school may submit one piece of writing to be published. This year's participants represent 120 schools across the state. The authors, from kindergarten through grade 12, address a wide variety of topics, but they have one thing in common: they love to write.

In addition to becoming published authors, the students are also invited to attend a special luncheon at the Michigan Reading Association Annual Conference on March 21, 2004, in the Ambassador Ballroom at Cobo Hall. The luncheon features a special guest speaker, accomplished singer and songwriter, Steve Seskin.

Break

From page 1B

She warns the girls not to lose control of the situation they are in, to trust their gut instincts and if they are ever in an uncomfortable situation, just get out.

At Grosse Pointe South High School, the parent network holds a meeting every October for parents regarding spring break.

They were shown the same Fox 2 video that was shown to North students and more discussion evolved.

"Parents saw it as a real eye-opener as to how much of an impact peer pressure adds and how alcohol consumption affects judgment," said Doug Roby, South student assistance coordinator. "High schoolers' bodies aren't fully developed, that's why they raised the drinking age to 21. Alcohol is easily accessible out of the United States."

The parents also talked about other possible options such as hiring chaperones or not allowing their children to go to all.

Roby said that one parent would not allow her child to go to Mexico, even when other parents tried to convince her otherwise.

The video is not shown to South students and Roby said it might be beneficial for some to see it, but maybe not for others.

"They might see all the partying and say that's why I'm going. That's not going to happen to them, I can drink in moderation," Roby said.

Unlike the Grosse Pointe schools, St. Clair Shores schools don't handle the concerns about spring break with parents the same way.

A representative at South Lake High School said that in its newsletter that it doesn't endorse spring break trips and if students say they are going with the school, they are lying.

Fran Forkin of the Lakeview High School Parent Teacher Student Organization (PTSO) said that spring break is discussed between parents and students.

"It's not a school-backed event like the senior all-night party or graduation. It's an individual thing," Forkin said.

Representatives from Lake Shore High School were not available for comment.

Four Lakeview High School seniors, Alex Trombley, Joseph Klomp, Kevin Matlock, and Wayne Lisac will make the pilgrimage to Cancun in April.

"One day we just decided we have to go to Cancun," Lisac said.

According to analysts, Cancun draws more than 170,000 college students and high school seniors in the eight weeks leading up to Easter.

Trombley, a forward on Lakeview's varsity basketball team, said they are looking forward to the beach, going to clubs, partying and the girls.

The trip was arranged through a local travel agency and will cost them \$1,250 each but the cost is being paid for mostly by their parents.

"It was a graduation present for me. My birthday is one day before we leave," Klomp said.

Trombley said the costs include airfare, accommodations, food and alcohol.

"It's more fun, there's less rules and it's in another country. Kids can go crazy," Lisac said in response to why high schoolers are taking part in spring break.

When asked whether they know their rights when in a foreign country, they said that they were nervous but would be smart and do their best to stay out of trouble.

They also said they would be careful when it came to alcohol and drugs.

"We're pretty much adults," Klomp said.

They said that their parents were skeptical about them going away and they delivered a strict ultimatum.

"They said if you go to jail, you're staying in jail. We're not coming to get you," Trombley said. "We had to do a little convincing."

Even when students don't go on spring break, they are still faced with the same risks here in the Pointes and St. Clair Shores.

Underage drinking has become commonplace, especially at house parties, which Koerber said can lead to destructive behavior.

"If we go to a house party where there's been a fight, damage to the house, sex — all those things happen because of the use of alcohol," Koerber said.

He also said that parents should become more involved in their children's lives, become more responsible and stand up to peer pressure.

"Parents need to be parents and quit being their kid's friend and they need to start at an early age," he said. "You'll be their best friend years from now."

Pierce said that she has a real problem with people who allow other people's children in their home to drink.

"That's not your prerogative as a parent to do that. It's illegal and it's wrong," Pierce said.

Koerber said that if someone wants to go on a spring trip, it should be family-oriented.

"It should be supervised by parents that you trust, and who have same types of commitments and values," Koerber said.



Women of Wayne

The Grosse Pointe chapter of Women of Wayne will hold its annual spring luncheon and fashion show on Saturday, March 6, in the Crystal Ballroom of the Grosse Pointe War Memorial.

Registration begins at 11 a.m. Shopping, a silent auction and luncheon follow. Fashions will be from Jane Woodbury and will be modeled by Women of Wayne members.

To make a reservation, send a check for \$27 (payable to WOW GP) to Santina Miller, 20202 VanAntwerp, Harper Woods, 48225, by Friday, Feb. 27.

Women of Wayne is a constituent group of the WSU Alumni Association. WOW board members, from left, are Arillas Zink, treasurer; Georgina Imbrico; Laurie Kystad; Joan Wright, president; Santina Miller, secretary; Ruth Chambers; and Jane McGraw. Not shown are Theresa Lorio, Marti Miller and Jean Wright.

Celebrate Fat Tuesday
with Mardi Gras menu

Next Tuesday is Fat Tuesday. The high point of Mardi Gras will include parades, fancy beads and food — lots of really good food.

For folks in the North, Fat Tuesday won't come with all the bells and whistles that accompany it in New Orleans. That doesn't mean that we can't bring a taste of Mardi Gras to the dinner table next Tuesday.

After reviewing several recipes from various cookbooks, I chose the following salad because it sounded delicious. The name sealed the deal.

Mardi Gras Salad

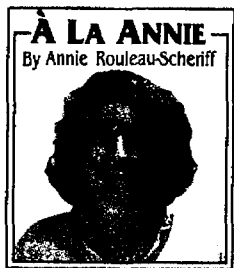
1 13-oz. can petit pois (small green peas)
1 14.5-oz. can French-style green beans
1 1/2 cups diced celery
1 green pepper, diced
1 4-oz. jar chopped pimento
1 small onion, diced
1 cup sugar
1/2 cup vegetable oil
1 tablespoon salt
3/4 cup red wine vinegar

Drain the juice from the peas, beans and pimento. Mix all the ingredients in a glass or plastic bowl and cover with plastic wrap. Marinate the salad for at least 12 hours before serving.

Mardi Gras salad is a take on cold bean salad that I have always enjoyed preparing and eating. This summer-friendly salad will pull you from the depths and doldrums of winter.

If you care to go full circle, next Tuesday pull out the crock pot and whip up this traditional New Orleans fare that my sister Christine often prepares for her family:

Rinse a 16-oz. package of dry red beans and place them in a crock pot. Add a chopped onion and cover with water about 1 inch over the top of the beans. Season the water with 2 teaspoons of Creole or Cajun seasoning and salt and pepper to taste. Throw 2 bay leaves in the pot. Cook the beans in the crock pot on high for several hours until the beans absorb most of the water.



Check the beans occasionally to make sure they don't dry out. Add more water if needed. Change the crock pot setting to low and add 1 lb. andouille or other smoked sausage, sliced into 1-inch pieces. Taste the beans and add more seasoning(s) if needed.

Continue to cook for another hour or so. Serve over your favorite white rice.

Christine developed a flair for New Orleans food while attending graduate school at Louisiana State University. Her teenage sons, Joe, Tony and Danny, love their Mom's red beans and rice.

Prepare the salad Monday night before you go to bed. Get your beans in the pot on Tuesday morning and by dinner-time you'll be serving up a Mardi Gras feast to your loved ones.

Meetings

G.P. Audubon

The lecture is free and the community is invited.

For more information, call Rapai at (313) 885-6502.

Women's

Connection

The speaker will be Judge Lynne Pierce, who will discuss ways to avoid being victimized.

For reservations or more information, call Rose Hauck at (313) 884-6577 or Marcia Pikielak at (313) 884-4201.

Send club news to msmith@grossepointenews.com

pointe counter points by kathleenstevenson

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Spring Break: Harmless fun or harmful?

By Michael Shelton
Special Writer

"What happens in Cancun, stays in Cancun," one student said in a 1998 Fox 2 report on spring break in Cancun, Mexico. At the time, that student was still in high school.

Today, more and more high school students are taking part in a tradition typically reserved for college students.

They are flocking to warm weather destinations such as Cancun, South Padre Island and Jamaica for a little fun in the sun as a relief from studies.

Spring break has also become a

staple on MTV and spawned a reality-based movie, "The Real Cancun."

Travel companies bombard students with special offers for trips. If you type Spring break on Yahoo!, you'll end up with more than 3 million links.

Spring break fun can also include alcohol, drugs, sex and other risky behaviors.

The fact that some students travel alone and unsupervised to destinations that have almost no rules has many in the Grosse Pointe and St. Clair Shores communities concerned.

"Kids are so naive, it's just party, party, party. No parents, no rules, no nothing," said Detective Dan Koerber of Grosse Pointe Woods Public Safety. "That is ludicrous to send your child who is still in high school to go someplace where there are no rules or consequences."

Koerber has been a youth officer for 10 years and is active as a liaison officer at Grosse Pointe North High School.

He, along with Judge Lynne Pierce, warn North students about the dangers of alcohol through critical decision lectures.

One lecture focuses on senior students and spring break, with Koerber lecturing the boys and Pierce talking with the girls.

The students are shown a video featuring a Fox 2 investigative report by Katie Trexler. She traveled to Cancun in 1998 with a camera and caught many of the wild activities firsthand.

They included four girls dancing suggestively around a young man stretched out on a lounge

chair, shots of alcohol being poured into students' mouths at a nightclub and a young girl flashing a crowd on the beach.

Trexler also managed to catch a young man convulsing on a street corner after he drank too much alcohol, and a party store cashier who tried to offer her "weed."

The drinking age in Mexico is 18 and in some cases is rarely enforced. If you are caught with drugs in Mexico, you could be held in jail a year before a trial according to law.

According to USA Today, during spring break in 2002, the U.S. Consulate in Merida, Mexico, reported that 360 students were arrested in Cancun for offenses ranging from drugs to making obscene gestures.

Koerber said that when alcohol gets involved, the decision making process goes out the window and inhibitions are lowered.

"It's sex, drugs, violence, people destroy property, get into fights," Koerber said. "When you add alcohol and drugs into the factor the bounds are no limits, it's green light everything."

Pierce, an elected judge in Grosse Pointe Woods for 12 years, said that she doesn't think high school students are emotionally and mentally mature enough

to cope with those kinds of situations.

"In a foreign country, there are more difficult consequences and a lot of teenagers don't have a clue what their rights are," she said.

Pierce decided to get involved in the critical thinking lectures after the North sex scandal of 1998.

In the girls lecture, Pierce warns them about different types of drugs and their effects, including Gamma Hydroxy Butyrate (GHB), more commonly referred to as the "date-rape" drug.

According to the Michigan Women's Commission, GHB is a central nervous system depressant that immobilizes a victim.

It usually is slipped into girls' drinks for the purpose of sexual assault, but it can also result in

death.

"I know someone whose daughter was in Mexico and was slipped the GHB drug and almost died from it," Pierce said.

"She was in a coma, but came out of it OK. The hospital in Mexico would not accept their medical insurance; they would take nothing other than cash."

Pierce said that the girl's father flew down to Mexico with money to help his daughter get out.

"If alcohol and drugs are involved and there's sex, that's not consensual sex," Pierce said.

"I have girls who come up to me and say that they wish they had known about this stuff earlier because they were victims of date rape."

See BREAK, page 8B



Photos by Michael Shelton

Judge Lynne Pierce, an elected judge in Grosse Pointe Woods for 12 years, is active in critical decision lectures at Grosse Pointe North High School. She warns young girls about the risks involved with spring break, including date rape.



From left, Lakeview High School seniors Alex Trombley, Joseph Klomp, Kevin Matlock and Wayne Lisac will be four of the many high school seniors who will travel to Cancun, Mexico, for spring break in April.

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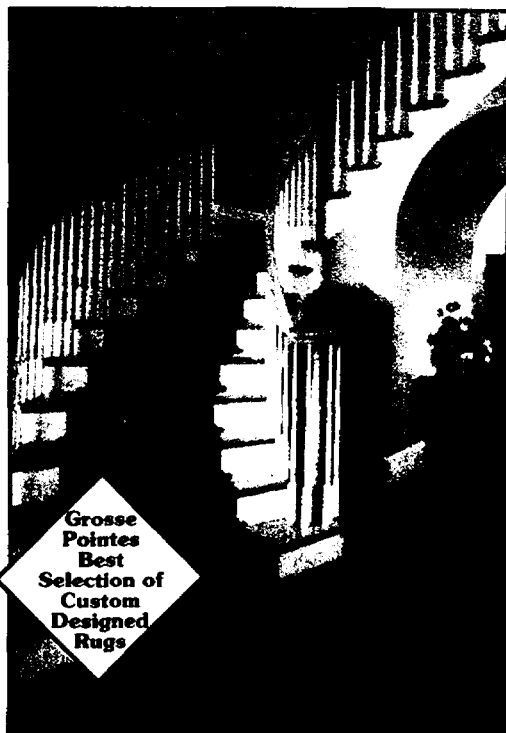
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Warm hearts fill Valentine baskets

By Mimi Drennan
Special Writer

Valentine's Day was a happy occasion for home-bound folks, nursing home residents and those in need of a heartfelt surprise. It was the day chosen by the Christian Services Committee at St. Joan of Arc Parish to remember those individuals with decorative baskets filled with thoughtful, caring gifts.

When asked why Feb. 14 was chosen for this particular event, committee member Maryanne D'Arca explained, "We were going to do it for Christmas, but it's so busy at that time of the year. Valentine's Day just seemed like the perfect time to do something special for those who need it most."

Chairperson Joan Allen, busily arranging ribbons and gift cards onto each of

the gifts, commented, "This is the first time we've done this project, and I'm sure we'll be doing it again next year. We work with so many different programs, but this one will always be very special."

St. Joan's Christian Services group is involved in several notable projects within the parish that include: Baby Basics, donations of clothing, diapers, and other essentials for newborns; the Crossroads program; Capuchin Soup Kitchen, where twice a year committee members and other St. Joan parishioners donate foodstuffs and their time to prepare and serve meals to the underprivileged; blood drives; and in Detroit, volunteering time and support at the St. Peter and Paul Church Warming Center.



Handmade angels were part of the Valentine baskets delivered by St. Joan of Arc volunteers.

"The people at this parish are very warm and caring," said Monsignor Ricardo Bass, St. Joan of Arc pastor. "I'm very proud of our Christian Services program. It is one of our most important outreach initiatives and the members have been very supportive with the various programs that are part of our ministry."

"Take for example this project. Everything you see here was donated by our parishioners through the work of the committee. Even our youth group got involved."

members including: Joe Heenan, past president of the St. Vincent de Paul Society at St. Joan, Diane Richards, Sally Urban, Monica Szabo, Jill Gutierrez, Mike Madison and Josie Dehelean, busied themselves with their tasks, one could easily see that a lot of care, love and affection were also being added to those Valentine's Day baskets for some very special people.

Bishop Gumbleton speaks at public peace forum

The Most Rev. Thomas J. Gumbleton, auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Detroit, will address a public forum sponsored by Pointes for Peace at 7:30 p.m., Monday, Feb. 23, at St. Ambrose Roman Catholic Church in Grosse Pointe Park.

Gumbleton traveled to Iraq as part of a small American delegation from Jan. 12 through 22. He met and talked with many Iraqi citizens.

"Report from Baghdad" will be the topic of his remarks.

A longtime national and international peace activist, Gumbleton is pastor of St. Leo's Roman Catholic Church in Detroit, the founding president of Pax Christi USA, and co-founder of the Michigan Coalition for Human Rights. He also is an author and public speaker on causes related to peace and social justice.

His presentation, in the new St. Ambrose community center known as 'the Ark,' marks the seventh public forum sponsored by Pointes for Peace in the past year.

The program is free and light refreshments will be served. The church is located at 15020 Hampton in Grosse Pointe Park, just northeast of the intersection of E. Jefferson and Alter.

Pointes for Peace is a community-based group of Eastsiders and others who are committed to educating for conflict resolution and other strategies to work for peace on local, national and international levels.

Membership is free.

All are welcome at Pointes for Peace weekly gatherings, which are Sundays at 7 p.m. at Starbucks, at the corner of Kercheval and Notre Dame in the Village.

For more information, or to be added to the Pointes for Peace mailing list, call Carol Bendure at (313) 882-7732 or Mary Read at (313) 822-2702, or e-mail pointesforpeace@yahoo.com.



Maryanne D'Arca counts the baskets for delivery to homebound and nursing home residents.

There were plenty of useful items to fill more than the 100 baskets they put together.

With assembly-line precision, the group went about its task selecting articles for both men and women.

From large shopping bags and boxes that spilled over with hygienic supplies they chose soap, razors, shaving cream, shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant, dental floss, Q-Tips, mouthwash, and cologne spray to name just a few.

The baskets also included religious items, booklets filled with inspirational verses, warm socks, TicTacs, note paper, playing cards and puzzles.

On Valentine's Day the decorative baskets (actually large clear plastic bags adorned with crimson hearts tied with a pink or red ribbon) were hand-delivered to homebound and nursing home residents, and those in need of a special token of warmth and care in Macomb and Wayne counties.

"We'll even be going out to Waterford," the pastor said. As the other committee

members including: Joe Heenan, past president of the St. Vincent de Paul Society at St. Joan, Diane Richards, Sally Urban, Monica Szabo, Jill Gutierrez, Mike Madison and Josie Dehelean, busied themselves with their tasks, one could easily see that a lot of care, love and affection were also being added to those Valentine's Day baskets for some very special people.

VECC has teen cancer support program

Michigan's only Look Good - Feel Better for Teens with cancer support class is scheduled for Monday, Feb. 23, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Van Elslander Cancer Center in Grosse Pointe Woods on the campus of St. John Hospital and Medical Center.

It is one of only a few such free programs in the nation. A parent support group with a child psychologist will take place elsewhere in the center at the same time.

The program, open to any teenager with cancer, provides professional help to assist him or her in coping with the appearance-related side effects of treatment.

The Look Good - Feel Better for Teens program is open to boys and girls ages 13 to 17.

Topics include nutrition, social issues and possible changes in skin, nails and hair during chemotherapy and radiation.

The class also includes a 12-step hands-on makeup application lesson, a complete bag of makeup, hair-

loss information and wig and accessory demonstrations.

The young people can experience the best ways to keep skin looking fresh, see the latest looks for bandana and turban wear, learn how to "take charge" in awkward social situations, and meet other teens in similar situations.

This is all done in a private setting with the help of experienced cosmetologists.

The program, scheduled quarterly, was developed on a national level by three organizations: The Cosmetic, Toiletry, and Fragrance Association; the National Cosmetology Association; and the American Cancer Society.

A similar program for adult women has been operating with local volunteer support for 12 years.

To register for the teen program, call the Van Elslander Cancer Center at (866) 246-HOPE (4673).

For more information, contact the American Cancer Society at (248) 557-5353 or log on to

www.2bme.org.

The Van Elslander Cancer Center is adjacent to St. John Hospital and Medical Center at 19229 Mack at Moross, east of I-94.

Local pianist Joseph Palazzolo will celebrate his 50th birthday by giving a solo piano concert at 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21, at the Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church, 17150 Maumee in the City of Grosse Pointe. Palazzolo is also choir director of the church.

On the program: works by Chopin, Beethoven, Debussy and some surprises.

Baritone Lewis Dahle von Schlanbusch will sing a medley of Gershwin tunes and two of Palazzolo's piano students will also perform.

Tickets are \$30; \$20 for students and seniors. Purchase a ticket before Saturday, Feb. 21, and get \$5 off. Proceeds from the concert will be used for educational and performance opportunities for his students. Call (248) 541-6334.

For more information, contact the American Cancer Society at (248) 557-5353 or log on to

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Husband speak

My husband just got off the phone with his old friend Vini. This might not seem like such a big deal to you. However, Vini isn't just any friend.

Nooooo. Vini is my husband's very best, through-thick-and-thin type pal from high school, whom he hasn't heard from in years. Years.

So when he hung up it seemed perfectly reasonable that I ask, "How's Vini?"

"Who?" my husband asked. And then: "Oh. Yeah. Fine."

"Well...?" I asked. And then: "How are the kids? Is he still living in the same house?"

"I guess so."
"Where does he work? Is he still married?"

"Uh, well, I dunno."

"Then what in the heck did you talk about for an hour?"

"Computers," he said in an "of course" kind of way. "He has a new 286 PC and needed advice on hooking it up."

That's just the kind of thing you can expect from a man. A man can talk for hours to his very best friend, the very person with whom he was practically a soul mate during their high school years, and he can end up without any information at all.

Frankly, I should've expected this. The same thing happened the time my husband was invited by the members of a nationally known rock band to fix their computer system.

I don't know about you, but this is the sort of thing that qualifies for my "Fantasy Island Material Category," right along with fitting in size 7 jeans and finding trendy tennis shoes for 75 percent off.

So naturally I couldn't wait for him to return home to tell me all of the details.

"Well, how did it go?" I asked, jumping to my feet

Family Daze

By Debbie Farmer



the second he walked through the door. "Fine."

"Fine?" I cried. "What did the house look like? How did they dress? Did they have a sofa or futons? Real art or posters?"

He shrugged. "For gosh sakes," I pleaded, clutching his lapel in my fists. "Give me some information! Anything!"

"I don't remember," he said. "Oh, yeah. They had a really nice big screen television."

I don't need to tell you that this sort of thing doesn't happen with women.

For instance, just the other day I called up the JC Penney catalog department to order a set of ceramic table lamps for the living room.

"Yes, I need two of number 546-A in beige," I said to the nice catalog operator named Mary over the phone. "But I need to make sure they'll go with a white leather sofa and olive curtains. What do you think?"

"Well, if I were you," she paused. "I'd stick with 535-B, the brass floor lamp."

"Oh?"

"At least that's what I have in my house. And it looks fabulous, especially since I have Pergo flooring."

"Hey, me, too!"

By the time I finished, I knew the color of Mary's kitchen, how long she's

been married, the names and ages of her children, and that her oldest child, a high school senior, just got a soccer scholarship to Colorado State but is thinking about going to Juilliard to study musical composition instead.

Truth be told, if she hadn't been in another state, we probably would've made plans to go shopping and out to lunch the following Saturday.

"What was that all about?" my husband asked after I hung up the phone.

"Oh, nothing. I was just buying some lamps." He looked at me as if I were insane.

But then, maybe I shouldn't expect more from someone who orders take-out Chinese food by blurring, "Number 51," into the telephone and hanging up.

Not that there's anything wrong with this.

But, between you and me, I can't imagine going through life this way. If I did, I'd never have gotten to know my friend Gloria at the bank, who has six cats and is thinking of quitting her job and becoming a midwife. Or Rosie at the grocery store, who went to the Oscar ceremony because she has a brother who's a professional movie extra.

Some people might think I'm just being nosy. But I consider it more as being a detective of human interest.

That said, I guess there will always be some things that will remain a mystery to me. Like, for example, how Vini is doing.

Unless I call his wife, whoever she may be.

Debbie Farmer is a humorist and a mother holding down the fort in California, and the author of "Don't Put Lipstick on the Cat!" She can be reached by writing family-daze

Babies

Emilia Jade Sun Kim Lie

Lancelot and Vivian Lie of Chicago are the parents of a daughter, Emilia Jade Sun Kim Lie, born Nov. 25, 2003. Maternal grandparents are Traudi Dwinger of Munich, Germany and Robert C. Preston of St. Augustine, Fla. Paternal grandparents are Dr. and Mrs. Kim K. Lie of Grosse Pointe Park. Great-grandparents are Dr. Prof. Gertrud Fussenegger of Linz, Austria.

Eleanor Campbell Szyperski

Amy and Joe Szyperski of Toledo, Ohio, are the parents of a daughter, Eleanor Campbell Szyperski, born

Nov. 24, 2003. Maternal grandparents are Joyce and Bruce Campbell of Grosse Pointe Woods. Paternal grandparents are Yvonne and Tom Szyperski of Toledo.

Great-grandparents are Dorothy and Paul Preisz of Clinton Township, Betty and Hall Campbell of St. Clair Shores and Varkes Tartigian of Toledo.

Benjamin Thomas Augustitus

Tom and Nancy Augustitus of St. Clair Shores are the parents of a son, Benjamin Thomas Augustitus, born Jan. 27, 2004. Maternal grandparents

are Mr. and Mrs. George Schulte of Grosse Pointe Farms.

Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Tom Augustitus of Grosse Pointe Shores.

John Charles Hall

Buffy and Eric Hall of St. Petersburg, Fla., are the parents of a son, John Charles "Jack" Hall, born Dec. 2, 2003. Maternal grandparents are Patricia and Charles Stumb Jr. of the City of Grosse Pointe. Paternal grandparents are Ginny and Walt Hall of St. Petersburg, Fla.

Great-grandparents are Virginia and Gordon Spoor of St. Petersburg.

Meals for Homebound fills need

Is there someone you know who is recuperating from surgery or an illness and unable to cook for himself or herself? Do you know an elderly individual who needs help with meals for a few weeks until other arrangements are made?

The Bon Secours Cottage Meals for the Homebound program is celebrating its 28th year of providing help to those in need. The community service project assists recently discharged patients and elderly people in the community during periods of recuperation or need.

The Bon Secours Cottage Meals program is the only temporary meal service in the area, helping individu-

als for periods up to eight weeks. Balanced, healthy, hot meals (regular diet only) are prepared by Food & Nutrition Services and delivered by Bon Secours Cottage volunteers during the noon hour Mondays through Fridays, excluding major holidays.

The success of the program is due to the quality and variety of meals provided, along with the caring spirit and friendly touch provided to the recipients by the volunteers' visits. Residents of the Grosse Pointes, Harper Woods and Detroit area (ZIP codes 48224, 48225, 48230 and 48236 only) are eligible.

Are you or someone you know interested in brighten-

ing the day of a shut-in? As a Bon Secours volunteer delivering meals to the homebound, you can make a difference in their lives by reaching out through food and friendship. Volunteer drivers are needed for approximately one and one-half hours at a time during the noon hour weekdays. Volunteers must have a valid driver's license and proof of automobile insurance.

For more information, call Bon Secours Volunteer Services at (313) 343-1795.

Story idea?

Call (313) 343-5594

Do you remember?

In the late 1940s and early 1950s, a "must have" in the summer wardrobe of every schoolgirl was a pair of short shorts with two parallel rows of white buttons down the front and a white stripe down each side. What was the name of the only store that sold these?

Each week we will try to provoke readers with a question about Grosse Pointe's past. The answer will be printed the following week.

Grosse Pointe War Memorial's

WMTV 5

24hr
Television
for the
Whole
Community

February 23 through February 29

Featured Guests

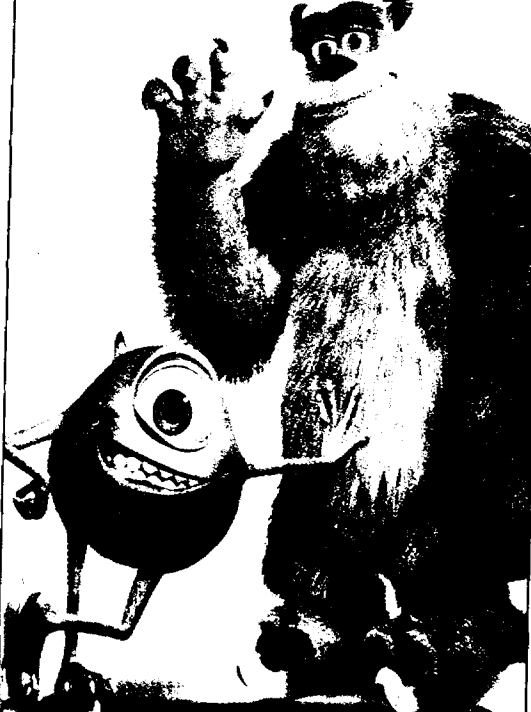
- 8:30 am The S.O.C. Show
- 9:00 am Vitality Plus
- 9:30 am Pointes of Horticulture
- 10:00 am Who's in the Kitchen?
- 10:30 am Things to do at the War Memorial
- 11:00 am Musical Story Time Jamboree
- 11:30 am Out of the Ordinary
- 12:00 pm Economic Club of Detroit
- 1:00 pm Watercolor Workshop
- 1:30 pm Inside Art
- 2:00 pm The Legal Insider
- 2:30 pm The John Prost Show
- 3:00 pm Things to do at the War Memorial
- 3:30 pm Musical Story Time Jamboree
- 4:00 pm Vitality Plus
- 4:30 pm Young View Pointes
- 5:00 pm Positively Positive
- 5:30 pm Senior Men's Club
- 6:00 pm Inside Art
- 6:30 pm The Legal Insider
- 7:00 pm Vitality Plus/Tone Exercise
- 7:30 pm Things to do at the War Memorial
- 8:00 pm Positively Positive
- 8:30 pm Young View Pointes
- 9:00 pm Vitality Plus
- 10:00 pm The John Prost Show
- 10:30 pm Inside Art
- 11:00 pm Out of the Ordinary
- 11:30 pm The S.O.C. Show

- The S.O.C. Show
Heidi Kalinowski - Hip & Knee Surgery
- Who's in the Kitchen?
Grosse Pointe North & Lance Creuse Students
- Things to do at the War Memorial
Bruce Weber & Elizabeth Lacy - Boating Skills and Jeanie McNeil - Back to the Future
- Out of the Ordinary
Tim Jeffery & Lizzy Chamberlain - "We Are Here"
- Economic Club of Detroit
Bill Gates - Microsoft Corporation
- Watercolor Workshop
Star Gazers Part I
- Inside Art
Judith Sheldon - First Circle
- The Legal Insider
Mike Cox - Attorney General of Michigan
- The John Prost Show
Vicky Bloom & Marcia Scavarda - G.P. Public Library

A copy of any WMTV5 program can be obtained for \$15 or \$10 if a blank tape is provided.

Schedule subject to change without notice. For further information call: 313.881.7511.

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For All Upcoming Events

Hilberry's 'Lovers' uses humor, melodrama, farce

Nothing hurts a man's pride more than having an unfaithful wife. It can give rise to tragic situations, but onstage it also provides many great opportunities for farce.

Hilberry Theater's new offering, "Lovers and Executioners," takes full advantage of both. The original script by 17th century French playwright Montfleury has been adapted by John Strand to bridge the stylistic gap for a modern audience. He has even retained the patterns of rhymes and verse used in the original in a way that enhances the impact of the modernized dialogue. It makes a very entertaining show.

The basic plot is simple enough. A betrayed husband punishes his wife by leaving her to die on a desert island. He then has to live with his guilt and hope that no one uncovers his crime.

His attempt to remarry three years later brings other parties into the plot, and a mysterious accuser appears on the scene. He also has a rival for his new bride in the person of a Spanish don who brings exceptional energy and spark to the action.

Author Strand and Director David Hay have made generous use of tried-and-true comedy traditions. Where a rhyming couplet can end with an off-color word, they leave it unspoken to let the audience fill

State of the Arts



By Alex Suczek

it in to fit the rhyme. It gets a laugh every time.

There are sight gags galore, a broad humor, disrespectful servants and a key figure who is a woman disguised as a man. The sword play involving her/him is, in fact, a great part of the fun as she embarrasses the Spanish don with an unexpected and uncouth thrust of her blade.

There is plenty of clever wordplay as well. The don hits a high note when he observes, after a round of crossing swords with the woman in disguise, that, "There is no hope for a nation of men raised on cheese."

His Spanish chauvinism surfaces many times, in fact, as the idiosyncrasies of the action prompt him to comment: "This could never happen in Spain."

A particularly clever device is the use of popular songs from the mid-20th century with themes that relate to the plot. "I'd like to take you on a slow boat to China" leads into the scene

where the wife gets marooned. The guilty husband in jail is serenaded with "Don't get around much any more." "I'll be seeing you," accents a farewell scene and business involving money and a pool onstage brings on "Three coins in the Fountain."

It is not all farcical tomfoolery, however. At the heart of the story is a serious look at unequal gender roles which survive to some extent even today. Under the oppressive customs of 17th century French society that allowed a husband to punish a supposed infidelity, the wife has no protection.

Can these male standards of honor overwhelm justice for women? Are compassion and forgiveness purely fem-

inine virtues or can men learn to practice them too?

Montfleury's surprising venture into these issues in the 17th century resonates in contemporary society. We are reminded there are still such things as irrationally jealous husbands and generously forgiving wives.

Pursuing this underlying theme, the play alternates between farce, melodrama and gallows humor. Fortunately, they are well-balanced with the fun of the farcical scenes only intensified by the contrast of the tragic moments.

The result is a plot with some depth to provoke thought on the issues of fairness and the differences between male and female psychology.

A strong cast carries it all off. Topping the list are

Jennifer McConnell and Tony Bozzuto. She plays Constance, who is pursued by both the Spaniard and the jealous husband. She also thinks she is pursued by Frederic, the woman in disguise.

Constance's mincing walk and affected vanity are a match for the suitor she is really made for, the Spanish don. Tony Bozzuto plays him with exaggerated flair, stamping his foot vigorously with Iberian passion to emphasize his words. The pair give a hilarious burlesque performance. In many moments they steal the show.

Considering the nature of their roles, Bernard, the jealous husband and his wronged wife have the heavy duty of carrying the background plot. Nikki

Ferry and Andrew Huff do yeoman service providing this basis for the rest of the company to create the fun. They also bring the play to a poignant conclusion.

Bernard, realizing that his suspicions were wrong, seeks reconciliation with his wife, who actually survived being marooned. It remains for her to revive the love and compassion she once felt for him. It is a touching finale to an evening that has moments of both hilarity and serious thought.

"Lovers and Executioners" is presented at Wayne State University's Hilberry Theater in repertory through Thursday, March 11. For specific performance dates and other information, call (313) 577-2972.

Healing Arts Center slates classes

Classes centered around complementary therapies and open to the community are offered at the Valade Healing Arts Center in the Van Elslander Cancer Center at St. John Hospital and Medical Center. February classes include:

Feb. 19: Intro to Energy Evening. This free class from 7 to 8:30 p.m. is a mini session offered by the Healing Arts Center for those wishing to experience for the first time the benefits of this ancient, gentle, hands-on healing method for stress reduction and relaxation that also promotes healing. This one-time service is complimentary, but donations to the Cancer Center are accepted. No appointment is necessary.

Feb. 21: Tai Chi Demo. This free class from 10 to 11 a.m. offers an opportunity to experience what Tai Chi is all about.

Feb. 21: Reiki Level II. The class costs \$195 and lasts all day, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Students receive attainments that intensify the Reiki energy. Symbols and powerful techniques will be taught for distance healing and furthering the mental, emotional and spiritual healing processes of individuals.

Feb. 21: Aura Photography. For \$25, limited 10-minute appointments between 12:30 and 2:30 p.m. provide each participant with the opportunity to discover his or her aura — the energy field that radiates through and around all living things. Ken Bede from Illumination will provide a color photo showing an individual's aura and chakras, using state-of-the-art equipment. A psychic reader will provide aura interpretation.

This information is for educational or entertainment purposes only.

Feb. 21: Pendulum Power. For \$25, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. help take the guesswork out of life by accessing the information, knowledge and wisdom within while enhancing intuitive abilities. Supplies to create a simple pendulum will be provided along with plenty of instruction.

Feb. 21: Lymphatic Reflexology and Self-Massage. For \$25, from 10 a.m. to noon, there will be a presentation on the art of massaging a reflex point on the hands or feet to clear blockages and stimulate the flow of energy through that particular zone.

Fibromyalgia sufferers ache all over

By Paul G. Donohue, M.D.
Q. I have had fibromyalgia for more than one year. I have tried a number of medicines, but nothing seems to work for me. I could cope with this affliction except for the pain it causes. I ache without any letup. Can you suggest anything that might bring me some relief?

— W.B.

A. Fibromyalgia is a condition that was not known until a few short years ago. It's an illness that causes its victims to ache all over, and it can produce widespread muscle and joint pain. In addition, the normal sleep cycle is disrupted, and that leaves fibromyalgia patients with an overwhelming fatigue.

Its cause has eluded discovery, but it might be that the pain centers of fibromyalgia patients' brains are inordinately sen-

sitive to pain signals. No single test proves the fibromyalgia diagnosis. Doctors have to rely on what patients tell them and what physical examinations can disclose. Tender points (also called trigger points) provide doctors with reliable information on fibromyalgia-caused complaints. These points consist of 18 body sites where pressure from the doctor's probing finger elicits pain far out of proportion to the pressure applied.

The list of treatments is long, and no one treatment has proven useful for all patients.

Exercise is of paramount importance. Begin at a low level, say, five minutes of walking a day. Gradually increase the time and tempo of the walk until a 30-minute goal is reached. Pilates (pih-LAH-teez) exer-

gises are excellent for pregnant women. It is best to begin the class after the first trimester, and a doctor's note is required to participate.

Class sizes are limited. For more information or to register, call (313) 647-3320, weekdays, between 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

The Valade Healing Arts Center is located on the third floor of the Van Elslander Cancer Center, behind St. John Hospital at 19229 Mack.

It provides an environment where all people, not only those touched by cancer, may enhance their quality of life through programs that complement medical care and focus on the mind, body and spirit.

cises are excellent for this syndrome. They consist of a series of movements from one position to the next, with the exerciser concentrating on the fluidity of motion and the depth of breathing. Most towns have Pilates instructors.

Amitriptyline can restore normal sleep cycles and provide refreshing sleep for people. A combination of Ultram and Tylenol often relieves pain. Pregabalin is a new medicine currently being studied for its usefulness in this distressing illness.

Readers who would like more information can order the newly written fibromyalgia pamphlet by writing: Dr. Donohue — No. 305W, Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. Enclose a check or money order for \$4.50 with the recipient's printed name and address. Allow four weeks for delivery.

Candlelight stroll offered at Ford House Feb. 29

Oscar Night will become an enchanted evening on Sunday, Feb. 29, at the Edsel & Eleanor Ford House. The historic home will roll out its own red carpet for the first-ever Enchanted Evening — a candlelight stroll of the home's first floor, followed by a reception including soft jazz, champagne and desserts.

The event follows on the heels of last December's popular Holiday Open House, which, like the Enchanted Evening, allowed visitors to stroll the first floor of Ford House at their leisure.

After the tour, guests can sip champagne and sample desserts in the Activities Center, where jazz music will play softly in the background. The musical group Textures, features Russ Mallary and Lee Dyament.

The event is from 7 to 9 p.m., which leaves guests plenty of time to catch the Academy Awards on television.

The cost of the evening is \$35 a person, and reservations are required. For more information, call (313) 884-4222.

The Edsel & Eleanor Ford House is celebrating 25 years since opening to the public in 1978. Since that time, Ford House has shared Eleanor Ford's vision of preserving and maintaining the house and grounds for future generations to enjoy through interpretive tours, family activities, lectures, exhibits and gardens and grounds events.

For more information about Ford House, go to www.fordhouse.org.

New Showing

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Sunday, Feb. 15	4 PM & 6:30 PM	Sunday, Feb. 22	4 PM & 6:30 PM
Tuesday, Feb. 17	2 PM & 7 PM	Tuesday, Feb. 24	7:00 PM
Thursday, Feb. 19	2 PM & 7 PM	Thursday, Feb. 26	7:00 PM

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This year's Race for the Cure is Saturday, June 5

Metro Detroit business and community leaders recently gathered at Compuware world headquarters for a kickoff reception to officially announce the date for the 2004 Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation Detroit Race for the Cure. The 2004 Race will take place on Saturday, June 5.

Michigan's largest foot race is part of a series of more than 100 Komen Foundation races in the United States and internationally. Compuware is a major sponsor of the event. The Race raises funds to support local breast cancer screening, education and treatment programs as well as national research.

The 2003 Race brought 21,000 people to Detroit's midtown and raised \$880,000.

In 2004, more than 217,000 people in the United States will be diagnosed with breast cancer, and about 40,000 will die from the disease. Breast cancer is a disease that affects families, communities, and businesses in countless ways. It is the leading cause of cancer deaths among women ages 40-59.

Yet, it is a disease which — when caught early — is more than 95 percent curable.

"Breast cancer is a horri-

ble disease that affects virtually everyone," said Dr. John C. Ruckdeschel, president and chief executive officer, Karmanos Cancer Institute. "We're getting energized about the 2004 Race and raising visibility and funds to keep Detroit on the front lines in the battle against breast cancer," he said. "I'm inviting everyone to join me at the race and encourage our friends, neighbors and colleagues throughout metro Detroit to get involved."

Nearly 1,500 of the 2003 Race for the Cure participants were breast cancer survivors, a testament to the benefits of early detection and treatment of the disease.

Ninety-six percent of participants in the 2003 Race that responded to a post-event online survey said they would likely sign up for the 2004 Race, and 98 percent said they would recommend the Race to a friend. Survey participants said their top reason for attending the Race was the mission of eradicating breast cancer, followed by the reputation of the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute and the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

Respondents also cited the emotional high, the positive spirit uniting metro Detroiters and how well the

Race is organized. For more information on the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute, its activities, or how you can get involved, visit www.karmanos.org or call (800) KARMANOS. For more information about the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, visit www.komen.org.

Restaurants compete: The ninth annual Michigan Culinary Food & Wine Extravaganza will again include The Hill Seafood & Chop House, which seeks to improve on 2003's second-place finish as the event's best restaurant.

A Mardi Gras benefit for the MCFWE Scholarship Fund and Blue Water Chefs Association will be from 6 to 10 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 24, at Mac & Ray's Banquet & Conference Center in Harrison Township.

MCFWE features more than 20 restaurants competing for the title of "Best Restaurant" as determined by a panel of media judges. Along with bragging rights, the top five restaurants receive a cash award, with the first place restaurant also winning a traveling trophy. Café Cortina has claimed the trophy for the last two years.

More than 700 guests are expected to attend the

event, where they will find an elaborate sampling of food and wine pairings at Mac & Ray's Banquet & Conference Center. Silent and live auctions, a live band and a raffle will add to the festive atmosphere.

Unlike other food events, MCFWE was designed to highlight the complementary pairings between food and wine. Participating restaurants are matched with a wine purveyor; together they determine a food and wine pairing that will be served to guests at the restaurant's table. Guests, adorned with Mardi Gras beads and decorative masks, stroll among the restaurants, enjoying the tastes, sights and sounds of a lively celebration.

"By creating a competition among restaurants, MCFWE ensures that guests are treated to an evening filled with incredible food and wine," said Roger Petri, event chairman and director of operations at Mac & Ray's.

"This is really the only event conducted by the hospitality community for the hospitality community," he added. "Monies raised at the event go directly to local students pursuing their dream of becoming a chef."

"While the restaurants compete fiercely for the trophy, the camaraderie among



ALNEGC award

The Northeast Guidance Center (NEGC) recently celebrated 40 years of providing mental health services to children and adults in eastern Wayne County.

The Assistance League to the Northeast Guidance Center (ALNEGC), a voluntary service and fundraising organization, was honored with a special achievement award for its 39 years of service to the agency.

Assistance League president Denise Cara of Grosse Pointe Woods, at the left, is shown with NEGC CEO Cheryl Coleman.

the chefs is unmistakable, and guests enjoy the opportunity to savor samplings from some of the area's best restaurants," Petri said.

Tickets are \$75 for gen-

eral admission and \$125 for patrons. Tickets may be purchased by calling (586) 463-9660, ext. 438.

— Margie Reins Smith

Engagements



Stephen Matthew Andris and Jennifer Leigh Rolka

Rolka-Andris

Michael and Cynthia Rolka of Grosse Pointe Farms have announced the engagement of their daughter, Jennifer Leigh Rolka, to Stephen Matthew Andris, son of Thomas and Denise Andris of Grosse Pointe Park and Janet Vereecken of Shelby Township.

An August wedding is planned.

Rolka is a student at the University of Michigan-Dearborn and is pursuing an elementary education certificate.

Andris earned a Bachelor of Science degree in anthro-

pology from Michigan State University and will begin veterinary school in the fall.

Ricci-Guest

Elizabeth and Robert Ricci of Grosse Pointe Woods have announced the engagement of their daughter, Patricia Ricci, to Stephen Guest, son of Margaret Guest of Grosse Pointe Woods and the late Dr. Michael Guest.

A July wedding is planned.

Ricci earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from DePaul University. She is an elementary school teacher in Chicago.

Guest earned a Bachelor

of Science degree in microbiology from the University of Michigan and is currently a Ph.D. candidate in virology at the University of Chicago.



Patricia Ricci and Stephen Guest

Shores couple receive award

Longtime St. John Hospital and Medical Center patrons and philanthropists John and Marlene Boll of Grosse Pointe Shores were presented with the Max M. Fisher Award for Outstanding Philanthropy at the recent National Philanthropy Day dinner. The Association of Fundraising Professionals, Greater Detroit Chapter, sponsored the event.

The Bolls are known for philanthropy focused on Christ-centered organizations, health care, performing arts and the Christian education of young children. In addition to St. John Hospital, the couple has worked tirelessly for organizations such as the Detroit Symphony Orchestra (DSO), William Tyndale College,

the YMCA and Cornerstone Schools of Detroit.

John Boll serves on many boards, including St. John Health Foundation, Michigan Parkinson's Foundation and Michigan Foundation. Marlene Boll has served on the board of directors of the Fontbonne Auxiliary at St. John Hospital, for which she has chaired the White Christmas Ball, and has chaired the Jubilee Ball for the DSO.

She is currently on the board of the Vail Valley Foundation (Colorado), an organization that supports programs for disadvantaged children, athletic events, daycare and learning centers.

The Bolls have three children and eight grandchildren.

Sciatica: Body's largest nerve can create trouble

By Paul G. Donohue, M.D.

Q. Please address sciatica. I have it but don't know much about it. My wife says I should take time off work and stay in bed. Would rest hasten healing?

— R.B.

A. Sciatica (sigh-AT-ee-kuh) comes from an irritated sciatic nerve, the body's largest and longest nerve. The sciatic nerve originates in the lower back.

Nerve roots springing from the lower spinal cord intertwine to form the right and left sciatic nerves. Each nerve travels downward through the buttocks and

legs to reach the heels.

Irritation of the nerve anywhere in its long path causes pain. Typically the pain is in the lower back and buttocks and often runs down the back of the leg.

A bulging disc in the backbone is one cause. The backbone looks like a stack of blocks with small sponges (discs) between adjacent blocks to act as shock absorbers.

The center of the disc is a gel material, and it can protrude through the disc and press on back nerves. Spinal stenosis is another cause of sciatica. That's a narrowing of the spinal canal that often

comes with aging.

No, you should not go to bed. If the pain is unbearable, one day in bed is allowed; two, at most. Bed rest does not hasten recovery, and it weakens muscles and bones.

Tylenol or anti-inflammatory drugs (Advil, Motrin, Indocin, Naprosyn and on and on) can bring a lessening of pain. Time is the healer for most.

The best sleeping position is on the side with knees drawn toward the chest and a pillow between the knees.

A physiatrist (fizz-EYE-uh-tryst) (not psychiatrist), a doctor who specializes in rehabilitating people, can devise a program that restores back health and ends back pain.

The newly published pamphlet on back problems has other hints on how to cope with this common complaint. Write to: Dr. Donohue — No. 303W, Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

Enclose a check or money

Players Playhouse plans benefit

The Historic Players Playhouse, 3321 E. Jefferson, will hold a benefit concert at 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21, with proceeds going to the Players' endowment fund.

The fund was created to defray some of the costs of operating the 77-year-old

building.

The Balduck Mountain Ramblers will perform. Reserved seating is \$25 a person and includes a light dinner and refreshments.

For information or a reservation, call (586) 792-4030.

SEMARN seeks artwork for annual exhibition

The Southeast Michigan Anti-Rape Network (SEMARN) requests artwork from survivors of sexual assault and their significant others for its 2004 Creative Expression Exhibit.

SEMARN is a six-county coalition of individuals and rape crisis centers that has been working to support survivors, raise awareness and end sexual violence since 1976. It maintains an anniversary fund which assists survivors of sexual assault in meeting some of the financial costs for which no other assistance is available.

SEMARN holds an exhibit each April to celebrate

Sexual Assault Awareness month in Michigan. It is recruiting and collecting artwork from the community for this year's event, its ninth annual exhibition, which will be held in the Wayne State Undergraduate Library.

The show also features poetry, music, photography, West African dance and modern dance.

Deadline for submissions of artwork and writing from survivors and their significant others is Wednesday, March 3.

For more information or to get details about submitting your work, call Lynn at (586) 463-4430, ext. 245.

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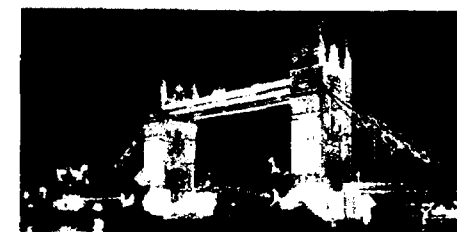
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Whiling away the hours

During my recovery from surgery, I've been watching a lot of television. Unfortunately, a goodly portion of it is advertising.

I find advertising a fascinating subject. It's unbelievable to me that a 30-second spot during the Super Bowl could cost \$20 million.

TV advertising is a highly complex and often unfathomable subject. Consider this. First a company or group has to determine what message it wants to send. An advertising agency is necessary to determine the format to be used to transform this message into a cohesive entity.

This requires writers first, then producers and musical treatment to provide an appropriate background. Once the format is in place, actors have to be hired, settings designed and props obtained to provide an appropriate backdrop.

Then a director, camera men and sound equipment people enter to do their thing. Finally a package exists that everyone agrees does the job.

At this point, the really expensive part begins. Media specialists recommend the best venue and dates and times for viewing.

This all depends on whether your audience is housewives watching soaps, or children, or people who like to watch sporting events, and so on.

These decisions are based on a great deal of research, but also on how many bucks a company has to spend on this 30-second masterpiece.

At last, it reaches TV where viewers make their own judgments. Considering the talents, time, effort and money that go into ads, it's amazing how much of it is just junk.

With all the experience I've had lately, I am able to place most ads into categories: stupid; irritating; offensive; funny, but not enlightening; and last and least likely, an interesting or amusing ad that could

Senior Scene

By Ruth Cain



induce one to buy or use the service or product advertised.

So many ads fit into the stupid category it's hard to settle on just one. This is the most recent one I've seen. A woman in her late 50s or early 60s is waiting at the door for her husband to enter the house. Anxiously, she asks him, "What did the doctor say?"

He smiles with great relief: "He says the trouble I'm having with my knees is arthritis."

The wife is so stunned by this miraculous diagnosis that she is speechless. What desert island have these people been living on?

An example of an irritating commercial is easy. The first scene is of a man with a piece of paper in his mouth shaking it back and forth like a dog with a bone. The second scene shows a woman emitting earsplitting screams without drawing a breath, her mouth so wide open that we can almost see her tonsils.

The fourth time I saw this ad to the bitter end to learn what company had dreamed this up. Can you believe this ad was to illustrate how people react to the high cell phone bills of other companies?

The disgusting category: A man with thick tomato sauce mixed with other foods smeared over his face is told he's no longer the champ.

The camera turns to a fellow who has even more of his face covered with garbage. Why would any company think this would make me want to go out and buy a pizza?

In a more pleasant mood, there are funny ads

that don't have anything to do with the company's product. The latest one involves a chunky middle-aged guy in a rumpled T-shirt and baggy pants, doing the sort of free and meaningless dancing that small children do for pure fun. It made me feel like getting up and doing the same thing. But why it would lead me to buy a pair of jeans? I have no idea.

I can't choose between these two ads that I thought were both funny and also advanced the companies' products.

The first involves a resigned and exhausted father whose non-stop talking pre-teenage daughter braids a few strands of his hair into tiny dreadlocks. The camera pans to very subdued grandparents and dogs who also have had their hair braided into small ribbons.

The father explains to the Sprint salesman that the daughter has an overpowering need to talk but can't use the cell phone until the lower rates go into effect at 9 p.m. The salesman explains that its cell phones' lower rates go into effect at 7 p.m., thus freeing the family two hours earlier from their nightly ordeal.

The last ad shows a father piling his sons into the family's SUV during the night. They pull nylon stockings over their faces and drive to an electronics store where the clerk is locking up for the night. They pull him into the car and drive to their home where they release him in front of their computer.

"Make that go away," the father pleads, pointing toward the screen.

The ad was prepared for Dell computers. How often does my computer get into such a gridlock that can only be ended by unplugging it? In my house a computer is known as an "infernal machine."

Good viewing. Keep your thumb on the "Mute" button.

If you have a comment or question for Cain, reach her at: ruthcain@aol.com.

Kevin and Debbie Roseborough of Grosse Pointe Farms and their daughter, Holly, volunteered to deliver valentines to local seniors for Services for Older Citizens' Heart to Heart program.



Volunteers create valentine cards for local senior citizens

Demonstrating that their hearts are in the right place, a number of local residents made valentines for senior citizens in the Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods. The project, dubbed "Heart to Heart," was organized by Services for Older Citizens (SOC).

Volunteers worked together on Saturday, Feb. 7, creating and delivering valentine cards to seniors in Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods.

Participating volunteers came from Kerby Elementary School, Grosse Pointe South High School, Grosse Pointe North High School, Regina High School, Grosse Pointe Academy, Ferry Elementary School, Poupard Elementary School, Mason Elementary School, Defer Elementary School and Trombly Elementary School.

Youth groups from St. Paul Catholic Church, St.

Clare Catholic Church and St. Philomena's Catholic Church as well as several families and individuals also participated.

"Hundreds of beautiful handmade cards were hand delivered to seniors in celebration of Valentine's Day," said Betsy Schulte, volunteer coordinator for Services for Older Citizens.

"It was a simple yet powerful act of kindness. Just seeing all these moms, dads, adults, teens and young children giving their time to others reminded me how many good people there are in the world; it was a beautiful thing. It's people like this who make this community what it is — a great place of generous and caring citizens," she said.

Many calls from seniors came in Monday morning to thank SOC's volunteers for bringing so much joy to them with the 5th annual Heart to Heart event.

A special thanks goes to the following donors for their food contributions for the project: Mulier's Market in Grosse Pointe Park, Krispy Kreme Donuts of Roseville, Bruegger's Bagels Bagel Bakery in Grosse Pointe, Einstein's Bagels of Grosse Pointe and Grosse Pointe Woods, Atlanta Bread at Pointe Plaza, Josef's French Pastry Shop of Grosse Pointe Woods, Panara Bread of the City of Grosse Pointe and the Vienna Cafe in Grosse Pointe Park.

Also thanks to Nature Nook Florist and Grosse Pointe Florists, for flowers to share with seniors.

Services for Older Citizens (SOC) of Grosse Pointe is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping older citizens maintain their lives in independence and dignity. For volunteer opportunities, call (313) 882-9600.

Take precautions if exercising during cold and flu season

By Andrea Renee Wyatt, M.S.S., C.S.C.S.

Q. During the winter months, I see many people at my gym sneezing and coughing in the grips of a cold or the flu. What can I do to protect myself while working out?

— S.W., Durham, N.C.

A. The winter season brings not only colder weather but also the risk of catching a cold or the flu. On the one hand, exercise is good medicine; one study suggests that regular exercise can cut in half the number of days a person suffers from the cold or flu. You can improve your immune system by eating a proper diet, getting adequate rest, reducing your stress level and by exercising.

On the other hand, gyms and fitness facilities — like the workplace and other areas where people congregate — are natural breeding grounds for passing on and getting infected by cold and flu germs. If you exercise at a gym, there are several precautions you can take to reduce your chances of catching these ailments from other members.

• Be aware of how you're feeling before you begin to work out. If you feel a cold or flu coming on, understand that your immune system may have to work overtime to fight off all of the possible germs you will be exposed to in the gym. If you are experiencing any symptoms of a cold or flu — such as fever, shortness of breath, headache, muscle aches, fatigue, severe cough, sneez-

ing, runny nose or chest congestion — wait until you recover before returning to exercise. This will not only keep your symptoms from possibly getting worse but will also protect other people in the gym.

• Carry towels to wipe down machines and weights before and after you exercise. As you mentioned, there are people in the gym who are sneezing and coughing and then touch mats, weights and machines. Everything they touch can become a potential source of illness for you.

• Don't forget about handles on exercise machines, door-knobs and locker rooms.

• Be sure to keep your hands away from your eyes, nose and mouth while exercising. After your workout, be sure to wash your hands thoroughly before touching your face, especially before eating. Remember to wash and disinfect workout gloves and clothes too.

Taking care of yourself by exercising, drinking plenty of fluids, eating properly, getting adequate rest and following precautions while in the gym can help keep you healthy during the cold and flu season.

If you have a fitness or training question, e-mail Andrea at letters.kfws@hearstsc.com or write her in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

SOC offers yoga for seniors

Services for Older Citizens will offer "Easy Does it Yoga for Older People," beginning at 12:15 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 24, at the Neighborhood Club.

Instructor Bob France is a registered yoga instructor with the National Yoga Alliance, a member of the Yoga Association of Greater Detroit and a yoga instructor at the Eastside Tennis

and Fitness Club. He will modify the basic yoga postures so that older people can learn to become stronger and more flexible. Participants should not eat for an hour before class, bring a small towel and wear loose-fitting clothes. The cost is \$3 a session.

For more information, call Susan Kopf at (313) 882-9600.

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Senior Men

The Grosse Pointe Senior Men's Club will meet at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 24, at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial. The speaker will be John McArthur. His topic: "Packard Proving Grounds." There will be a short question and answer session and a 50-50 drawing. For more information, call (313) 881-5592.



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Are Americans eating themselves to death?

By Dr. Paul Burgoyne
Special Writer

Walk down any crowded street in the United States and you will undoubtedly come to the conclusion that Americans are heavy. Forty percent of adults in the U.S. are overweight, many of them severely so. Children are following closely in their footsteps.

Type II adult-onset diabetes, the form of diabetes that used to affect mainly overweight adults, has been renamed simply Type II diabetes because so many overweight children are being diagnosed with it. Heart disease and stroke, which are often diet and lifestyle related, remain the leading causes of death in both men and women in the United States.

Quick weight-loss plans are everywhere

It isn't that people aren't trying to lose weight. Each year in the United States, people spend upward of \$30 billion on weight-loss programs, products and pills. The number and variety of weight-loss diet plans is staggering, and all offer quick fix promises of rapid weight loss with good health.

Many of the popular quick weight-loss plans are indeed effective, but may pose long-term hazards. High fat diets like the Atkins program allow large quantities of fat and protein such as eggs, bacon, butter and red meat to be eaten, so long as carbohydrates are severely restricted.

This diet is easy for many people to follow because there often is immediate weight loss, and dieters always feel full. The initial weight loss, though, can be attributed to the diuretic effect of a low-carbohydrate diet. Once carbohydrates are reintroduced, the water weight comes back on.

Studies show that many people actually gain weight when following a high-fat diet over the course of a year. Plus, there is the chance for worsening the risk of developing coronary heart disease and certain cancers because of the high levels of saturated fats.

The idea of making carbohydrates the enemy may stem from the failed low-fat fads of the '80s and '90s when people mistakenly believed they could endlessly eat the new no-fat snack foods. The problem is that they failed to factor in the amount of sugar and calories they were consuming by eating 12 no-fat cookies or four servings of no-fat potato chips.

Any diet that asks you to abandon a well-balanced variety of foods, especially fresh fruits and vegetables, is probably not a good long-term way to eat. The food pyramid developed more than 30 years ago by the FDA is a simple guide to healthy eating. Most people need to include more servings of the high fiber, nutrient-packed foods that are at the bottom of the pyramid (try for five to eight servings of fruits and vegetables a day) and fewer servings of the higher fat foods that reside at the tip of the pyramid.

Processed, fast foods are the enemy

Certainly, part of the reason Americans are packing on the pounds is because a large percentage of the daily diet consists of highly processed convenience foods and fast foods. Processed foods are typically high in calories, saturated fats and sodium. Foods of animal origin are mostly saturated (bad) fats, while most foods of plant origin and some seafoods are monounsaturated and polyunsaturated (better) fats.

There is another type of fat that is found in most processed foods called trans fatty acid, and this has been found to be a dangerous fat. Trans fatty acids are formed when food manufacturers turn liquid vegetable oils into solid fats by adding hydrogen to the oils. This process extends the shelf life of the foods containing these fats and allows manufacturers to fry foods at higher temperatures without the fats breaking down. Trans fatty acids help give our cookies and crackers their nice crunch and our fast foods the flavor we crave.

Read the ingredients on any food label from your favorite snack food, baked good or items such as stick margarine, salad dressing or shortening. If you see the ingredient, "partially hydrogenated vegetable oil," the product contains trans fatty acids.

The main problem with trans fatty acids is that they increase the LDL (bad) cholesterol in our bodies and decrease the HDL (good) cholesterol. Medical research over the last 20 years suggests that if we substitute trans fatty acids in our diets with monounsaturated fats like olive oil or canola oil, we could see as much as a 50 percent reduction in coronary heart disease.

Would it be better to completely eliminate trans fat from our diets? Sure. But it would require extraordinary dietary changes that would be difficult for many of us to maintain. What we can do on a daily basis is to check the nutrition facts panel on prepared foods and avoid those that are high in saturated fats or contain partially hydrogenated oils. Choose healthy fats like olive oil or canola oil, and avoid hard stick margarines and shortening.

Dr. Burgoyne is a Bon Secours Cottage family practice physician. For an appointment or to meet with a registered dietitian to learn about healthy weight loss programs, call Bon Secours Cottage Physician Referral at (800) 303-7315.

Clergy can play role in addressing addiction

People who recover from addiction to alcohol or other drugs most often do so with the help of others. Members of the clergy can play a key role in the prevention and intervention of addiction in the communities they serve.

A basic understanding of addiction as a disease is crucial in helping clergy and congregations understand the problem of alcoholism and drug dependence. Addiction is not a sin, the result of a moral failing or weakness, or a character defect best helped by praying harder or attending more services.

"Although many addicts commit numerous sins while using," said John Mac Dougall, manager of spiritual care at Hazelden in Center City, Minn., "addiction itself is not a sin any more than is having diabetes, a seizure disorder or heart disease."

Today we know that addiction is a primary chronic disease, and it is fatal if not successfully treated.

"The solution for sin is repentance, confession, and the grace of God," Mac Dougall continued, "but the solution for addiction is successful treatment and a program of recovery to maintain abstinence from all mood-altering chemicals."

How can clergy play an important part in identifying the problem and getting help? Mac Dougall offers several suggestions:

- Clergy can legitimize the discussion of addiction in their congregations. By breaking the "no-talk" rule that denies the existence of addiction, rabbis, priests

and ministers make it safe for people to open up about addiction-related problems. They can speak about addiction as a disease and the need for God's help in recovery.

- Invite guest speakers from Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous and Al-Anon to address forums, workshops or classes in your synagogue or church.

- Invite a local addiction expert to lead a workshop for parents on drug use among young people. When parents begin talking to one another about this problem, they collectively become a more powerful force for prevention.

- Have your congregation consider providing scholarship funding to help people pay for treatment "recovery" scholarship.

- Make literature available from AA, NA, Al-Anon and treatment centers.

Be informed about recovery

A lack of familiarity can make clergy reluctant to tackle addiction-related problems. Attend educational workshops on addiction, such as Hazelden's Professionals in Residence program, that can provide valuable understanding about the disease and recovery. Be assured that you don't have to be an addiction expert to be useful.

Become familiar with local resources for recovery. Visit the treatment facilities available in your area and learn more about their funding structures and criteria for admission.

Attend some open AA

meetings to familiarize yourself with these programs.

Keep phone numbers for local AA, NA and Al-Anon sources at hand.

Let your congregation know that you would like to talk with those who are currently in AA or NA about their experiences so you can better understand recovery.

Community resources

Prepare to receive an alcoholic or addict as you would prepare for a snowstorm — have the tools you need to deal with it readily available.

When you're talking with someone with an alcohol or drug problem, offer to go along to an open AA or NA meeting or put them in touch with an AA or NA member who can accompany them.

Ask individuals to go for an assessment of chemical dependency. This is an easier commitment to make than going for treatment, and many treatment facilities offer short assessment programs.

Help for families

"It's very important for clergy to recognize that a family can get help, whether or not the alcoholic

seeks help," Mac Dougall pointed out. Al-Anon is a Twelve Step mutual-help program for family members and friends of alcoholics. In conversations with families, explain to them that addiction is a disease and talk about recovery for the whole family. Many treatment facilities have family programs that provide education and healing for family members, whether or not the addicted individual seeks treatment.

"It's important to recognize that there are alcoholics and addicts at every level of society," said Mac Dougall, "and there are recovering alcoholics at every level, too. All we need to do is break the silence that surrounds addiction."

This health column offers information needed to help prevent substance abuse problems and address such problems. It is provided by Hazelden, a nonprofit agency based in Center City, Minn., that offers a wide range of information and treatment services on addiction. For more resources, call Hazelden at (800) 257-7800 or check its Web site at www.hazelden.org. Direct your inquiries to mduda@hazelden.org.

BSC presents three lectures: 'Taking Charge of Menopause'

A monthly educational series for women — especially those approaching mid-life — who want to take responsibility for their health and well-being, will be held by Bon Secours Cottage physicians. With a special interest in helping women through menopause, the issues of intimacy and relationships, weight and physical changes will be addressed.

The series will take place from 6:30 to 8 p.m. the fourth Wednesday of each month, on Feb. 25, March 24 and April 28, in Boardrooms A and B, lower level, Cottage Hospital, 159 Kercheval.

There is no charge, but reservations are required. Call (586) 779-7909.

Families Anonymous meets on Thursday evenings

Families Anonymous, a 12-step, self-help support program for parents, grandparents, relatives and friends who are concerned about and affected by a loved one's substance abuse or behavioral problem, meets from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursdays at Cottage Hospital, Lower Level, Boardroom B.

Families Anonymous meetings are open to the public. The forum is not intended for the individual

On Wednesday, Feb. 25, the topic will be "Understanding Menopause — Helping Women Make Informed Decisions." The speaker will be Dr. Suzanne Hall, staff physician and a member of the BSCHS department of obstetrics/gynecology.

On Wednesday, March 24, the topic will be "Mid-life Weight Change Issues — Some Answers." The speaker will be Dr. Edward Pazuchowski, medical director for Bon Secours Cottage Ambulatory Network.

On Wednesday, April 28, the topic will be "Mid-life Intimacy and Relationship Issues." The speaker will be Dr. Marguerite Shearer.

Step up to a healthy lifestyle in 2004

The U.S. Surgeon General reports that at least three out of five Americans do not engage in the recommended amount of physical activity necessary for good health. In 2002, a lack of physical activity cost Michigan residents nearly \$8.9 billion in health care payments stemming from diseases associated with obesity and heart disease.

For both quality of life and health care costs, every bit of physical activity counts.

"Take small steps and set attainable goals to start and sustain a healthier lifestyle in the New Year," said Dr. Tom Simmer, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan corporate medical director.

"As difficult as it is to start good exercise and eating habits, it's even harder to continue after the newness wears off. The good news is that small challenges help to get and keep you going."

For example, Simmer recommended starting with a 10- to 15-minute walk three times a week with a goal of increasing to 30 or 45 minutes, five days a week.

He then says to reward yourself as you make progress. It helps keep you on task. An effective reward is something desirable and

timely such as treating yourself to a movie, buying a CD or relaxing with a good book.

"Small rewards associated with smaller goals are more successful than large rewards that require an extended, complicated effort," Simmer said.

More tips for a successful year of activity:

- Look for group activities to jump-start your interest, such as local fitness walks.

- When you're up to 30 minutes of moderate aerobic activity (e.g., walking, jogging and swimming) several times a week, you can add a few minutes of weight and resistance training to your workouts.

- Be sure to warm up before an activity and stretch your muscles afterward.

Everyone can benefit from a variety of physical activities, ranging from sports to everyday household chores. Before starting your program, be sure to consult with your doctor about the types of exercise that will benefit you the most.

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan is nonprofit and an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

Female urology is topic of talk

Dr. Shiva Maralani, a urologist on staff at St. John Hospital and Medical Center, will discuss common female urology concerns and treatment, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Thursday, March 11, in the auditorium at the hospital.

The program is free, but advance registration is recommended. Call St. John SeniorLink at (888) 751-5465.

This program on women's urology concerns is sponsored by CareLink at SJH&MC.



Know Your Skin

by Lisa A. Manz-Dulac, MD

Do you regularly check your skin?

Everyone should do a skin exam at least every 6-8 weeks. And if you or your family members have a history of skin cancer, it is especially important to do regular self skin examinations of your entire body, from your scalp down to the soles of the feet. But what do you look for?

A good tool to use is the ABCD's. Benign lesions are typically round (symmetrical); an Asymetric shape (the "A") is often a sign that a mole could be a skin cancer. Also, the Borders (the "B") of suspicious lesions are often uneven with ragged or notched edges. Color (the "C") is another important characteristic. Lesions that have multiple shades of colors should be brought to your physician's attention. Large moles

with a Diameter larger than the eraser on a pencil (the "D") may also indicate malignancy. And watch for lesions that are starting to change in one of these areas. Most benign lesions do not change over time.

Once you bring a lesion to the attention of your doctor, he may recommend biopsy, destruction, excision or other complete removal, or you may be advised to continue to watch the lesion, depending on the diagnosis. Next week we will talk about the most common lesion that patients discover when they get to know their skin.

If you have a suspicious lesion, or to learn more about self skin exams, contact your dermatologist, or call us at Eastside Dermatology, Dr. Lisa Manz-Dulac and Associates.

Eastside Dermatology has offices in Grosse Pointe and New Baltimore. You can reach them at (313) 884-3380 or (586) 716-1291.

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GROSSE POINTE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

The Board of Education of the Grosse Pointe Public School System, Wayne County, Michigan, will receive sealed bids for a fence project at Grosse Pointe North High School.

Specifications and bid forms will be available at a **MANDATORY pre-bid meeting** on Tuesday, February 24, 2004 at 10:00 a.m., in the receiving room of North High School, located at 707 Vernier Rd., Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236.

Sealed bids will be due Tuesday, March 9, 2004 at 3:00 p.m. at the Administration Building of the Grosse Pointe Board of Education, 389 St. Clair Ave., Grosse Pointe, MI 48230, at which time and place the bids will be opened and publicly read aloud. This project will not be funded by federal or state monies.

Please direct questions to Wayne Halkides, Manager of Buildings and Grounds, 313-432-3082.

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 <p>GROSSE POINTE WOODS <i>Attractive</i> Very attractive brick bungalow with three bedrooms, formal dining room and updated kitchen with eating space. Recreation room with wet bar and one-half bath. Fenced yard with deck and newer landscaping. Home warranty. (LGP45HOL) 313-886-5040 \$193,500</p>	 <p>GROSSE POINTE <i>Magnificent</i> This English Tudor offers three floors of grace and elegance with a carriage house. Two story foyer leading to sunken garden. This home has been restored with ceramic tile and marble throughout. This home will not disappoint you! (LGP94LAK) 313-886-5040 \$2,150,000</p>	 <p>GROSSE POINTE PARK <i>Immaculate</i> Newer vinyl windows, carpet, roof, updated kitchens and baths. Copper plumbing, separate furnaces, enclosed front porch. Owner occupied. Glass block basement windows. Charming patio. Three parking spaces. (LGP04WAY) 313-886-5040 \$180,000</p>	 <p>GROSSE POINTE FARMS <i>Charming</i> Grosse Pointe Farms spacious three bedroom brick ranch with updated furnace, central air, windows and hot water heater. Living room with gas fireplace and kitchen with oak cabinets. Finished basement. An incredible value. (LGP48EL) 313-886-5040 \$212,900</p>	 <p>GROSSE POINTE <i>Classic Tudor</i> Exceptional condition. Gorgeous new kitchen with built-ins, fabulous woodwork, newer marble bath with cherry vanity. Spectacular master bedroom with vaulted ceilings. New furnace, air and roof in 2003. English garden. (LGP47WAS) 313-886-5040 \$575,000</p>
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 <p>GROSSE POINTE <i>It's A Steal</i> Charming home in excellent location on a deep lot. Three bedroom bungalow with updated kitchen. Refrigerator, washer and dryer included. Dining room, family room, natural fireplace. Newer roof, gutters and vinyl siding. Located two blocks from Village. (LGP99STC) 313-886-5040 \$179,900</p>	 <p>GROSSE POINTE PARK <i>Classic</i> Center entrance Colonial in prime location. Neutral decor. Hardwood floors throughout. Four bedrooms, two and one-half baths, master bedroom with bath. Central air, finished basement, natural fireplace and a two car garage. (LGP23WHI) 313-886-5040 \$509,000</p>	 <p>GROSSE POINTE FARMS <i>Charm</i> This Rose Terrace Tudor offers a two story Great Room, updated kitchen with granite counters, three fireplaces, a second floor library and a first floor laundry. It also offers a large three season room and a perfect circular floor plan. (LGP18ROS) 313-886-5040 \$750,000</p>	 <p>GROSSE POINTE WOODS <i>Colonial</i> Three bedroom English style Colonial with a great family room and lots of wood and leaded glass detailing. Updated kitchen with gorgeous maple cabinets. New tear-off roof in 2002 and new Andersen windows in 2003. (LGP61ANI) 313-886-5040 \$200,000</p>	 <p>GROSSE POINTE PARK <i>Elegant</i> This split level duplex home provides an open concept with volume ceilings, a first floor master suite and a large library. Finished extra deep basement offers a wet bar, exercise area and full bath. Much more. (LGP70TRO) 313-886-5040 \$499,000</p>
 <p>GROSSE POINTE PARK <i>Warranty</i> Lovely three bedroom, two bath brick bungalow. Great eat-in kitchen with appliances that stay. Gas forced air heat, air conditioning, two car garage and a deck in a fenced yard. Seller is finishing basement. Home warranty. (LGP73BEA) 313-886-5040 \$197,500</p>	 <p>GROSSE POINTE WOODS <i>Bungalow</i> Sharply updated/decorated. Outstanding kitchen opens to dining and living room. Fireplace in living room. Master bedroom with office, central air, paver patio, new windows 2003, second office/play area in basement. (LGP81HAM) 313-886-5040 \$198,500</p>	 <p>GROSSE POINTE PARK <i>Lakefront</i> This true "Lakefront" home is set on the tip of a secluded point with panoramic views from Peche Island to the Eastern horizon. Freighters glide through the nearby channel. This gorgeous home is in a spectacular setting. (LGP34LAK) 313-886-5040 \$2,680,000</p>	 <p>GROSSE POINTE PARK <i>Order Market</i> Restored bungalow with lovely oak kitchen and open floor plan. New roof 2003, hardwood floors, new carpeting in bedrooms. Lovely master bath with Jacuzzi and separate shower. Family room, finished basement with bath. (LGP81BEA) 313-886-5040 \$184,500</p>	 <p>GROSSE POINTE WOODS <i>Lovely</i> Three bedrooms and two full baths with newer furnace, air conditioning and roof. Some hardwood floors. Pergo flooring in kitchen and family room and fresh paint inside and outside. All appliances, basement and garage. (LGP14ALI) 313-886-5040 \$224,900</p>
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 <p>MILFORD <i>Royalty Home</i> Two story foyer and Great Room with two beautiful spiral staircases. First floor master suite, four bedrooms on second floor with Jack and Jill baths, two study rooms. Finished walkout basement with kitchen. (LWB56TAL) 313-886-5040 \$2,200,000</p>	 <p>BIRMINGHAM <i>A Real Beauty</i> Super home on wonderful lot. Four large bedrooms. Master bedroom with sitting room and fireplace. Skylights, vaulted ceilings and hardwood floors. Updated kitchen, family room with fireplace and more. (LBH66WIM) 313-886-5040 \$699,000</p>	 <p>WEST BLOOMFIELD <i>Gorgeous Condo</i> A three year beauty with very open high ceilings and modern carpeting. Two and one-half baths, three bedrooms, living room, Great Room, white kitchen, breakfast room, two fireplaces, full basement. (LWB14CRA) 313-886-5040 \$464,900</p>	 <p>BIRMINGHAM <i>New Colonial</i> Heart of the city. Being built this year. Three bedrooms, two and one-half baths. Fireplaces in living room and master bedroom. Hurry to customize kitchen and bathroom. Walking distance to downtown. (LBW03FOU) 313-886-5040 \$475,000</p>	 <p>FARMINGTON HILLS <i>A Steal</i> Best of locations in town and subdivision. Cul-de-sac location for the beauty with four big bedrooms, high ceilings, center island in the kitchen, library, family room, two car garage. Finished basement and circular driveway. (LWB90DOW) 313-886-5040 \$429,000</p>

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February 19, 2004



Photo by Dr. J. Richard Dunlap
Bryan Bennett scored 15 points and had seven steals in the first half of Grosse Pointe North's victory over Stevenson last week.

South spikers' magical season continues with MAC White Division crown

By Chuck Klonke
Sports Editor

A year ago, Grosse Pointe South's volleyball team finished 2-8 in the Macomb Area Conference White Division.

This year, the Blue Devils are division champions with an 8-0 record. South clinched the title last week with a 15-3, 15-5 victory over Anchor Bay.

The Blue Devils weren't as bad last year as their record might indicate because they lost a lot of close matches.

"Last year we struggled a lot in the third game of our matches," said team captain Julianna Burrows.

"The last two years we were under construction.

This year is like the grand opening. Mr. Nugent (coach Kevin Nugent) keeps telling us to maintain our focus throughout the match and this year we've been able to do that right through the third game."

This year's team has maturity. Burrows is one of five seniors on the team, and junior setter Rachel Sullivan is in her third varsity season.

"This year's there's a definite team chemistry that plays a huge role on the court," Burrows said.

"We've played together for quite a while, so we know each other and can anticipate each other's movements. It's almost like magic."

However, there's much more to the Blue Devils' success than magic.

"Everybody has worked hard to achieve our team goals," Burrows said. "And it's paying off."

South had an easy time putting away Anchor Bay in the title clincher.

"We talked before the match about finding our gear early," Nugent said. "We said, 'let's not mess around.'"

Liz Ridgway had an outstanding performance with seven kills and three blocks.

"She was astounding," Nugent said. "We've been working on getting her to block the ball to the ground. She had one block against Anchor Bay's middle hitter

that she knocked back to the 10-foot line."

Megan Switalski had an excellent match, contributing six kills, and Dana Schweitzer had a good defensive game.

"Dana had some big digs in the back row that helped keep the score down," Nugent said.

Now that the Blue Devils have achieved their goal of winning the division title, they're not going to be satisfied.

"We'd love to take districts," Burrows said. "We're going to keep pushing and see how far we can get. Anything's possible, but we're taking things one at a time."

South upsets MAC Red leader Eisenhower

By Chuck Klonke
Sports Editor

There's a simple formula for winning basketball games at Grosse Pointe South.

Everyone has to contribute.

The Blue Devils got con-

tributions from several players last week when they upset Macomb Area Conference Red Division leader Eisenhower 55-49, but it was a different story a few nights later when South lost to Chippewa Valley 59-39.

"Against Eisenhower, everyone played their roles to the hilt," said coach George Petrouleas.

"When we played Chippewa, Eric Berschback kept us in the game with 12 of our 24 points in the first half, but they concentrated on shutting him down in the second half and nobody else stepped up. We need contributions from everyone. We

don't have the luxury of being able to rely on one or two people to do the job."

It was a confident South team that stepped on the floor against Eisenhower, which was unbeaten in division play. The Blue Devils were coming off their first victory of the season against Dakota, and the boost in confidence was apparent.

"Our kids came out with a lot of energy — the most enthusiasm we've had all year," Petrouleas said.

The game went back and forth for the first few minutes but South ended the first quarter with a 17-14 lead and the Blue Devils never trailed again.

South had its best shooting night of the season, hitting 62 percent of its field-goal attempts, and the Blue Devils had a 36-21 edge in rebounding. Both have been trouble spots for South much of the season.

The Blue Devils led 43-41 going into the fourth quarter. The Eagles cut the lead to one point late in the period but South got two free throws from Nate Jones and one apiece from Brett Read and Andy Wolking to ice the victory.

"I think we caught (Eisenhower) at the right time, but our kids gained some confidence with their

Norsemen impress Titans

By Chuck Klonke
Sports Editor

Grosse Pointe North's basketball team felt that it left a bad impression the first time it played Stevenson this year.

The Norsemen were coming off their huge victory over Detroit Country Day,

and they struggled a bit as they opened the Macomb Area Conference White Division season with an eight-point win over the Titans.

"We didn't play that well the first time we played Stevenson," North coach Matt Trombley said after

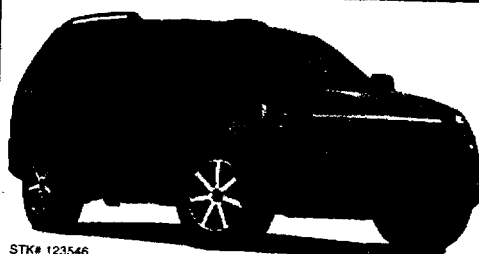
last Friday's 68-44 victory over the Titans. "The guys knew that and wanted to show them that we could be good. They came out on a mission."

Nobody seemed more determined to spread the

See NORTH, page 3C

See SOUTH, page 3C

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South

From page 1C

win over Dakota," Petrouleas said. "I don't think many people outside of our team thought that we had a chance to win."

Two players who didn't face the Eagles in the first meeting — a 72-35 victory for Eisenhower — played key roles in the upset.

Jones finished with 19 points and 12 rebounds, while Christian Conroy had nine points and four assists.

Kyle Bruen had 12 points and seven rebounds for South.

"Andy Wolking gave us some energy early with three baskets in the first half," Petrouleas said. "Zac Hacias was solid at guard, and Eric Berschback was the same."

Petrouleas said that the Blue Devils didn't come out with the same energy against Chippewa Valley, which is battling Eisenhower for the top spot in the division.

"Chippewa played an exceptional game, and we didn't play very well," Petrouleas said. "I'm sure they were warned not to fall asleep against us."

South trailed by six points at halftime, but the Big Reds pulled away in the third quarter, outscoring the Blue Devils 19-4.

"Chippewa was a difficult matchup for us with 6-8, 6-4 and 6-4 across the front line," Petrouleas said.

The Big Reds capitalized on the height advantage by outrebounding South 28-12. Chippewa Valley also shot 75 percent from the field.

"Three-fourths of their shots were from seven feet or less," Petrouleas said. "They had a lot of offensive rebounds."

East wrestler wins gold medal

By Bob St. John
Sports Writer

Lutheran East's Chris Jurczak (112-pound class) won a gold medal in last weekend's Metro Conference wrestling tournament at



Photo by Dr. J. Richard Dunlap

Nate Jones scored 19 points and pulled down 12 rebounds to lead Grosse Pointe South to its upset victory over Macomb Area Conference Red Division leader Eisenhower.

ULS skaters are on a roll

University Liggett School's hockey team is on a roll.

The Knights chalked up their sixth victory in the last seven games last week with a 1-0 win over Chippewa Valley.

Steve Berger scored the only goal of the game, assisted by Tommy Russell and Adam Rock.

Antonio Evangelista made 25 saves to record his second shutout of the season.

Michael Zukas scored his first varsity goal in ULS's 3-1 victory over East China.

Berger and George Wines also tallied for the Knights.

Earlier, ULS got goals from Rock, Berger and Russell in a 3-1 win over Dakota.

North has a solid effort in hockey loss to Shamrocks

By Chuck Klonke
Sports Editor

Grosse Pointe North's hockey team took a step in the right direction against Catholic Central last week,

but the Norsemen are still looking to end a six-game losing streak.

"What we need now is to play a father-son game so that we can get a win," coach

Blue Devils bounce back after loss to Trenton hockey team

By Chuck Klonke
Sports Editor

Grosse Pointe South's hockey team was faced with a must-win situation when it stepped out on the ice against Wyandotte Roosevelt last Saturday night.

The Blue Devils had just played one of their poorest games of the season a few nights earlier when they lost 5-1 to Trenton, and it was important to bounce back from the disappointing Michigan Metro High School Hockey League defeat.

"After the way we played against Trenton, this was going to be a game that could either make or break our season," South coach Bob Bopp said after the Blue Devils' 4-1 victory over the Bears.

"We really needed to come out and play well and win."

Wyandotte was no pushover. The Bears came into the contest with 13 victories.

South played well in the first period, and outshot Wyandotte 16-8, but neither team was able to score.

The Blue Devils continued to play well in the second period but some questionable penalties kept South shorthanded for much of the period.

Finally, at 12:14, South's Joey Parke broke the scoreless tie with a shorthanded goal. Brandon Krajniak and

Mark Diebel assisted.

A little more than a minute later, the Blue Devils were victimized by another fluke goal. A Wyandotte player fired the puck nearly the length of the ice, it took a crazy bounce and went into the net to tie the game at 1-1.

"That was a big break for Wyandotte, but our kids came into the third period with the attitude that even if they kept calling penalties we could still win the game," Bopp said.

"Our penalty killing has been really good this year with Joey Parke, Mark Diebel, Nick Andrew and Ben Morawski killing most of the penalties at forward."

South dominated the third period. Robbie Barrett put the Blue Devils ahead 2-1 with a goal at 2:29, assisted by Anthony DeLaura and Morawski.

Anthony Swancoat made it 3-1 with an unassisted power-play goal at 5:43 on a fine individual effort as he stickhandled around two Bears players and beat the goalie.

Barrett completed the scoring with a power-play goal at 6:33, assisted by Brian Gatloff.

"Our special teams were at their best in this game with two power play goals and one shorthanded goal," Bopp said.

South outshot Wyandotte

40-21. Mark Grignon made 20 saves for the Blue Devils.

"They had only 15 players so we felt that we could wear them down with our depth," Bopp said. "We have a lot of good kids who don't always get a chance to play a lot so we used them. I think that wore Wyandotte down and by the third period we really took control of the game."

South never really got going against Trenton, which scored twice in the first period, and added two more goals in the second period, including one with one second remaining after a South turnover.

"It was our worst game, and Trenton played exceptional," Bopp said. "The more mistakes we made, the stronger Trenton got."

The Blue Devils spoiled the Trojans' shutout bid at 11:40 of the third period on Krajniak's power-play goal from Stefan Harris and Tom Porter.

"Brandon has really been an important player for us this year, both on and off the ice," Bopp said of the fourth-year senior.

The enthusiasm was short-lived as South committed another costly turnover and Trenton capitalized with a goal at 12:43.

The split last week gave the Blue Devils a 13-7 overall record.

Livonia Clarenceville, and

"Chris had a very good tournament," head coach John Widmer said. "He has had a great senior season, and I think he has a shot to get to the state finals."

Justin Sommer (275 pounds) and Quentin Parker (171 pounds) earned bronze medals, while Alex Goetz (160 pounds) and Matt Goetz (215 pounds) captured fourth-place medals.

Lutheran Westland won the tournament with 232 points, followed by Harper Woods with 178, Lutheran North with 138, Clarenceville with 136, Lutheran Northwest with 77, Lutheran East with 70 and Hamtramck with 22.

Earlier in the week, the Eagles beat Hamtramck and lost to Clarenceville, ending the regular season 1-5 in the Metro Conference and 3-12 overall.

Coming up for the Lutheran East wrestling team is a Division IV individual district tournament on Saturday, Feb. 21, at New Haven.

Widmer's grapplers have to finish in the top four of their respective weight classes to advance to the regionals.

From page 1C

North

word that North was good than Bryan Bennett and Michael Bramos.

On Stevenson's first possession of the game, Bennett stole the ball and went in for a layup. He had four more steals before the first quarter ended with a 25-10 lead for the Norsemen.

If the Titans got past Bennett, then they had to contend with Bramos, who played an excellent all-around game. Bramos had five steals to go along with 15 points, seven rebounds and five assists. Bennett led North's scoring with 17 points, including 15 in the first half.

"Our kids know when a team doesn't have a true point guard," Trombley said. "They sense that like a shark senses blood in the water. The whole team senses it and goes after them. When we're working hard and are all on the same page we play pretty good defense."

Fitzgerald is the only team to beat North in the league this year and it's no coincidence that the Spartans have a true point guard to run the offense in Tony Marcotullio.

"That's one of the reasons we lost to them," Trombley said. "They have a point guard who doesn't get bothered that easily. Eventually we forced him into some turnovers but by that time we were 14 points down."

North built its lead to 48-21 at halftime and increased it to 64-25 late in the third quarter. Stevenson made the score respectable by finishing the game on a 19-4 run.

The Norsemen played without Andy Bennett and Jake Krystoforski, who were both sidelined with sprained ankles last week, but Jordan

Savage came off the bench to scored seven points and grab four rebounds, and Jacob Bloomhuff played one of his best games of the year.

"It's nice to have a guy like Jordan step up when we needed him," Trombley said. "Jake Bloomhuff had a great game. He seemed determined to prove himself. He plays great defense. For a sophomore, he really understands how to play defense."

Bloomhuff finished with eight points, one more than David Klein.

Earlier, North rolled past Marysville 57-35 in a MAC White game.

The Vikings put up a pretty good fight for a half, but the Norsemen came out strong in the second half and ourscored Marysville 16-5 in the third quarter.

"We were only up by eight at halftime, and when we played Marysville the first time we led by 24 at the half," Trombley said. "They were ready and worked hard, but we didn't play badly. They had only 18 points in the first half. The key was the third quarter. We put on the pressure and turned over their guards quite a few times."

Bramos and Marcell Maxwell led North with 12 points apiece. Bryan Bennett had another solid performance with five assists and four steals.

North has won five in a row since the loss to Fitzgerald. The Norsemen are now 8-1 in the MAC White and 13-2 overall.

"Our goal when we lost to Fitzgerald was to go to their place and play for the championship," Trombley said.

So far, the goal is still within reach. North travels to Fraser for a game Friday, then visits Fitzgerald on Tuesday, Feb. 24.

Scott Lock said after the 5-2 loss to the Shamrocks in the Michigan Interscholastic Hockey League game.

North might not have to go to those extremes, however.

The Norsemen's effort against Catholic Central, which was ranked No. 1 in the state in Division I, would beat a lot of teams.

"It was one of our best efforts in quite a while," Lock said. "I was happy with our work ethic. CC's coach told me that if we have that same effort we'll beat 99 percent of the teams we play."

The Shamrocks scored during the first minute of

Hockey

From page 2C

about this loss. Instead, I challenged them to live up to their ability.

"We've been near the top all season but we haven't taken that next step yet. Maybe this will be the loss that pushed them to go to the next level. We have the talent. I firmly believe that. This team has great kids. Now we need to push ourselves harder still, and develop the mindset and the determination. Maybe this disappointment will do it."

North is 15-4-1 in the league and 16-5-1 overall.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

HVAC IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

GROSSE POINTE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

The Board of Education of the Grosse Pointe Public School System, Wayne County, Michigan, will receive sealed bids for an HVAC improvement project at Grosse Pointe North High School.

Specifications and bid forms will be available at a **MANDATORY pre-bid meeting** on Tuesday, February 24, 2004 at 1:00 p.m., in the receiving room of North High School, located at 707 Vernier Rd., Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236.

Sealed bids will be due Tuesday, March 9, 2004 at 10:00 a.m. at the Administration Building of the Grosse Pointe Board of Education, 389 St. Clair Ave., Grosse Pointe, MI 48230, at which time and place the bids will be opened and publicly read aloud. This project will not be funded by federal or state monies.

Please direct questions to Wayne Halkides, Manager of Buildings and Grounds, 313-432-3082.

BOARD OF EDUCATION
The Grosse Pointe Public School System
Steven Matthews, Secretary

G.P.N.: 02/12/2004 & 02/19/2004

Grosse Pointe Woods-Shores Little League Baseball REGISTRATION

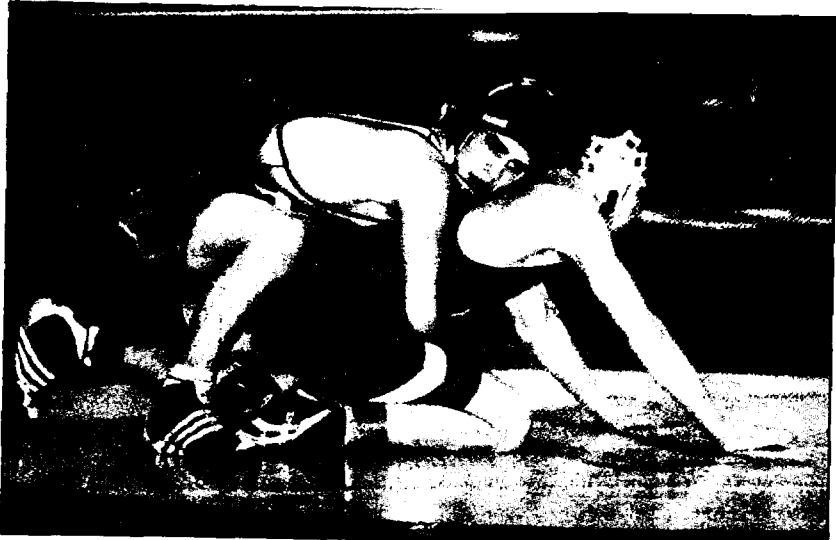
Feb. 7, 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Feb. 24, 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
AT FERRY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- * AGES 9 - 12 \$135.00
- * AGES 7 - 8 \$85.00
- * AGE 6 \$60.00

* Players age on July 31, 2004*

There will be an additional fee for late registration.

For more information call: 882-2450



Mike Kurdziel, left, picked up his 100th career victory for Grosse Pointe North during last weekend's Macomb Area Conference Red Division wrestling meet.

Photo by Lori Wilson

North wrestler gets 100th win

Last week was a memorable one for Grosse Pointe North's wrestling team. The Norsemen won their first Macomb Area Conference Red Division meet of the season by beating East Detroit 44-26. North then finished tied for fifth place in the MAC Red meet, which was hosted by the Norsemen. In the conference meet, North's Scott Gawel took first place in the 189-pound weight class. The Norsemen's Mike Kurdziel finished third at

112 pounds, and in the process he posted his 100th varsity win. Kurdziel, who started wrestling in the seventh grade in the junior high school program that North coach Joe Pantaleo started, is 33-3 this season. The feeder program has helped give wrestlers at North and Grosse Pointe South some experience before their high school wrestling careers begin. Kurdziel became the first North freshman to earn a medal at the state meet

when he finished sixth at 103 pounds two years ago. Last year, he advanced to the regionals. North also had fourth-place finishes from Ryan Stephens at 160 pounds and Spencer Channel at 215 in the MAC Red meet. Roseville won the team championship at the conference meet. Earlier, the Panthers beat North 57-9 in a dual meet. North's points were scored by Gawel, Channel and Kurdziel.

Fightin' Irish remain winless in Catholic League Central

By Michael Shelton
Sports Writer

Notre Dame's basketball team fell to U-D Jesuit, 50-40 on Tuesday, Feb. 10, spoiling senior night for Seth Quaranta and Keith Frank. "We made some mistakes tonight, but it was a drastic improvement from the first time we played this team," said Irish head coach Don Sicko. "I thought a couple of times we should have just backed off a little bit more. A couple of times with our aggressiveness we dribbled into their double team." Darryl Clements led the Irish with 14 points, along with Christian Hill, who had 13 points. But the first half was the difference as the Irish struggled with their shooting, and the Cubs took advantage of turnovers. "Darryl Clements, one of our two leading scorers, was 1 for 11 on his first 11 shots at the half. In spite of that, we were still in the ballgame; it was 16-14 at the time," Sicko said. "Then U of D got the last ten points of the first half, and as it turned out that ended up being the margin of the game so those ten

points were crucial." The Cubs were led by senior guard Robert Williams-Hinton with 15 points. He also hit a buzzer-beating three pointer to give U-D a 26-14 halftime lead. Junior guard Keith Flounoy also had 10 points for U-D. Before the game, seniors Quaranta and Frank were honored on the court. Quaranta was joined by his parents Richard and Lory, and plans to attend attending Grand Valley State University. Frank was accompanied by his parents, Chris and Mary Jo, and is deciding between Michigan State and Purdue. Quaranta helped keep the Irish in the game with some key rebounds and had 5 points. "We're lucky to have a person the quality of Seth. He's a good player, and he's a great person, and we're glad to have him," Sicko said. Notre Dame then fell to Warren De La Salle, 58-52, on Friday, Feb. 13. Clements had 19 points, and Quaranta contributed 13 points for the Irish. They now have an overall record of 4-11 and remain winless in the Catholic

League at 0-8.

Hockey

The Notre Dame hockey team split its games last week, beating Riverview Gabriel Richard 4-2 and losing 7-3 to Orchard Lake St. Mary. "We played well against Gabriel Richard, but we had a couple of breakdowns against St. Mary, and those cost us some goals," head coach Kevin McKay said. "Our guys have stepped up to the challenge of playing the tougher teams, which we hope will make us a stronger team come playoff time." In the victory, Joey Savona earned the win between the pipes for the Fightin' Irish, while John VanOenen, Chris Hentrick, Jason McBride and Joe Petrolere scored goals. Against league foe St. Mary, VanOenen had two goals to lead the Irish. "We were tied 1-1 after the first period, and played pretty well," McKay said. "We fell behind 4-2 after the second period, and missed a golden opportunity to cut our deficit to 4-3 late in that period, but our player missed an open net." — Grosse Pointe News sports writer Bob St. John contributed to this article.

Pioneers dispose of East in Metro tourney quarterfinal

By Bob St. John
Sports Writer

Lutheran East's boys basketball team had to travel back to league champ Harper Woods for the second time in two weeks to play a Metro Conference quarterfinal tournament last weekend. The Pioneers have dominated this series in recent years, winning every game this decade, and they added another win to the totals, beating the Eagles 66-38. "Our guys were ready for East this time around," Harper Woods head coach Loren Ristovski said. "We didn't play our best the last time we faced them, but this time we were on the ball." "We have nothing to lose, and everything to gain playing Harper Woods again,"

East head coach Joe Beck said after his squad faced Hamtramck in a tournament play-in game earlier in the week. Senior Bruce Mosely had 17 points, while senior Rodney Batts had 13, and senior Gilbert Waiker had 12 points and 12 rebounds to pace the Pioneers. Robert Carlisle had 14 points to lead the Eagles. Prior to this quarterfinal, Harper Woods blasted University Liggett School 80-47, while Lutheran East defeated Hamtramck 49-31. "We were able to jump out to a lead and play with more confidence than the last time we played Hamtramck," Beck said. "It was nice to get a win, and get ready to face Harper Woods."

Senior Matt Johnston had 13 points and five assists, while Carlisle had 12 points and 15 rebounds to lead the Eagles. Senior Mike Meinhardt chipped in with eight points and eight rebounds. As for the Pioneers, they had little trouble pummeling ULS as Justin Popov and Jerome Douglas each posted a double-double. Popov had 20 points and 11 rebounds, while Douglas had 17 points and 10 rebounds. Mosely added 12 points as the Pioneers led early and were never threatened in the second half. "Liggett has done a great job this season of playing with a lot of grit," Ristovski said. "Our guys had to be ready to play hard because we knew Liggett would match our intensity." The Harper Woods basketball team improved to 9-0 in the Metro Conference and 14-2 overall; Lutheran East is 2-8 in the Metro and 4-11 overall.



Harper Woods senior Gilbert Walker, No. 15, goes up strong for two points as Lutheran East senior Robert Carlisle tries to block the shot in last weekend's Metro Conference quarterfinal game.

Photo by Bob Bruce

GPHA house league results, highlights

SQUIRT HOUSE
Bullfrogs 4, Chill 3
Goals: Austin Pettipren 2, Jack Guest, Kirk Dettloff (Bullfrogs); T.J. Williams, Conor Buckley, Blair Listwan (Chill).
Assists: Danny Carron, Tommy McShane, C.J. McCaslan (Bullfrogs); Patrick Thomas, Isaac Piepszowski 2, Carly Verkuilen, Megan Gormley (Chill).
Comments: The Bullfrogs never trailed after Pettipren's two first-period goals overcame an early 1-0 lead by the Chill. Goalies Max Ganesch of the Chill and Brett Sinjus were especially outstanding in the third period.

Bullfrogs 3, Blackhawks 2
Goals: Nathan Erickson, Jack Guest 2 (Bullfrogs); Katherine Case, Edward Witek (Blackhawks).
Assists: Danny Carron (Bullfrogs); Alexandria Graves, Catherine McCarthy, Doug Annas, Kailey Sickmiller (Blackhawks).
Comments: Guest scored two unassisted goals for the Bullfrogs. The scoreless second period featured excellent goaltending by Will Newell of the Blackhawks, who was the busier of the two netminders, and the Bullfrogs' Sal Rizzo.

Trinity Catholic sports teams earn CHSL playoff berths

By Bob St. John
Sports Writer

Trinity Catholic's girls volleyball team earned its first Catholic League playoff berth in four years last week, beating Bloomfield Hills Sacred Heart 15-3, 15-6. Head coach Elvira Komini and her Lancers struggled during the past three seasons, trying to play consistent volleyball. Her patience paid off this season as seniors Danielle Cooper, Stephanie Sosa and Onicko Biggs, and juniors Anne Wasukanis, Nicole Gailliard and Amelia Guyon

were able to finally put it all together. "The girls have really stepped up their play this season," Komini said. "Our attackers are doing a better job, and Anne (Wasukanis) is doing a wonderful job setting for our attackers." Another reason why the Lancers are in the playoffs is their service game, which has been more consistent this year. The Lancers' bench players have also made solid contributions this year as sophomore DeAndrea Kimble, freshman Magarie Washington, sophomore Kyle Moore, sophomore Natalie Barnes and junior Vanessa White have made the plays when Komini puts them into the match. Sophomore Angel Cooper hasn't been able to play this season due to an injury, but her presence on the bench has been an inspiration to the team. "We play as a team," Komini said. "We're having fun on the court, and that is what it is all about."

quarterfinals at Madison Heights Bishop Foley, losing 6-15, 1-15, falling to 13-5 overall.

Basketball

The Trinity Catholic boys basketball team also earned a berth in the Catholic League playoffs after beating Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard 62-48 early last week. "The guys came out with more energy, and we were able to maintain at least a 10-point lead throughout most of the game," head coach Ed Banks said. "This was a better outing than our last game (a 76-47 home loss to Royal Oak Shrine)." Ron Hildreth scored a season-high 26 points, and junior Antonio Hinton had 17 points to lift the Lancers. Banks' squad now has a shot at second place in the Catholic League A-East Division if it can beat visiting Madison Heights Bishop Foley. Back on Jan. 27, the Lancers played one of their worst games of the season, losing 41-37 at Bishop Foley. "I guarantee that won't happen again," Banks said. "We had no focus in that game and still had a shot to win. Our guys know what is on the line, and we will come out and play hard." Banks' squad didn't disappoint its fans as the Lancers beat Bishop Foley 52-47. Hildreth had 23 points, and junior Lance Caldwell had 11 points to help the Lancers take second place in the Catholic League A-East Division with a 5-3 mark (10-4 overall).

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PARKING IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

GROSSE POINTE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

The Board of Education of the Grosse Pointe Public School System, Wayne County, Michigan, will receive sealed bids for a parking improvement project at Grosse Pointe South High School.

Specifications and bid forms will be available at a **MANDATORY pre-bid meeting** on Tuesday, February 24, 2004 at 8:00 a.m., in the receiving room of Grosse Pointe South High School, located at 11 Grosse Pte. Blvd., Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236.

Sealed bids will be due Tuesday, March 9, 2004 at 2:00 p.m. at the Administration Building of the Grosse Pointe Board of Education, 389 St. Clair Ave., Grosse Pointe, MI 48230, at which time and place the bids will be opened and publicly read aloud. This project will not be funded by federal or state monies.

Please direct questions to Wayne Halkides, Manager of Buildings and Grounds, 313-432-3082.

BOARD OF EDUCATION
The Grosse Pointe Public School System
Steven Matthews, Secretary

G.P.N.: 02/12/2004 & 02/19/2004

City of Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan

NOTICE OF REVIEW OF THE 2004 ASSESSMENT ROLL:
Notice is hereby given that the Board of Review of the City of Grosse Pointe Woods, Wayne County, Michigan, will be in session in the Community Center of the Municipal Building, 20025 Mack Plaza, Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan on

Tuesday, March 9, 2004
Tuesday, March 23, 2004

from 9:00 a.m. to noon, 1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., and 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. EST, for reviewing the 2004 Assessment Roll. All persons considering themselves aggrieved by their assessment, or who have any questions or comments, may make an appointment to appeal before the Board of Review by contacting the Tax Department (phone 313-343-2435) between February 23 and March 12, 2004. Resident taxpayers must appear in person or send an agent to appeal their assessment.

Tentative State Equalized Factors:	
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Industrial Property	1.000
Residential Property	1.000
Personal Property	1.000

William B. Knapp,
City Assessor

G.P.N.: 02/19/2004, 02/26/2004, 03/04/2004

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